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Ecuador: Ban on Poultry Imports from Arkansas and West Virginia Lifted

Report Categories:

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

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Report Highlights:

On November 22, 2010, the Government of Ecuador (GOE) issued the resolution lifting import bans on poultry and poultry products from West Virginia and Arkansas which had been placed since April 11, 2007 and July 14, 2008, respectively. This resolution also eliminates the Certificate of Origin requirement to authorize imports of live poultry, genetics, and poultry byproducts. US exports of poultry and poultry products are expected to increase.

General Information:

On November 22, 2010, AGROCALIDAD (GOE's SPS Agency) informed USDA/Quito the issuance of resolution 216 which lifted import bans on poultry and poultry products from West Virginia and Arkansas.

GOE's import ban (resolution 05) on live poultry for breeding, fertile eggs, products and byproducts of the species *gallus domesticus* and *gallipavo* from West Virginia was issued on April 11, 2007, after the United States Government (USG) reported an outbreak of Avian Influenza (AI) in the state of West Virginia to the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE). As the subsequent epidemiology tests and surveillance practices have shown negative results, OIE has reinstated West Virginia as an AI free state in August 2007.

Likewise, GOE's import ban (resolution 033) on live poultry for breeding, fertile eggs, products and byproducts of the species *gallus domesticus* and *gallipavo* from Arkansas was issued on July 14, 2008, after the USG reported an outbreak of AI in the state of Arkansas to OIE. As all epidemiology tests and surveillance practices have shown negative results, OIE has reinstated Arkansas as an AI free state in September 2008.

In 2009, the United States exported \$831,000 worth of poultry and poultry products to Ecuador. As Arkansas being the major poultry producing state, US exports of poultry and poultry products to Ecuador are expected to increase in coming years.