

[BAI ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 20, August 12, 2011]

GUIDELINES ON THE ACCREDITATION OF BREEDING FACILITIES OF CAPTIVE BIRDS¹ IN COMPLIANCE TO SPS MEASURES

Whereas, Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures are established to protect animal or plant life or health within the territory of the Member from risks arising from the entry, establishment or spread of pests, diseases, disease-carrying organisms or disease-causing organisms [World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (the SPS Agreement), Annex A, 1 .a];

Whereas, the SPS Agreement recognizes the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) as the relevant international organization responsible for the development and promotion of international animal health standards, guidelines, and recommendations affecting trade in live animals and animal products (Article 5.3.1, Terrestrial Animal Health Code of 2010);

Whereas, it is the policy of the Department of Agriculture (DA)/Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) to encourage breeding establishments for live captive birds to voluntarily submit themselves to government accreditation and monitoring on SPS measures affecting animal health standards, procedures and practices following OIE recommended guidelines to achieve a smooth flow in the marketing of export products and further develop competitive growth in domestic and international trade for the livestock industry;

Whereas, there is a need to prescribe guidelines on SPS measures for the accreditation of breeding establishments for live captive birds for the guidance and compliance of all concerned.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PROCESO J. ALCALA, Secretary of Agriculture, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby issue this Order prescribing specific guidelines on the accreditation of breeding facilities of captive birds in compliance to SPS measures.

Section 1
Requirements and Conditions for Accreditation

In order to be granted accreditation, a breeding establishment must comply with the following requirements and conditions:

A. Legal

Submission of all legal documents required in the operation of the facilities such as,

but not limited to Wildlife Farm Permit and Environmental Clearance Certificate from the UbNR, and Accreditation by the BAI Animal Welfare Division.

B. Facilities

1. Observance of clear demarcation and separation of establishment from its surroundings;
2. Suitable arrangements on site facilities for the appropriate disposal of bodies of birds which are euthanized or die of disease, or of any other cause or are euthanized;
3. Adequate means of catching, confining, and isolating birds;
4. Provision for adequate quarantine facilities; and
5. Arrangement with a competent laboratory to perform post-mortem examinations or have provision for appropriate premises to where such examinations may be performed by a competent person under the supervision of the facilities' veterinarian.

C. Protocols

BAI shall have the approval of the following:

- a. Procedures on traceability, breeding and rearing of birds;
- b. Procedures for birds under quarantine;
- c. Disease surveillance and prevention and control measures;
- d. Compliance with animal welfare regulations; and
- e. Such other measures as may be required by circumstances.

D. Health Status

1. Negative presence on the establishment of Avian Influenza (AI), Newcastle Disease (ND), Chlamydia psittacosis, or any emerging notifiable disease;
2. Assessment of records on the animal health status of the breeding establishment for the last three years before the date of the application for approval or accreditation, including all clinical and laboratory tests carried out on the birds in the establishment for determination of disease free status of establishment; and
3. Conduct clinical and laboratory tests on birds of new establishments subject to repeat tests whenever necessary.

E. Documentation and Record Keeping

1. Maintain updated health records which should contain the following information:
 - a. Age, species, sex and individual identification number of birds arriving or leaving the breeding establishments and information of origin or destination, transport from or to the breeding establishment and the bird health status;
 - b. Age, species, sex and individual identification number of animals hatched and bred at the breeding establishments and the bird health

status;

- c. Results of blood tests and other diagnostic procedures;
- d. Cases of diseases and treatments;
- e. Result of post-mortem examinations on birds that have died in the breeding establishment, including dead in the shell birds;
- f. Observations made during any isolation or quarantine period; and
- g. Submission of monthly production

2. Keeping of records following the date of approval of accreditation, for a period of at least 10 years.

F. Veterinary Services

1 Engagement of the services of a licensed veterinarian by the breeding establishment who shall be under the technical supervision of BAI.

2. The responsibilities of the veterinarian shall be as follows:

a. Ensure the application of, but not limited to the following measures:

- i. An Annual disease surveillance plan including appropriate zoonoses control of the birds;
- ii. Clinical, laboratory and post-mortem testing of birds suspected to be affected by transmissible diseases;
- iii. Vaccination of susceptible birds against infectious diseases as appropriate, in conformity with the Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE);

b. Ensure that BAI is notified without delay of any suspected deaths or the presence of any other symptoms suggesting that birds have contracted AI, ND or Chlamydia psittacosis;

c. Ensure that birds entering the breeding establishment have been isolated as necessary, and in accordance with the requirements under Section 2 of this Order and the instructions, if any, given by the BAI; and

d. Be responsible for compliance with the day-to-day documentary requirements in accordance with this Order and on animal welfare regulation during transport of birds.

Section 2 Quarantine Provisions on the Movement of Birds

Birds introduced from other approved establishment shall be quarantined for at least thirty (30) days in an approved holding facility following the sets of guidelines below: