



MONDAY LINE

TOBY MOORE, EDITOR; DAVID MARKIEWICZ, ASST. EDITOR

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Iraqi U.S. plant audits to begin on April 22

Audits of U.S. poultry plants that export to Iraq are scheduled to start April 22.

Two teams of Iraqi officials will conduct audits for food safety and halal compliance at an estimated 13 facilities around the U.S. over a roughly two-week period, said USAPEEC Senior Director Jean Murphy.

Iraqi veterinary officials, who announced their audit plans last November, initially wanted to complete the visits by the end of 2016, but the U.S. government was able to convince them that much more time was needed, and the deadline was extended to June 30.

The new schedule is much better for U.S. companies, Murphy said.

Also, audits will be conducted at only one plant per company that exports to Iraq, instead of at every plant that exports to Iraq. All plants that a company submitted for approval will be allowed to export to Iraq, however.

Companies that wish to have a plant added to the audit schedule but have not already done so should contact Murphy as soon as possible at jmurphy@usapec.org.

The U.S. exported over \$60 million of poultry to Iraq in 2016.

Trading partners take a ‘measured response’ to first positive U.S. HPAI case in 14 months

For the first time in 14 months, highly pathogenic avian influenza was recently detected in commercial poultry in the U.S.

The incident, which occurred at a broiler breeder farm in Lincoln County, Tenn., was identified by the National Veterinary Services Laboratory in Ames, Iowa, as H7N9 HPAI.

Also last week, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service announced a detection of a low pathogenic H5N2 AI strain in commercial turkeys in Barron County, Wis., and an H7N9 LPAI finding in Giles County, Tenn., which lies just west of Lincoln County.

APHIS has made its official notifi-

cation of all three detections to the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE).

In an announcement, APHIS stressed that the H7N9 HPAI event in Lincoln County is genetically different from the H7N9 outbreaks that have plagued China over the last several years.

“The virus has been identified as North American wild bird lineage H7N9 HPAI based upon full genome sequence analysis of the samples at the NVSL,” APHIS said. “All eight gene segments of the virus are North American wild bird lineage. While the subtype is the same as the China H7N9

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

January exports of U.S. poultry up by 11.5% Combined egg exports for month rise by 28.5%

Exports of U.S. poultry for January 2017 increased by 11.5 percent from the same month a year earlier, reaching 296,169 metric tons, while value jumped by 11.7 percent to \$305.2 million, according to trade statistics released by the Foreign Agricultural Service last week.

Total egg exports (table eggs plus egg products in shell egg equivalent) in January rose by 28.5 percent to 16.4 million dozen. By value, U.S. egg shipments grew by 23.6 percent to \$15.6 million.

January broiler exports (excluding paws) climbed by 12.2 percent to 252,485 tons and value increase by 11.5 percent to \$229.1 million, year over year.

While exports to Iraq, Angola, Singapore, Libya, and Cuba decreased, exports to many other markets such as South Africa, Congo (Kinshasa),

Kazakhstan, Congo (Brazzaville), Pakistan, Peru, Afghanistan, Armenia, Hong Kong, and Kuwait increased significantly.

January shipments to Mexico dipped by 1.9 percent year over year to 50,307 metric tons, while exports to Taiwan rose by 6.9 percent to 14,778 tons. Exports to Canada were 13,670 tons, down 3.3 percent from, whereas exports to Cuba were 12,774 tons, down 7.9 percent.

Exports to other important markets were Hong Kong, 12,358 tons, up 12.2 percent; Guatemala, 10,923 tons, up 15.7 percent; Iraq (including transshipments via Turkey), 9,189 tons, down 8.9 percent; Angola, 8,988 tons, down 17.8 percent; South Africa, 8,967 tons, up 515 percent; and Kazakhstan, 6,992 tons, up 74.8 percent.

For chicken paws, January exports

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

January--from page 1

grew by 7.9 percent to 12,014 tons and value climbed by 30.7 percent to \$16.8 million, with Hong Kong taking the lion's share of the volume.

For January broiler exports including paws, the top five markets of Mexico, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Canada and Cuba accounted for 43.7 percent of the total.

January exports of U.S. turkey jumped by 26 percent, reaching 19,417 tons valued at \$43.4 million, up 20.7 percent from the same month in 2016 (Figure 2), thanks largely to increased shipments to Mexico. Shipments to Haiti, Japan, Peru, Hong Kong, and Canada also increased significantly.

Turkey exports to Mexico in January increased by 27.3 percent to 12,363 tons, while shipments to Hong Kong rose by 10.2 percent to 1,601 tons. Exports to Japan reached 887 tons, an increase of 52.7 percent, while exports to Haiti hit 560 tons, a 3-fold increase from the same month a year earlier. Exports to Canada increased by 51.1 percent to 414 tons.

Of the total turkey export volume, 81.5 percent were shipped to the top five markets (Mexico, Hong Kong, Japan, Haiti, and Canada), with Mexico alone accounting for 63.7 percent.

For table eggs, exports for January 2017 were 7.91 million dozen valued at \$7.6 million, down 9.6 and 15.5 percent from the same month in 2016, respectively. The decline was due largely to decreased exports to Canada. Sales to Hong Kong, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago were also down, but offset somewhat by significant increases to the U.A.E., South Korea, and Mexico increased.

Of the total shipments, 74.7 percent went to the top five export markets of Hong Kong, the U.A.E., South Korea, Mexico, and Jamaica.

For egg products, January exports were valued at \$7.9 million, up 122.7 percent from January 2016, thanks largely to increased exports to Japan and South Korea.

Export sales to Japan, the top export market for U.S. egg products, reached \$2.7 million, up 71.2 percent, while exports to Mexico hit \$1.2 million, a 3-fold increase from the same month a year earlier.

Export value to South Korea reached more than \$1.0 million, as compared to zero a year ago. While Exports to EU-28 reached \$1.0 million, up 440 percent, exports to Canada were \$0.7 million, down 2.1 percent. Export sales to these top five markets combined were \$6.6 million, accounting for 83.5 percent of U.S. total. — *Dr. Renan Zhuang, Director of Economic Analysis*

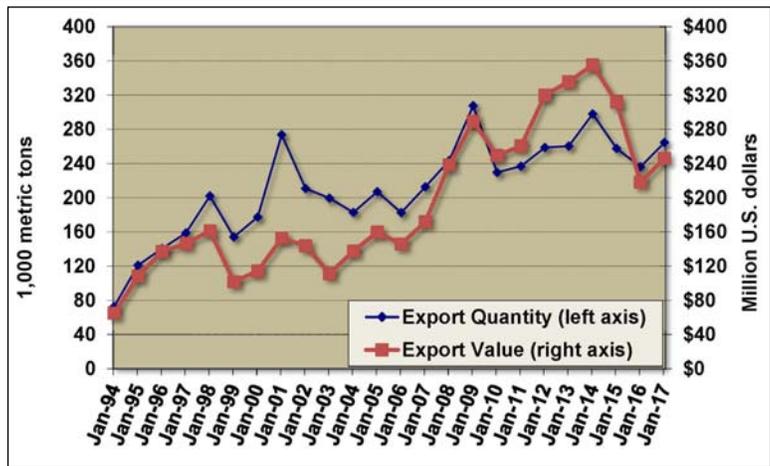


Figure 1 – January U.S. broiler (including paws) exports since 1994. Source: USDA/FAS online database.

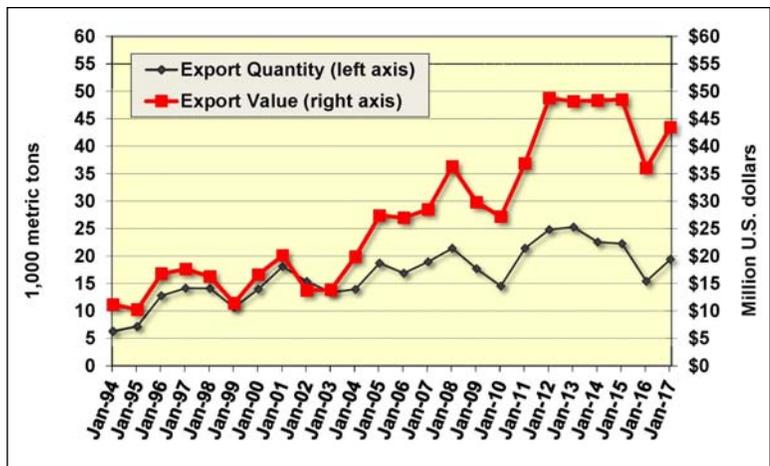


Figure 2 – January U.S. Turkey Exports since 1994. Source: USDA/FAS GATS database.

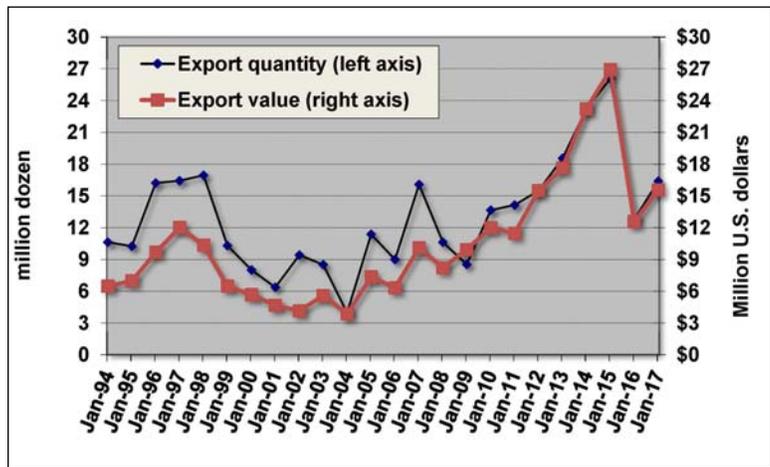


Figure 3 – January U.S. exports of table eggs and egg products (in shell egg equivalent) since 1994. Source: USDA/FAS GATS database.