



LIFTING OF SUSPENSION ON IMPORTS OF POULTRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS FROM SELANGOR AND PERAK, MALAYSIA

The Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority (AVA) is lifting the suspension on imports of poultry and poultry products from the disease-free zones (DFZ) in the States of Selangor and Perak with effect from 30 Jun 2006.

2 AVA officers had visited Perak and Selangor in recent weeks to evaluate the surveillance and biosecurity systems put in place by the Malaysia's Department of Veterinary Services (DVS) to keep out bird flu. AVA is satisfied that bird flu has been effectively eliminated from poultry in Malaysia and the disease prevention and control measures implemented by DVS are adequate and in line with international standards.

3 AVA has worked closely with DVS to facilitate the resumption of poultry and poultry products from Perak and Selangor. Both authorities have agreed to additional safeguards such as enhanced pre-export testing and surveillance on accredited duck farms to minimize the risk of infected consignments entering Singapore¹.

4 DVS has also declared that Malaysia is free from bird flu on 22 June 06. This is in line with the international guidelines of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), which states that a bird flu affected country can declare freedom from the disease 90 days following the culling and disinfection of the last case.

Supply of Poultry and Eggs

5 Singapore consumes approximately 14,800 tonnes of duck meat and 1.16 billion eggs per year. Prior to the import suspension, Selangor supplied about 3% of eggs and Perak supplied about 80% of ducks consumed in Singapore. The suspension did not affect our chicken supply as there were no chicken imports from Perak and Selangor.

¹ This is in addition to the current multi-layered measures viz. disease-free zoning in Malaysia, movement controls for poultry consignments within Malaysia, export consignments from accredited farms accompanied by health certificates, pre-export testing for ducks, inspections at pre-border, Tuas checkpoint and the slaughterhouses, and surveillance testing of poultry sampled at slaughter.

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6 With the lifting of the suspension, five chicken broiler farms and one layer farm in Selangor will be reinstated for exports to Singapore. 37 ducks farms in Perak will also be allowed to resume duck exports to Singapore.

7 Apart from Perak and Selangor, Singapore will continue to import poultry from the disease free zones in Johor, Malacca and Negri Sembilan. AVA will also continue to work closely with DVS to ensure that poultry and eggs imported do not compromise public and animal health.

Poultry and poultry products in Singapore are safe for consumption

8 AVA would like to reassure the public that we will maintain our vigilance to ensure that Singapore remains free from bird flu. We will also continue to maintain surveillance and inspections at the points of entry to prevent the incursion of the disease. AVA wishes to reiterate that poultry and poultry products here are safe for consumption.

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