

FEBRUARY 1997

PROTOCOL
BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE OF THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE OF THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA ON QUARANTINE AND HEALTH REQUIREMENTS FOR
RATITE HATCHING EGGS TO BE EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

1. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), can commence the quarantine and inspection procedure of ratite hatching eggs and their parent flocks after receiving the import permit for importation of ratite hatching eggs issued by the Administration of the Animal and Plant Quarantine of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as "CAPQ").
 - 1.1 Each import permit can only allow for importation of one consignment of ratite hatching eggs.
 - 1.2 The ratite hatching eggs to be exported to China should comply with the requirements specified in the import permit.
2. APHIS shall be responsible for the quarantine and inspection of ratite hatching eggs and their parent flocks in accordance with the requirements specified in this protocol, and for issuing the health certificate for the ratite hatching eggs that have passed the quarantine inspection to be complied with the requirements.
 - 2.1 APHIS shall provide a sample of a blank health certificate to the CAPQ for approval before it becomes valid.
 - 2.2 There will be one original and two copies of the certificate. The relevant testing reports must be attached.
 - 2.3 The health certificate shall be typed. Handwritten or altered versions are invalid.
 - 2.4 The health certificate must be validated with the official stamp of USDA and signature of an authorized veterinary officer.
 - 2.5 The health certificate shall accompany the ratite hatching eggs being shipped to China.
 - 2.6 If the hatching eggs arrive at the Chinese port of entry with an invalid health certificate or without a health certificate, they shall be returned or destroyed.

3. CAPQ shall send veterinarians to the farms of export ratite hatching eggs, related isolation premises, testing laboratories and quarantine facilities to cooperate with the veterinarians of USDA, in making the inspection and quarantine.
4. The United States of America officially confirms that it is free from Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (Fowl Plague) and that commercial poultry flocks are free of Velogenic Newcastle Disease (VND).
 - 4.1 Whenever any outbreak in paragraph 4. occurs in the United States, APHIS shall employ the following actions immediately:
 - 4.1.1 Notify the CAPQ with the details of the outbreak within 24 hours, including the name of the disease, name and address of the farm in which the outbreak occurs, number and species of the animal involved in the outbreak, and the control measures that have been taken by APHIS; and
 - 4.1.2 Refrain from exporting the ratite hatching eggs to China.
5. The farms of export ratite hatching eggs shall meet the following requirements:
 - 5.1 An effective disease surveillance and control system must be in place; and
 - 5.2 In the farm of origin and within a radius of 20 kms, there has been no clinical, serological, or virological diagnostic reports of Avian Influenza or Newcastle Disease in the last twelve (12) months.
 - 5.3 There has been no occurrence of Infectious Laryngotracheitis, Chlamydiosis (Psittacosis-Ornithosis), Avian Poxvirus Infections, Avian Mycoplasmosis, Avian Papovavirus Infections, Avian Encephalomyelitis, Avian Herpesvirus Infections, Salmonellosis, Equine Viral Encephalomyelitis for the period from twelve (12) months prior to the production of eggs to be exported to China through the date of shipment; and
 - 5.4 No ratite has been introduced from other farms for the period beginning 6 months prior to the production of the eggs to be exported to China through the date of shipment, and
 - 5.5 For the period beginning 6 weeks prior to the production of the eggs to be exported to China through the date of shipment, the ratites that died during this period shall be submitted to a USDA approved laboratory for examination and a copy of the results of the examination shall be attached.

6. Thirty (30) days immediately preceding the date of producing eggs to be exported to China, the flock from which the hatching eggs originated shall be subjected to close clinical examination and found to be healthy, and tests for the following diseases must be conducted with negative results in all cases:
 - 6.1 Avian Influenza:
 - 6.1.1 Inoculation of embryonated chicken eggs with cloacal swab for virus isolation; and
 - 6.1.2 AGID test; and
 - 6.2 Newcastle Disease:
 - 6.2.1 Inoculation of embryonated chicken eggs with cloacal swab for virus isolation; and
 - 6.2.2 HI test, at the 1:8 dilution; and
 - 6.3 Avian paramyxovirus (type 1,2,3): inoculation of embryonated chicken eggs with cloacal swab for virus isolation; and
 - 6.4 Chlamydiosis: CF test, at the 1:10 dilution; and
 - 6.5 Salmonellosis: Tube agglutination test or microagglutination test (final dilution of 1:20) for *S. pullorum* and *S. typhimurium*.
7. After collection, the hatching eggs to be exported shall be cleaned and disinfected with approved methods under the supervision of a USDA-accredited veterinarian. The cleaned and disinfected eggs shall be packed immediately after disinfection and sealed with a USDA seal. The packed, hatching eggs shall be stored in a place approved by APHIS for not more than 2 weeks prior to shipment. The packed hatching eggs shall be protected from being contaminated by the pathogens.
8. The quantity of the eggs that are intended to be exported to China from a farm shall not exceed the quantity of the eggs that may be produced on the farm.
9. The ratite hatching eggs shall be transported via the route approved by the CAPQ.