

Import conditions for importation of Day-old-chicks or hatching eggs into Bhutan

Definition: The term day-old chicks refers to poultry aged not more than 72 hours after hatching and hatching eggs refers to fertilized poultry eggs suitable for incubation and hatching. Poultry means domesticated birds such as chickens, turkeys, geese, ducks, guinea fowl, domestic pigeons, quails, pheasants, and partridges.

1. The import of day-old chicks or hatching eggs must be as per the list of poultry breeds approved for import by the Ministry of Agriculture & Livestock.
2. The consignment must have an import permit and be declared to BFDA officials at the point of entry with a veterinary certificate, issued in line with Article 5.10.2 of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code 2023.
3. Where applicable, the laboratory test results accompanying the veterinary certificate must be approved by the Competent Authority of the exporting country.
4. All pre-export vaccinations should be carried out in accordance with WOAHP Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines 2023. Evidence of vaccination, vaccine types, administration routes and parent flock vaccination should be attached with the veterinary certificate.
5. Upon arrival at the port of entry in Bhutan, the day-old chicks or hatching eggs must be declared and presented to the BFDA official for examination along with the necessary documents.
6. The day-old chicks or hatching eggs must be derived from parent flocks which had been kept in an establishment free of Avian Influenza viruses, for at least 21 days prior to and at the time of the collection of eggs.
7. The day-old chicks must come from a breeding flock that have not received live Newcastle disease vaccine or any other live vaccines within three months before collecting the day-old chicks or hatching eggs.
8. The day-old chicks and hatching eggs must come from hatcheries which have been free of clinical signs of Newcastle disease, Avian Infectious Bronchitis, Avian Infectious Laryngotracheitis, Infectious Bursal disease, Pullorum-Typhoid disease for the previous 12 months.
9. The day-old chicks must be vaccinated against Marek's disease at zero day of age.
10. The day-old chicks and hatching eggs are derived from the parent flocks originating from establishments and/or hatcheries officially recognized as free from Avian Leukosis Complex and, in the case of ducks, Duck Virus Hepatitis.
11. The day-old chicks or hatching eggs must be packed and transported in new or sanitized containers
12. The container in which the commodity is packed or stored must be sealed under the supervision of competent authority and the seal number and date of sealing must be recorded on the certificate.



13. Day-old chicks must comply with Bhutan's animal welfare standards and guidelines for poultry during transportation, as specified in the Bhutan Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines 2020.
14. The day-old chicks or hatching eggs must not pass-through transit areas where there are active outbreaks of the diseases mentioned.
15. Any illness in the imported day-old chicks or chicks hatched from imported hatching eggs must be reported to the nearest BFDA or Department of Livestock office.

Note: *These import conditions are subject to change as and when the disease situation changes.*

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