



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Elliptical Road, Diliman
1100 Quezon City

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR

No. 08

Series of 2021

SUBJECT : ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES ON THE IMPORTATION OF FRESH ONIONS

In order to address the concerns of our onion industry to manage onion importation while ensuring its availability for our local market, the following additional guidelines and requirements on the issuance of SPSIC for fresh onion shall be implemented:

1. The Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) shall organize and conduct stakeholders (farmers, traders, and importers) consultations to discuss the schedule of planting, harvest, storage, importation, marketing, and distribution of fresh onion. The data and information from the consultation meetings shall be used to assess and project local production.
2. Furthermore, the BPI Allium Monitoring Team shall conduct monthly monitoring and closely coordinate with the stakeholders, RFOs, and cold storage warehouses (CSWs) for accurate data collection and validation of local production and supply.
3. BPI together with Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Service (AMAS) and High Value Crops Development Program (HVCDP) shall come up with the estimated projected surplus or deficit of local fresh onion supply based on the consultations, monitoring, and validation. After the presentation and further consultation with stakeholders, the estimate shall be the basis for submitting a Certificate of Necessity to Import (CNI). The CNI shall include the volume to be imported and the specific period for import arrival.
4. BPI shall submit a CNI to the Office of the Secretary for approval. The request for CNI will include all agreements and discussions during the consultation meetings.
5. The issuance of SPSICs for fresh onion will be based on the importation period specified in the CNI.



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6. The following additional documentary requirements shall be submitted in the application of SPSIC:
- a. Payment certification of the consignment (validated bank certificate)
 - b. List of distribution points/Cold Storage Warehouse of the consignment.

Failure to comply will result in the rejection of the application.

7. To address the low utilization of the approved SPSIC, importers should regularly account for and surrender unused SPSICs to BPI. Importers with volume utilization of below 80% of the total approved SPSIC issued shall be required to explain at the end of the import period. Failure to provide plausible reasons shall be the basis for non-inclusion in the subsequent import period for fresh onions.

This Circular shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation and upon its filing with the Office of the National Administrative Register, UP Law Center.

Done this 14th day of December 2021.


WILLIAM D. DAR, PhD.
Secretary



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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