

Import Alert: Import Restrictions on Canada due to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza

**Issuance date: September 15, 2026
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Region: Canada

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has initiated restrictions on the importation of certain avian commodities from specific zones in Canada due to the diagnosis of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in domestic birds. APHIS lifts its import restrictions on zones in Canada after they have met World Organisation for Animal Health criteria for recovery of HPAI free status described in Article 10.4.6 of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*.

The list of current and previously restricted zones can be found on the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) [Investigations and orders of avian influenza in domestic birds by province](#) webpage. APHIS considers these zones restricted effective the date detected and released effective the date of the zone revocation order. Maps of the restricted zones are available on the CFIA [highly pathogenic avian influenza zones webpage](#).

APHIS recognizes any zone on the abovementioned list with a "Date detected" listed and a status of "Active" or "To be determined" as under current restrictions. Importation into the United States of poultry, commercial birds, ratites, avian hatching eggs, unprocessed avian products and byproducts, and certain fresh poultry products originating from or transiting a restricted zone(s) is prohibited.

All pet birds, zoo birds, and Columbiformes from Canada must be accompanied by a health certificate endorsed by the CFIA. Pet birds and Columbiformes entering the United States by air, and all zoo birds, must have an APHIS-issued import permit. An import permit is not required for pet birds and Columbiformes entering the United States by land if they do not originate from or transit a restricted zone, except for Canadian-origin pet birds entering into Alaska. U.S.-origin pet birds transiting through Canada either from the lower 48 States to Alaska or from Alaska to the lower 48 States also require an import permit; such birds may not transit a restricted zone in Canada. Pet birds, zoo birds, and Columbiformes originating from or transiting a restricted zone must be flown directly to John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York, or Miami International Airport in Florida to undergo a 30-day federal quarantine that includes mandatory testing; they may not enter by land.

Processed avian products and byproducts originating from or transiting a restricted zone, imported as cargo, must be accompanied by an APHIS import permit and/or government certification confirming that the products were treated in accordance with APHIS requirements.

Fully finished, non-shelf stable and/or non-commercially packaged and labeled food products containing pasteurized egg/egg product ingredients, originating from or transiting all of Canada must be accompanied by an APHIS import permit.

Importation of fresh, unprocessed shell/table eggs and other egg products, void of the shell (i.e., liquid eggs and dried egg whites), originating from or transiting a restricted zone, imported as cargo, is prohibited unless they are consigned from the port of arrival directly to an APHIS-approved breaking and pasteurization facility. An import permit and/or certificate is/are not required for these shipments if they are consigned to an APHIS-approved establishment.

Processed avian products and byproducts, including eggs and egg products, for personal use originating from or transiting all of Canada and entering in passenger baggage must:

- have a thoroughly cooked appearance; or
- be shelf-stable as a result of APHIS-approved packaging and cooking (i.e., packaged in a hermetically sealed container and cooked by a commercial method after such packing to produce an article that is shelf stable without refrigeration); or
- be accompanied by an APHIS import permit and/or government certification confirming that the products or byproducts were treated in accordance with APHIS requirements.

Unprocessed avian products and byproducts for personal use or in passenger baggage originating from or transiting all of Canada will not be permitted to enter the United States.

Hunter-harvested wild game bird meat, carcasses, and trophies must meet the conditions outlined in the APHIS Import Alert issued August 15, 2023, which can be found on the [Temporary Restrictions List](#) at the “Canada - Hunter Harvested Wild Game Bird Carcasses” link.

These restrictions will be updated as additional epidemiological information is obtained.

More information is available on the APHIS website:

- [Bringing Live Animals and Germplasm into the United States From Another Country \(Import\)](#),
- [Animal Product Imports](#), and
- [Avian Influenza](#): disease, prevention, and control information.