

 **NOTICE**

United States Department of Agriculture • Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service • Legislative and Public Affairs
4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737-1232 • Voice (301) 743-7799 • Web: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov>

**USDA SEEKS COMMENTS ON ALLOWING IMPORTS OF POULTRY AND
POULTRY PRODUCTS FROM GERMANY AND POLAND**

January 2, 2009

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services (APHIS) is advising the public that it has prepared evaluations of the animal health status of Germany and Poland relative to the H5N1 subtype of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI). They are our evaluation of the HPAI H5N1 detection, control and eradication measures in place in Germany and Poland during outbreaks of HPAI in 2006 and 2007, as well as our assessment of the present status of Germany and Poland with respect to HPAI subtype H5N1. These evaluations are available to the public for review and comment. If, after the close of the comment period, APHIS can identify no additional risk factors that would indicate that domestic poultry in Germany or Poland continue to be affected with HPAI H5N1, it would conclude that the importation of live birds, poultry carcasses, parts of carcasses and eggs (other than hatching eggs) of poultry, game birds or other birds from the affected regions of Germany and Poland presents a low risk of introducing HPAI H5N1 into the United States.

This notice is published in the Jan. 2 *Federal Register*.

Consideration will be given to comments received on or before Feb. 2. You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/component/main?main=DocketDetail&d=APHIS-2008-0121> to submit or view comments and to view supporting and related materials available electronically.
- Postal Mail/Commercial delivery: Please send two copies of your comment to Docket No. APHIS-2008-0121, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A-03.8, 4700 River Road, Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. APHIS-2008-0121.

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Note to Reporters: Public notices and other APHIS information are available on the Internet. Go to the APHIS news release page at <http://www.aphis.usd.gov> and click on the "Newsroom" button. For addition information about this topic contact Madelaine Fletcher at (301) 734-6125 or by e-mail at madelaine.fletcher@aphis.usda.gov.

