

Voluntary - Public

Clearance Office: Office of Scientific and Technical Affairs (OSTA)

Date: 5/4/2009

GAIN Report Number: ID9012

Indonesia

Post: Jakarta

Indonesia Response to H1N1 Virus

Report Categories:

Agricultural Situation

Approved By:

Dennis Voboril

Prepared By:

Fahwani Rangkuti

Report Highlights:

The Indonesian Ministry of Agriculture issued a temporary ban on pork and derivative products effective April 29 from countries reportedly infected with the H1N1 virus.

General Information:

On April 29, the Ministry of Agriculture issued a temporary import ban on pork and other derivative products originating from countries reportedly infected with the H1N1 virus. The country list included Mexico, United States, Canada, France, Israel, Spain, and New Zealand. The product list included live swine, swine semen, unprocessed bristles, carcass and unprocessed bone and boneless pork and biological products (swine influenza virus vaccine/SIV).

The previous day on April 28, the Directorate General of Livestock Service in Indonesia issued a press release stating they will work with the Quarantine Agency and Provincial Authorities to control the inter-island transportation of hogs in Indonesia.

In terms of human health, the Director General of Plague Control within the Ministry of Health

announced six initial preventive steps to be taken: Gathering all scientific-related data on the virus; coordinating with the WHO; issuing early warning letters; coordinating with medical officers at the various ports of entry; coordinating with health research agencies; and cooperating with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

On Friday, May 1, 2009, an official from Directorate General of Livestock Service was quoted in the local media as stating that people who did not eat pork were not necessarily safe from the H1N1 virus, while those who ate pork were no more susceptible than those who did not. It was also reported that the official emphasized that the disease is not food borne. Local media also reported on the OIE press release that stated there was no evidence of infections in pigs, nor of humans acquiring infections directly from pigs.