

ANIMAL DISEASES (EMERGENCY OUTBREAKS) ACT 1991

Section 28

Importation Order – Pigeons (No.2)

I, THERESE MARGARET WRIGHT, Deputy Chief Veterinary Officer, with the powers the Minister has delegated to me pursuant to section 67 of the *Animal Diseases (Emergency Outbreaks) Act 1991* ('the Act') and pursuant to section 28 of the Act:

1. revoke the Importation Order made by me and dated 15 September 2011.
2. on the basis that I reasonably suspect an area outside the State to be infected with the emergency animal disease Avian Paramyxovirus, prohibit the entry or importation into the State of:
 - (a) pigeons from Victoria and pigeons that have been in Victoria at any time since 31 August 2011 unless they meet all the conditions specified in the Schedule.
 - (b) pigeon eggs from Victoria.
 - (c) fittings used in connection with pigeons from Victoria or pigeons that have been in Victoria at any time since 31 August 2011, including cages and equipment, unless such fittings have been cleaned and disinfected to remove traces of any animal product from pigeons and any fodder used in connection with pigeons.

SCHEDULE

1. Pigeons are individually identified by a leg ring or a microchip.
2. The birds in the flock from which the pigeons are moving, including the pigeons that are moving ("flock of origin"):
 - (a) Have been isolated from contact with any other birds or bird products (including faeces, eggs, feathers or bird body fluids) from 15 days prior to the collection of samples for PCR testing as specified at (3) below until the pigeons are transported into NSW ("the isolation period").
 - (b) Have been monitored every day during the isolation period and any bird/s that has died or shown any signs of respiratory disease, gastrointestinal or neurological disease has/have been investigated by a veterinarian and tested at a government laboratory as negative for Avian Paramyxovirus.
 - (c) Have not been allowed to fly freely during the isolation period.
3. The flock of origin has been sampled by a registered veterinary practitioner in accordance with the following protocol:
 - (a) Flocks of less than 60 birds: a cloacal swab is collected from each bird, the samples may be pooled for PCR testing with a maximum of five swabs per pool.
 - (b) Flocks of more than 60 birds with less than 60 pigeons to be moved: cloacal swabs are collected from all the pigeons to be moved and additional birds to

a maximum total of 60 randomly selected birds from the flock and the swabs pooled for PCR testing in pools of five swabs

- (c) Flocks with 60 or more pigeons to be moved: cloacal swabs are collected from 60 randomly selected pigeons birds from the birds to be moved and the swabs pooled for PCR testing in pools of five swabs

and the pooled cloacal swabs collected from the birds are all negative for Avian Paramyxovirus by PCR testing at a government laboratory.

4. Before leaving the property of origin all cages and equipment accompanying the pigeons were cleaned to remove all solid material that could contain Avian Paramyxovirus virus, then disinfected.
5. Pigeons must be accompanied by a laboratory report/s and a declaration made by the owner or person in charge of the pigeons, in the form that is available on the Department of Primary Industries website at <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/livestock/poultry/health-disease/paramyxovirus-in-pigeons>, that certifies that the above conditions have been met.

Definitions

In this Importation Order:

“flock of origin” means the birds in the flock from which the pigeons are moving, including the pigeons that are moving.

“isolation period” means the period of time specified in paragraph 2(a) of the Schedule.

“PCR” means polymerase chain reaction.

“pigeon” means any bird of the family Columbidae.

This Importation Order remains in force for a period of 30 days commencing on the date it is signed, unless revoked or extended by notice published in the Gazette.

Dated this the 21st day of September 2011

**THERESE MARGARET WRIGHT
DEPUTY CHIEF VETERINARY OFFICER**