# Proposed Changes

to be considered at

NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

## The 46th Biennial Conference of the National Poultry Improvement Plan

in Providence, RI
August 27-30, 2024

**PRE-CONFERENCE EDITION – JUNE 2024**

June 18, 2024

Dear NPIP Stakeholder:

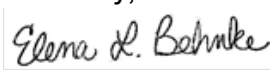
On behalf of the NPIP, I want to thank you for your submissions and your patience as we worked to produce this booklet for your review. This booklet contains the set of proposed changes to be considered at the 46th NPIP Biennial Conference to take place August 27th-30th, 2024, in Providence, RI. This year, the document is organized into 55 numeric, consecutive proposed changes, without separating the 9 CFR Provisions and the Program Standards, Standards A-E and Standard F proposed changes. In part, the reason is that several proposed changes overlap, where the change impacts both the Provisions and the Program Standards. Rather than assess these separately, we decided to combine them for simplicity.

Please also take into consideration that this set of proposed changes is in draft form, where some of the formatting is subject to change. This version will also be updated soon to include a table of contents. The edition distributed in August, at the conference itself, will be labeled *Conference Edition*. We are hopeful that by then, we can also include the new Rule language. The new Rule, which was published on June 11, 2024, has a comment period of 60 days. The closure of the comment period will certainly be close to the start of the conference, and we will try to make it clear which version of the Rule we will be working from in late August.

Throughout these proposed changes, use of triple asterisks (* * *) denotes where sections are skipped. You'll also see a watermark labeled "Draft" on each page, as well as a "Pre-Conference Edition – June 2024" header.

Again, the rest of the NPIP staff – Dr. Katy Burden, Dr. Savannah Busby, Ms. Penny Kesler, and Mr. Tommy Brockington – and I thank you for your support of the NPIP, and we all look forward to seeing you in a few months.

Sincerely,



Elena Behnke, DVM, MAHM, DACPV
Senior Coordinator, National Poultry Improvement Plan

# Proposal #1

**Delegates: 145 and 146 Combined**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart A – General Provisions**

**§ 145.1 Definitions.**

Words used in this part in the singular form shall be deemed to import the plural, and vice versa, as the case may demand. Except where the context otherwise requires, for the purposes of this part the following terms shall be construed, respectively, to mean:

* * *

*Authorized laboratory.* A~~n authorized laboratory is a~~ laboratory that meets the requirements of § 147.52 and is thus qualified to perform assays in accordance with part 147 of this subchapter.

* * *

**PART 146 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR COMMERCIAL POULTRY**

**Subpart A – General Provisions**

**§ 146.1 Definitions.**

Except where the context otherwise requires, for the purposes of this subpart the following terms shall be construed, respectively, to mean:

* * *

*Authorized laboratory.* A~~n authorized laboratory is a~~ laboratory that meets the requirements of § 147.52 and is thus qualified to perform assays in accordance with part 147 of this subchapter.

* * *

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards A-E**

**Definitions *(Pg. 6)***

* * *

**Authorized laboratory** ~~An authorized laboratory is a~~ laboratory that meets the requirements of CFR 147.52 and is thus qualified to perform the assays described in Program Standards Standard D Section (7).

* * *

**Reason:** I propose to rewrite some definitions for cleanness and clearness.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Alberto Torres
Cobb-Vantress, LLC

# Proposal #2

**Delegates: 145 and 146 Combined**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart A – General Provisions**

**§ 145.1 Definitions.**

Words used in this part in the singular form shall be deemed to import the plural, and vice versa, as the case may demand. Except where the context otherwise requires, for the purposes of this part the following terms shall be construed, respectively, to mean:

* * *

*Avian influenza.* An infection or disease of poultry caused by viruses in the family *Orthomyxoviridae*, genus Influenzavirus A. ~~Avian influenza is defined as an infection of poultry caused by any influenza A virus of the H5 or H7 subtypes or by any influenza A virus with an intravenous pathogenicity index (IVPI) greater than 1.2 (or as an alternative at least 75 percent mortality).~~

* * *

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard A-E**

**Definitions *(Pg. 6)***

* * *

| | |
|---|---|
| **Avian influenza** | An infection or disease of poultry caused by viruses in the family *Orthomyxoviridae*, genus Influenzavirus A. |

* * *

**Program Standards – Standard F – Compartmentalization**

**Definitions *(Pg. 13)***

* * *

Avian Influenza: An infection or disease of poultry caused by viruses in the family *Orthomyxoviridae* genus Influenzavirus A. ~~any influenza A virus of the H5 or H7 subtypes or by any influenza A virus with an intravenous pathogenicity index (IVPI) greater than 1.2 (or as an alternative at least 75 percent mortality).~~

* * *

**Reason:** I propose to rewrite some definitions for cleanness and clearness.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Alberto Torres
Cobb-Vantress, LLC

## Proposal #3

**Delegates:** **145 and 146 Combined**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart A – General Provisions**

**§ 145.1 Definitions.**

Words used in this part in the singular form shall be deemed to import the plural, and vice versa, as the case may demand. Except where the context otherwise requires, for the purposes of this part the following terms shall be construed, respectively, to mean:

* * *

*Baby poultry.* Newly hatched poultry (chicks, poults, ducklings, goslings, keets, etc.)~~.~~ up to 3 days of age.

* * *

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard A-E**

**Definitions *(Pg. 6)***

* * *

| | |
|---|---|
| **Baby poultry** | Newly hatched poultry (chicks, poults, ducklings, goslings, keets, etc.)~~.~~ up to 3 days of age. |

* * *

**Reason:** I propose to rewrite some definitions for cleanness and clearness.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Alberto Torres
Cobb-Vantress, LLC

## Proposal #4

**Delegates: 145 and 146 Combined**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart A – General Provisions**

**§ 145.1 Definitions.**

Words used in this part in the singular form shall be deemed to import the plural, and vice versa, as the case may demand. Except where the context otherwise requires, for the purposes of this part the following terms shall be construed, respectively, to mean:

* * *

*NPIP Program Standards.* A document that contains tests and sanitation procedures approved by the Administrator in accordance with § 147.53 of this subchapter for use under this subchapter. This document may be obtained from the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) website at *http://www.poultryimprovement.org/* or by writing to the Service at National Poultry Improvement Plan, APHIS, USDA, 1506 Klondike Road, Suite 3~~1~~01, Conyers, GA 30094.

* * *

**PART 147 – AUXILIARY PROVISIONS ON NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

**Subpart F – Authorized Laboratories and Approved Tests and Sanitation Procedures**

**§ 147.51 Definitions.**

The following definitions apply in this subpart:

* * *

*NPIP Program Standards.* A document that contains tests and sanitation procedures approved by the Administrator in accordance with § 147.53 of this subchapter for use under this subchapter. This document may be obtained from the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) website at *http://www.poultryimprovement.org/* or by writing to the Service at National Poultry Improvement Plan, APHIS, USDA, 1506 Klondike Road, Suite 3~~1~~01, Conyers, GA 30094.

* * *

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard A-E**

**Definitions *(Pg. 8)***

* * *

| | |
|---|---|
| ***NPIP Program Standards*** | A document that contains tests and sanitation procedures approved by the Administrator under 9 CFR 147.53. This document may be obtained from the NPIP Web site at ~~http://www.poultryimprovemet.org~~ http://www.poultryimprovement.org or by writing to the Service at National Poultry Improvement Plan, APHIS, USDA, 1506 Klondike Road, Suite 3~~1~~01, Conyers, GA 30094. |

* * *

**Reason:** I propose to rewrite some definitions for cleanness and clearness and correct a typographical error.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Alberto Torres
Cobb-Vantress, LLC

## Proposal #5

**Delegates: 145 and 146 Combined**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart A – General Provisions**

**§ 145.1 Definitions.**

Words used in this part in the singular form shall be deemed to import the plural, and vice versa, as the case may demand. Except where the context otherwise requires, for the purposes of this part the following terms shall be construed, respectively, to mean:

* * *

*Official supervision —*

(1) ***As applied to Plan programs.*** The direction, inspection, and critical evaluation by the Official State Agency of compliance with the provisions of the Plan;

(2) ***As applied to non-Plan but equivalent State poultry improvement programs.*** The direction, inspection, and critical evaluation by an officer or agency of a State government, of compliance with a publicly announced State poultry improvement program.

(3) ***As applied to non-Plan but equivalent programs abroad.***

* * *

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard A-E**

**Definitions *(Pg. 9)***

* * *

**Official supervision:** (1) As applied to Plan programs. The direction, inspection, and critical evaluation by the Official State Agency of compliance with the provisions of the Plan;

(2) As applied to non-Plan but equivalent State poultry improvement programs. The direction, inspection, and critical evaluation by an officer or agency of a State government, of compliance with a publicly announced State poultry improvement program.

(3) As applied to non-Plan but equivalent programs abroad.

* * *

**Reason:** I propose to rewrite some definitions for cleanness and clearness.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Alberto Torres
Cobb-Vantress, LLC

# Proposal #6

**Delegates:** **145 and 146 Combined**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart A – General Provisions**

**§ 145.1 Definitions.**

Words used in this part in the singular form shall be deemed to import the plural, and vice versa, as the case may demand. Except where the context otherwise requires, for the purposes of this part the following terms shall be construed, respectively, to mean:

* * *

*Primary breeding flock.* A flock composed of one or more generations that is maintained for the purpose of establishing, continuing, and/or improving breeding ~~parent~~ lines.

* * *

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard A-E**

**Definitions *(Pg. 9)***

* * *

| | |
|---|---|
| **Primary breeding flock** | A flock composed of one or more generations that is maintained for the purpose of establishing, continuing, and/or improving breeding ~~parent~~ lines. |

* * *

**Reason:** I propose to rewrite some definitions for cleanness and clearness.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Alberto Torres
Cobb-Vantress, LLC

## Proposal #7

**Delegates:** **145 Combined**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart A – General Provisions**

**§ 145.1 Definitions.**

Words used in this part in the singular form shall be deemed to import the plural, and vice versa, as the case may demand. Except where the context otherwise requires, for the purposes of this part the following terms shall be construed, respectively, to mean:

* * *

*Remote inspect, remote inspection*. An interactive, remote visual study of a premises or flock, performed in real time by the Official State Agent or authorized designee via telecommunication using video-capture devices and supporting platforms. Remote inspection should only be performed by those who have physically been to the facility, and all areas the inspection covers, within the past 3 years. Additionally, the standard for remote inspect, remote inspection should align with expectations defined in § 145.1 Official Supervision.

* * *

**Reason:** There is no current language to define "*remote inspect, remote inspection*" separate from in-person visits to facilities. This addition clarifies the use of combination, audio/video capture devices, in real time, for the performance of NPIP inspections.

Remote inspect/inspections provide increased biosecurity and efficiency for both facilities and personnel.

Modification of this specific provision within Part 145 will ensure less confusion and clearer path for the utilization of current technologies, especially during a Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, or other disease, outbreak. (See corresponding Proposals 14, 15, 16, and 17.)

**Sponsors:** Members of the Association of Primary Breeder Veterinarians (AAPBV):

Drs. Lisa Tenny, Kate Hayes and Christina Lindsey
Aviagen, North America

Dr. Alberto Torres
Cobb-Vantress, LLC

Dr. Andrew Smith
Hy-Line International

Dr. Rebecca Rink
Aviagen Turkeys

Dr. Dan Shafer
Maple Leaf Farms

Dr. Isa Ehr
Hendrix Genetics

Dr. Evan Vanbeusekom
Hybrid Turkeys

## Proposal #8

**Delegates: 145 and 146 Combined**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart A—General Provisions**

**§ 145.1 Definitions.**

Words used in this part in the singular form shall be deemed to import the plural, and vice versa, as the case may demand. Except where the context otherwise requires, for the purposes of this part the following terms shall be construed, respectively, to mean:

* * *

*Salmonella.* Any bacteria belonging to the genus Salmonella, including the arizona group.

* * *

**PART 146 — NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR COMMERCIAL POULTRY**

**Subpart A—General Provisions**

**§ 146.1 Definitions.**

Except where the context otherwise requires, for the purposes of this subpart the following terms shall be construed, respectively, to mean:

* * *

*Salmonella.* Any bacteria belonging to the genus *Salmonella,* including the arizona group.

* * *

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard A-E**

**Definitions *(Pg. 9)***

* * *

| | |
|---|---|
| **Salmonella** | Any bacteria belonging to the genus Salmonella, including the arizona group. |

* * *

**Reason:** Currently there is not a definition for Salmonella in Part 146. This allows the definitions from 145 and the Program Standards to be adopted into Part 146 as well.

**Sponsors:** Kendra Waldbusser
Pilgrim's Pride Corporation

Julie Sundgaard
Romer Labs, Inc.

## Proposal #9

**Delegates: 145 and 146 Combined**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart A – General Provisions**

**§ 145.1 Definitions.**

Words used in this part in the singular form shall be deemed to import the plural, and vice versa, as the case may demand. Except where the context otherwise requires, for the purposes of this part the following terms shall be construed, respectively, to mean:

* * *

*Sanitize.* To treat with a product which is registered by the Environmental Protection Agency as germicidal, virucidal, fungicidal, pseudomonaeacidal, or tuberculocidal, in accordance with the specifications for use as shown on the label of each product. The Official State Agency, with the concurrence of the Service, shall approve each product or procedure according to its specified usage.

* * *

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard A-E**

**Definitions *(Pg. 9)***

* * *

| | |
|---|---|
| *Sanitize* | To treat with a product which is registered by the Environmental Protection Agency as germicidal, virucidal, fungicidal, pseudomonaeacidal, or tuberculocidal, in accordance with the specifications for use as shown on the label of each product. The Official State Agency, with the concurrence of the Service, shall approve each product or procedure according to its specified usage. |

* * *

**Reason:** I propose to rewrite some definitions for cleanness and clearness and to correct misspellings.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Alberto Torres
Cobb-Vantress, LLC

## Proposal #10

**Delegates: 145 Combined**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart A – General Provisions**

**§ 145.4 General provisions for all participants.**

* * *

(d) Except as provided by this paragraph or (f) of this part, participants in the Plan may not buy or receive products for any purpose from nonparticipants unless they are part of an equivalent program, as determined by the Official State Agency. Participants in the Plan may buy or receive products from flocks that are neither participants nor part of an equivalent program, for use in breeding flocks or for experimental purposes, under the following conditions only:

(1) With the permission of the Official State Agency and the concurrence of the Service; and

(2) By segregation of all birds before introduction into the breeding flock. Upon reaching sexual maturity, the segregated birds must be tested and found negative for pullorum-typhoid and any other disease for which the flock into which the birds are being introduced holds a disease classification. The Official State Agency may require a second test at its discretion.

(e) Each participant shall be assigned a permanent approval number by the Service. This number, prefaced by the numerical code of the State, will be the official approval number of the participant and may be used on each certificate, invoice, shipping label, or other document used by the participant in the sale of his products. Each Official State Agency which requires an approval or permit number for out-of-State participants to ship into its State should honor this number. The approval number shall be withdrawn when the participant no longer qualifies for participation in the Plan.

(f) From products for non-participant flocks located outside of the USA, due to local legislation, their adopted health programs may not follow those of the Plan, but may be considered equivalent if they demonstrate freedom of infection from Plan diseases. Such product may be brought into a participant hatchery without the conditions listed under paragraph (d) of this section, only after demonstration of freedom from Plan disease infection through the following:

(1) they comply with the import requirements set by APHIS-VS as attested by an international veterinary health certificate, and

(2) they are approved for importation upon inspection by designated APHIS-VS inspector at port of entry, and

(3) if the NPIP hatchery participants in Plan disease classifications not covered by the international veterinary health certificate of the exporting country, additional testing or testing history of the flock(s) of origin may be required to demonstrate freedom from infection for each applicable classification. In addition, for non-NPIP laboratories, evidence of at least two of the following conditions are met will be required:

(i) The laboratory has official certification to conduct the testing methodology from the country of origin;

(ii) It possesses an international certification of practice standardization similar to ISO (International Organization for Standardization);

(iii) It follows international laboratory protocols for the Plan diseases of interest, as set by NPIP and/or WOAH (World Organization for Animal Health).

* * *

**Reason:** The current language that addresses equivalencies for non-participant flocks assumes origin within the US territory. Furthermore, non-participant flocks located outside of the USA are subject to their own national health programs and health schedules to address regional epidemiological conditions of disease statuses, which may not reflect those within the Plan, yet may be able to demonstrate freedom of infection for Plan diseases. While poultry primary breeders in the US routinely import poultry breeding stock from business units around the world to ensure continuous supply of chicks and genetic diversity, segregation of imported product from non-participant flocks may not be feasible for practical purposes due to volumes and/or frequency of importations; however, the health status of source flocks might be demonstrated as equivalent through different health programs, foreign government certification that satisfies APHIS's import requirements for entry into the USA, and/or testing prior to importation of product into the USA.

Modification of this general and other specific provisions within Part 145 will ensure a clear path for the incorporation of safe product from non-participant flocks into the commercial pipeline of the corresponding Subparts.

******Note that this proposal received interim approval as "Proposal #1 Equivalency Testing" by GCC vote in 2023.******

Sponsors: Members of the Association of Primary Breeder Veterinarians (APPBV):

Dr. Lisa Tenny
Aviagen, Inc.

Dr. Alberto Torres
Cobb-Vantress, Inc.

Dr. Kate Hayes
Aviagen, North America

Dr. Phillip Eidson
Aviagen, Inc.

Dr. Andrew Smith
Hy-Line International

Dr. Christina Lindsey
Aviagen, North America

## Proposal #11

**Delegates: 145 Combined**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart A – General Provisions**

**§ 145.4 General provisions for all participants.**

* * *

(d) Except as provided by this paragraph or (f) of this part, participants in the Plan may not buy or receive products for any purpose from nonparticipants unless they are part of an equivalent program, as determined by the Official State Agency, with concurrence of the Service. Participants in the Plan may buy or receive products from flocks that are neither participants nor part of an equivalent program, for use in breeding flocks or for experimental purposes, under the following conditions only:

(1) With the permission of the Official State Agency and the concurrence of the Service; and

(2) By segregation of all birds before introduction into the breeding flock. Upon reaching sexual maturity, the segregated birds must be tested and found negative for pullorum-typhoid and any other disease for which the flock into which the birds are being introduced holds a disease classification. The Official State Agency may require a second test at its discretion.

(e) Each participant shall be assigned a permanent approval number by the Service. This number, prefaced by the numerical code of the State, will be the official approval number of the participant and may be used on each certificate, invoice, shipping label, or other document used by the participant in the sale of his products. Each Official State Agency which requires an approval or permit number for out-of-State participants to ship into its State should honor this number. The approval number shall be withdrawn when the participant no longer qualifies for participation in the Plan.

(f) From products for non-participant flocks located outside of the USA, such product may be brought into a participant hatchery without the conditions listed under paragraph (d) of this section, only after demonstration of freedom from Plan disease infection through the following:

(1) Hatching eggs or products comply with the import requirements set by APHIS-VS as attested by an international veterinary health certificate, and

(2) Hatching eggs or products are approved for importation upon inspection by designated APHIS-VS inspector at port of entry, and

(3) For Plan disease classifications not covered by the international veterinary health certificate of the exporting country, additional testing or testing history of the flock(s) of origin will be required in English to demonstrate freedom from infection for each applicable classification.

The NPIP office shall maintain a checklist of compliance items needed for equivalency determination, including those listed within point (f) of this part, and, at their discretion, laboratory accreditation certification for the laboratory or laboratories conducting testing towards equivalency status.

* * *

**Reason:** The current language that addresses equivalencies for non-participant flocks assumes origin within the US territory. Furthermore, non-participant flocks located outside of the USA are subject to their own national health programs and health schedules to address regional epidemiological conditions of disease statuses, which may not reflect those within the Plan, yet may be able to demonstrate freedom of infection for Plan diseases. While poultry primary breeders in the US routinely import poultry breeding stock from business units around the world to ensure continuous supply of chicks and genetic diversity, segregation of imported product from non-participant flocks may not be feasible for practical purposes due to volumes and/or frequency of importations; however, the health status of source flocks might be demonstrated as equivalent through different health programs, foreign government certification that satisfies APHIS's import requirements for entry into the USA, and/or testing prior to importation of product into the USA.

Modification of this general and other specific provisions within Part 145 will ensure a clear path for the incorporation of safe product from non-participant flocks into the commercial pipeline of the corresponding Subparts.

Given feedback, we have added the clause "with concurrence of the Service" to strengthen this proposal.

******Note that a similar proposal (see Proposal 10) previously received interim approval in 2023.******

**Sponsors:** Members of the Association of Poultry Primary Breeder Veterinarians (APPBV):

Drs. Lisa Tenny, Kate Hayes and Christina Lindsey
Aviagen, North America

Dr. Phillip Eidson
Aviagen, Inc.

Dr. Alberto Torres
Cobb-Vantress, LLC

Dr. Andrew Smith
Hy-Line International

Dr. Rebecca Rink
Aviagen Turkeys

Dr. Dan Shafer
Maple Leaf Farms

Dr. Isa Ehr
Hendrix Genetics

Dr. Evan Vanbeusekom
Hybrid Turkeys

## Proposal #12

**Delegates:** **145 Combined**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart A – General Provisions**

**§ 145.5 Specific provisions for participating flocks.**

(a) Poultry equipment, and poultry houses and the land in the immediate vicinity thereof, shall be kept in sanitary condition in accordance with part 147 of this subchapter. The participating flock, its eggs, and all equipment used in connection with the flock shall be separated from nonparticipating flocks, in a manner acceptable to the Official State Agency~~.~~, unless eggs imported from another country come from flocks demonstrated by certification and testing to be free of Plan diseases or considered equivalent by the OSA as per § 145.4 (f) of this subpart.

(b) All flocks shall consist of healthy, normal individuals characteristic of the breed, variety, cross, or other combination which they are stated to represent.

(c) A flock shall be deemed to be a participating flock at any time only if it has qualified for the U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean classification, as prescribed in Subparts B, C, D, E, F, G, H, or I of this part.

(d) Each bird shall be identified with a sealed and numbered band obtained through or approved by the Official State Agency: *Provided,* That exception may be made at the discretion of the Official State Agency.

**Reason:** The current language that addresses equivalencies for non-participant flocks assumes origin within the US territory. Furthermore, non-participant flocks located outside of the USA are subject to their own national health programs and health schedules to address regional epidemiological conditions of disease statuses, which may not reflect those within the Plan and the USA yet may be able to demonstrate freedom of infection for Plan diseases. While Poultry primary breeders in the US routinely import poultry breeding stock from business units around the world to ensure continuous supply of chicks and genetic diversity, segregation of imported product from non-participant flocks may not be feasible for practical purposes due to volumes and/or frequency of importations; however, the health status of source flocks might be demonstrated as equivalent through local health programs, foreign government certification that satisfies APHIS's import requirements for entry into the USA, and/or testing prior to importation of product into the USA.

Modification of this specific provision within Part 145 will ensure less confusion and clearer path for the incorporation of safe product from non-participant flocks located abroad into the commercial pipeline of the corresponding Subparts.

******Note that this proposal received interim approval as "Proposal #2 Equivalency Testing Reference to Proposal 1(f)" by GCC vote in 2023.******

Sponsors: Members of the Association of Primary Breeder Veterinarians (APPBV):

Dr. Lisa Tenny
Aviagen, Inc.

Dr. Alberto Torres
Cobb-Vantress, Inc.

Dr. Kate Hayes
Aviagen, North America

Dr. Phillip Eidson
Aviagen, Inc.

Dr. Andrew Smith
Hy-Line International

Dr. Christina Lindsey
Aviagen, North America

## Proposal #13

**Delegates:** **145 Combined**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart A – General Provisions**

**§ 145.5 Specific provisions for participating flocks.**

(a) Poultry equipment, and poultry houses and the land in the immediate vicinity thereof, shall be kept in sanitary condition in accordance with part 147 of this subchapter. The participating flock, its eggs, and all equipment used in connection with the flock shall be separated from nonparticipating flocks, in a manner acceptable to the Official State Agency~~.~~, unless eggs imported from another country come from flocks demonstrated by certification and testing to be free of Plan diseases or considered equivalent by the OSA with concurrence by the Service as per § 145.4 (f) of this subpart.

(b) All flocks shall consist of healthy, normal individuals characteristic of the breed, variety, cross, or other combination which they are stated to represent.

(c) A flock shall be deemed to be a participating flock at any time only if it has qualified for the U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean classification, as prescribed in Subparts B, C, D, E, F, G, H, or I of this part.

(d) Each bird shall be identified with a sealed and numbered band obtained through or approved by the Official State Agency: *Provided,* That exception may be made at the discretion of the Official State Agency.

**Reason:** The current language that addresses equivalencies for non-participant flocks assumes origin within the US territory. Furthermore, non-participant flocks located outside of the USA are subject to their own national health programs and health schedules to address regional epidemiological conditions of disease statuses, which may not reflect those within the Plan and the USA yet may be able to demonstrate freedom of infection for Plan diseases. While Poultry primary breeders in the US routinely import poultry breeding stock from business units around the world to ensure continuous supply of chicks and genetic diversity, segregation of imported product from non-participant flocks may not be feasible for practical purposes due to volumes and/or frequency of importations; however, the health status of source flocks might be demonstrated as equivalent through local health programs, foreign government certification that satisfies APHIS's import requirements for entry into the USA, and/or testing prior to importation of product into the USA.

Modification of this specific provision within Part 145 will ensure less confusion and clearer path for the incorporation of safe product from non-participant flocks located abroad into the commercial pipeline of the corresponding Subparts.

Given feedback, we have added the clause "with concurrence of the Service" to strengthen this proposal.

******Note that a similar proposal (see Proposal 12) previously received interim approval in 2023.******

**Sponsors:** Members of the Association of Primary Breeder Veterinarians (AAPBV):

Drs. Lisa Tenny, Kate Hayes and Christina Lindsey
Aviagen, North America

Dr. Phillip Eidson
Aviagen, Inc.

Dr. Alberto Torres
Cobb-Vantress, LLC

Dr. Andrew Smith
Hy-Line International

Dr. Rebecca Rink
Aviagen Turkeys

Dr. Dan Shafer
Maple Leaf Farms

Dr. Isa Ehr
Hendrix Genetics

Dr. Evan Vanbeusekom
Hybrid Turkeys

## Proposal #14

**Delegates:** **145 Combined**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart A – General Provisions**

**§ 145.11 Supervision.**

* * *

(b) The Official State Agency shall employ or authorize qualified persons as State Inspectors to perform the qualification testing of participating flocks, and to perform the official inspections necessary to verify compliance with the requirements of the Plan. The OSA shall determine whether inspections are performed in person, via remote connectivity, or in a hybrid approach.

* * *

**Reason:** The current language does not explicitly allow the OSA the flexibility to determine how an inspection is performed. The addition will allow the OSA to determine if an inspection can be performed in-person, via remote connectivity, or in a hybrid approach. This will allow for modern technology to assist in keeping flocks free of disease as well as maintain the highest levels of biosecurity.

Modification of this specific provision within Part 145 will ensure less confusion and clearer path for the inspection of flocks, especially during an outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza.

******Note that this proposal received interim approval as "Proposal #4: Supervision of Inspections" by GCC vote in 2023.******

**Sponsors:** Members of the Association of Primary Breeder Veterinarians (AAPBV):

Dr. Lisa Tenny
Aviagen, Inc.

Dr. Alberto Torres
Cobb-Vantress, Inc.

Dr. Kate Hayes
Aviagen, North America

Dr. Andrew Smith
Hy-Line International

Dr. Isa Ehr
Hendrix Genetics

Dr. Nisana Siman-Tov
Hendrix Genetics

Dr. Robert Edson
Aviagen Turkeys

Dr. Dan Shafer
Maple Leaf Farms

## Proposal #15

**Delegates:** **145 Combined**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart A – General Provisions**

**§ 145.11 Supervision.**

* * *

(b) The Official State Agency shall employ or authorize qualified persons as State Inspectors to perform the qualification testing of participating flocks, and to perform the official inspections necessary to verify compliance with the requirements of the Plan. The OSA shall determine whether inspections are performed in person, via remote inspection, or in a hybrid approach.

* * *

**Reason:** The current language does not explicitly allow the OSA the flexibility to determine how an inspection is performed. This addition will allow clarity for the OSA to determine if an inspection can be performed in-person, via remote connectivity, or in a hybrid approach, according to the circumstances of the situation such as time constraints, technology available and deadlines/timeframes. This will allow for modern technology to assist in keeping flocks free of disease as well as maintain the highest levels of biosecurity.

Modification of this specific provision within Part 145, currently under INTERIM APPROVAL by GCC from its meeting in 2023, will ensure less confusion and clearer path for determination of options to conduct inspections, especially during periods of high epidemiological risk of disease spread (e.g. an outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza.)

******Note that a similar proposal (see Proposal 14) previously received interim approval in 2023.******

**Sponsors:** Members of the Association of Primary Breeder Veterinarians (AAPBV):

Dr. Lisa Tenny, Kate Hayes and Christina Lindsey
Aviagen, North America

Dr. Alberto Torres
Cobb-Vantress, LLC

Dr. Andrew Smith
Hy-Line International

Dr. Rebecca Rink
Aviagen Turkeys

Dr. Dan Shafer
Maple Leaf Farms

Dr. Isa Ehr
Hendrix Genetics

Dr. Evan Vanbeusekom
Hybrid Turkeys

## Proposal #16

**Delegates:** **145 Combined**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart A – General Provisions**

**§ 145.12 Inspections.**

(a) Each participating hatchery shall be audited at least one time annually or a sufficient number of times each year to satisfy the Official State Agency that the operations of the hatchery are in compliance with the provisions of the Plan. Audits may be performed in-person, remote connection, or a hybrid of the two approaches as the OSA determines appropriate.

(b) The records of all flocks maintained primarily for production of hatching eggs shall be made available to and examined annually by a State Inspector. Records shall include VS Form 9-2, "Flock Selecting and Testing Report"; VS Form 9-3, "Report of Sales of Hatching Eggs, Chicks, and Poults"; set and hatch records; egg receipts; and egg/chick orders or invoices. Records shall be maintained for 3 years. On-site inspections of flocks and premises will be conducted if the State Inspector determines that a breach of sanitation, blood testing, or other provisions has occurred for Plan programs for which the flocks have or are being qualified. The on-site inspection may be performed via enhanced technology that allows direct, real-time observation of the facility and operations conducted at the premises, to the satisfaction of the OSA.

**Reason:** The current language does not specify the modality of the audits being performed. This addition clarifies methodology to allow for in-person, remote connection, and hybrid technologies to be utilized in the hatchery audits. The additions allow for modern technology to assist in auditing as well as maintain the highest levels of biosecurity.

Modification of this specific provision within Part 145 will ensure less confusion and clearer path for the auditing of hatcheries, especially during an outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza.

******Note that this proposal received interim approval as "Proposal #3: Methods Utilized for Inspections" by GCC vote in 2023.******

**Sponsors:** Members of the Association of Primary Breeder Veterinarians (AAPBV):

Dr. Lisa Tenny
Aviagen, Inc.

Dr. Alberto Torres
Cobb-Vantress, Inc.

Dr. Kate Hayes
Aviagen, North America

Dr. Andrew Smith
Hy-Line International

Dr. Isa Ehr
Hendrix Genetics

Dr. Nisana Siman-Tov
Hendrix Genetics

Dr. Robert Edson
Aviagen Turkeys

Dr. Dan Shafer
Maple Leaf Farms

## Proposal #17

**Delegates:** **145 Combined**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart A – General Provisions**

**§ 145.12 Inspections.**

(a) Each participating hatchery shall be audited at least one time annually or a sufficient number of times each year to satisfy the Official State Agency that the operations of the hatchery are in compliance with the provisions of the Plan. Inspections may be performed in-person, by remote inspection, or as a hybrid of the two approaches as the OSA determines appropriate.

(b) The records of all flocks maintained primarily for production of hatching eggs shall be made available to and examined annually by a State Inspector. Records shall include VS Form 9-2, "Flock Selecting and Testing Report"; VS Form 9-3, "Report of Sales of Hatching Eggs, Chicks, and Poults"; set and hatch records; egg receipts; and egg/chick orders or invoices. Records shall be maintained for 3 years. On-site inspections of flocks and premises will be conducted if the State Inspector determines that a breach of sanitation, blood testing, or other provisions has occurred for Plan programs for which the flocks have or are being qualified. Inspection may be performed via telecommunication, using audio/video-capture devices, that allow direct, real-time observation of birds, the facility, and operations conducted at the premises, to the satisfaction of the OSA.

**Reason:** The current language does not specify the modality of inspection execution. This addition clarifies methodology allowing for in-person, remote communication, and hybrid technologies to all be options in flock, facility and hatchery audits. The additions allow for the use of, modern technology to connect incumbent parties for the audit process.

The addition of remote inspect, remote inspection facilitates personnel efficiency and maintains the highest levels of biosecurity.

Modification of this specific provision within Part 145 will ensure less confusion and clearer path for the auditing of flocks, facilities and hatcheries, especially during a Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, or other disease, outbreak.

Since interim approval was granted by the General Conference Committee (GCC) in 2023, the audit below was performed successfully via real time remote

communication. This serves as an example of how modern technology can be used to thoroughly perform and complete an inspection.

- Monday, October 30th, 2023 Dr. Alt (West Virginia Assistant State Veterinarian) and Dr. Brittany Winslow (West Virginia Staff Veterinarian) were able to complete an NPIP Hatchery Inspection with Evan Dodrill (Aviagen Turkeys, Inc., Pedigree Hatchery Manager) and Dr. Rebecca Rink (Director of Veterinary Services) via a remote inspection.

******Note that a similar proposal (see Proposal 16) previously received interim approval in 2023.******

**Sponsors:** Members of the Association of Primary Breeder Veterinarians (AAPBV):

Dr. Lisa Tenny, Kate Hayes and Christina Lindsey
Aviagen, North America

Dr. Alberto Torres
Cobb-Vantress, LLC

Dr. Andrew Smith
Hy-Line International

Dr. Rebecca Rink
Aviagen Turkeys

Dr. Dan Shafer
Maple Leaf Farms

Dr. Isa Ehr
Hendrix Genetics

Dr. Evan Vanbeusekom
Hybrid Turkeys

## Proposal #18

**Delegates: 145 Combined**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart A – General Provisions**

**§ 145.14 Testing.**

***

(d) ***For avian influenza***. The official tests for avian influenza are described in paragraphs (d)(1) and (d)(2) of this section.

***

(2) ***Agent detection tests***. Agent detection tests may be used to detect influenza A virus but not to determine hemagglutinin or neuraminidase subtypes. Samples for agent detection testing should be collected from naturally occurring flock mortality or clinically ill birds.

***(i) The real time reverse transcriptase/polymerase chain reaction (RRT–PCR) assay.***

(A) The RRT-PCR tests must be conducted using reagents approved by the Department and the Official State Agency. The RRT-PCR must be conducted using the National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) official protocol for RRT-PCR or a test kit licensed by the Department and approved by the Official State Agency and the State Animal Health Official, and must be conducted by personnel who have passed an NVSL proficiency test. For non-National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) authorized laboratories:

(1) RRT-PCR testing may be used by primary breeder company authorized laboratories.

(2) RRT-PCR testing can only be performed on their own breeding flocks and only used for routine surveillance.

(3) The authorized laboratory must have <u>either</u> a quality system that is accredited as ISO/IEC 17025 or equivalent<u>, be in progress of obtaining accreditation, or in lieu of accreditation, the authorized laboratory must successfully pass a blind NVSL or NPIP approved proficiency test prior to obtaining authorization</u> to perform the avian influenza RRT–PCR assay.

(4) The use of the RRT-PCR test by the authorized laboratory must be approved in the memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the authorized laboratory, the Official State Agency, and the State Animal Health Official(s) of both the location of the authorized laboratory and the location where the breeding flocks reside.

(*5*) Split samples for testing must occur between the authorized laboratory and a NAHLN laboratory at a frequency designated in the MOU.

* * *

**Reason:** This component in my proposal may directly impact my laboratory; we have invested a significant amount of capital into establishing a molecular department within the Hubbard Walpole Veterinary Laboratory and would like to be able to utilize the testing capabilities to its full extent as soon as possible. In regard to AI screening, it would be beneficial for us to do so while simultaneously working towards establishing ISO 17025 accreditation. Currently, our health monitoring program routinely monitors all of our breeding stock in the surrounding area through antibody detection (ELISA), and this process will not change.

For AI PCR, we collect samples prior to any bird movements (higher risk) within production facilities to check AI status to allow for the movement (internal testing requirement), these samples are analyzed via PCR and processed by the Aviagen Elkmont Veterinary Laboratory. This requires shipment of samples, reliance on other resources, and costs additional money. Beyond monitoring prior to bird movements, it would be beneficial to be able to quickly analyze in the event a health concern should arise, ultimately expediting response efforts.

ISO 17025 accreditation is a very involved and lengthy process. In my opinion, the verbiage in this section is essentially impeding progression for a program that would benefit from more laboratories being equipped with testing capabilities shall a true disease event within proximity to those laboratories arise. Additionally, it must be taken into account that in order to obtain ISO 17025 accreditation you must demonstrate proficiency for that particular testing under scope, however if the laboratory is unable to obtain materials to practice or show proficiency this rule is essentially stonewalling laboratories from being able to become authorized for that particular test in the first place.

Questions to consider: Why do we not need ISO 17025 accreditation for Mycoplasma and Salmonella PCR testing? Why limit capabilities for folks to screen in hopes of possible earlier detection?

Barring testing would be allowed without ISO accreditation, *authorized laboratories must demonstrate proficiency at acceptable terms of NPIP and the State in which the laboratory resides, while following all other provisions as outlined in §145.14(d)(2).*

In understanding the basis behind the rule, this proposal is not meant to change it completely but rather the proposal is meant to facilitate a discussion surrounding the point to find a solution that does not devalue accuracy or standards NPIP aims to promote, but will allow for laboratories to expand testing capabilities with the collective goal for a unified defense and early detection of plan diseases within reasonable boundaries.

**Sponsor:** Mr. Christopher A. Malcolm, Quality Assurance and Laboratory Manager Hubbard, LLC – Walpole, NH

## Proposal #19

**Delegates:** **145 Combined**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart A – General Provisions**

**§ 145.14 Testing.**

* * *

(e) ***For Newcastle Disease (ND)***. The official tests for ND are serological tests for antibody detection or molecular-based and virus isolation tests for ~~antigen~~ agent detection.

* * *

**Reason:** Virus isolation is the gold standard test for infection by NDV. Including the test as an official test is necessary. Using "agent" instead of "antigen" is consistent with language addressing avian influenza virus as in § 145.14 (d) (2).

**Sponsor:** Dr. Alberto Torres
Cobb-Vantress, LLC

## Proposal #20

**Delegates:** **145 B, C, D, E, G, H, I, J**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart B – Special Provisions for Multiplier Egg-Type Chicken Breeding Flocks and Products**

**§ 145.23 Terminology and classification; flocks and products.**

* * *

**(b)** ***U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean.*** A flock in which freedom from pullorum and typhoid has been demonstrated to the official State agency under the criteria in one of the following paragraphs (b)(1) through (4) of this section: Provided, That a flock qualifying by means of a blood test shall be tested within the past 12 months, except that the retesting of a participating flock which is retained for more than 12 months shall be conducted a minimum of 4 weeks after the induction of molt. (See § 145.14 relating to the official blood test where applicable.)

* * *

(3) It is a multiplier breeding flock that originated from U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean breeding flocks or from flocks that met equivalent requirements under official supervision, and is located in a State in which it has been determined by the Service that:

* * *

(vi) All flocks found to be infected with pullorum or typhoid are quarantined until marketed or destroyed under the supervision of the Official State Agency, or until subsequently blood tested, following the procedure for reacting flocks as contained in § 145.14(a)(5), and all birds fail to demonstrate pullorum or typhoid infection;

~~(vii) All poultry, including exhibition, exotic, and game birds, but excluding waterfowl, going to public exhibition shall come from U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean or equivalent flocks, or have had a negative pullorum-typhoid test within 90 days of going to public exhibition;~~

~~(viii)~~ (vii) Discontinuation of any of the conditions or procedures described in paragraphs (b)(3)(i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), and (vi)~~, and (vii)~~ of this section, or the occurrence of repeated outbreaks of pullorum or typhoid in poultry breeding flocks within or originating within the State shall be grounds for the Service to revoke its determination that such conditions and procedures have been met or complied with. Such action shall not be taken until a thorough investigation has

been made by the Service and the Official State Agency has been given an opportunity to present its views.

* * *

**§ 145.24 Terminology and classification; States.**

**(a) *U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean State.***

(1) A State will be declared a U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean State when it has been determined by the Service that:

(i) The State is in compliance with the provisions contained in §§ 145.23(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, 145.33(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, 145.43(b)(3)(i) through (vi), 145.53(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, 145.73(b)(2)(i), 145.83(b)(2)(i), 145.93(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, and 145.103(b)(3)(i) through (vii) ~~(ix)~~.

(ii) No pullorum disease or fowl typhoid is known to exist nor to have existed in hatchery supply flocks within the State during the preceding 12 months: *Provided,* That pullorum disease or fowl typhoid found within the preceding 24 months in waterfowl, exhibition poultry, and game bird breeding flocks will not prevent a State, which is otherwise eligible, from qualifying.

* * *

**Subpart C – Special Provisions for Multiplier Meat-Type Chicken Breeding Flocks and Products**

**§ 145.33 Terminology and classification; flocks and products.**

* * *

**(b) *U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean.*** A flock in which freedom from pullorum and typhoid has been demonstrated to the official State agency under the criteria in one of paragraphs (b)(1) through (4) of this section: Provided, That a flock qualifying by means of a blood test shall be tested within the past 12 months, except that the retesting of a participating flock which is retained for more than 12 months shall be conducted a minimum of 4 weeks after the induction of molt. (See § 145.14 relating to the official blood test where applicable.)

* * *

(3) It is a multiplier breeding flock that originated from U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean breeding flocks or from flocks that met equivalent requirements under official supervision, and is located in a State in which it has been determined by the Service that:

* * *

(vi) All flocks found to be infected with pullorum or typhoid are quarantined until marketed or destroyed under the supervision of the Official State Agency, or until subsequently blood tested following the procedure for reacting flocks as contained in § 145.14(a)(5), and all birds fail to demonstrate pullorum or typhoid infection;

~~(vii) All poultry, including exhibition, exotic, and game birds, but excluding waterfowl, going to public exhibition shall come from U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean or equivalent flocks, or have had a negative pullorum-typhoid test within 90 days of going to public exhibition;~~

~~(viii)~~ (vii) Discontinuation of any of the conditions or procedures described in paragraphs (b)(3)(i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), and (vi)~~, and (vii)~~ of this section, or the occurrence of repeated outbreaks of pullorum or typhoid in poultry breeding flocks within or originating within the State shall be grounds for the Service to revoke its determination that such conditions and procedures have been met or complied with. Such action shall not be taken until a thorough investigation has been made by the Service and the Official State Agency has been given an opportunity to present its views.

* * *

**§ 145.34 Terminology and classification; States.**

**(a)** ***U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean State.***

(1) A State will be declared a U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean State when it has been determined by the Service that:

(i) The State is in compliance with the provisions contained in §§ 145.23(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, 145.33(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, 145.43(b)(3)(i) through (vi), 145.53(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, 145.73(b)(2)(i), 145.83(b)(2)(i), 145.93(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, and 145.103(b)(3)(i) through (vii) ~~(ix)~~.

(ii) No pullorum disease or fowl typhoid is known to exist nor to have existed in hatchery supply flocks within the State during the preceding 12 months: *Provided,* That pullorum disease or fowl typhoid found within the preceding 24 months in waterfowl, exhibition poultry, and game bird breeding flocks will not prevent a State, which is otherwise eligible, from qualifying.

* * *

**Subpart D – Special Provisions for Turkey Breeding Flocks and Products**

**§ 145.44 Terminology and classification; States.**

**(a)** ***U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean State.***

(1) A State will be declared a U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean State when it has been determined by the Service that:

(i) The State is in compliance with the provisions contained in §§ 145.23(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, 145.33(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, 145.43(b)(3)(i) through (vi), 145.53(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, 145.73(b)(2)(i), § 145.83(b)(2)(i), 145.93(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, and 145.103(b)(3)(i) through (vii) ~~(ix)~~.

(ii) No pullorum disease or fowl typhoid is known to exist nor to have existed in hatchery supply flocks within the State during the preceding 12 months: *Provided,* That pullorum disease or fowl typhoid found within the preceding 24 months in waterfowl, exhibition poultry, and game bird breeding flocks will not prevent a State, which is otherwise eligible, from qualifying.

* * *

**Subpart E – Special Provisions for Hobbyist and Exhibition Poultry, and Raised-for-Release Waterfowl Breeding Flocks and Products**

**§ 145.53 Terminology and classification; flocks and products.**

* * *

**(b)** ***U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean.*** A flock in which freedom from pullorum and typhoid has been demonstrated to the Official State Agency under the criteria in one of the following paragraphs (b)(1) through (5) of this section (See § 145.14 relating to the official blood test where applicable.):

* * *

(3) It is a multiplier breeding flock that originated from U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean breeding flocks or from flocks that met equivalent requirements under official supervision, and is located in a State in which it has been determined by the Service that:

* * *

(vi) All flocks found to be infected with pullorum or typhoid are quarantined until marketed or destroyed under the supervision of the Official State Agency, or until

subsequently blood tested, following the procedure for reacting flocks as contained in § 145.14(a)(5), and all birds fail to demonstrate pullorum or typhoid infection;

~~(vii) All poultry, including exhibition, exotic, and game birds, but excluding waterfowl, going to public exhibition shall come from U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean or equivalent flocks, or have had a negative pullorum-typhoid test within 90 days of going to public exhibition;~~

~~(viii)~~ (vii) Discontinuation of any of the conditions or procedures described in paragraphs (b)(3)(i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), and (vi)~~, and (vii)~~ of this section, or the occurrence of repeated outbreaks of pullorum or typhoid in poultry breeding flocks within or originating within the State shall be grounds for the Service to revoke its determination that such conditions and procedures have been met or complied with. Such action shall not be taken until a thorough investigation has been made by the Service and the Official State Agency has been given an opportunity to present its views.

* * *

**§ 145.54 Terminology and classification; States.**

**(a)** ***U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean State.***

(1) A State will be declared a U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean State when it has been determined by the Service that:

(i) The State is in compliance with the provisions contained in §§ 145.23(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, 145.33(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, 145.43(b)(3)(i) through (vi), 145.53(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, 145.73(b)(2)(i), 145.83(b)(2)(i), 145.93(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, and 145.103(b)(3)(i) through (vii) ~~(ix)~~.

(ii) No pullorum disease or fowl typhoid is known to exist nor to have existed in hatchery supply flocks within the State during the preceding 12 months: *Provided,* That pullorum disease or fowl typhoid found within the preceding 24 months in waterfowl, exhibition poultry, and game bird breeding flocks will not prevent a State, which is otherwise eligible, from qualifying.

* * *

**Subpart G – Special Provisions for Primary Egg-Type Chicken Breeding Flocks and Products**

**§ 145.73 Terminology and classification; flocks and products.**

* * *

**(b)** ***U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean.*** A flock in which freedom from pullorum and typhoid has been demonstrated to the Official State Agency under the criteria in paragraph (b)(1) or (b)(2) of this section: Provided, That a flock qualifying by means of a blood test shall be tested within the past 12 months, except that the retesting of a participating flock which is retained for more than 12 months shall be conducted a minimum of 4 weeks after the induction of molt. (See § 145.14 relating to the official blood test where applicable.)

*** * ***

(2) It is a primary breeding flock that meets the following criteria:

(i) The primary breeding flock is located in a State in which pullorum disease or fowl typhoid is not known to exist nor to have existed in hatchery supply flocks during the preceding 12 months and in which it has been determined by the Service that:

* * *

(F) All flocks found to be infected with pullorum or typhoid are quarantined until marketed or destroyed under the supervision of the Official State Agency, or until subsequently blood tested following the procedure for reacting flocks as contained in § 145.14(a)(5), and all birds fail to demonstrate pullorum or typhoid infection;

~~(G) All poultry, including exhibition, exotic, and game birds, but excluding waterfowl, going to public exhibition shall come from U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean or equivalent flocks, or have had a negative pullorum-typhoid test within 90 days of going to public exhibition; and~~

~~(H)~~ (G) Discontinuation of any of the conditions or procedures described in paragraphs (b)(2)(i)(A) through (b)(2)(i)~~(G)~~ (F) of this section, or the occurrence of repeated outbreaks of pullorum or typhoid in poultry breeding flocks within or originating within the State shall be grounds for the Service to revoke its determination that such conditions and procedures have been met or complied with. Such action shall not be taken until a thorough investigation has been made by the Service and the Official State Agency has been given an opportunity to present its views; and

* * *

**Subpart H – Special Provisions for Primary Meat-Type Chicken Breeding Flocks and Products**

**§ 145.83 Terminology and classification; flocks and products.**

* * *

**(b)** ***U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean.*** A flock in which freedom from pullorum and typhoid has been demonstrated to the Official State Agency under the criteria in paragraph (b)(1) or (b)(2) of this section: Provided, That a flock qualifying by means of a blood test shall be tested within the past 12 months, except that the retesting of a participating flock which is retained for more than 12 months shall be conducted a minimum of 4 weeks after the induction of molt. (See § 145.14 relating to the official blood test where applicable.)

* * *

(2) It is a primary breeding flock that meets the following criteria:

(i) The primary breeding flock is located in a State in which pullorum disease or fowl typhoid is not known to exist nor to have existed in hatchery supply flocks within the State during the preceding 12 months and in which it has been determined by the Service that:

* * *

(F) All flocks found to be infected with pullorum or typhoid are quarantined until marketed or destroyed under the supervision of the Official State Agency, or until subsequently blood tested following the procedure for reacting flocks as contained in § 145.14(a)(5) of this subchapter, and all birds fail to demonstrate pullorum or typhoid infection;

~~(G) All poultry, including exhibition, exotic, and game birds, but excluding waterfowl, going to public exhibition shall come from U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean or equivalent flocks, or have had a negative pullorum-typhoid test within 90 days of going to public exhibition; and~~

~~(H)~~ (G) Discontinuation of any of the conditions or procedures described in paragraphs (b)(2)(i)(A) through (b)(2)(i)~~(G)~~ (F) of this section, or the occurrence of repeated outbreaks of pullorum or typhoid in poultry breeding flocks within or originating within the State shall be grounds for the Service to revoke its determination that such conditions and procedures have been met or complied with. Such action shall not be taken until a thorough investigation has been made by the Service and the Official State Agency has been given an opportunity to present its views; and

* * *

**Subpart I – Special Provisions for Meat-Type Waterfowl Breeding Flocks and Products**

**§ 145.93 Terminology and classification; flocks and products.**

* * *

**(b)** ***U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean.*** A flock in which freedom from pullorum and typhoid has been demonstrated to the Official State Agency under the criteria in one of the following paragraphs (b)(1) through (b)(5) of this section (See § 145.14 relating to the official blood test where applicable.):

* * *

(3) It is a multiplier breeding flock that originated from U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean breeding flocks or from flocks that met equivalent requirements under official supervision, and is located in a State in which it has been determined by the Service that:

* * *

(vi) All flocks found to be infected with pullorum or typhoid are quarantined until marketed or destroyed under the supervision of the Official State Agency, or until subsequently blood tested, following the procedure for reacting flocks as contained in § 145.14(a)(5), and all birds fail to demonstrate pullorum or typhoid infection;

~~(vii) All poultry, including exhibition, exotic, and game birds, but excluding waterfowl, going to public exhibition shall come from U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean or equivalent flocks, or have had a negative pullorum-typhoid test within 90 days of going to public exhibition;~~

~~(viii)~~ (vii) Discontinuation of any of the conditions or procedures described in paragraphs (b)(3)(i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), and (vi)~~, and (vii)~~ of this section, or the occurrence of repeated outbreaks of pullorum or typhoid in poultry breeding flocks within or originating within the State shall be grounds for the Service to revoke its determination that such conditions and procedures have been met or complied with. Such action shall not be taken until a thorough investigation has been made by the Service and the Official State Agency has been given an opportunity to present its views.

* * *

**§ 145.94 Terminology and classification; States.**

(1) A State will be declared a U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean State when it has been determined by the Service that:

(i) The State is in compliance with the provisions contained in §§ 145.23(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, 145.33(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, 145.43(b)(3)(i) through (vi), 145.53(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, 145.73(b)(2)(i), 145.83(b)(2)(i), 145.93(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, and 145.103(b)(3)(i) through (vii) ~~(ix)~~.

(ii) No pullorum disease or fowl typhoid is known to exist nor to have existed in hatchery supply flocks within the State during the preceding 12 months: *Provided,* That pullorum disease or fowl typhoid found within the preceding 24 months in waterfowl, exhibition poultry, and game bird breeding flocks will not prevent a State that is otherwise eligible from qualifying.

* * *

**Subpart J – Special Provisions for Egg/Meat-Type Game Bird and Raised-for-Release Game Bird Breeding Flocks and Products**

**§ 145.103 Terminology and classification; flocks and products.**

* * *

**(b)** ***U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean.*** A flock in which freedom from pullorum and typhoid has been demonstrated to the Official State Agency under paragraph (b)(1), (2), or (3) of this section. (See § 145.14 relating to the official blood test where applicable.):

* * *

(3) It is a breeding flock that originated from U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean breeding flocks or from flocks that met equivalent requirements under official supervision, and in which a sample of 300 birds from flocks of more than 300, and each bird in flocks of 300 or less, has been officially tested for pullorum-typhoid with no reactors or reactors that upon bacteriologic examination fail to reveal Pullorum-Typhid: *Provided,* That a bacteriological examination monitoring program or serological examination monitoring program for game birds acceptable to the Official State Agency and approved by the Service may be used in lieu of annual blood testing: *And provided further,* That it is located in a State in which it has been determined by the Service that:

* * *

(vi) All flocks found to be infected with pullorum or typhoid are quarantined until marketed or destroyed under the supervision of the Official State Agency, or until subsequently blood tested, following the procedure for reacting flocks as contained in § 145.14(a)(5), and all birds fail to demonstrate pullorum or typhoid infection;

~~(vii) All poultry, including exhibition, exotic, and game birds, but excluding waterfowl, going to public exhibition shall come from U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean or equivalent flocks, or have had a negative pullorum-typhoid test within 90 days of going to public exhibition; and~~

~~(viii)~~ (vii) The flock is located in a State in which pullorum disease or fowl typhoid is not known to exist nor to have existed in hatchery supply flocks within the State during the preceding 24 months.

~~(ix)~~ (viii) Discontinuation of any of the conditions or procedures described in paragraphs (b)(3)(i) through ~~(viii)~~ (vii) of this section, or the occurrence of repeated outbreaks of pullorum or typhoid in poultry breeding flocks within or originating within the State shall be grounds for the Service to revoke its determination that such conditions and procedures have been met or complied with. Such action shall not be taken until a thorough investigation has been made by the Service and the Official State Agency has been given an opportunity to present its views.

* * *

**§ 145.104 Terminology and classification; States.**

(1) A State will be declared a U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean State when it has been determined by the Service that:

(i) The State is in compliance with the provisions contained in §§ 145.23(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, 145.33(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, 145.43(b)(3)(i) through (vi), 145.53(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, 145.73(b)(2)(i), 145.83(b)(2)(i), 145.93(b)(3)(i) through (vi) ~~(vii)~~, and 145.103(b)(3)(i) through (vii) ~~(ix)~~.

(ii) No pullorum disease or fowl typhoid is known to exist nor to have existed in hatchery supply flocks within the State during the preceding 12 months: *Provided,* That pullorum disease or fowl typhoid found within the preceding 24 months in waterfowl, exhibition poultry, and game bird breeding flocks will not prevent a State that is otherwise eligible from qualifying.

* * *

**Reason:** The unavailability of Pullorum antigen has made it increasingly difficult to complete Salmonella Pullorum testing for birds going to public exhibitions. Several states depend on certified lay testers to perform Pullorum testing for exhibition birds. Certified testers have become sparse due to the additional steps required to submit blood to the lab for testing, and youth exhibitors struggle to find the resources needed to complete testing. The logistics of traveling and

adding extra time for lab analysis has also discouraged participation in exhibitions. Salmonella Pullorum has not been diagnosed in exhibition birds in over thirty years in Virginia.

**Sponsor:** Ms. Kymberly H. Coffman
Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

## Proposal #21

**Delegates: 145 C**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart C – Special Provisions for Multiplier Meat-Type Chicken Breeding Flocks and Products**

**§ 145.33 Terminology and classification; flocks and products.**

Participating flocks, and the eggs and chicks produced from them, which have met the respective requirements specified in this section may be designated by the following terms and the corresponding designs illustrated in § 145.10:

* * *

(l) ***U.S. Avian Influenza Clean.*** This program is intended to be the basis from which breeding-hatchery industry may conduct a program for the prevention and control of avian influenza. It is intended to determine the presence of avian influenza in multiplier breeding chickens through routine surveillance of each participating breeding flock. A flock and the hatching eggs and chicks produced from it will qualify for this classification when the Official State Agency determines that they have met the following requirements:

(1) It is a multiplier breeding flock in which a minimum of 30 birds have been tested negative for antibodies or negative for agent detection (ex: real time reverse transcriptase/polymerase chain reaction [RRT-PCR]) to avian influenza using an approved test as described in § 145.14 when more than 4 months of age. To retain this classification:

(i) A sample of at least 15 birds must be tested negative at intervals of 90 days; or

(ii) A sample of fewer than 15 birds may be tested, and found to be negative, at any one time if all pens are equally represented and a total of 15 birds is tested within each 90-day period; or

(iii) The flock is tested as provided in § 145.14(d) at intervals of 30 days or less and found to be negative, and a total of 15 samples are collected and tested within each 90-day period; and

(2) During each 90-day period, all multiplier spent fowl, up to a maximum of 30, must be tested and found negative for avian influenza within 21 days prior to movement to slaughter.

* * *

**Reason:** Analysis technologies that are certified and currently utilized in the program should be included in testing requirement options to support the industry needs for moving birds that recognizes the increased pressure to have testing done in a specific time frame.

**Sponsors:** Dr. Bill Hewat
Tyson Foods

Mr. Gordon Whitbeck
Whitbeck Laboratories, Inc.

Mr. Kevin Simmons
Arkansas NPIP Official State Agent

## Proposal #22

**Delegates:** **145 D, G, and H**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart D – Special Provisions for Turkey Breeding Flocks and Products**

**§ 145.43 Terminology and classification; flocks and products.**

Participating flocks, and the eggs and poults produced from them, which have met the respective requirements specified in this section may be designated by the following terms and the corresponding designs illustrated in § 145.10:

* * *

(h) ***U.S. Newcastle Disease Clean.*** The program in this paragraph (h) is intended to be the basis from which the primary breeding-hatchery industry may ~~conduct a program for~~ demonstrate the prevention and control of virulent Newcastle disease. It is intended to be used as an added measure of assurance for only those participants that are enrolled in and members in good standing of the U.S. H5/H7 AI Clean Compartment program ~~determine the presence of Newcastle disease in primary breeding turkeys through vaccination and/or monitoring of each participating breeding flock~~. A flock and the hatching eggs and poults produced from it will qualify for classification in this paragraph (h) when the Official State Agency determines that they have met the following requirements:

(1) Hatcheries must be kept in a sanitary condition as applicable and as outlined in § 145.6 (within the NPIP Program Standards document, Program Standard C applies to hatcheries; alternatives to the program standards may also be approved by the Administrator under § 147.53 of this subchapter).

(2) Participants must belong to and be members in good standing as determined by the Official State Agency of the U.S. H5/H7 Avian Influenza Clean Compartment Program.

~~(1) It is a primary breeding flock that is either:~~

~~(i) Vaccinated for Newcastle disease using USDA-licensed vaccines and response to vaccination is serologically monitored using an approved test as described in § 145.14 when more than 4 months of age, and meets the criteria in paragraph (h)(2) of this section to retain classification; or~~

~~(ii) Unvaccinated for Newcastle disease, in which a minimum of 30 birds have tested negative to ND using an approved test as described in § 145.14 when~~

~~more than 4 months of age and meets criteria in paragraph (h)(3) of this section to retain classification.~~

~~(2) To retain the classification in this paragraph (h) for vaccinated flocks:~~

~~(i) Vaccines for ND must be USDA-licensed vaccines administered during early stages of development through rearing, and inactivated vaccines as final vaccination prior to the onset of egg production; and~~

~~(ii) The flock has been monitored for antibody response using approved serological tests as listed in § 145.14 and the results are compatible with immunological response against ND vaccination; and~~

~~(iii) Testing must include a minimum of 30 birds with a serologic monitoring program when more than 4 months of age and prior to the onset of production and not longer than every 90 days thereafter.~~

~~(3) To retain the classification in this paragraph (h) for unvaccinated flocks:~~

~~(i) A minimum of 30 birds per flock must test negative using an approved test in § 145.14 at intervals of 90 days; or~~

~~(ii) A sample of fewer than 30 birds may be tested, and found negative, at any one time if all pens are equally represented and a total of 30 birds is tested within each 90-day period; and~~

~~(iii) During each 90-day period, all primary spent fowl, up to a maximum of 30, must test negative to ND within 21 days prior to movement to slaughter.~~

~~(4)~~ (3) Virulent Newcastle disease ~~must be a disease~~ is reportable to the responsible State authority (State veterinarian, etc.) by all licensed veterinarians. To accomplish this, all laboratories (private, State, and university laboratories) that perform diagnostic procedures on poultry must examine all submitted cases of unexplained respiratory disease, egg production drops, and mortality for virulent ND.

* * *

**Subpart G – Special Provisions for Primary Egg-Type Chicken Breeding Flocks and Products**

**§ 145.73 Terminology and classification; flocks and products.**

Participating flocks, and the eggs and chicks produced from them, which have met the respective requirements specified in this section may be designated by the following terms and the corresponding designs illustrated in § 145.10:

* * *

(h) ***U.S. Newcastle Disease Clean.*** The program in this paragraph (h) is intended to be the basis from which the primary breeding-hatchery industry may ~~conduct a program for~~ demonstrate the prevention and control of virulent Newcastle disease. It is intended to be used as an added measure of assurance for only those participants that are enrolled in and members in good standing of the U.S. AI Clean Compartment program ~~determine the presence of Newcastle disease in primary breeding chickens through vaccination and/or monitoring of each participating breeding flock~~. A flock and the hatching eggs and chicks produced from it will qualify for classification in this paragraph (h) when the Official State Agency determines that they have met the following requirements:

(1) Hatcheries must be kept in a sanitary condition as applicable and as outlined in § 145.6 (within the NPIP Program Standards document, Program Standard C applies to hatcheries; alternatives to the program standards may also be approved by the Administrator under § 147.53 of this subchapter).

(2) Participants must belong to and be members in good standing as determined by the Official State Agency of the U.S. Avian Influenza Clean Compartment Program.

~~(1) It is a primary breeding flock that is either:~~

~~(i) Vaccinated for Newcastle disease using USDA-licensed vaccines and response to vaccination is serologically monitored using an approved test as described in § 145.14 when more than 4 months of age and meets the criteria in paragraph (h)(2) of this section to retain classification; or~~

~~(ii) Unvaccinated for Newcastle disease, in which a minimum of 30 birds have tested negative to ND using an approved test as described in § 145.14 when more than 4 months of age and meets criteria in paragraph (h)(3) of this section to retain classification.~~

~~(2) To retain the classification in this paragraph (h) for vaccinated flocks:~~

~~(i) Vaccines for ND must be USDA-licensed vaccines administered during early stages of development through rearing, and inactivated vaccines as final vaccination prior to the onset of egg production; and~~

~~(ii) The flock has been monitored for antibody response using approved serological tests as listed in § 145.14 and the results are compatible with immunological response against ND vaccination; and~~

~~(iii) Testing must include a minimum of 30 birds with a serologic monitoring program when more than 4 months of age and prior to the onset of production and not longer than every 90 days thereafter.~~

~~(3) To retain the classification in this paragraph (h) for unvaccinated flocks:~~

~~(i) A minimum of 30 birds per flock must test negative using an approved test as described in § 145.14 at intervals of 90 days; or~~

~~(ii) A sample of fewer than 30 birds may be tested, and found negative, at any one time if all pens are equally represented and a total of 30 birds is tested within each 90-day period; and~~

~~(iii) During each 90-day period, all primary spent fowl, up to a maximum of 30, must test negative to ND within 21 days prior to movement to slaughter.~~

~~(4)~~ (3) Virulent Newcastle disease ~~must be a disease~~ is reportable to the responsible State authority (State veterinarian, etc.) by all licensed veterinarians. To accomplish this, all laboratories (private, State, and university laboratories) that perform diagnostic procedures on poultry must examine all submitted cases of unexplained respiratory disease, egg production drops, and mortality for virulent ND.

* * *

**Subpart H – Special Provisions for Primary Meat-Type Chicken Breeding Flocks and Products**

**§ 145.83 Terminology and classification; flocks and products.**

Participating flocks, and the eggs and chicks produced from them, which have met the respective requirements specified in this section may be designated by the following terms and the corresponding designs illustrated in § 145.10:

* * *

***(h) U.S. Newcastle Disease (ND) Clean.*** The program in this paragraph (h) is intended to be the basis from which the primary breeding-hatchery industry may ~~conduct a program for~~ demonstrate the prevention and control of virulent Newcastle disease. It is intended to be used as an added measure of assurance for only those participants that are enrolled in and members in good standing of the U.S. AI Clean Compartment program ~~determine the presence of Newcastle disease in primary breeding chickens through vaccination and/or monitoring of each participating breeding flock~~. A flock and the hatching eggs and chicks produced from it will qualify for classification in this paragraph (h) when the Official State Agency determines that they have met the following requirements:

(1) Hatcheries must be kept in a sanitary condition as applicable and as outlined in § 145.6 (within the NPIP Program Standards document, Program Standard C applies to hatcheries; alternatives to the program standards may also be approved by the Administrator under § 147.53 of this subchapter).

(2) Participants must belong to and be members in good standing as determined by the Official State Agency of the U.S. Avian Influenza Clean Compartment Program.

~~(1) It is a primary breeding flock that is either:~~

~~(i) Vaccinated for Newcastle disease using USDA-licensed vaccines and response to vaccination is serologically monitored using an approved test as described in § 145.14 when more than 4 months of age and meets the criteria in paragraph (h)(2) of this section to retain classification; or~~

~~(ii) Unvaccinated for Newcastle disease, in which a minimum of 30 birds have tested negative to ND using an approved test as described in § 145.14 when more than 4 months of age and meets criteria in paragraph (h)(3) of this section to retain classification.~~

~~(2) To retain the classification in this paragraph (h) for vaccinated flocks:~~

~~(i) Vaccines for ND must be USDA-licensed vaccines administered during early stages of development through rearing, and inactivated vaccines as final vaccination prior to the onset of egg production; and~~

~~(ii) The flock has been monitored for antibody response using approved serological tests as described in § 145.14 and the results are compatible with immunological response against ND vaccination; and~~

~~(iii) Testing must include a minimum of 30 birds with a serologic monitoring program when more than 4 months of age and prior to the onset of production, and not longer than every 90 days thereafter.~~

~~(3) To retain the classification in this paragraph (h) for unvaccinated flocks:~~

~~(i) A minimum of 30 birds per flock must test negative using an approved test as described in § 145.14 at intervals of 90 days; or~~

~~(ii) A sample of fewer than 30 birds may be tested, and found negative, at any one time if all pens are equally represented and a total of 30 birds is tested within each 90-day period; and~~

~~(iii) During each 90-day period, all primary spent fowl, up to a maximum of 30, must test negative to ND within 21 days prior to movement to slaughter.~~

~~(4)~~ (3) Virulent Newcastle disease ~~must be a disease~~ is reportable to the responsible State authority (State veterinarian, etc.) by all licensed veterinarians. To accomplish this, all laboratories (private, State, and university laboratories) that perform diagnostic procedures on poultry must examine all submitted cases of unexplained respiratory disease, egg production drops, and mortality for virulent ND.

* * *

**Reason:** The impetus for the addition of a ND Clean program for Subparts D, G, and H in 2018 stemmed from conversations occurring between the Association of Primary Breeder Veterinarians and USDA in 2015. USDA had recommended that the standalone AI Clean Compartment with declaration from solely AI would not be as successful, without an addition of claims of freedom from ND, caused by virulent APMV-1. The thought process was countries generally assess both AI and ND together. Though the Association of Primary Breeder Veterinarians disagreed with the recommendation from USDA and chose instead to put forth the program with respect to just freedom from AI because of the existence of AI Clean programs and the absence of an ND Clean program, the concession was made on behalf their association that eventually an attempt would be made to incorporate a Newcastle Disease Clean program into the NPIP for the purpose of espousing strength for the overall program, with intent to allow the US AI Clean compartment to flourish. That attempt occurred at the 44$^{th}$ Biennial Conference in Franklin, TN, in 2018, when proposed language for ND Clean was passed.

Since then, the implementation of the program has become needlessly complex and a barrier to programmatic success. To have a program declaring freedom from a disease, structured in a similar manner to Salmonella, Mycoplasma or AI, requires trained laboratory technicians. The training of a critical mass of laboratories as per § 147.52 has proven to be challenging. Because the United States is already free of ND, this program serves as a formality only. The only reason for a Newcastle Disease Clean program is to support the

compartmentalization program. As written, the ND Clean program is currently not an asset to the compartmentalization program; it has instead become a hindrance.

Therefore, because this language with ND has become an obstacle to the compartment program and its progress in international trade acceptance – the very opposite of its original intent – I urge you to consider these changes.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Elena Behnke
National Poultry Improvement Plan

## Proposal #23

**Delegates: 145 D, G, and H**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart D – Special Provisions for Turkey Breeding Flocks and Products**

**§ 145.45 Terminology and classification; compartments.**

(a) ***US H5/H7 AI and ND Clean Compartment.***

* * *

(1) ***Definition of the compartment.*** Based on the guidelines established by the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH, formerly the OIE) in the Terrestrial Animal Health Code and the guidelines in this paragraph (a), the primary breeder company will define the compartment with respect to H5/H7 AI and ND. Specifically, the company will use a comprehensive biosecurity program to define the compartment as a subpopulation of poultry with a health status for H5/H7 AI and ND that is separate from birds and poultry outside the compartment. The Official State Agency and the Service must approve all documentation submitted to substantiate the defined compartment as adequate to qualify for epidemiological separation from other potential sources of infection of H5/H7 AI and ND. Guidelines for the definition of the compartment include:

* * *

**Subpart G – Special Provisions for Primary Egg-Type Chicken Breeding Flocks and Products**

**§ 145.74 Terminology and classification; compartments.**

(a) ***U.S. Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease Clean Compartment.***

* * *

(1) ***Definition of the compartment.*** Based on the guidelines established by the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH, formerly the OIE) in the Terrestrial Animal Health Code and the guidelines in this paragraph (a), the primary breeder company will define the compartment with respect to H5/H7 AI and ND. Specifically, the company will use a comprehensive biosecurity program to define the compartment as a subpopulation of poultry with a health status for H5/H7 AI and ND that is separate from

birds and poultry outside the compartment. The Official State Agency and the Service must first approve all documentation submitted by the company to substantiate the defined compartment as adequate to qualify for epidemiological separation from other potential sources of infection of H5/H7 AI and ND. Guidelines for the definition of the compartment include:

* * *

**Subpart H – Special Provisions for Primary Meat-Type Chicken Breeding Flocks and Products**

**§ 145.84 Terminology and classification; compartments.**

(a) ***U.S. Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease Clean Compartment.***

* * *

(1) ***Definition of the compartment.*** Based on the guidelines established by the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH, formerly the OIE) in the Terrestrial Animal Health Code and the guidelines in this paragraph (a), the primary breeder company will define the compartment with respect to H5/H7 AI and ND. Specifically, the company will use a comprehensive biosecurity program to define the compartment as a subpopulation of poultry with a health status for H5/H7 AI and ND that is separate from birds and poultry outside the compartment. The Official State Agency and the Service must first approve all documentation submitted by the company to substantiate the defined compartment as adequate to qualify for epidemiological separation from other potential sources of infection of H5/H7 AI and ND. Guidelines for the definition of the compartment include:

* * *

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard F – Compartmentalization**

**Introduction *(Pg. 6)***

* * *

Compartmentalization is a procedure a country may implement to define and manage animal subpopulations of distinct health status and common biosecurity program within its territory, in accordance with the guidelines in the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH formerly the OIE) Terrestrial Animal Health Code (hereinafter "Code"), for the purpose of disease control and international trade. Concepts of regionalization and compartmentalization are not mutually exclusive.

* * *

**Definitions *(Pg. 13, 15)***

* * *

Compartmentalization: A procedure which may be implemented by a country to define and manage animal subpopulations of distinct health status within its territory, in accordance with the recommendations in the WOAH, formerly the OIE, Terrestrial Animal Health Code (the Code), for the purpose of disease control and/or international trade.

* * *

Newcastle Disease: Newcastle disease is defined by WOAH, formerly the OIE, for reporting an outbreak of NDV as an infection of poultry caused by a virus of avian paramyxovirus serotype 1 (APMV-1) that meets one of the following criteria for virulence: a. The virus has an intracerebral pathogenicity index (ICPI) in day-old chicks (Gallus gallus) of 0.7 or greater. Or b. Multiple basic amino acids have been demonstrated in the virus (either directly or by deduction) at the C-terminus of the F2 protein and phenylalanine at residue 117, which is the N-terminus of the F1 protein. The term 'multiple basic amino acids' refers to at least three arginine or lysine residues between residues 113 and 116. Failure to demonstrate the characteristic pattern of amino acid residues as described above would require characterization of the isolated virus by an ICPI test.

* * *

**Acronyms *(Pg. 17)***

* * *

- **WOAH, formerly the OIE-World Organization for Animal Health**

* * *

**Reason:** The correct nomenclature is now WOAH, the acronym for the World Organization for Animal Health. These changes in the Provisions and Program Standards reflect the new language.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Elena Behnke
National Poultry Improvement Plan

## Proposal #24

**Delegates: 145 D, G, and H**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart D – Special Provisions for Turkey Breeding Flocks and Products**

**§ 145.45 Terminology and classification; compartments.**

(a) ***US H5/H7 AI and ND Clean Compartment.***

* * *

**(2)** ***Company activities for maintenance of the compartment.***

* * *

(ii) Veterinary staff from the Official State Agency and NPIP staff will work in partnership with licensed, accredited veterinarians to train and certify auditors through Service-approved workshops. The trained auditors will conduct biosecurity and operational audits at least once every ~~2~~ year~~s~~ to ensure the integrity of the compartment. These audits will include evaluation of the critical control points and standard operating practices within the compartment, verification of the health status of the flock(s) contained within the compartment, and examination of the biosecurity and management system of the integrated components of the compartment.

* * *

**(3)** ***Service and Official State Agency activities for maintenance of the compartment.*** The Service will work in cooperation with the Official State Agencies to ensure the continued integrity of any recognized compartments. Activities will include:

* * *

(v) Conducting audits of compartments at least once every ~~2~~ year~~s~~ to:

* * *

**Subpart G – Special Provisions for Primary Egg-Type Chicken Breeding Flocks and Products**

**§ 145.74 Terminology and classification; compartments.**

(a) ***U.S. Avian Influenza and ND Clean Compartment.***

* * *

**(2)** ***Company activities for maintenance of the compartment.***

* * *

(ii) Veterinary staff from the Official State Agency and NPIP staff will work in partnership with licensed, accredited veterinarians to train and certify auditors through Service-approved workshops. The trained auditors will conduct biosecurity and operational audits at least once every ~~2~~ year~~s~~ to ensure the integrity of the compartment. These audits will include evaluation of the critical control points and standard operating practices within the compartment, verification of the health status of the flock(s) contained within the compartment, and examination of the biosecurity and management system of the integrated components of the compartment.

* * *

**(3)** ***Service and Official State Agency activities for maintenance of the compartment.*** The Service will work in cooperation with the Official State Agencies to ensure the continued integrity of any recognized compartments. Activities will include:

* * *

(v) Conducting audits of compartments at least once every ~~2~~ year~~s~~ to:

* * *

**Subpart H – Special Provisions for Primary Meat-Type Chicken Breeding Flocks and Products**

**§ 145.84 Terminology and classification; compartments.**

(a) ***U.S. Avian Influenza and ND Clean Compartment.***

* * *

**(2)** ***Company activities for maintenance of the compartment.***

* * *

(ii) Veterinary staff from the Official State Agency and NPIP staff will work in partnership with licensed, accredited veterinarians to train and certify auditors through Service-approved workshops. The trained auditors will conduct biosecurity and operational audits at least once every ~~2~~ year~~s~~ to

ensure the integrity of the compartment. These audits will include evaluation of the critical control points and standard operating practices within the compartment, verification of the health status of the flock(s) contained within the compartment, and examination of the biosecurity and management system of the integrated components of the compartment.

* * *

**(3)** ***Service and Official State Agency activities for maintenance of the compartment.*** The Service will work in cooperation with the Official State Agencies to ensure the continued integrity of any recognized compartments. Activities will include:

* * *

(v) Conducting audits of compartments at least once every ~~2~~ year~~s~~ to:

* * *

**Reason:** Currently 9 CFR Part 145 states that Compartment audits must occur at least once every 2 years, whereas the Compartment Program Standards F states that these audits must take place every year. The objective here is to make that language synonymous with Compartment Program Standards F by changing every 2 years to every year.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Savannah Busby
National Poultry Improvement Plan

## Proposal #25

**Delegates:** **145 E and J**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart E – Special Provisions for Hobbyist and Exhibition Poultry, and Raised-for-Release Waterfowl Breeding Flocks and Products**

**§ 145.52 Participation.**

Participating flocks of hobbyist and exhibition poultry, raised-for-release waterfowl, and the eggs, chicks, started, and mature poultry produced from them shall comply with the applicable general provisions of subpart A of this part and the special provisions of this subpart. The special provisions that apply to meat-type waterfowl flocks are found in subpart I of this part. The special provisions that apply to game bird flocks are found in subpart J of this part.

***

(d) Subject to the approval of the Service and the Official State Agencies in the importing and exporting States, participating flocks may report poultry sales to importing States by using either VS Form 9–3, "Report of Sales of Hatching Eggs, Chicks, and Poults," or by using a hatchery invoice form (9–3I) approved by the Official State Agency and the Service to identify poultry sales to clients. If the selling ~~hatchery~~ participant uses the 9–3I or VS Form 9-3 form, the following information must be included on the form:

(1) The form number "9–3I", printed or stamped on the invoice, or VS Form 9-3 printed or stamped on the form;

(2) The seller/hatchery name and physical address of the flock of origin;

(3) The date of shipment;

(4) The hatchery invoice number for 9-3I forms or a unique report number for VS Form 9-3 forms;

(5) The purchaser name and physical address of the destination;

(6) The quantity of products sold;

(7) The NPIP hatchery approval number of the shipping ~~hatchery~~ participant;

(8) Identification of the products by bird variety or by NPIP stock code as listed in the NPIP APHIS 91–55–078 appendix; and

(9) The appropriate NPIP illustrative design in § 145.10. One of the designs in § 145.10(b) or (g) must be used. The following information must be provided in or near the NPIP design:

(i) The NPIP State number and NPIP approval number; and

(ii) The NPIP classification for which product is qualified (*e.g.,* U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean).

* * *

**Subpart J – Special Provisions for Egg/Meat-Type Game Bird and Raised-for-Release Game Bird Breeding Flocks and Products**

**§ 145.102 Participation.**

Participating flocks of egg/meat-type game birds, raised-for-release game birds, and the products produced from them shall comply with the applicable general provisions of subpart A of this part and the special provisions of this subpart. Participation is broken into the following categories of operation and products:

* * *

(j) Subject to the approval of the Service and the Official State Agencies in the importing and exporting States, participating flocks may report poultry sales to importing States by using either VS Form 9–3, "Report of Sales of Hatching Eggs, Chicks, and Poults," or by using an invoice form (9–3I) approved by the Official State Agency and the Service to identify poultry sales to clients. If the 9-3I or VS Form 9-3 form is used, the following information must be included on the form:

(1) The form number "9–3I", printed or stamped on the invoice, or VS Form 9-3 printed or stamped on the form;

(2) The seller/hatchery name and physical address of the flock of origin;

(3) The date of shipment;

(4) The invoice number for 9-3I forms or a unique report number for VS Form 9-3 forms;

(5) The purchaser name and physical address of the destination;

(6) The quantity of products sold;

(7) Identification of the products by bird variety or by NPIP stock code as listed in the NPIP APHIS 91–55–078 appendix; and

(8) The appropriate NPIP illustrative design in § 145.10. One of the designs in § 145.10(b) or (g) must be used. The following information must be provided in or near the NPIP design:

(i) The NPIP State number and NPIP approval number; and

(ii) The NPIP classification for which product is qualified (*e.g.,* U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean).

* * *

**Reason:** The VS Form 9-3 or 9-3I form is accepted in most states instead of a CVI, which is a traceability document. The VS Form 9-3 and 9-3I forms should have similar standards of traceability as the form they are substituting. By adding language about physical addresses for poultry products moved, the traceability of those products through VS Form 9-3 and 9-3I forms will increase.

**Sponsors:** Dr. Ryan Scholz
Oregon Department of Agriculture

Sarah Beachy
Oregon Department of Agriculture

Dr. Amber Itle
Washington State Department of Agriculture

Dr. Dana Dobbs
Washington State Department of Agriculture

Dr. Scott Leibsle
Idaho State Department of Agriculture

Martha Walbey
Idaho State Department of Agriculture

Dr. Michael A. Short
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Dr. Scott Richardson
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

## Proposal #26

**Delegates: 145 H**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart H – Special Provisions for Primary Meat-Type Chicken Breeding Flocks and Products**

**§ 145.83 Terminology and Classification; flocks and products.**

Participating flocks, and the eggs and chicks produced from them, which have met the respective requirements specified in this section, may be designated by the following terms and the corresponding designs illustrated in § 145.10:

* * *

(g) ***U.S. Avian Influenza Clean.*** This program is intended to be the basis from which breeding-hatchery industry may conduct a program for the prevention and control of avian influenza. It is intended to determine the presence of avian influenza in primary breeding chickens through routine surveillance of each participating breeding flock. A flock and the hatching eggs and chicks produced from it will qualify for this classification when the Official State Agency determines that they have met the following requirements:

(1) It is a primary breeding flock in which a minimum of 30 birds have been tested for antibodies <u>or negative for agent detection (ex: real time reverse transcriptase/polymerase chain reaction [RRT-PCR])</u> to avian influenza using an approved test as described in § 145.14 when more than 4 months of age. To retain this classification:

(i) A sample of at least 30 birds must be tested negative at intervals of 90 days; or

(ii) A sample of fewer than 30 birds may be tested, and found to be negative, at any one time if all pens are equally represented and a total of 30 birds is tested within each 90-day period; or

(iii) The flock is tested as provided in § 145.14(d) at intervals of 30 days or less and found to be negative, and a total of 30 samples are collected and tested within each 90-day period; and

(2) During each 90-day period, all primary spent fowl, up to a maximum of 30, must be tested serologically and found negative for antibodies <u>or found negative for agent detection (real time reverse transcriptase/polymerase chain reaction [RRT-PCR])</u> for avian influenza within 21 days prior to movement to slaughter.

* * *

**Reason:** Analysis technologies that are certified and currently utilized in the program should be included in testing requirement options to support the industry needs for moving birds that recognizes the increased pressure to have testing done in a specific time frame.

**Sponsors:** Dr. Bill Hewat
Tyson Foods

Mr. Gordon Whitbeck
Whitbeck Laboratories, Inc.

Mr. Kevin Simmons
Arkansas NPIP Official State Agent

## Proposal #27

**Delegates:** **145 J**

**PART 145 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR BREEDING POULTRY**

**Subpart J – Special Provisions for Egg/Meat-Type Game Bird and Raised-for-Release Game Bird Breeding Flocks and Products**

**§ 145.103 Terminology and classification; flocks and products.**

Participating flocks, and the eggs, chicks, started, and mature birds produced from them, which have met the respective requirements specified in this section may be designated by the following terms and the corresponding designs illustrated in § 145.10.

* * *

(c) ***U.S. H5/H7 AI Clean***. The program in this paragraph (c) is intended to be the basis from which the game bird industry may conduct a program for the prevention and control of the H5 and H7 subtypes of avian influenza. It is intended to determine the presence of the H5 and H7 subtypes of avian influenza in game bird flocks through routine surveillance of each participating flock. A flock or premises, and the hatching eggs, chicks, started, and mature birds produced from it, will qualify for the classification in this paragraph (c) when the Official State Agency determines that it has met the following requirements:

(1) It is a flock in which a minimum of 30 birds has been tested negative to the H5 and H7 subtypes of avian influenza as provided in § 145.14(d) when more than 4 months of age. To retain the classification in this paragraph (c):

(i) A sample of at least 30 birds must be tested negative at intervals of 90 days; or

(ii) A sample of fewer than 30 birds may be tested, and found to be negative, at any one time if all pens are equally represented and a total of 30 birds are tested within each 90-day period.

(iii) For flocks vaccinated against AIV, the testing methodology must be able to differentiate vaccinated from infected status.

(2) For participants with non-breeding flocks retained for raised-for-release or other purposes on the same premises as a breeding flock, a representative sample of at least 30 birds from the participating premises must be tested negative to the H5 and H7 subtypes of avian influenza as provided in § 145.14(d) when more than 4 months of age, every 90 days. For vaccinated flocks against

AIV, the testing methodology must be able to differentiate vaccinated from infected status.

* * *

**Reason:** If vaccination against HPAI is ever implemented in the USA, NPIP provisions need to include provisions to address that status.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Alberto Torres
Cobb-Vantress, LLC

## Proposal #28

**Delegates: 146 Combined**

**PART 146 — NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR COMMERCIAL POULTRY**

**Subpart A—General Provisions**

**§ 146.6 Specific provisions for participating slaughter plants.**

(a) Only commercial upland game bird, commercial waterfowl, meat-type chicken, and meat-type turkey slaughter plants that are under continuous inspection by the Food Safety and Inspection Service of the Department or under State inspection that the Food Safety and Inspection Service has recognized as ~~equivalent~~ at least equal to Federal inspection may participate in the Plan.

* * *

**Subpart C – Special Provisions for Meat-Type Chicken Slaughter Plants**

**§ 146.31 Definitions.**

* * *

*Meat-type chicken slaughter plant.* A meat-type chicken slaughter plant that is federally inspected or under State inspection that the Food Safety and Inspection Service has recognized as ~~equivalent~~ at least equal to F~~f~~ederal inspection.

* * *

**Subpart D – Special Provisions for Meat-Type Turkey Slaughter Plants**

**§ 146.41 Definitions.**

* * *

*Meat-type turkey slaughter plant.* A meat-type turkey slaughter plant that is federally inspected or under State inspection that the Food Safety and Inspection Service has recognized as ~~equivalent~~ at least equal to F~~f~~ederal inspection.

* * *

**Subpart E – Special Provisions for Commercial Upland Game Birds, Commercial Waterfowl, Raised-for-Release Upland Game Birds, and Raised-for-Release Waterfowl**

**§ 146.51 Definitions.**

*** * ***

*Meat-type game bird slaughter plant.* A meat-type game bird slaughter plant that is federally inspected or under State inspection that the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service has recognized as ~~equivalent~~ at least equal to Federal inspection.

*Meat-type waterfowl slaughter plant.* A meat-type waterfowl slaughter plant that is federally inspected or under State inspection that the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service has recognized as ~~equivalent~~ at least equal to Federal inspection.

* * *

**Reason:** The current language is inconsistent with language in the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) and Poultry Product Inspection Act (PPIA). Section 661 of the FMIA and 454 of the PPIA authorize FSIS to cooperate with State agencies in developing and administering their own meat or poultry products inspection programs for the inspection and regulation of products that are produced and sold solely within the State. These cooperative State inspection programs are required to operate in a manner and with authorities ''at least equal to,'' but not necessarily identical to, the provisions set out in the FMIA and PPIA (21 U.S.C. 661 (a)(1) & 454 (a)(1)).

**Sponsor:** Dr. Sally Ann Iverson
Food Safety and Inspection Service

## Proposal #29

**Delegates: 146 Combined**

**PART 146 — NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR COMMERCIAL POULTRY**

**Subpart A—General Provisions**

**§ 146.8 Terminology and classifications; slaughter plants.**

Participating slaughter plants, which have met the respective requirements specified in Subpart C of this section, shall be designated by the corresponding terms and design illustrated in § 146.9 of this part. ~~as "U.S. H5/H7 Avian Influenza Monitored."~~ All Official State Agencies shall be notified by the Service of additions, withdrawals, and changes in classification.

**§ 146.9 Terminology and classification; flocks, products, and States.**

Participating flocks, products produced from them, and States that have met the requirements of a classification in this part may be designated by the corresponding illustrative design in this section.

* * *

(d) U.S. *Salmonella* Enteritidis Monitored (See § 146.33 (b).)

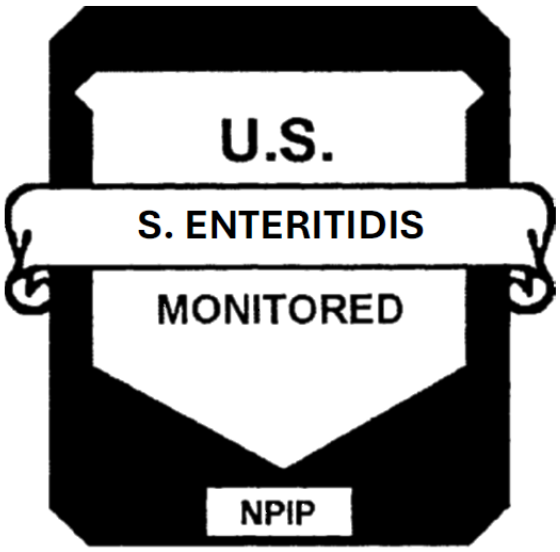



Figure 5.

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* * *

**§ 146.11 Inspections.**

* * *

(e) The official ~~H5/H7 LPAI~~ testing records of all participating flocks and slaughter plants shall be examined annually by a State Inspector. Official ~~H5/H7 LPAI~~ testing records shall be maintained for 3 years.

* * *

**Reason:** A *Salmonella* Enteritidis (SE) monitored certification for commercial meat-type chicken slaughter plants will allow industry to promote actions taken at preharvest to reduce a *Salmonella* serotype that is frequently detected in raw poultry products and commonly associated with illness in humans. SE is also known to be vertically transmitted from parent stock to progeny flocks and specific strains of SE have been linked to septicemia and elevated mortality in poultry. By having information about a flock's SE status available prior to slaughter, meat-type chicken slaughter plants can take action to mitigate the risk of SE in a final poultry product (e.g., acidify water last 48hr prior to slaughter, scheduled processing of certified flocks prior to others, etc.). Similarly, the

commercial meat-type chicken industry may also use information on SE status to make management decisions aimed at mitigating the risk of SE in future flocks (e.g. *Salmonella* vaccination, cleaning procedures, etc.) to improve food safety and bird health.

**Sponsors:** Kendra Waldbusser
Pilgrim's Pride Corporation

Julie Sundgaard
Romer Labs, Inc.

## Proposal #30

**Delegates: 146 C**

**PART 146 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR COMMERCIAL POULTRY**

**Subpart C – Special Provisions for Meat-Type Chicken Slaughter Plants**

**§ 146.32 Participation.**

(a) Participating meat-type chicken slaughter plants designated as U.S. H5/H7 Avian Influenza Monitored shall comply with applicable general provisions of subpart A of this part and the special provisions of this subpart C (a).

(b) Participating meat-type chicken slaughter plants designated as U.S. *Salmonella* Enteritidis Monitored shall comply with the following general provisions under subpart A of this part: § 146.1, § 146.2, § 146.3, § 146.4, § 146.5, § 146.6, § 146.7, § 146.8, § 146.10, § 146.11, and § 146.12; and the special provisions of this subpart C (b).

~~(b)~~ (c) Meat-type chicken slaughter plants that slaughter fewer than 200,000 meat-type chickens in an operating week are exempt from the special provisions of this subpart C.

~~(c)~~ (d) If spent fowl are slaughtered at meat-type chicken slaughter plants that participate in the Plan, they may participate in the Plan through the provisions of this subpart C.

**§ 146.33 Terminology and classification; meat-type chicken slaughter plants.**

Participating meat-type chicken slaughter plants that have met the respective requirements specified in this section may be designated by the following terms and the corresponding designs illustrated in § 146.9 of this part:

* * *

(b) Reserved.

**(c) U.S. *Salmonella* Enteritidis Monitored.** This classification is intended to be the basis from which the meat-type chicken industry may conduct a program to monitor for *Salmonella* Enteritidis in commercial meat-type chickens prior to slaughter. A meat-type chicken slaughter plant will qualify for this classification when the Official State Agency determines that it has met the following requirements:

(1) It is a meat-type chicken slaughter plant which accepts only meat-type chickens from flocks that:

(i) Are maintained in accordance with part 147 of this subchapter with respect to *Salmonella* isolation.

(ii) Are monitored for *S.* Enteritidis through environmental samples (boot swabs) that are collected from the flock in accordance with part 147 of this subchapter no more than 21 days prior to slaughter. The samples shall be examined bacteriologically for group D *Salmonella* at an authorized laboratory, and cultures from group D positive samples shall be serotyped.

(2) The following actions must be taken with respect to the test results that are generated from this *S.* Enteritidis monitoring program.

(i) If. *S*. Enteritidis is isolated from an environmental sample collected from the flock in accordance with paragraph (c)(1)(ii) of this section, a thorough evaluation of the practices and programs associated with the sampled flock shall be conducted with the goal of ascertaining the reason(s) for the positive finding and mitigating the potential for *S.* Enteritidis in future flocks.

(ii) Participating broiler integrators shall combine their respective test results (and the results of any associated evaluations) to help guide their decision-making regarding programs and practices to implement or maintain to address *S.* enteritidis.

(iii) Aggregate data regarding the prevalence of *S*. enteritidis in participating U.S. commercial broiler flocks shall be made available to the National Chicken Council.

This classification may be revoked by the Official State Agency if the participant fails to comply with the requirements of this classification. The Official State Agency shall not revoke the participant's classification until the participant has been given an opportunity for a hearing in accordance with rules of practice adopted by the Official State Agency.

* * *

**Reason:** A *Salmonella* Enteritidis (SE) monitored certification for commercial meat-type chicken slaughter plants will allow industry to promote actions taken at preharvest to reduce a *Salmonella* serotype that is frequently detected in raw poultry products and commonly associated with illness in humans. SE is also known to be vertically transmitted from parent stock to progeny flocks and specific strains of SE have been linked to septicemia and elevated mortality in poultry. By having information about a flock's SE status available prior to slaughter, meat-type chicken slaughter plants can take action to mitigate the risk

of SE in a final poultry product (e.g., acidify water last 48hr prior to slaughter, scheduled processing of certified flocks prior to others, etc.). Similarly, the commercial meat-type chicken industry may also use information on SE status to make management decisions aimed at mitigating the risk of SE in future flocks (e.g. *Salmonella* vaccination, cleaning procedures, etc.) to improve food safety and bird health.

**Sponsors:** Kendra Waldbusser
Pilgrim's Pride Corporation

Julie Sundgaard
Romer Labs, Inc.

## Proposal #31

**Delegates: 146 Combined**

**PART 146 – NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR COMMERCIAL POULTRY**

**Subpart C – Special Provisions for Meat-Type Chicken Slaughter Plants**

**§ 146.33 Terminology and Classification; meat-type chicken slaughter plants.**

Participating meat-type chicken slaughter plants that have met the respective requirements specified in this section may be designated by the following terms and the corresponding designs illustrated in § 146.9 of this part:

(a) ***U.S. H5/H7 Avian Influenza Monitored.*** This program is intended to be the basis from which the meat-type chicken industry may conduct a program to monitor for the H5/H7 subtypes of avian influenza. It is intended to determine the presence of the H5/H7 subtypes of avian influenza in meat-type chickens through routine surveillance of each participating meat-type chicken slaughter plant. A meat-type chicken slaughter plant will qualify for this classification when the Official State Agency determines that it has met one of the following requirements:

(1) It is a meat-type chicken slaughter plant where a minimum of 11 birds per shift are tested negative for the H5/H7 subtypes of avian influenza, as provided in § 146.13(b), at slaughter; *Provided,* that with the approval of the Official State Agency, fewer than 11 birds per shift may be tested on any given shift if the total number of birds tested during the operating month is equivalent to testing 11 birds per shift; or

(2) It is a meat-type chicken slaughter plant which accepts only meat-type chickens from flocks where a minimum of 11 birds have been tested negative for antibodies <u>or negative for agent detection (ex: real time reverse transcriptase/polymerase chain reaction [RRT-PCR])</u> to the H5/H7 subtypes of avian influenza, as provided in § 146.13(b), no more than 21 days prior to slaughter; or

(3) It is a meat-type chicken slaughter plant that has an ongoing active and diagnostic surveillance program for the H5/H7 subtypes of avian influenza in which the number of birds tested is equivalent to the number required in paragraph (a)(1) or (a)(2) and that is approved by the Official State Agency and the Service.

* * *

**Reason:** Analysis technologies that are certified and currently utilized in the program should be included in testing requirement options to support the industry needs for moving birds that recognizes the increased pressure to have testing done in a specific time frame.

**Sponsors:** Dr. Bill Hewat
Tyson Foods

Mr. Gordon Whitbeck
Whitbeck Laboratories, Inc.

Mr. Kevin Simmons
Arkansas NPIP Official State Agent

## Proposal #32

**Delegates:** **145 and 146 Combined**

**PART 147 – AUXILIARY PROVISIONS ON NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

**Subpart E – Procedure for Changing the National Poultry Improvement Plan**

**§ 147.44 Submitting, compiling and distributing proposed changes.**

(a) Changes in this subchapter may be proposed by any participant, Official State Agency, the Department, or other interested person or industry organization.

(b) Except as provided in § 147.43(d)(4), proposed changes shall be submitted in writing so as to reach the Service not later than 150 days prior to the opening date of the Plan Conference~~, and participants in the Plan shall submit their proposed changes through their Official State Agency~~.

* * *

**Reason:** The requirement for participants to submit proposed changes through their OSA is neither practical nor manageable, especially when participants' operations span several States. As written currently, the text creates an opportunity for either duplicity of the same proposal, or worse, failure of the proposal to reach the Service at all. Further, all proposed changes are published ahead of the Biennial Conference for each Official State Agent to be aware of the change. To streamline the proposed changes submission process, the recommendation is to remove this clause, which allows greater harmony with § 147.44 (a).

**Sponsor:** Dr. Elena Behnke
National Poultry Improvement Plan

## Proposal #33

**Delegates: 145 and 146 Combined**

**PART 56 – CONTROL OF H5/H7 LOW PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA**

**§ 56.1 Definitions.**

* * *

*H5/H7 LPAI virus actively infected (infectious).*

(1) Poultry will be considered to be actively infected with H5/H7 LPAI for the purposes of this part if:

(i) H5/H7 LPAI virus has been isolated and identified as such from poultry; or

(ii) Viral antigen or viral RNA specific to the H5 or H7 subtype of AI virus has been detected in poultry.

(2) The official determination that H5/H7 LPAI virus has been isolated and identified, ~~or viral antigen~~ or viral RNA specific to the H5 or H7 subtype of AI virus has been detected, may only be made by the National Veterinary Services Laboratories.

*H5/H7 LPAI ~~virus exposed (non-infectious)~~ seroconverted.*

(1) Poultry will be considered to be ~~exposed (non-infectious)~~ seroconverted to H5/H7 LPAI for the purposes of this part if:

(i) Antibodies to the H5 or H7 subtype of the AI virus that are not a consequence of vaccination have been detected in poultry; and

(ii) Samples collected from the flock using real-time reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) or virus isolation are determined to be negative ~~not infectious~~ for H5/H7 LPAI.

(2) Positive results must be further tested by Federal Reference Laboratories using appropriate tests for confirmation. Final judgment may be based upon further sampling and appropriate tests for confirmation. The official determination that H5/H7 LPAI ~~virus exposure~~ seroconversion has occurred ~~is by the identification of antibodies to the H5 or H7 subtype of AI virus detected and~~ may only be made by the National Veterinary Services Laboratories.

* * *

**§ 56.2 Cooperation with States.**

(a) The Administrator has been delegated the authority to cooperate with Cooperating State Agencies in the eradication of H5/H7 LPAI. This cooperation may include, but is not necessarily limited to, the following activities:

(1) Payment to Cooperating State Agencies for surveillance and monitoring associated with poultry that have been infected with ~~or exposed to~~ H5/H7 LPAI;

* * *

**§ 56.3 Payment of indemnity and/or compensation.**

(a) ***Activities eligible for indemnity and/or compensation.*** The Administrator may pay indemnity and/or compensation for the activities listed in this paragraph (a), as provided in paragraph (b) of this section:

(1) Destruction and disposal of poultry that were infected with ~~or exposed to~~ H5/H7 LPAI;

(2) Destruction of any eggs destroyed during testing of poultry for H5/H7 LPAI during an outbreak of H5/H7 LPAI; and

(3) Cleaning and disinfection of premises, conveyances, and materials that came into contact with poultry that were infected with ~~or exposed to~~ H5/H7 LPAI; or, in the case of materials, if the cost of cleaning and disinfection would exceed the value of the materials or cleaning and disinfection would be impracticable for any reason, the destruction and disposal of the materials.

(b) ***Percentage of costs eligible for indemnity and/or compensation.*** Except for poultry that are described by the categories in this paragraph (b), the Administrator is authorized to pay 100 percent of the costs and/or compensation, as determined in accordance with § 56.4, of the activities described in paragraphs (a)(1) through (3) of this section, regardless of whether the infected ~~or exposed~~ poultry participate in the Plan. For infected ~~or exposed~~ poultry that are described by the categories in this paragraph (b), the Administrator is authorized to pay 25 percent of the costs of the activities described in paragraphs (a)(1) through (3) of this section:

* * *

**§ 56.4 Determination of indemnity and/or compensation amounts.**

(a) ***Destruction and disposal of poultry.***

(1) Indemnity for the destruction of poultry and/or eggs infected with ~~or exposed to~~ H5/H7 LPAI will be based on the fair market value of the poultry and/or eggs, as determined by an appraisal. Poultry infected with ~~or exposed to~~ H5/H7 LPAI that are removed by APHIS or a Cooperating State Agency from a flock will be appraised by an APHIS official appraiser and a State official appraiser jointly, or, if APHIS and State authorities agree, by either an APHIS official appraiser or a State official appraiser alone. For laying hens, the appraised value should include the hen's projected future egg production. Appraisals of poultry must be reported on forms furnished by APHIS and signed by the appraisers and must be signed by the owners of the poultry to indicate agreement with the appraisal amount. Appraisals of poultry must be signed by the owners of the poultry prior to the destruction of the poultry, unless the owners, APHIS, and the Cooperating State Agency agree that the poultry may be destroyed immediately. Reports of appraisals must show the number of birds and the value per head.

(2) Compensation for disposal of poultry and/or eggs infected with ~~or exposed to~~ H5/H7 LPAI will be based on receipts or other documentation maintained by the claimant verifying expenditures for disposal activities authorized by this part. Any disposal of poultry infected with or exposed to H5/H7 LPAI for which compensation is requested must be performed under a compliance agreement between the claimant and APHIS. APHIS will review claims for compensation for disposal to ensure that all expenditures relate directly to activities described in § 56.5 and in the initial State response and containment plan described in § 56.10. If disposal is performed by the Cooperating State Agency, APHIS will compensate the Cooperating State Agency for disposal under a cooperative agreement.

* * *

(b) ***Cleaning and disinfection (virus elimination).***

(1) Compensation for cleaning and disinfection (virus elimination) of premises, conveyances, and materials that came into contact with poultry that are infected with ~~or exposed to~~ H5/H7 LPAI will be determined using the current APHIS flat-rate virus elimination (VE) calculator in effect at the time of the infection, except in instances when the claimant and APHIS jointly agree the VE calculator is not applicable to the premises type.

* * *

(c) ***Requirements for compliance agreements.*** The compliance agreement is a comprehensive document that describes the depopulation, disposal, and cleaning and disinfection plans for poultry that were infected with ~~or exposed to~~ H5/H7 LPAI, or a premises that contained such poultry. The compliance agreement must set out cost estimates that include labor, materials, supplies, equipment, personal protective equipment, and any additional information deemed

necessary by APHIS. A compliance agreement is comparable to a statement of work and must indicate what tasks will be completed, who will be responsible for each task, and how much the work is expected to cost. A compliance agreement may also be referred to as a detailed financial plan. Once work associated with the compliance agreement is completed, receipts and documentation detailing the activities specified in the agreement should be forwarded to APHIS for review, approval, and final payment. This documentation should be submitted to APHIS no later than 30 days after the quarantine release of the affected ~~or exposed~~ premises.

**§ 56.5 Destruction and disposal of poultry and cleaning and disinfection (virus elimination) of premises, conveyances, and materials.**

(a) ***Destruction of poultry.*** Poultry that are infected with ~~or exposed to~~ H5/H7 LPAI may be required to be destroyed at the discretion of the Cooperating State Agency and APHIS and in accordance with the initial State response and containment plan described in § 56.10. The Cooperating State Agency and APHIS will select a method to use for the destruction of such poultry based on the following factors:

* * *

(c) ***Controlled marketing.***

(1) At the discretion of the Cooperating State Agency and APHIS, poultry that has been previously infected and seroconverted ~~with or exposed~~ to H5/H7 LPAI may be allowed to move for controlled marketing and maintain their current National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) certifications in accordance with the initial State response and containment plan described in § 56.10 and in accordance with the following requirements:

(i) Poultry infected with or exposed to H5/H7 LPAI must not be transported to a market for controlled marketing until approved by the Cooperating State Agency in accordance with the initial State response and containment plan described in § 56.10.

(ii) Within 7 days prior to slaughter, each flock to be moved for controlled marketing must be tested for H5/H7 LPAI using a test approved by the Cooperating State Agency and found to be free of the virus using real-time reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT–PCR) or virus isolation are determined to be negative for H5/H7 LPAI.

(iii) Routes to slaughter must avoid other commercial poultry operations whenever possible. All load-out equipment, trailers, and trucks used on premises that have housed poultry that were previously infected and seroconverted ~~with or exposed~~ to H5/H7 LPAI must be cleaned and disinfected and not enter other poultry premises or facilities for 48 hours after removing such poultry from their premises.

* * *

(d) ***Cleaning and disinfection (virus elimination) of premises, conveyances, and materials.*** Premises, conveyances, and materials that came into contact with poultry infected with ~~or exposed to~~ H5/H7 LPAI must be cleaned and disinfected; *Provided,* that materials for which the cost of cleaning and disinfection would exceed the value of the materials or for which cleaning and disinfection would be impracticable for any reason may be destroyed and disposed. Cleaning and disinfection must be performed in accordance with the initial State response and containment plan described in § 56.10, which must be approved by APHIS. Cleaning and disinfection must also be performed in accordance with any applicable State and local environmental regulations.

**§ 56.6 Presentation of claims for indemnity and/or compensation.**

Claims for the following must be documented on a form furnished by APHIS and presented to an APHIS employee or the State representative authorized to accept the claims:

(a) Indemnity for the value of poultry to be destroyed due to infection <u>with</u> ~~or exposure to~~ H5/H7 LPAI;

(b) Indemnity for the value of eggs to be destroyed due to infection ~~or exposure to~~ H5/H7 LPAI; and

(c) Compensation for the cost of cleaning and disinfection (virus elimination) of premises, conveyances, and materials that came into contact with poultry infected with ~~or exposed to~~ H5/H7 LPAI, or, in the case of materials, if the cost of cleaning and disinfection (virus elimination) would exceed the value of the materials or cleaning and disinfection (virus elimination) would be impracticable for any reason, the cost of destruction and disposal for the materials.

* * *

**§ 56.9 Claims not allowed.**

* * *

(c) The Department will not allow claims arising out of the destruction of poultry unless the poultry have been moved or handled by the owner in accordance with an agreement for the control and eradication of H5/H7 LPAI and in accordance with part 56, for any progeny of any poultry unless the poultry have been moved or handled by the owner in accordance with an agreement for the control and eradication of H5/H7 LPAI and in accordance with part 56, or for any poultry that become or have become infected with ~~or exposed to~~ H5/H7 LPAI because of actions not in accordance with an agreement for the control and eradication of H5/H7 LPAI or a violation of this part.

**§ 56.10 Initial State response and containment plan.**

(a) In order for poultry owners within a State to be eligible for indemnity and/or compensation for 100 percent of eligible costs under § 56.3(b), the State in which the poultry participate in the Plan must have in place an initial State response and containment plan that has been approved by APHIS. The initial State response and containment plan must be developed by the Official State Agency. In States where the Official State Agency is different than the Cooperating State Agency, the Cooperating State Agency must also participate in the development of the plan. The plan must be administered by the Cooperating State Agency of the relevant State. This plan must include:

* * *

(7) Provisions for developing flock plans for infected ~~and exposed~~ flocks;

(8) Detailed plans for disposal of infected flocks, including preexisting agreements with regulatory agencies and detailed plans for carcass disposal, disposal sites, and resources for conducting disposal, and detailed plans for disposal of materials that come into contact with poultry infected with ~~or exposed to~~ H5/H7 LPAI;

(9) Detailed plans for cleaning and disinfection of premises, repopulation, and monitoring after repopulation;

(10) Provisions for appropriate control/monitoring zones, <u>epidemiology investigations</u> ~~contact surveys~~, and movement restrictions;

(11) Provisions for monitoring activities in control zones;

(12) If vaccination is considered as an option, a written plan for use in place with proper controls and provisions for APHIS approval of any use of vaccine;

(13) Plans for <u>controlled marketing of</u> H5/H7 LPAI-~~negative~~ <u>seroconverted</u> flocks ~~that provide for quarantine, testing, and controlled marketing~~; and

(14) Public awareness and education programs regarding avian influenza.

* * *

**Reason:** In the reviewing and revising of VSG 8601.2 and the review of the Initial State Response and Containment Plans (ISRCPs), it was evident that many States are confused on several aspects of the response to LPAI. Some of the proposed changes and updates to VSG 8601.2 would also necessitate changes to 9 CFR 56

so both documents are in alignment. Of note, there were different definitions for exposed in each document. Furthermore, changes were necessary to reflect how LPAI is managed. Exposed flocks are neither depopulated nor controlled marketed for LPAI. Flocks in the Control Area or epidemiologically linked flocks are tested twice by PCR in the 14-day WOAH flock incubation period and classified H5/H7 LPAI negative are released from any restrictions.

The references to exposed were removed from 9 CFR part 56. The definition of "H5/H7 LPAI virus exposed (non-infectious)" was removed and replaced and with "H5/H7 LPAI seroconverted", and updated and clarified the section on controlled marketing.

**Sponsors:** USDA APHIS VS S&P ASEP Poultry Health Team Members:

Drs. Mary Donahue, Patti Fox, and Katy Burden
USDA APHIS

## Proposal #34

**Delegates:** **145 and 146 Combined**

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards A-E**

**Definitions *(Pg. 6)***

* * *

***Commercial meat-type flock.*** All of the meat-type chickens, spent fowl, meat-type turkeys, commercial upland flock game birds, or commercial waterfowl on one farm. However, at the discretion of the Official State Agency, any group of poultry which is segregated from another group in a manner sufficient to prevent the transmission of H5/H7 LPAI or *Salmonella* and has been so segregated for a period of at least 21 days may be considered as a separate flock.

* * *

**Reason:** A *Salmonella* Enteritidis (SE) monitored certification for commercial meat-type chicken slaughter plants will allow industry to promote actions taken at preharvest to reduce a *Salmonella* serotype that is frequently detected in raw poultry products and commonly associated with illness in humans. SE is also known to be vertically transmitted from parent stock to progeny flocks and specific strains of SE have been linked to septicemia and elevated mortality in poultry. By having information about a flock's SE status available prior to slaughter, meat-type chicken slaughter plants can take action to mitigate the risk of SE in a final poultry product (e.g., acidify water last 48hr prior to slaughter, scheduled processing of certified flocks prior to others, etc.). Similarly, the commercial meat-type chicken industry may also use information on SE status to make management decisions aimed at mitigating the risk of SE in future flocks (e.g. *Salmonella* vaccination, cleaning procedures, etc.) to improve food safety and bird health.

**Sponsors:** Kendra Waldbusser
Pilgrim's Pride Corporation

Julie Sundgaard
Romer Labs, Inc.

## Proposal #35

**Delegates: 145 and 146 Combined**

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards A-E**

**Standard B – Bacteriological Examination Procedure *(Pg. 30)***

* * *

**(3) Procedures for collection, isolation, and identification of Salmonella from house environmental samples, cloacal swabs, and hatchery samples.**

* * *

**(a) For egg- and meat-type chickens, turkeys, waterfowl, exhibition poultry, and game birds**

All samples and swabs described in this paragraph should be cultured in accordance with illustration 2. All salmonellae recovered shall be serogrouped or serotyped.

(1) *Poultry house environmental samples.*

* * *

(iii) Shoe cover swabs. (Boot swabs).

(A) For commercial meat-type chicken slaughter plant

Absorbent fabric shoe covers involve the exposure of the bottom surface of shoe covers to the surface of floor litter. Two pairs of pre-moistened with double strength skim milk (DSSM) or buffered peptone water (BPW) shoe covers should be worn per house to sample the floor of the bird area. Wearing clean gloves, place the shoe covers over disposable overshoes. It is recommended to walk between the drinker and feeder lines at a normal pace. Walk through ¼ of the house, then turn the shoe covers inside out, and walk another ¼ of the house. After walking ½ the house, remove the shoe covers and place in a sterile bag. Then put on the 2nd pair of shoe covers on and walk the other ½ of the house in the same manner. Place the 2nd pair of shoe covers in the same sterile bag as the 1st pair and seal the bag. The two pairs of shoe covers should be tested as a pooled sample per house. Gloves and disposable shoe covers should be changed between houses. Place samples in a cooler with ice or ice packs for transport and

refrigerate at 2° - 8°C for no more than 5 days before culturing if using DSSM, or 2 days if using BPW.

(B) For breeder house

Absorbable fabric shoe covers involve the exposure of the bottom surface of shoe covers to the surface of floor litter and slat areas. Wearing clean gloves, place the shoe covers over footwear that is only worn inside the poultry house. This can be footwear dedicated to the facility or disposable overshoes. Each pair of shoe covers should be worn while walking at a normal pace over a distance of 1,000 feet (305 meters). For flocks with fewer than 500 breeders, at least 1 pair of shoe covers should be worn to sample the floor of the bird area. For flocks with 500 or more breeders, at least 2 pairs of shoe covers should be worn to sample the floor of the bird area. After sampling, place each shoe cover in a sterile container with 30 ml of double strength skim milk, unless pre-moistened swabs (BPW) are used. Seal the sterile containers and promptly refrigerate them at 2° to 8°C or place in a cooler with ice or ice packs. Do not freeze. If shoe cover swab samples are to be processed within 48 hours after collection, the shoe cover swab samples may be pre-moistened with BPW. Samples to be processed after 48 hours and before 5 days must be pre-moistened with DSSM. All samples are to be placed in a cooler with ice or ice packs for transport and refrigeration at 2° - 8°C in the period prior to the addition of the pre-enrichment broth. Samples should be stored at refrigerator temperatures of 2° to 8°C no more than 5 days before culturing.

* * *

**Reason:** A *Salmonella* Enteritidis (SE) monitored certification for commercial meat-type chicken slaughter plants will allow industry to promote actions taken at preharvest to reduce a *Salmonella* serotype that is frequently detected in raw poultry products and commonly associated with illness in humans. SE is also known to be vertically transmitted from parent stock to progeny flocks and specific strains of SE have been linked to septicemia and elevated mortality in poultry. By having information about a flock's SE status available prior to slaughter, meat-type chicken slaughter plants can take action to mitigate the risk of SE in a final poultry product (e.g., acidify water last 48hr prior to slaughter, scheduled processing of certified flocks prior to others, etc.). Similarly, the commercial meat-type chicken industry may also use information on SE status to make management decisions aimed at mitigating the risk of SE in future flocks

(e.g. *Salmonella* vaccination, cleaning procedures, etc.) to improve food safety and bird health.

**Sponsors:** Kendra Waldbusser
Pilgrim's Pride Corporation

Julie Sundgaard
Romer Labs, Inc.

# Proposal #36

**Delegates: 145 and 146 Combined**

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards A-E**

**Standard D – Molecular Examination Procedures *(Pg. 57, 58)***

* * *

**(7) Approved tests**

The following diagnostic test kits that are not licensed by the Service (e.g., bacteriological culturing kits) are approved for use in the NPIP:

1. Rapid Chek©Select TMSalmonella Test Kit, Romer Labs, Inc., Newark, DE 19713.
2. ADIAFOOD Rapid Pathogen Detection System for Salmonella spp., AES Chemunex Canada. Laval, QC (Canada) H7L4S3.
3. Hygiena (formerly DuPont Qualicon) BAX System Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)-based assay for Salmonella 1 and 2 (Product Number KIT2011) DuPont Qualicon, Wilmington, DE 19810. Hygiena. Camarillo, CA 93012.
4. Applied Biosystems TaqMan® Salmonella Enteritidis Real-Time PCR assay for the detection of Salmonella Enteritidis. Life Technologies Corporation. Foster City, CA 94404.
5. IDEXX MG/MS RT-PCR. IDEXX Laboratories, Inc. Westbrook, ME 04092.
6. MicroSEQ Salmonella Species Detection Kit, Life Technologies Corporation, Austin, TX.
7. ANSR Salmonella Test, Neogen Corporation, Lansing, MI 48912.
8. Reveal 2.0 Group D1 Salmonella (Including SE) Kit, Neogen, Neogen Corporation, Lansing, MI 48912.
9. DNAble Salmonella Detection Kit, EnviroLogix, Inc., Portland, Maine 04103.
10. Bactotype MG/MS Kit, INDICAL, San Francisco, CA 94104
11. IDEXX RealPCR MG DNA reagents-IDEXX Laboratories, Inc. Westbrook, ME 04092.
12. IDEXX RealPCR MS DNA reagents-IDEXX Laboratories, Inc. Westbrook, ME 04092.
13. IDEXX RealPCR MG-MS Multiplex DNA reagents-IDEXX Laboratories, Inc. Westbrook, ME 04092.

14. Poultry Check MP MS-MG Test Kit-Biovet, Inc. St. Hyacinthe, Quebec J2S 8W2 Canada.

15. Thermo Fisher Scientific MG/MS Reagents-Thermo Fisher Scientific, Life Sciences Solutions, Austin, TX 78744.

16. Qiagen mericon ® Salmonella spp. real-time PCR kit-Qiagen, Germantown, MD 20874.

17. IDEXX RealPCR Salmonella DNA spp. DNA reagents- IDEXX Laboratories, Inc. Westbrook, ME 04092.

**Reason:** Hygiena has acquired the Dupont Qualicon system. This update reflects the new name as well as the former name. It also removes Sal 1 kit as this option has been discontinued by the manufacturer and addition of the product number currently available makes it easier to find the NPIP approved kit.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Katy Burden
National Poultry Improvement Plan

## Proposal #37

**Delegates: 145 and 146 Combined**

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards A-E**

**Standard D – Molecular Examination Procedures *(Pg. 57, 58)***

* * *

**(7) Approved tests**

The following diagnostic test kits that are not licensed by the Service (e.g., bacteriological culturing kits) are approved for use in the NPIP:

1. Rapid Chek©Select TMSalmonella Test Kit, Romer Labs, Inc., Newark, DE 19713.
2. ADIAFOOD Rapid Pathogen Detection System for Salmonella spp., AES Chemunex Canada. Laval, QC (Canada) H7L4S3.
3. DuPont Qualicon) BAX Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)-based assay for Salmonella 1 and 2 DuPont Qualicon, Wilmington, DE 19810.
4. Applied Biosystems TaqMan® Salmonella Enteritidis Real-Time PCR assay for the detection of Salmonella Enteritidis. Life Technologies Corporation. Foster City, CA 94404.
5. IDEXX MG/MS RT-PCR
6. MicroSEQ Salmonella Species Detection Kit, Life Technologies Corporation, Austin, TX.
7. ANSR Salmonella Test, Neogen Corporation, Lansing, MI 48912.
8. Reveal 2.0 Group D1 Salmonella (Including SE) Kit, Neogen, Neogen Corporation, Lansing, MI 48912.
9. DNAble Salmonella Detection Kit, EnviroLogix, Inc., Portland, Maine 04103.
10. Bactotype MG/MS Kit, INDICAL, San Francisco, CA 94104
11. IDEXX RealPCR MG DNA reagents-IDEXX Laboratories, Inc. Westbrook, ME 04092.
12. IDEXX RealPCR MS DNA reagents-IDEXX Laboratories, Inc. Westbrook, ME 04092.
13. IDEXX RealPCR MG-MS Multiplex DNA reagents-IDEXX Laboratories, Inc. Westbrook, ME 04092.
14. Poultry Check MP MS-MG Test Kit-Biovet, Inc. St. Hyacinthe, Quebec J2S 8W2 Canada.

15. Thermo Fisher Scientific MG/MS Reagents-Thermo Fisher Scientific, Life Sciences Solutions, Austin, TX 78744.

16. Qiagen mericon ® Salmonella spp. real-time PCR kit-Qiagen, Germantown, MD 20874.

17. IDEXX RealPCR Salmonella DNA spp. DNA reagents- IDEXX Laboratories, Inc. Westbrook, ME 04092.

18. Hygiena's Bax® System Real-Time Assay for Salmonella - Hygiena. Camarillo, CA 93012.

**Reason:** Hygiena has put forth an assay for consideration and review by the NPIP Technical Committee for the 2024 Biennial Conference. The NPIP Technical Committee members will review and provide recommendations to the delegation regarding the scientific aspect of the assay. This proposal allows for the delegation the opportunity to allow/ deny the test approval and incorporation into the NPIP Program Standards.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Katy Burden
National Poultry Improvement Plan

## Proposal #38

**Delegates:** **145 D, G, and H**

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard F - Compartmentalization**

* * *

***Throughout each page of Standard F, we propose to add a footer that includes publication date. Example provided below:***

**Historical Background *(Pg. 5)***

The USDA-APHIS-National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) is a disease surveillance and control program for the U.S. poultry industry. The NPIP was established to help control existing diseases incompatible with the growth and development of a modern poultry industry. APHIS added the avian influenza (AI) programs for breeding chickens and breeding turkeys to the NPIP in the 1990s. Prior to this time, only vertically transmitted diseases (Salmonella Pullorum, Salmonella Gallinarum, Salmonella Enteritidis, Mycoplasma gallisepticum, Mycoplasma synoviae, and Mycoplasma meleagridis) were included in the NPIP. However, when the poultry industry began to export large quantities of poultry genetic stock and poultry meat and eggs, major U.S. trading partners wanted assurances that the poultry and poultry products originated from breeding flocks free of AI. H5/H7 AI monitoring programs for commercial table-egg layers, broilers, and meat turkeys were added to the NPIP in 2006.

* * *

~~5~~

Page 5 PUB JUNE 2024

**Reason:** This proposed change seeks to add a footer along with each page number. The footer would take the format of *PUB. MONTH, YEAR*. This ensures a form of version control that we do not currently have, with exception of the title and cover page. The hope is that this modification would satisfy the request for version control that came from our international trade partners.

**Sponsors:** Drs. Elena Behnke and Savannah Busby
National Poultry Improvement Plan

## Proposal #39

**Delegates: 145 D, G, and H**

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard F – Compartmentalization**

* * *

**Compartment Oversight *(Pg. 7)***

* * *

Compartment oversight is a collaborate effort by APHIS Veterinary Services Strategy and Policy. ~~National Import Export Services (NIES)~~ Live Animal Import Export (LAIE) will provide technical advice regarding international animal health standards and export risk mitigation to compartment program managers and participants. ~~NIES~~ LAIE also advocates for compartmentalization participants to build relationships with animal health and regulatory counterparts in other countries, explaining the program to foreign officials and developing bilateral and multilateral agreements with trading partners to accept imports of poultry from compartment participants.

* * *

**Compartment Auditing Process *(Pg. 11)***

Auditing and oversight of compartments is a key element of the program. ~~NIES~~ NPIP will oversee the ~~auditing~~ process. After approval of the documentation submitted, a certified auditor assigned by the NPIP office will conduct an initial audit and inspection of both the office and field sites. Every component within the compartment will be subject to this audit. The compartment will only be approved after successful completion of the initial inspection and audit. All hatcheries, feedmills, and egg depots in approved compartments will be audited annually, and 25 percent of the farm components will be subject to annual audits. ~~NIES~~ Regionalization Evaluation Services (RES) will conduct a Compartmentalization Service Review every 4 years, examining all aspects of the program.

* * *

**Acronyms *(Pg. 17)***

* * *

- **HPAI**-Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza
- **LAIE** – Live Animal Import Export
- **LPAI**-Low Pathogenicity Avian Influenza
- **LRP**-Low Risk Period

- ~~**NIES**-National Import Export Services~~
- **NPIP**-National Poultry Improvement Plan
- **NVSL**-National Veterinary Services Laboratory
- **ND**-Newcastle Disease
- **NDV**-Newcastle Disease Virus
- **OSA**-Official State Agency
- **PSD**-Program Standards Document
- **ISRCP**-Initial State Response and Containment Plan
- **OIE**-World Organization for Animal Health
- **RES** – Regional Evaluation Services
- **USDA**-United States Department of Agriculture
- **VS**-Veterinary Services

* * *

**Reason:** After the 2016 Biennial Conference, a reorganization occurred within APHIS, such that NIES should be replaced with either LAIE (Live Animal Import Export Services) or RES (Regionalization Evaluation Services). Additionally, to clarify, compartment oversight is a collaborative effort by all of APHIS Veterinary Services Strategy and Policy, so a statement was added to the beginning of the first paragraph. RES and LAIE also need to be added to the list of acronyms.

Additionally, NPIP is responsible for overseeing and managing the program and RES is responsible for conducting the service review every 4 years, and these changes reflect and clarify that point.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Savannah Busby
National Poultry Improvement Plan

# Proposal #40

**Delegates: 145 D, G, and H**

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard F – Compartmentalization**

* * *

**Compartment Requirements *(Pg. 8,9)***

1. A participant in good standing with the NPIP in at least one ~~two~~ of the following programs:
   - U.S. Newcastle Disease Clean Program for Turkey Breeding Flocks (**9 CFR 145.43**).
   - U.S. H5/H7 Avian Influenza Clean Program for Turkey Breeding Flocks (**9 CFR 145.43**).
   - U.S. Newcastle Disease Clean Program for Primary Egg-Type Chicken Breeding Flocks (**9 CFR 145.73**).
   - U.S. Avian Influenza Clean Program for Primary Egg-Type Chicken Breeding Flocks (**9 CFR 145.73**).
   - U.S. Newcastle Disease Clean Program for Primary Meat-Type Chicken Breeding Flocks (**9 CFR 145.83**).
   - U.S. Avian Influenza Clean Program for Primary Meat-Type Chicken Breeding Flocks (**9 CFR 145.83**).

2. Compliant with all of the management procedures, physical requirements, and protocols found in this document, the *Code of Federal Regulations*, and the NPIP Program Standards document.
   - NPIP Provisions
   - Program Standards document

3. Located in a State or States with an APHIS-approved Initial State Response and Containment Plan (**9 CFR 56.10**).

4. Perform routine surveillance of all flocks within the compartment in a NPIP-authorized laboratory certified to test for AI and/or ND.

5. Flocks within the compartment may be vaccinated with a USDA licensed Newcastle disease vaccine or may be unvaccinated for Newcastle disease. If flocks are unvaccinated, they must be monitored serologically on a schedule similar to that for AI control. ~~All flocks have a routine serological monitoring program in place to monitor antibody response or freedom from ND if flocks~~

~~are unvaccinated.~~

- ~~**For unvaccinated flocks:**~~
  - ~~It is a primary breeding flock in which a minimum of 30 birds have been tested negative for ND using an approved test when more than 4 months of age. To retain this classification:~~
    - ~~A sample of at least 30 birds must be tested negative at intervals of 90 days; OR~~
    - ~~A sample of fewer than 30 birds may be tested, and found negative, at any one time if all pens are equally represented and a total of 30 birds is tested within each 90-day period; AND~~
  - ~~During each 90-day period, all primary spent fowl, up to a maximum of 30, must be tested negative to ND within 21 days prior to movement to slaughter.~~

- ~~**For vaccinated flocks:**~~
  - ~~It is a primary breeding flock that has been vaccinated with licensed vaccines, as described in §113.329, manufactured with low-virulence live strains during early stages of development up to grow-out, and killed vaccines as final vaccination no later than 6 weeks prior to onset of egg production; AND~~
  - ~~The flock has been monitored for antibody response using approved serological tests as described in §145.14 and the results are compatible with immunological response against ND vaccination; AND~~
  - ~~Testing must include:~~
    - ~~a minimum of 30 birds when birds are more than 4 months of age and not longer than every 90 days thereafter.~~

6. All companies participating in the compartment must be able to provide the following general management protocols (GMP) on request:

**GMP 1.** Biosecurity training for employees, contract staff, and visitors.
**GMP 2.** Biosecurity compliance agreement for employees, contract staff, and visitors.
**GMP 3.** Biosecurity risk assessment for each component of the compartment.
**GMP 4.** Cleaning, sanitation, and control of vehicles prior to entering biosecure areas.
**GMP 5**. General physical traits of each compartment component.
**GMP 6.** Detailed diagrammatic description for movement of people, vehicles, equipment, birds, and eggs between all components inside and outside the compartment.
**GMP 7**. Company Emergency Response Plan.
**GMP 8.** Veterinary Health Plan.
**GMP 9.** ND Vaccination Program if applicable.

**GMP 10.** ND Serological Monitoring Program for ~~ND vaccinated or~~ unvaccinated flocks.

* * *

**Farm Design, Physical Requirements, and Management Procedures**

*For each requirement and procedure in this section, written biosecurity protocols must be on record for periods of low risk and high risk (when applicable). Training of all affected personnel implementing these protocols must be documented. Compliance with these protocols must be recorded.*

* * *

**Management Procedures *(Pg. 19, 20)***

* * *

- Bird movement within the compartment:
  - When birds are moved between premises within the compartment, a flock must test AI negative within 21 days prior to movement. Day-old chicks/poults must be derived from NPIP AI Clean Program source flocks.
  - Birds must originate from flocks that were vaccinated for NDV using licensed vaccines ~~and compliant with a program to evaluate serological response to NDV vaccination~~ OR if unvaccinated, flocks have tested negative to ND.
- Bird movement into the compartment:
  - Day old chicks/poults originating outside the compartment must be derived from a source flock that has tested negative for AI within 21 days of shipment. A minimum of 30 samples per source flock must be tested using an approved NPIP assay. The source flocks must participate in a national AI plan equivalent to the NPIP.
  - Pullets, cockerels, and adult birds originating outside the compartment must have tested negative for AI within 21 days of shipment. A minimum of 30 samples per flock must be tested by serology and 15 samples by antigen detection. Flocks must be inspected by an official veterinarian or designee within 30 days of movement.
  - Birds must originate from flocks that were vaccinated for NDV using licensed vaccines ~~and compliant with a program to evaluate serological response to NDV vaccination~~ OR if unvaccinated, flocks have tested negative to ND.

* * *

- ~~Vaccination and serological monitoring programs for Newcastle disease:~~
  - ~~Unvaccinated Flocks:~~

- ~~It is a primary breeding flock in which a minimum of 30 birds have been tested negative for ND using an approved test when more than 4 months of age. To retain this classification:~~
  - ~~A sample of at least 30 birds must be tested negative at intervals of 90 days; OR~~
  - ~~A sample of fewer than 30 birds may be tested, and found negative, at any one time if all pens are equally represented and a total of 30 birds is tested within each 90-day period; AND~~
  - ~~During each 90-day period, all primary spent fowl, up to a maximum of 30, must be tested negative to ND within 21 days prior to movement to slaughter.~~

❖ ~~Vaccinated Flocks:~~

- ~~It is a primary breeding flock that has been vaccinated with licensed vaccines, as described in §113.329, manufactured with low-virulence live strains during early stages of development up to grow-out, and killed vaccines as final vaccination no later than 6 weeks prior to onset of egg production; AND~~
- ~~The flock has been monitored for antibody response using approved serological tests as described in §145.14 and the results are compatible with immunological response against ND vaccination; AND~~
- ~~Testing must include:~~
  - ~~A minimum of 30 birds when birds are more than 4 months of age and not longer than every 90 days thereafter.~~

* * *

**Hatchery Design, Physical Requirements, and Management Procedures**

*For each requirement and procedure in this section, written biosecurity protocols must be on record for periods of low risk and high risk (when applicable). Training of all affected personnel implementing these protocols must be documented. Compliance with these protocols must be recorded.*

* * *

**Management Procedures *(Pg. 25, 26)***

* * *

- Hatching egg movement into the compartment:

- ❖ Hatching eggs originating outside the compartment must be derived from a source flock that has tested negative for AI within 21 days of shipment. A minimum of 30 samples per source flock must be tested using an approved NPIP assay. The source flocks must participate in a national AI plan equivalent to the NPIP.
- ❖ Hatching eggs must originate from flocks that were vaccinated for NDV using licensed vaccines ~~and compliant with a program to evaluate serological response to NDV vaccination~~. If source flocks were not vaccinated for NDV, they must test negative to ND.

➢ Hatching egg movement within the compartment:

- ❖ When hatching eggs are moved between premises within the compartment, they must be derived from NPIP AI Clean Program source flocks.
- ❖ Hatching eggs must originate from flocks that were vaccinated for NDV using licensed vaccines ~~and compliant with a program to evaluate serological response to NDV vaccination~~. If source flocks were not vaccinated for NDV, they must test negative to ND.

➢ Day-old chick/poult movement within the compartment:

- ❖ Day-old chicks/poults must be derived from NPIP AI Clean Program compartment source flocks or otherwise qualified flocks that have equivalent requirements to be brought in from outside the compartment.
- ❖ Reusable chick/poult boxes used to deliver day-old chicks/poults must be cleaned and disinfected on return to the hatchery.
- ❖ Birds must originate from flocks that were vaccinated for NDV using licensed vaccines ~~and compliant with a program to evaluate serological response to NDV vaccination~~. If source flocks were not vaccinated for NDV, they must test negative to ND.

* * *

**Egg Depot Design, Physical Requirements, and Management Procedures**

*For each requirement and procedure in this section, written biosecurity protocols must be on record for periods of low risk and high risk (when applicable). Training of all affected personnel implementing these protocols must be documented. Compliance with these protocols must be recorded.*

* * *

**Management Procedures *(Pg. 28)***

* * *

➢ Hatching egg movement into the compartment:

- ❖ Hatching eggs originating outside the compartment must be derived

from a source flock that has tested negative for AI within 21 days of shipment. A minimum of 30 samples per source flock must be tested using an approved NPIP assay. The source flocks must participate in a national AI plan equivalent to the NPIP.

- ❖ Hatching eggs must originate from flocks that were vaccinated for NDV using licensed NDV vaccines ~~and compliant with a program to evaluate serological response to NDV vaccination~~. If source flocks were not vaccinated for NDV, they must test negative to ND.

- ➢ Hatching egg movement within the compartment:
  - ❖ Egg receiving/shipment dock must undergo routine company-established cleaning and disinfection procedures.
  - ❖ When hatching eggs are moved between premises within the compartment they must be derived from NPIP AI Clean Program source flocks.
  - ❖ Hatching eggs must originate from flocks that were vaccinated for NDV using licensed vaccines ~~and compliant with a program to evaluate serological response to NDV vaccination~~. If source flocks were not vaccinated for NDV, they must test negative to ND.

* * *

**Appendix H: Compartmentalization Audit Checklist: Office *(Pg. 54)***

* * *

Response Plans

NDV Vaccination and Monitoring Plan

The company has a NDV vaccination program.

~~The company has a monitoring program for NDV vaccinated flocks.~~

The company has a monitoring program for NDV unvaccinated flocks.

* * *

**Appendix I: Compartmentalization Audit Checklist: Farm *(Pg. 59, 60)***

* * *

Transportation

Bird Movement Within Compartment

***Birds must originate from flocks that were vaccinated for NDV using USDA licensed vaccines ~~and compliant with a program to evaluate serological response to NDV vaccination~~. If unvaccinated flocks, they must test negative to ND.

* * *

Bird Movement Into the Compartment

***Birds must originate from flocks that were vaccinated for NDV using USDA licensed vaccines ~~and compliant with a program to evaluate serological response to NDV vaccination~~. If unvaccinated flocks, they must test negative to ND.

* * *

In Periods of High Risk

***Birds must originate from flocks that were vaccinated for NDV using USDA licensed vaccines ~~and compliant with a program to evaluate serological response to NDV vaccination~~. If unvaccinated flocks, they must test negative to ND.

* * *

**Appendix K: Compartmentalization Audit Checklist: Hatchery *(Pg. 69, 70)***

* * *

Transportation

Hatching Egg Movement Into the Compartment

***Hatching eggs are derived from a source flock that was vaccinated for NDV using USDA licensed vaccines ~~and compliant with a program to evaluate serological response to NDV vaccination~~. If unvaccinated flocks, they must test negative to ND.

* * *

Hatching Egg Movement Within the Compartment

***Hatching eggs are derived from a source flocks that were vaccinated for NDV using USDA licensed vaccines ~~and compliant with a program to evaluate serological response to NDV vaccination~~. If unvaccinated flocks, they must test negative to ND.

* * *

Day-Old Chick/Poult Movement Within the Compartment

***Birds must originate from flocks that were vaccinated for NDV using USDA licensed vaccines ~~and compliant with a program to evaluate serological response to NDV vaccination~~. If unvaccinated flocks, they must test negative to ND.

* * *

**Appendix L: Compartmentalization Audit Checklist: Egg Depot *(Pg. 74)***

* * *

Transportation

Hatching Egg Movement Into the Compartment

***Hatching eggs must originate from flocks that were vaccinated for NDV using USDA licensed vaccines ~~and compliant with a program to evaluate serological response to NDV vaccination~~. If unvaccinated flocks, they must test negative to ND.

* * *

Hatching Egg Movement Within the Compartment

***Hatching eggs must originate from flocks that were vaccinated for NDV using USDA licensed vaccines ~~and compliant with a program to evaluate serological response to NDV vaccination~~. If unvaccinated flocks, they must test negative to ND.

* * *

**Reason:** This proposal aims to complement the proposal for modification of the ND Clean program for Subparts D, G and H in the provisions. (See Proposal 22.) It also strives to reduce redundancy. The AI Clean program of the Provisions is not reiterated within the compartmentalization Program Standards, Standard F, so neither should the ND Clean program be described fully here.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Elena Behnke
National Poultry Improvement Plan

## Proposal #41

**Delegates:** **145 D, G, and H**

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard F – Compartmentalization**

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**Compartment Auditing Process *(Pg. 11)***

Auditing and oversight of compartments is a key element of the program. NIES will oversee the auditing process. After approval of the documentation submitted, a certified auditor assigned by the NPIP office will conduct an initial audit and inspection of both the office and field sites. Every component within the compartment will be subject to this audit. The compartment will only be approved after successful completion of the initial inspection and audit. All hatcheries, feedmills, and egg depots in approved compartments will be audited annually, and at least 25 percent of the farm components will be subject to annual audits, with no components going longer than 4 years without being audited. NIES will conduct a Compartmentalization Service Review every 4 years, examining all aspects of the program.

* * *

**Reason:** The selection process for recertification audits has always been randomized. Originally, NPIP debated whether to make this a true randomization or whether to make it mostly randomized, whereby ensuring each facility had at least one audit over a 4-year period. USDA originally recommended the former, not the latter. However, over time, there has been growing concern amongst trade partners that some components may go years and never be audited. For this reason, we consider adding a maximum period of time that can elapse between recertification audits for farm components to ensure that these components are not missed.

Also, we recommend adding the word "at least" to clarify that this process is already occurring and includes not necessarily precisely 25% of the farm components but at least that minimum, during yearly recertification audits.

**Sponsors:** Drs. Savannah Busby, Katy Burden and Elena Behnke
National Poultry Improvement Plan

## Proposal #42

**Delegates:** **145 D, G and H**

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard F – Compartmentalization**

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**Definitions *(Pg. 13)***

* * *

Biosecure zone barrier: Contains all or portions of the external walls of buildings or geographic structures that discourage human and animal traffic. ~~Permanent structures that may consist of, at minimum height, 4-foot chain link fences that form the perimeter of and totally enclose the biosecure zone are adequate.~~

* * *

**Reason:** Current definition of "biosecure zone barrier" is vague enough that difficulties arise when applying definitions to different business models. Clarification of the term should resolve issues.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Savannah Busby
National Poultry Improvement Plan

## Proposal #43

**Delegates:** **145 D, G and H**

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard F – Compartmentalization**

* * *

**Definitions *(Pg. 13)***

* * *

Component: Any farm, feedmill, hatchery, or egg depot that will be included in a compartment. Farms that contain 6 or fewer houses will be viewed as a single farm component. For farms that contain 7 or more houses, each house will be registered individually as a farm component.

* * *

**Reason:** Current definition of "component" is vague enough that difficulties arise when applying definitions to different business models. Clarification of this term should resolve issues.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Savannah Busby
National Poultry Improvement Plan

## Proposal #44

**Delegates:** **145 D, G, and H**

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard F – Compartmentalization**

* * *

**Definitions *(Pg. 13)***

* * *

Controlled access zone: Area surrounding the biosecure zone which only authorized personnel or vehicles may enter. Unauthorized personnel, vehicle traffic, and livestock are not permitted within the controlled access zone. The controlled access zone is managed to deter wildlife and pests. A gate is required and signage indicating that unauthorized entry is prohibited must be posted at the entrance to this zone.

* * *

**Reason:** Further description of the "controlled access zone" should include that wildlife and pests are managed within this zone, which also better mirrors the compartment audit checklist.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Savannah Busby
National Poultry Improvement Plan

## Proposal #45

**Delegates:** **145 D, G and H**

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard F – Compartmentalization**

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**Definitions *(Pg. 14)***

* * *

Flock**:** (1) As applied to breeding: All poultry of one kind of mating (breed and variety or combination of stocks) and of one classification on one farm; (2) As applied to disease control: All of the poultry on one farm, except that any group of poultry which is segregated from another group and has been so segregated for a period of at least 21 days may be considered as a separate flock~~.~~; (3) As applied to the compartment testing: one flock can be considered an airspace.

* * *

**Reason:** Due to participants already testing based on airspace and as a recommendation from the United Kingdom DEFRA Compartment audit, the word "airspace" can be considered as synonymous with the word "flock." This should help to ensure countries that sufficient representative sampling is done to demonstrate freedom from AI. In addition, this would formalize the additional testing that is already being carried out by compartment participants.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Savannah Busby
National Poultry Improvement Plan

## Proposal #46

**Delegates:** **145 D, G and H**

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard F – Compartmentalization**

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**Definitions *(Pg. 14)***

* * *

High-risk period**:** When HPAI and/or ND is reported in poultry in a State or within a 30-mile radius of a compartment facility. The high-risk period ends when any control areas ~~zones~~ are released.

* * *

Low-risk period**:** When HPAI and/or ND is not in the State or within a 30-mile radius of a compartment facility.

* * *

**Reason:** As currently written, "high-risk period" includes all avian influenza detections, not differentiating between Low Path and High Path; "HP" needs to be added to AI to clarify, since the intent is for HPAI only. Additionally, compartment participants have been instructed to implement period of High-risk protocols when HPAI is found in Poultry, based on WOAH Poultry definitions, and not for WOAH Non-Poultry and wild bird detections, due to the fact that these generally do not affect international trade. For clarification, the term poultry needs to be added to the definition, and the word zones needs to be changed to areas, since Poultry premises have control areas and not surveillance zones.

For standardization purposes, a hyphen between low and risk period is needed.

**Sponsors:** Mrs. Melissa Phillips
Cobb-Vantress, LLC

Dr. Savannah Busby
National Poultry Improvement Plan

## Proposal #47

**Delegates: 145 D, G, and H**

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard F – Compartmentalization**

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**Farm Design, Physical Requirements, and Management Procedures *(Pg. 19)***

*For each requirement and procedure in this section, written biosecurity protocols must be on record for periods of low risk and high risk (when applicable). Training of all affected personnel implementing these protocols must be documented. Compliance with these protocols must be recorded.*

* * *

**Management Procedures**

* * *

- Bird movement into the compartment:
  - Day old chicks/poults originating outside the compartment must be derived from a source flock that has tested negative for AI within 21 days of shipment. A minimum of 30 samples per source flock must be tested using an approved NPIP assay. The source flocks must participate in a national AI plan equivalent to the NPIP.
  - Pullets, cockerels, and adult birds originating outside the compartment must have tested negative for AI within 21 days of shipment. A minimum of 30 samples per flock must be tested by serology and 15 samples by antigen detection. Flocks must be inspected by an official veterinarian or designee within 30 days of movement. Source flocks participate in NPIP AI Clean or equivalent program.
  - Birds must originate from flocks that were vaccinated for NDV using licensed vaccines and compliant with a program to evaluate serological response to NDV vaccination OR if unvaccinated, flocks have tested negative to ND.

* * *

**Reason:** As a recommendation from the United Kingdom's DEFRA compartment audit, and in order to clarify and better mirror the Management Guidelines and Audit Checklist, the statement "Source flocks participate in NPIP AI Clean or equivalent program" needs to be added to the above bullet.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Savannah Busby
National Poultry Improvement Plan

## Proposal #48

**Delegates:** **145 D, G, and H**

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard F – Compartmentalization**

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**Required High-Risk Period Biosecurity and Management Protocols (HRP)** ***(Pg. 29)***

<u>As a collaborative effort, compartment participants will receive notification from the NPIP office, as confirmation for when to implement or discontinue period of high-risk protocols.</u>

**HRP 1.** Non-essential visitation and delivery policy.
**HRP 2.** Regional poultry industry meeting attendance.
**HRP 3.** Enhanced communication system for company employees, contract growers, and suppliers.
**HRP 4.** 48-hour testing prior to movement/depletion of poultry.
**HRP 5.** Alternate transport and service vehicle driving routes.
**HRP 6.** Reduced vehicle movement and non-essential parking policy.
**HRP 7.** Enhanced vehicle cleaning and disinfection.
**HRP 8.** Use, cleaning, and disinfection of tools and equipment.
**HRP 9.** Increased downtime after contact with non-compartment birds.
**HRP 10.** Bird hunting policy for employees and contract growers.
**HRP 11.** Reporting of increased mortality and egg production drops by veterinarians and live production.
**HRP 12.** 48-hour testing prior to moving litter/manure from premises with birds present.
**HRP 13.** Controlled access zone entry.

* * *

**Reason:** Currently there is no protocol within program standards for how compartment participants will be notified to implement or discontinue High-Risk Period Protocols. Adding the above information will provide clarity to participants and international trading partners.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Savannah Busby
National Poultry Improvement Plan

# Proposal #49

**Delegates:** **145 D, G and H**

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard F – Compartmentalization**

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**Required High-Risk Period Biosecurity and Management Protocols (HRP)** ***(Pg. 29)***

* * *

**HRP 4.** 48-hour testing prior to movement/depletion of poultry greater than 3 weeks of age. An exception may be granted for diagnostic purposes for birds not exhibiting symptoms related to AI.

* * *

**Appendix I: Compartmentalization Audit Checklist: Farm** ***(Pg. 59)***

Transportation

In periods of high risk

***Flocks greater than three weeks of age test negative to AI and/or NDV via RT-PCR 48 hours prior to movement during periods of high risk. An exception may be granted for diagnostic purposes for birds not exhibiting symptoms related to AI.

**Reason:** Situations may occur where diagnostic procedures are needed to determine health status of birds for other reasons than AI. The birds greater than three weeks of age was directed by NPIP Office.

The checklist section updated to match the other wording stated above.

**Sponsor:** Mrs. Melissa Phillips
Cobb-Vantress, LLC

## Proposal #50

**Delegates:** **145 D, G and H**

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard F – Compartmentalization**

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**Required High-Risk Period Biosecurity and Management Protocols (HRP)** ***(Pg. 29)***

* * *

**HRP 12.** 48-hour testing prior to moving litter/manure from premises with birds present~~.~~ that are greater than three weeks of age. For multi-age premises, environmental testing within 48 hours of litter/manure stored in farm litter sheds is permissible.

* * *

**Appendix I: Compartmentalization Audit Checklist: Farm** ***(Pg. 62)***

* * *

Husbandry

In periods of high risk

Premises where birds greater than three weeks of age are present must test negative to AI and/or ND via RT-PCR 48 hours prior to movement of litter or manure during periods of high risk. For multi-age premises, environmental testing within 48 hours of litter/manure stored in farm litter sheds is permissible.

* * *

**Reason:** On multi-age farms with multiple poultry houses, all litter/manure is removed from houses and stored in a litter shed within the Controlled Access Zone (CAZ) near the perimeter. Therefore, there will be litter/manure from multiple houses for long periods of time. No litter/manure is moved out of the CAZ immediately from poultry houses. The current requirement requires these multi-age farms to test all airspaces of birds greater than three weeks of age (as directed by the NPIP Office). Environmental testing of the litter/manure in the storage shed

would be more practical, similar to facility environment testing after HPAI depletions.

The checklist section updated to match the other wording stated above.

**Sponsors:** Mr. Kyle Traeger
Cobb-Vantress, LLC

Mrs. Melissa Phillips
Cobb-Vantress, LLC

## Proposal #51

**Delegates: 145 D, G and H**

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard F – Compartmentalization**

* * *

**Appendix C: Application Form A: U.S. Avian Influenza and/or Newcastle Disease Clean Compartment Registration *(Pg. 34)***

* * *

**C. Questionnaire.** To be completed by each Official State Agency

*Please place a check mark by the answer that applies to the components registered in your State.*

Does your State have ~~Within the company, are all operations seeking certification as components within the registered compartment in the U.S. Avian Influenza and/or Newcastle Disease Clean Compartment program (for egg- type chicken breeding flocks and meat-type chicken breeding flocks) or the U.S. H5/H7 Avian Influenza and/or Newcastle Disease Clean Compartment (for turkey breeding flocks) located in a State which has~~ an APHIS-approved Initial State Response and Containment Plan that covers all operations seeking certification as components within the registered compartment in the U.S. Avian Influenza and/or Newcastle Disease Clean Compartment program (for egg-type chicken breeding flocks and meat-type chicken breeding flocks) or the U.S. H5/H7 Avian Influenza and/or Newcastle Disease Clean Compartment (for turkey breeding flocks)?

* * *

**Appendix D: Application Form B: U.S. Avian Influenza and/or Newcastle Disease Clean Compartment Component Registration *(Pg. 42)***

* * *

**B. Verification.** To be completed by each Official State Agency

*Please place a check mark by the answer that applies to the components registered in your State.*

Does your State have ~~Within the company, are all operations seeking certification as components within the registered compartment in the U.S. Avian Influenza and/or Newcastle Disease Clean Compartment program (for egg- type chicken breeding flocks and meat-type chicken breeding flocks) or the U.S. H5/H7 Avian Influenza and/or Newcastle Disease Clean Compartment (for turkey breeding flocks) located in a State which has~~ an APHIS-approved Initial State Response and Containment Plan that covers all operations seeking certification as components within the registered compartment in the U.S. Avian Influenza and/or Newcastle Disease Clean Compartment program (for egg-type chicken breeding flocks and meat-type chicken breeding flocks) or the U.S. H5/H7 Avian Influenza and/or Newcastle Disease Clean Compartment (for turkey breeding flocks)?

* * *

**Appendix E: Application Form C: U.S. Avian Influenza and/or Newcastle Disease Clean Compartment Component Removal *(Pg. 45)***

* * *

**C. Verification.** To be completed by each Official State Agency

*Please place a check mark by the answer that applies to the components registered in your State.*

Does your State have ~~Within the company, are all operations seeking certification as components within the registered compartment in the U.S. Avian Influenza and/or Newcastle Disease Clean Compartment program (for egg- type chicken breeding flocks and meat-type chicken breeding flocks) or the U.S. H5/H7 Avian Influenza and/or Newcastle Disease Clean Compartment (for turkey breeding flocks) located in a State which has~~ an APHIS-approved Initial State Response and Containment Plan that covers all operations seeking certification as components within the registered compartment in the U.S. Avian Influenza and/or Newcastle Disease Clean Compartment program (for egg-type chicken breeding flocks and meat-type chicken breeding flocks) or the U.S. H5/H7 Avian Influenza and/or Newcastle Disease Clean Compartment (for turkey breeding flocks)?

* * *

**Reason:** Compartments are made up of components from multiple states. The signing OSA does not know all the States included in the compartment, nor the status of each component in those States. Because participants' compartments can span over multiple states, OSA's need only verify compliance of their own State's ISRCP, which is not the intended purpose. These changes align the language more closely with that intent.

**Sponsors:** Mrs. Melissa Phillips
Cobb-Vantress, LLC

Dr. Savannah Busby
National Poultry Improvement Plan

## Proposal #52

**Delegates: 145 D, G, and H**

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard F – Compartmentalization**

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**Appendix C: Application Form A: U.S. Avian Influenza and/or Newcastle Disease Clean Compartment Registration *(Pg. 35)***

* * *

**Application**

*A complete application must be sent to:*

The National Poultry Improvement Plan

Compartmentalization Coordinator contact information found at:
https://www.poultryimprovement.org/

~~1506 Klondike Road~~
~~Suite 101~~
~~USDA-APHIS-VS~~
~~Conyers, GA 30094~~
~~**NPIP@usda.gov**~~

* * *

**Appendix D: Application Form B: U.S. Avian Influenza and/or Newcastle Disease Clean Compartment Component Registration *(Pg. 43)***

* * *

**Application**

*A complete application must be sent to:*

The National Poultry Improvement Plan

Compartmentalization Coordinator contact information found at:
https://www.poultryimprovement.org/

~~1506 Klondike Road~~
~~Suite 101~~
~~USDA-APHIS-VS~~
~~Conyers, GA 30094~~
~~**NPIP@usda.gov**~~

* * *

**Appendix E: Application Form C: U.S. Avian Influenza and/or Newcastle Disease Clean Compartment Component Removal *(Pg. 46)***

* * *

**Application**

*A complete application must be sent to:*

The National Poultry Improvement Plan

Compartmentalization Coordinator contact information found at:
https://www.poultryimprovement.org/

~~1506 Klondike Road~~
~~Suite 101~~
~~USDA-APHIS-VS~~
~~Conyers, GA 30094~~
~~**NPIP@usda.gov**~~

* * *

**Appendix F: Auditor Application for USDA-APHIS-VS-NPIP AI Clean and/or Newcastle Disease Compartment Program *(Pg. 49)***

* * *

**Application**

*A complete application must be sent to:*

The National Poultry Improvement Plan

Compartmentalization Coordinator contact information found at:
https://www.poultryimprovement.org/

~~1506 Klondike Road~~
~~Suite 101~~
~~USDA-APHIS-VS~~
~~Conyers, GA 30094~~
~~**NPIP@usda.gov**~~

* * *

**Reason:** The above information needs to be updated to be consistent with how the program is currently operating and being managed. Originally, these applications were paper copies; however, they have since transitioned to electronic copies that are emailed to the National Office and Compartmentalization Coordinator. Additionally, the above email needs to be removed because it is no longer functional.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Savannah Busby
National Poultry Improvement Plan

## Proposal #53

**Delegates:** **145 D, G and H**

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard F – Compartmentalization**

* * *

**Appendix E: Application Form C: U.S. Avian Influenza and/or Newcastle Disease Clean Compartment Component Removal *(Pg. 44)***

* * *

**A: BACKGROUND INFORMATION.** To be completed by company seeking removal of a component within a certified compartment. Please note that once a component has been successfully removed, it will no longer function as part of the compartment. Adding the component back to the compartment will require recertification using Application Form B.

* * *

Type of Components (F, M, H, and E) to remove from ~~add within~~ Compartment

* * *

**Reason:** The Compartment Application Form C is utilized to remove certified components from participants' compartments.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Savannah Busby
National Poultry Improvement Plan

## Proposal #54

**Delegates:** **145 D, G and H**

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard F – Compartmentalization**

* * *

**Appendix I: Compartmentalization Audit Checklist: Farm *(Pg. 59)***

* * *

Transportation

Bird Movement Within Compartment

***Day-old chicks/poults are verified to be in compliance with and derived from an NPIP AI Clean source flock.

* * *

Bird Movement Into the Compartment

***Source flocks are verified to participate in and be compliant with an NPIP AI Clean or equivalent program.

* * *

**Appendix K: Compartmentalization Audit Checklist: Hatchery *(Pgs. 69, 70)***

* * *

Transportation

Hatching Egg Movement Within the Compartment

***Hatching eggs are verified to be compliant with and derived from a source flock in which 30 samples have tested negative to AI using an approved NPIP assay within 21 days of the shipment.

* * *

***Source flocks are verified to participate in and be compliant with an NPIP AI Clean or equivalent program.

***Hatching eggs that are moved between premises within the compartment are verified to be compliant with and derived from source flocks that participate in the NPIP AI Clean or equivalent program.

* * *

Day-Old Chick/Poult Movement Within the Compartment

***Source flocks are verified to participate in and be compliant with an NPIP AI Clean or equivalent program.

* * *

**Appendix L: Compartmentalization Audit Checklist: Egg Depot *(Pg. 74)***

* * *

Transportation

Hatching Egg Movement Into the Compartment

***Source flocks are verified to participate in and be compliant with an NPIP AI Clean or equivalent program.

* * *

***Hatching eggs are verified to be compliant with and derived from a source flock in which 30 samples have tested negative to AI using an approved NPIP assay within 21 days of the shipment.

* * *

Hatching Egg Movement Within the Compartment

***Source flocks are verified to participate in and be compliant with an NPIP AI Clean or equivalent program.

* * *

**Reason:** Although this process is already occurring, the United Kingdom DEFRA officials recommended adding specific language to the compartment audit checklist, to formalize that auditors are verifying compliance with routine AI testing requirements.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Savannah Busby
National Poultry Improvement Plan

## Proposal #55

**Delegates:** **145 D, G and H**

**PROGRAM STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPOVEMENT PLAN**

**Program Standards – Standard F – Compartmentalization**

* * *

**Appendix I: Compartmentalization Audit Checklist: Farm *(Pg. 59)***

Transportation

In periods of high risk

***Flocks have a minimum of 5 samples tested negative for ~~to~~ AI and/or NDV via RT-PCR 48 hours prior to movement during periods of high risk.

In periods of high risk

***Flocks have a minimum of 15 samples tested negative for AI antibodies, every 21 days.

**Reason:** As a recommendation from the United Kingdom DEFRA Compartment audit, and in order to provide assurance of freedom from asymptomatic AI cases during pre-movement and surveillance testing, enhanced serological testing has been added during periods of high risk. Additionally, a clarifying minimum number of samples required for RT-PCR 48 hours prior to movement, during periods of high risk, was added.

**Sponsor:** Dr. Savannah Busby
National Poultry Improvement Plan