

**MEMORANDUM****MASTER COPY**  
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**TO :** ALL DISTRICT COLLECTORS  
ALL PORT COLLECTORS  
ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

**FROM :** ATTY. EDWARD JAMES A. DY BUCO  
Deputy Commissioner  
Assessment and Operations Coordinating Group

**SUBJECT :** **Import Clearance Issued by Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) to Various Imported Commodities That Are Not Requiring Validation and Issuance of Certificate of Validity and Authenticity**

**DATE :** 28 April 2020

Attached herewith is the letter dated 20 April 2020 from Secretary William D. Dar, Ph.D., Department of Agriculture (DA) informing this Bureau that all import clearances issued by the Sugar Regulatory Administration shall no longer require a validation and issuance of Certificate of Validity and Authenticity by the Office of the Secretary through the SPS Technical Working Group.

Relative thereto, the following imported commodities were already validated during the DA's Board meetings:

- a. Premix Commodity Release Clearance;
- b. Clearance for Release of Imported Sugar (CBW Food Processors/Manufacturers of Sugar-based Products for Export, Industrial Users, Consumers and End-Users, and Sugar Producers duly registered with the SRA;
- c. Imported Molasses;
- d. High Fructose Corn Syrup (HFCS) and Crystalline Fructose

Thus, a Certificate of Validity and Authenticity shall no longer be issued by the DA to all sugar importers prior to the release of their imported commodities

For your information and appropriate action.

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CCC-20-20728



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Agriculture  
**BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY**  
Visayas Ave., Diliman, Quezon City  
GaBAlsa Pag-unlad ng Paghahayupan

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS  
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER  
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DATE:

20 April 2020

**ATTY. MAXIMINO T. CRUZ**  
General Manager  
Association of International Shipping Lines  
Unit 204 Heritage Condominium  
1851 Dr. A. Velasquez St.  
Manila  
Landline: (02) 8524-3061

Dear Mr. Cruz,

Greetings from the Bureau of Animal Industry!

The globalization has brought shipping lines to be a relevant industry in the international trade of different commodities. In the current COVID-19 pandemic, the role of international shipping lines has been critical in the delivery of essential goods across the globe.

Due to the Enhanced Community Quarantine imposed in the entire of Luzon, as well as the reduced operations of some international shipping lines abroad, ports have been congested in the country, particularly in different ports of Manila. This has also been the same scenario when Truck Ban Ordinance was implemented at the City of Manila on 2014.

The COVID-19 is a health crisis but may lead to a food crisis if proper measures will not be undertaken. To resolve issues on the food supply chain, the Department of Agriculture have released several issuances were released namely **DA Memorandum Circular 7 of 2020 – Supplemental Circular Based on the Memorandum issued by the Executive Secretary of the Enhanced Community Quarantine of Luzon, ensuring Unhampered Movement of All Food and Production Items through Food Lanes** and **DA Memorandum Circular 9 of 2020 – Supplemental Circular Based on the Memorandum issued by the Executive Secretary of the Enhanced Community Quarantine of Luzon, Ensuring Unhampered Movement of all Cargoes and Fishery Inputs, Food Products and Agribusiness Personnel Nationwide** (kindly see attached enclosures).

While port congestion, particularly in major international ports of Manila, has been reported recently, this Bureau has address the concern of the importers to divert their cargo shipment to other major ports in Luzon such as South Harbor, Batangas Port and Subic Port in order to ensure timely distribution of goods into the domestic market year round. Furthermore, the Bureau has also coordinated to Intercommerce Network Service that the port of entry can be their *port of choice or any port in the Philippines* to clarify that importers may change the port of entry, should port congestion occur in their original port of entry. This Bureau has also

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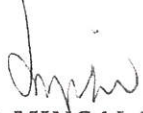


issued **BAI Memorandum Order 12 of 2020** – Diversion of Cargo to any Philippine Port to provide guidance on this concern (kindly see attached enclosure).

The COVID-19 pandemic emphasizes the need for a multi-sectoral collaboration thus we would like to assure your good office our sincerest commitment to coordinate solutions on matters of mutual concern.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,



**CLARO N. MINGALA, DVSM, Ph.D**  
Officer-in-Charge, Assistant Director

cc.

Bureau of Customs ✓

Forwarders

Brokers

Importers

Indentors

Suppliers

Port Operators

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MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR No. 09  
Series of 2020

FROM: THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE *Ces A. Ces*

SUBJECT: SUPPLEMENTAL CIRCULAR BASED ON THE MEMORANDUM ISSUED BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ON ENHANCED COMMUNITY QUARANTINE, ENSURING UNHAMPERED MOVEMENT OF ALL CARGOES, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERY INPUTS, FOOD PRODUCTS AND AGRIBUSINESS PERSONNEL NATIONWIDE

In compliance to the Memorandum from the Executive Secretary issued March 16, 2020 and the Memorandum Circular No. 77 "Directing All Government Agencies, Offices and Instrumentalities, as well as Local Government Units, to Implement and Ensure Compliance with the Issuances of the Department of Health and Department of Agriculture on the Prices of Essential Emergency Medicines and Supplies, and Selected Agriculture and Fishery Commodities" by the Office of the President issued March 17, 2020, movement of cargoes in any forms of conveyance, shall be unhampered, and prices of agriculture and fishery commodities shall be stabilized.

To complement the said issuances, the Department has issued Memorandum Circular No. 07 (series of 2020) to ensure that every Filipino household in Luzon and high dense metropolitan areas will have access to safe and affordable food.

This Memorandum Circular covers the implementation of the Food Resiliency Protocol for Luzon to include the entire country.

The following guidelines are hereby added for the information and guidance of all concerned:

- The objectives of this Circular are: 1) to ensure unhampered movement of cargoes, agriculture and fishery inputs and other food products to, from, and passing through NCR and the rest of the country; 2) to stabilize prices of agri-fishery inputs and other food products; and 3) to cascade the action points in this Memorandum Circular from the national level to the regional and local levels.
- All agricultural supply stores/outlets nationwide and animal clinics must be allowed to operate under a skeletal force as part of the enhanced community quarantine measures in order for farmers, fisherfolks, and livestock raisers with the essential inputs to sustain and support the production and processing of agricultural and fishery commodities and/or products.

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- Inclusion of copra and coconut by-products under food commodities, such as copra and charcoal from coconut, except for lumber.
- Cargo Lane is one of the lanes designated by the Philippine National Police (PNP) in checkpoints where agriculture and fisheries inputs and food products are transported through all forms of conveyance (air, water and land) across all modes of deliveries (small, medium, large). Priority for entry to cargo lanes shall be given to truckers/suppliers with Food Pass.
- All farming and fishing activities shall continue to ensure sufficient food supply across the country. These activities include, but not limited to land preparation, planting, crop maintenance, harvesting, threshing, drying, milling, sorting, packaging and trading.
- All farmers and farm workers, fisherfolk and agribusiness personnel shall be exempted from doing home quarantine provided that 1) one does not exhibit any one of the symptoms of COVID-19, 2) number of working farmers/fisherfolk/farm personnel is at a minimum and 3) safety protocols are ensured and social distancing is practiced in the workplace.
- Food pass accreditation is FREE OF CHARGE.

For your guidance.

  
WILLIAM D. DAR, Ph.D.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
  
in replying pls cite this code  
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AOCG Memo No. 82-2020 p 6

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17 March 2020

Memorandum Circular No. 07

FROM: AGRICULTURE SECRETARY *Cei A-Ca*

SUBJECT: SUPPLEMENTAL CIRCULAR BASED ON THE MEMORANDUM ISSUED BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ON ENHANCED COMMUNITY QUARANTINE OF LUZON, ENSURING UNHAMPERED MOVEMENT OF ALL FOOD AND PRODUCTION ITEMS THROUGH FOOD LANES

Pursuant to the Memorandum issued by the Office of the Executive Secretary dated 16 March 2020 with subject "Community Quarantine over the Entire Luzon and Further Guidelines for the Management of the Corona Virus Disease 19 (COVID-19) Situation", declaring an enhanced community quarantine in Luzon, the Department of Agriculture (DA) is hereby implementing a Food Resiliency Protocol to ensure that every Filipino household in Luzon and high dense metropolitan areas will have access to safe and affordable food.

The Food Resiliency Protocol of the DA identifies a list of food items (please see Annex 1. List of Food Items) that must be allowed unhampered and unimpeded transit in all quarantine checkpoints, provided that proper documentation is presented to the authorities for the following:

1. All vehicles carrying crop commodities must be allowed passage.
2. Fishery and other aquatic products with carriers (trucks) must be allowed passage.
3. Live poultry and livestock, including meat and meat products, details are provided under DA Memorandum Circular No. 5 series of 2020, as follows.
  - 3.1. Shipping Permit issued by the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) for transport of live animals, animal products and by-products with accompanying Veterinary Health Certificate (issued by licensed Veterinarians).

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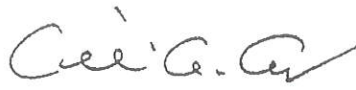


- 3.2. Shipping Permit issued by BAI for transport of meat (fresh or frozen) with accompanying Meat Inspection Certificate (MIC) for fresh locally sourced meat and Certificate of Meat Inspection (COMI) for imported meat as issued by the National Meat Inspection Service (NMIS).
4. Farm inputs (please see Annex 2, List of Identified Farm Inputs), are also included to ensure continuous and sustainable production of the above mentioned food items. Movement of products and services related therein is requested to all unhampered passage on designated quarantine checkpoints.

The above mentioned commodities are hereby requested proper assistance at the designated quarantine checkpoints to ensure that our people will have access to safe and affordable food items in the market.

In addition, all relevant DA personnel bearing proper mission orders and identifications are requested to be provided proper facilitation in the designated quarantine checkpoints to ensure they are able to perform their operative duties relevant to the objectives of the Food Resiliency Protocol.

Lastly, essential farm personnel that works at the production area bearing proper documentation are also requested to be accorded passage at the quarantine checkpoints. This will include veterinarians, farm hands, and other farm and fisher folks.

  
WILLIAM D. DAR, Ph.D

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
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**Annex 1. List of Food Commodities**

1. Rice
2. Brown sugar and refined sugar
3. All fruits including coconut
4. All vegetables and spices
5. Fish and all aquatic produce (fresh, frozen, chilled and dried)
6. Live hogs and poultry
7. All live carabao, cattle, goat and sheep
8. All eggs (fresh, salted, and balut)
9. Milk and all dairy products
10. All meat (fresh, frozen, chilled)
11. All meat products (semi-processed like tocino, longanisa, tapa, etc. and fully processed like hotdog, and ham)
12. All canned food products
13. Cooking oil (all forms such as vegetable and coconut oil)





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## Annex 2. List of Farm Inputs

Farm inputs are all items/commodities that are necessary to support the production of rice, crops/vegetables; fisheries and other aquatic products; and livestock, poultry and milk, including necessary farm implements to support production and processing operations, to wit:

### 1. Livestock and Poultry

#### a. Production

- i. Day-old chicks (DOC)
- ii. Breeder pigs (boars and replacement gilts)
- iii. Semen and semen straw

#### b. Feed and feed ingredients

- i. Corn
- ii. Soya
- iii. Flour
- iv. Rice bran
- v. Wheat
- vi. Copra meal
- vii. All pre-mixes (to include enzymes, probiotics)
- viii. Cooking oil (including used cooking oils)

#### c. Veterinary medicines and biologics

- i. Vaccines for poultry and all livestock
- ii. Vitamins and mineral supplements
- iii. Test kits and reagents for animals and poultry diseases



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d. Operations of Farm and Meat Processing Plants to ensure hygiene and food safety

i. Disinfectants

ii. Chlorines

iii. Farm machineries

iv. Machineries for cold storages and meat processing plants

2. Fishery and aquatic production

a. Fry or fingerlings

b. Feeds

c. Fertilizers

3. Rice, crops and vegetable production

a. Seedlings

b. Fertilizers

c. Pesticides

d. Herbicides

e. Irrigation equipment

f. Farm machineries

g. Mill supplies and machineries

