



CIRCULAR

18 Feb 2019

Dear Sir/Madam

CHANGES IN IMPORT REQUIREMENTS OF FOOD PRODUCTS FROM JAPAN

We would like to inform that AVA will be removing the requirement for area surveillance certificates¹ for food products which are allowed from Fukushima prefecture; and the requirement for pre-export test certificates for seafood and forest products from Gunma, Ibaraki and Tochigi prefectures.

2 In addition, as an alternative to certificate of origin, commercial invoices which states the prefecture of origin and quantity of all the constituent products in a consignment in English, will be acceptable to AVA. This will be implemented on 1 March 2019.

3 Please note that certain food products from specific districts/areas in Fukushima prefecture remain not allowed for import.

S/N	Prefecture	Category
i.	Fukushima (Areas close and around the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant ²)	All food products
ii.	Fukushima [excluding areas mentioned in (i)]	Seafood and forest products ³

4 In order to facilitate import clearance, please declare the prefecture of origin accordingly in your permit declaration, and attach a copy of the certificate of origin/commercial invoices in English and health certificate (if required) via Networked Trade Platform® (NTP) for our verification. Please note that declarations submitted without the required documents will be rejected.

¹ Surveillance certificate refers to a pre-export testing certificate with a validity of 3 months' duration. This certificate is specific for a commodity from a specific area in Fukushima.

² Areas include the whole of Minamisoma City, Iitate Village, Namie Town, Katsurao Village, Futaba Town, Okuma Town and Tomioka Town

³ Forest products refer to products derived from the forest, such as wild berries and all mushrooms (wild grown and bed cultivated).

5 Please submit your permit applications during our operating hours to avoid delay in permit approval. Our operating hours are as follows:

Operating Hours: Monday - Thursday: 8.30am - 5.30pm
Friday: 8.30am - 5.00pm
Lunch Hour: 1.00pm - 2.00pm
Saturday, Sunday and public holidays: Closed

6 Please be reminded that all imported food products are to comply with the standards as stipulated in the Sale of Food Act and the Food Regulations, Wholesome Meat and Fish Act and the Control of Plants Act. Imports of these food products may be subjected to hold-and-test by AVA.

7 Please do not hesitate to email us at the following email if you have any other queries: ava_import&export_foodstuff@ava.gov.sg.

Yours faithfully

June Choo (Ms)
Senior Executive Manager (Food)
Import & Export Regulation Department
Quarantine & Inspection Group
for Director-General
Agri-Food & Veterinary Services

This is a computer generated circular and no signature is required.