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United Arab Emirates

Post: Dubai

Kuwait Bans Live Birds and Hatching Eggs from Kentucky and Minnesota

Report Categories:

Poultry and Products

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Report Highlights:

Kuwait bans imports of live birds and hatching eggs from the States of Kentucky and Minnesota because of concerns about low-pathogenic Avian Influenza.

General Information:

The Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fishery Resources (PAAAFR) in Kuwait issued resolution number 1021/2009 banning imports of live fowls, hatching eggs and one-day old broiler and layer chicks from the State of Minnesota effective August 19, 2009. On April 22, 2009, PAAAFR took a similar action banning imports of the same products from the State of Kentucky.

A WTO notification G/SPS/N/KWT/2 dated July 31, 2009, reported the ban on the Kentucky products (hatching eggs,

live fowls and one-day old broiler and layer chicks), but also included a notification of a ban on imports of poultry meat from the State of Kentucky. ATO Dubai subsequently confirmed that Kuwaiti authorities have not banned imports of poultry meat and the inclusion of poultry meat in the WTO notification appears to have been an oversight

The above two decisions were based on information submitted to the World Animal Organization (OIE) that low pathogenic Avian Influenza viruses were detected in both Kentucky and Minnesota.

U.S. exports of these products to Kuwait are minimal and no significant trade impact is anticipated. ATO Dubai has met with Kuwaiti officials to discuss this issue and notified USDA's regional Animal and Plant Health Inspection Office. However, it is not yet clear when the bans will be lifted.