

Japan reports outbreak of avian influenza in Chiba prefecture

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Japan has recently reported an outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in poultry located in Chiba prefecture. In light of this outbreak, the National Parks Board/Animal & Veterinary Service (NParks/AVS) has decided to temporarily restrict the importation of poultry and poultry products from Gifu prefecture. However, heat-treated poultry products that comply with the WOAHA guidelines for the inactivation of AI virus will not be subjected to the restriction.

To ensure smooth clearance of permits for other poultry and poultry products, the following additional attestations are required to be included in the veterinary health certificate accompanying the import of poultry and poultry products: Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) is a notifiable disease in Japan, the birds from which the meat was derived were not vaccinated against avian influenza (AI), the poultry meat and meat products were not sourced from birds originating from Chiba prefecture in Japan due to the occurrence of avian influenza. Lastly, the poultry from which the meat was derived were either born, raised, and slaughtered in Japan or were legally imported as day-old chicks from countries with the same or equivalent poultry health status.