

SUBJECT:

TEMPORARY BAN ON THE IMPORTATION OF DOMESTIC AND WILD PIGS AND THEIR PRODUCTS INCLUDING PORK MEAT, PIG SKIN, PROCESSED ANIMAL PROTEINS AND SEMEN ORIGINATING FROM Italy

WHEREAS, Section 6 and 7 (2) and (4) of Executive Order no. 292 provides the authority and responsibility for the exercise of the mandate of the Department and for the discharge of its powers and functions shall be vested in the Secretary, who shall have supervision and control of the Department, to establish the policies and standards for the operation of the Department pursuant to the approved programs of government and promulgate administrative issuances necessary for the efficient administration of the offices under the Secretary and the proper execution of the laws relative thereto;

WHEREAS, Section 1770 of Act No. 2711 (Revised Administrative Code of 1917) which was adopted by incorporation together with Sections 1761-1769, in Section 5 of Act 3639 (Charter of BAI) empowers the Department Head to issue a general order preventing the entry of animals, animal effects, parts or products from any country with dangerous communicable animal disease;

WHEREAS, based on the official report submitted by Chief Veterinary Officer, Directorate General for Veterinary Health and Veterinary Medicinal Products (DGSAF), Ministry of Health, Rome, Italy to the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) on January 7, 2022, that there was an outbreak of African Swine Fever (ASF) in Ovada, Province of Alessandria, Northern Italy affecting wild boars as confirmed by the National Reference Laboratory for Classical and African Swine Fever (National Laboratory);

WHEREAS, there is a need to prevent the entry of ASF virus to protect the health of the local swine population;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. DAR, Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, by the powers vested in me by law, do hereby institute the following emergency measures for the importation of domestic and wild pigs and their products from Italy;

- 1. Banning the importation of live swine and their products, including pork meat, pig skin, processed animal proteins and semen;
- 2. Immediate suspension of the processing, evaluation of the application and issuance of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) import clearance to the above stated commodities;
- 3. All shipments IN TRANSIT/LOADED/ACCEPTED UNTO PORT before the official communication of this Order to the Italian authorities shall be allowed provided the products were slaughtered/produced before 23 December 2021;
- 4. Shipments which have not complied with the provisions set forth in Item 3 shall be dealt with as per DA AO $9 ext{ s. } 2010 ext{ Section VII.D.}$

This **ORDER** shall take effect immediately.

Done this 31st day of Janvary 2022

WILLIAM D. DAR, Ph.D.

Secretary

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