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Netherlands

Poultry and Products

Import bans on Dutch poultry

2006

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Report Highlights: After the discovery of a low pathogenic form of the avian influenza virus in the Netherlands on August 1, it has been reported that Russia, Singapore, Hong Kong and Taiwan imposed import bans on Dutch poultry. Both in volume and value, Russia is the most important non-EU destination for Dutch poultry product exports with a value of USD 20 million in 2005.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
The Hague [NL1]
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On August 1, 2006, traces of the low pathogenic form of the avian influenza virus (LPAI) were found on a Dutch poultry farm (see GAIN Report NL6027). The incident needs to be reported to the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), and as a consequence, the Netherlands will lose its AI free status for the following three months. Veterinary authorities in most countries only impose bans on poultry imports if in the country of origin a high pathogenic form of avian influenza is found. Russia, Singapore, Hong Kong and Taiwan, however, imposed import bans on Dutch poultry products since the appearance of LPAI in the Netherlands. Both in volume and value, Russia is the most important non-EU destination for Dutch poultry product exports with a value of USD 20 million in 2005. At the moment, the Dutch Government is negotiating with the Russian veterinary authorities for relaxation of the import ban. The Dutch Product Board for Livestock, Meat and Eggs reports that it is still unclear if the ban on exports to Hong Kong and Taiwan only apply for poultry products produced in the affected Dutch Province of Gelderland or for all of the Netherlands.

Dutch export of poultry products (1,000 MT).

| | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 |
|---------------------|------|------|------|
| Russia | 27 | 15 | 37 |
| Hong Kong | 7 | 6 | 8 |
| Singapore | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Taiwan | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Non EU destinations | 152 | 152 | 162 |
| EU destinations | 555 | 522 | 539 |
| Total | 707 | 674 | 701 |

Source: Global Trade Atlas

After the finding of LPAI, the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality blocked the suspected poultry farm and eradicated all 25,000 birds. In addition, transport restrictions were imposed for birds, eggs, litter and manure in a radius of three kilometers around the suspected farm. The Dutch veterinary authority (VWA) took samples on all poultry farms in the 3 km zone. Because no traces of avian influenza were found on any of these farms, the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture relaxed the transport restrictions on August 8. Transport restrictions in a 1 km zone around the farm will remain in place. For more information about the developments regarding the presence of avian influenza in the EU, please go to the website of the U.S. Mission to the EU:

<http://useu.usmission.gov/agri/avian.html>