



CONDITIONS GOVERNING THE IMPORTATION OF POULTRY & HATCHING EGGS INTO THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

A. PERMIT TO IMPORT

- 1) For the purposes of this document, poultry is defined as chickens, turkeys, ducks, pigeons, geese, quail pheasants and partridges. Hatching eggs are eggs of the species listed, imported for incubation.
- 2) All poultry and hatching eggs entering the Cayman Islands must be accompanied by an import permit issued by the Cayman Islands Department of Agriculture. You must provide evidence that the birds comply with all of our import requirements before we will issue an Import Permit.
- 3) Completed application forms and copies of all required documents should be submitted to:

Department of Agriculture
Veterinary Services
P.O. Box 459 KY1-1106.
Grand Cayman
Cayman Islands

Tel: (345) 947-3090
Fax: (345) 947-6501
Email: ci.agriculturevs@gov.ky

B. IMPORT REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Under the Animals Law (2011 Revision) no animal of any description may be imported into the Islands from any country in Asia, Africa, Central and South America. Animals are also prohibited from Mexico, Cuba, Puerto Rico and Hispaniola.
- 2) All birds for importation shall be accompanied by a Health Certificate, issued within 14 days of arrival in the Cayman Islands and endorsed by a full-time salaried veterinary officer of the National Government of the country from which the birds are to be exported, **stating:**
 - a) the birds for export have been examined by him within the past 14 (fourteen) days and are free from signs of contagious and infectious disease;
 - b) that the premises of the source flock is not located in any area under quarantine for notifiable diseases of poultry at any time during the preceding 90 days;
 - c) that the flock(s) of origin was carefully examined by him and insofar as can be ascertained, no evidence of exposure to the following diseases within the past 90 days was found:
 - i) **All birds:** Newcastle Disease, Avian Influenza, infectious coryza, infectious laryngotracheitis, infectious bronchitis, infectious bursal disease, fowl cholera, fowl plague, fowl typhoid, pullorum disease, ornithosis, *Mycoplasma synoviae*, *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*, avian encephalomyelitis, egg drop syndrome, Marek's disease.
 - ii) **Ducks:** duck virus hepatitis, duck virus enteritis;
 - iii) **Pigeons:** pigeon paramyxovirus;
 - d) that there has been no outbreak of Newcastle Disease, Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, Equine Encephalomyelitis or any notifiable disease of poultry in the past six months within a 50-km (30-mile) radius of the place of residence of the birds or the source flock;
 - e) that such birds **have NOT been vaccinated with Newcastle Disease vaccine;**

- f) that the birds come from a vector proof holding facility where they have been held since hatching or for more than 21 days immediately prior to export. In the case of hatching eggs, the source flock has been in the country of origin since hatching or for at least 3 months;
- g) that the premises of origin has been free from West Nile virus for the past six (6) months
- h) that the birds or eggs were placed in clean, new containers, designed to prevent the loss of excrement and to minimise the loss of feathers during transport, at the premises from which they are to be exported, must be transported directly to the port of export and must not come into contact with any other cage birds or poultry during this period.

C. NOTES:

- 1) Should the exporting country be unable to meet all of the certification requirements listed, a signed letter from the veterinary authorities of the exporting country, outlining which conditions cannot be met and the reasons why, should accompany the application and health certificate. A Veterinary Officer of the Cayman Islands Department of Agriculture may, at his discretion, then issue an import permit and impose additional conditions, either in the exporting country or upon arrival of the birds.
- 2) A completed application form along with a copy of the health certificate must be submitted to the Department of Agriculture for review. Application can be made by fax or email. **Do not send original copies of certificates when applying, as they must accompany the birds or eggs during shipment.**
- 3) The application fee in the amount of CI\$50 (US\$61) per consignment may be in the form of CI cash, cheque drawn on a local Cayman Islands bank, international money order or a cashier's cheque drawn from a US bank payable to the Cayman Islands Government.
- 4) Once all the above conditions have been met and the appropriate fee paid as outlined above, the Department of Agriculture will issue an Import Permit. Allow 3 working days for processing of the documents.
- 5) The import permit and the ORIGINAL health must be affixed to the container in which the birds/eggs are being transported.
- 6) At least twenty-four (24) hours notice of arrival must be given to the Veterinary Services section of the Department of Agriculture.
- 7) Upon arrival, live birds may be held in quarantine, at the importer's expense, for a period of not less than 30 days on premises approved by the Director of Agriculture.

The Director reserves the right to refuse entry or to impose additional conditions of entry on any bird for any reason.