

# *Indiana State Poultry Association*

## 2024 INDIANA COUNTY FAIR POULTRY SUPERINTENDENT INFO BOOKLET

### THIS BOOKLET CONTAINS:

- Indiana State Poultry Association (Pages 1)
- ISPA Blood Testing School Info (Pages 2 - 4)
- Indiana NPIP Requirements for Poultry Exhibition (Pages 5 - 7)
- Official Indiana Poultry Exhibitor Form (Page 8)
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- ISPA NPIP Certified Blood Testers Website (Pages 38)
- Indiana Test-Twelve FREE Flock Evaluation Program (Back Page)

**PLEASE FORWARD THIS PACKET TO YOUR  
COUNTY POULTRY SUPERINTENDENT  
OR  
4-H POULTRY LEADER**

INDIANA STATE POULTRY ASSOCIATION  
PURDUE UNIVERSITY, ANIMAL SCIENCES  
270 SOUTH RUSSELL STREET • WEST LAFAYETTE, IN 47907  
765-494-8517 • ISPA@PURDUE.EDU • WWW.INPOULTRY.COM



# INDIANA COUNTY FAIR POULTRY BOOKLET

This booklet contains helpful information on Pullorum-Typhoid testing for your Indiana County Fair and other poultry exhibitions and additional poultry related resources.



## ONLINE POULTRY RESOURCES

- American Egg Board [incredibleegg.org](http://incredibleegg.org)
- Egg Nutrition Center [eggnutritioncenter.org](http://eggnutritioncenter.org)
- National Turkey Federation [ServeTurkey.com](http://ServeTurkey.com)
- IN Board of Animal Health [in.gov/boah](http://in.gov/boah)
- National Chicken Council [nationalchickencouncil.org](http://nationalchickencouncil.org)
- U.S. Poultry & Egg Assoc. [uspoultry.org](http://uspoultry.org)
- National Poultry Improvement Plan [poultryimprovement.org](http://poultryimprovement.org)
- Poultry Science Association [poultscience.org](http://poultscience.org)
- National 4-H Council [4-h.org](http://4-h.org)

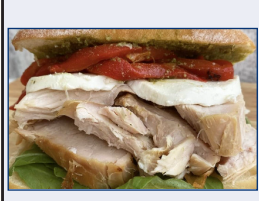
## CURRENT EVENTS

The past year has seen the continuation of a nation-wide Avian Influenza outbreak. Since 2022, when the current outbreak began, Indiana has seen 8 counties affected and over 240,000 commercial poultry and nearly 500 non-commercial poultry affected. **As the current outbreak continues, it serves as a reminder that practicing good biosecurity can be an effective tool in keeping poultry safe from disease. We appreciate all the work you do to help keep all Hoosier poultry safe and healthy. Please feel free to contact the ISPA with any questions about Avian Influenza, biosecurity or any poultry questions you might have.**

**PULLORUM TYPHOID (PT) ANTIGEN**  
Antigen can be ordered from your favorite poultry supply company on-line in wide supply. We have included a list of companies that sell PT Antigen on pg. 6

**As always, our best advice is to determine as soon as possible if you will need antigen for this years poultry testing so that you have plenty of time to order the antigen.**

**PULLORUM TYPHOID TESTING REQUIREMENT** *(Continued in the column to the right)*



**Today's Turkey  
Serve Up Something Unexpected!**  
Find guides on turkey cuts, cooking tips, seasonal recipes, Indiana turkey farming and more at:  
[IndianaTurkey.com](http://IndianaTurkey.com)

**FREE EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS**  
The ISPA offers a large selection of printed poultry based educational materials. The website also contains a large selection of materials that can be downloaded for free! New materials are placed on the website throughout the year. To see samples of the materials visit:  
[www.inpoultry.com/freepoultrymaterials](http://www.inpoultry.com/freepoultrymaterials)

As a reminder the Indiana PT Testing requirement is:

**ALL POULTRY** shown at a County Fair, the State Fair or at an Exhibition event must have  
*originated directly from a National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) Pullorum-Typhoid certified clean flock within one year*  
or  
*have had a negative PT Test within ninety (90) days prior to the date of the event.*

**ISPA NPIP BLOOD TESTING SCHOOL**  
For 2024, the ISPA will be hosting two in person classes. The dates are as follows:

**SOUTHERN INDIANA  
BLOOD TESTING SCHOOL**  
Tuesday, March 12, 2024  
Klub Haus 61  
2031 Newton Street, Jasper, IN 47546

**NORTHERN INDIANA  
BLOOD TESTING SCHOOL**  
Saturday, April 6, 2024  
Purdue University, Creighton Hall  
270 South Russell Street  
West Lafayette, IN 47907

**TO REGISTER FOR BLOOD TESTING SCHOOL VISIT:**  
[www.INpoultry.com/classroombts](http://www.INpoultry.com/classroombts)

**CONTACT INFORMATION**  
Indiana State Poultry Association  
Purdue University-Creighton Hall  
270 South Russell Street  
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2041  
PH: 765-494-8517  
EMAIL: [ispa@purdue.edu](mailto:ispa@purdue.edu)  
Websites:  
[www.INPoultry.com](http://www.INPoultry.com)  
[www.YourIndianaTurkeyFarmers.com](http://www.YourIndianaTurkeyFarmers.com)  
[www.facebook.com/INPoultry](http://www.facebook.com/INPoultry)



# ATTENTION BLOOD TESTERS!

The Indiana State Poultry Association Blood Testing Schools will be held on:

<p><b>SOUTHERN INDIANA BLOOD TESTING SCHOOL TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2024 TIME: 4:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. (EST) Klub Haus 61 2031 Newton Street Jasper, IN 47546</b></p>	<p><b>NORTHERN INDIANA BLOOD TESTING SCHOOL SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024 TIME: 8:30 a.m. - Noon (EST) Purdue University - Creighton Hall 270 South Russell Street West Lafayette, IN 47907</b></p>
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The in-person class is designed for those seeking to become certified to perform NPIP Pullorum-Typhoid blood testing for the first time. Once certified, blood testers must renew their certifications every three (3) years to maintain their NPIP credential. Renewal may be achieved through successful completion of either the in-person school or the Online Recertification Course. More information on the online course can be accessed here: <http://www.inpoultry.com/bloodtesterrecertification>

**For additional school information please contact us at (765) 496-3594 or [ispa@purdue.edu](mailto:ispa@purdue.edu)  
REGISTER ONLINE FOR CLASS AT <https://www.inpoultry.com/classroombts/>**

Please feel free to make copies of the Registration Form to distribute as needed in your county or club.

## REGISTRATION FORM

FULL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 INDIANA COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_ POULTRY CLUB or COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: Indiana ZIPCODE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PRIMARY CONTACT PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Mark Which School You Plan to Attend:**

- Southern Indiana - Tuesday, March 12, 2024 - Klub Haus 61, Jasper, IN
- Northern Indiana - Saturday, April 6, 2024 - Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

**Blood Testing School Registration** \$50.00  
**Blood Testing School Registration (18 years or younger)** \$25.00  
**(Optional) Blood Testing Kit** (includes bleeder with loop, testing plate, and laminated test guide) \$25.00

**AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Your contact information will be shared through a password protected online database with individuals looking for a certified Blood Tester. If you do not wish to have your information distributed through the online database check this box

Please make checks out to "Indiana State Poultry Association." Call to pay with your credit card.  
 Your registration will not be completed without payment for class. Please return this form via mail or e-mail.  
 Indiana State Poultry Association Purdue University, Animal Sciences, 270 South Russell Street West Lafayette, IN 47907  
 OFFICE PH: 765-496-3594 📞 [ispa@purdue.edu](mailto:ispa@purdue.edu) 🌐 [www.inpoultry.com](http://www.inpoultry.com)

# HOW-TO RECERTIFY YOUR ISPA NPIP BLOOD TESTER LICENSE

**Only individuals that have successfully completed an Indiana Blood Testing School Class Session at Purdue SIPAC (Dubois) or on the Purdue campus (West Lafayette) have the option to renew their Blood Tester status through the Online Recertification School.**

## Online Recertification School Enrollment Checklist

1) To register for ISPA's NPIP Online Blood Testing Course click on the heading "**ISPA NPIP BLOOD TESTER RECERTIFICATION**" under the "**BLOOD TESTING SCHOOL**" on our website:

[www.INpoultry.com](http://www.INpoultry.com). Complete/Submit the registration form found on this webpage.

- » The online course is designed for recertification of those who have already attended a class at one of the Purdue locations. If you have not attended a school in the past, contact our office at [ispa@purdue.edu](mailto:ispa@purdue.edu) or 765-496-3594 and ask to have your name added to the Blood Testing School list. The ISPA has traditionally taught two blood testing schools in April of each year, with registration opening in January. Note that the 2021 Classroom Blood Testing School has been cancelled due to the ongoing response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

2) You will received a confirmation email which will contain the following information:

- » Link to the Blood Tester Recertification Exam
- » Password to access the Blood Tester Recertification Exam
- » How to pay for your Blood Tester Recertification

3) The Blood Tester Recertification Exam contains twenty (20) questions. You must score a 13 or better on the exam in order to pass the exam and recertify your ISPA NPIP Blood Tester License.

- » There is no time limit when taking the exam, however if you leave the exam webpage it will not save your progress on the exam. We recommend giving yourself enough time to complete the exam in one sitting.
- » When you have completed the exam, you will click "SUBMIT" at the bottom of the exam to send it to the ISPA for grading.

**4) The ISPA highly recommends that before taking the exam you spend some time reviewing the Blood Testing School Manual, found on our website at [www.inpoultry.com/blood-testing-school-manual](http://www.inpoultry.com/blood-testing-school-manual). There will be a short quiz at the end of each module for your review, that will be helpful when completing the Recertification Exam. The Glossary and Additional Resources sections are supplemental materials for further information.**

5) After successful completion of all the modules and passing the final examination, you will receive an Official Blood Tester Identification Card and a Poultry Information Resource Packet.

- » If you do not pass the recertification exam, you will need to pay an additional \$25 to retake the exam.

**6) You will need to repeat this course EVERY THREE YEARS to maintain your certification.**

If you have questions about the procedure for recertifying your Blood Tester status, please contact the Indiana State Poultry Association at (765) 494-8517 or [ispa@purdue.edu](mailto:ispa@purdue.edu).

# ISPA NPIP ONLINE BLOOD TESTER RECERTIFICATION REGISTRATION FORM

This class is designed for those who wish to be recertified in  
NPIP Pullorum-Typhoid blood testing.

Only individuals that have successfully completed an Indiana Blood  
Testing School Class at Purdue SIPAC (Dubois) or the main Purdue campus  
(West Lafayette) can take the on-line test.

Completion of a blood testing school is required  
every three (3) years to maintain NPIP certification.

REGISTRATION CAN ALSO BE COMPLETED AT  
[www.inpoultry.com/bloodtesterrecertification](http://www.inpoultry.com/bloodtesterrecertification)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
INDIANA COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME OF POULTRY CLUB *or* NPIP COMPANY \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ State: Indiana ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

On-Line Blood Testing School Registration \$ 25.00

*[Optional] Blood Testing Kit (includes bleeder with loop and testing plate) \$25.00*

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks out to "Indiana State Poultry Association"  
Registration will not be accepted without enclosed payment.

**We accept credit card payments.** Please call our office to pay by Credit Card.

Please return form to the: Indiana State Poultry Association  
Purdue University, Animal Sciences  
270 South Russell Street  
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2041  
PH: 765-494-8517 📧 [ispa@purdue.edu](mailto:ispa@purdue.edu) 🌐 [www.INpoultry.com](http://www.INpoultry.com)



# INDIANA NPIP REQUIREMENTS FOR POULTRY EXHIBITION

(October 2019)

The Indiana State Poultry Association (ISPA) is the official state agency for Indiana's National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP). In 1981 Indiana became an official U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean state. To maintain this classification, all poultry (**including** exhibition, exotic and game birds but **excluding** waterfowl, doves, and pigeons) going to a public exhibition (county fair) shall come from a U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean or equivalent flock, or test negative for pullorum-typhoid within 90 days prior to public exhibition.

## **4-H County Fair Exhibition: Each county should have a designated Poultry Superintendent to verify that birds have:**

- Originated **directly** from a National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) Pullorum Typhoid certified clean flock **within one year**
- or*
- Had a **negative Pullorum-Typhoid test within ninety (90) days prior to exhibition**

**Within 7 days after your county fair exhibition, each Poultry Superintendent must submit a signed Poultry Superintendent Report to the ISPA office to verify that all birds in the exhibition followed the requirements described above.**

Exhibitors at both the Indiana State Fair and County Fairs are required to submit the **Indiana Poultry Exhibitor Form**. A USDA VS 9-2 form may also be used.

## **Notes:**

- **Waterfowl, doves, and pigeons do not need to be tested for P-T before exhibition.**
- **All chickens, turkey, and game birds** (example: domesticated fowl such as pheasant, partridges, quail, grouse and guineas) **must originate from a NPIP P-T certified clean flock within one year or have a negative P-T test within 90 days prior to exhibition.**
- **In addition to commercial poultry, the NPIP covers the following three groups:**
  - » Waterfowl: Domesticated Fowl that normally swim, such as ducks and geese.
  - » Exhibition Poultry: Domesticated fowl which are bred for the combined purposes of meat or egg production and competitive showing.
  - » Game Birds: Domesticated fowl such as pheasant, partridges, quail, grouse and guineas, *but not doves and pigeons.*

# DON'T GET CAUGHT WITHOUT THESE FORMS!

These forms are required for poultry exhibition (county, state fair, etc.) in the state of Indiana

## INDIANA POULTRY EXHIBITOR FORM

DECEMBER 2021

Indiana was certified a United States Pullorum-Typhoid Clean State on December 9, 1981. In order to maintain this classification, we must comply with seven specific requirements. One of these requirements pertains to exhibition poultry.

Therefore, by law, to exhibit your poultry must have either:

» Originated directly from a National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) Pullorum-Typhoid certified clean flock within one (1) year

or

» Had a negative Pullorum-Typhoid test within ninety (90) days prior to exhibition

I, the undersigned:

EXHIBITOR'S PRINTED NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

(Print Full Name)

EXHIBITOR'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE Indiana ZIPCODE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

hereby attest that the poultry exhibited by me in Indiana:

Has originated from an officially NPIP Pullorum-Typhoid Clean Flock.

FLOCK or HATCHERY OWNER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE NPIP APPROVAL NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIPCODE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

AND/OR

Have been tested negative for Pullorum-Typhoid within ninety (90) days preceding exhibition.

CERTIFIED NPIP BLOOD TESTER (SIGNATURE) \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF TEST \_\_\_\_\_

Present this document to the County Fair Poultry Superintendent or other assigned representative.

**POULTRY OWNER:** Complete this document and submit it to the County Fair Poultry Superintendent, State Fair Representative or other assigned representative. This document acts as a USDA VS Form 9-2. **RETAIN A COPY OF THESE COMPLETED FORMS FOR YOUR OWN RECORDS.**

**SUPERINTENDENT:** The County Fair Poultry Superintendent keeps the Exhibitor Forms and USDA VS Form 9-2's for their records. The Superintendent submits the "Superintendent's NPIP Report" to the Indiana State Poultry Association.

**QUESTIONS?** Contact the ISPA at (765) 494-8517 or [ispa@purdue.edu](mailto:ispa@purdue.edu)

## Indiana County Fair Poultry Exhibitor Form

- This form can be used by the exhibitor to certify that all their poultry to be shown at the county fair came from NPIP P-T clean flocks or were P-T tested with 90 days of the start of the county fair.
- Form can be completed by bird owner or a certified Blood Tester.
- Bird owners should always keep a completed copy of the form for their records.
- Superintendents will retain the form in their records. It does not need to be submitted to the ISPA office.

## USDA APHIS FORM 9-2

This federal form is used by the exhibitor to certify that all their poultry to be shown at the county fair were P-T tested within 90 days.

This form should be completed by the Authorized Agent (Certified Blood Tester).

OBS Approved 0279-0007 See reverse side for additional information		REPORT NO. 0001	CLASSIFICATION - U. S.	TYPE	
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN <b>FLOCK SELECTING AND TESTING REPORT</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> B - Egg Type Chickens <input type="checkbox"/> C - Meat Type Chickens <input type="checkbox"/> D - Turkeys <input type="checkbox"/> E - Waterfowl, Exhibition Poultry, and Game Birds <input type="checkbox"/> F - Quail <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Pullorum - Typhoid Clean <input type="checkbox"/> M. Gallipneumon Clean <input type="checkbox"/> M. Synoviae Clean <input type="checkbox"/> Salmonella Monitored <input type="checkbox"/> M. S. Monitored <input type="checkbox"/> Avian Influenza Clean <input type="checkbox"/> H5N1 Avian Influenza Monitored <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Salmonella Enteritidis Clean <input type="checkbox"/> Salmonella Montevideo <input type="checkbox"/> M. D. Monitored <input type="checkbox"/> M. S. Monitored <input type="checkbox"/> Avian Influenza Monitored <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Primary <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple
1. Name and Address of Flock Owner (include ZIP Code)					
2. Location of Flock			3. Date of Preceding Test - This Location		
4. Supply Flock For: (Name and Address of Hatchery or Dealer - include ZIP Code)			Approval Number		
5. Breed, Variety, Strain, or Trade Name of Stock			Age of Birds		
6. Males (Source and Number)			7. Females (Source and Number)		
Date of Hatch			Date of Hatch		
8. Total Birds in Flock					
Blood Testing		a. Number of Males Tested	b. Number of Females Tested	c. TOTAL Number Tested	d. Number of Reactors
e. Number Sent to Laboratory		f. Laboratory Findings			
7. PULLORUM-TYPHOID					
7a. M. GALLIPNEUMON					
7b. M. SYNOVIAE					
7c. OTHER (Specify)					
AGREEMENT OF FLOCK OWNER			Signature of Inspector or Authorized Agent		
I agree to keep my poultry breeding stock segregated from other poultry and in accordance with the provisions of the Plan and regulations of the official State Agency. I further agree to flock inspection by a representative of the official State Agency as prescribed by the provisions and regulations.			Signature of Flock Owner		
			Date		
			Date		

# SOURCES OF PT ANTIGEN

*Updated 01/2023*

To assist you with purchasing Antigen, the ISPA has assembled a list of the following companies that typically offer antigen for purchase. Antigen can now be purchased in two bottle sizes: 350 doses and 1,000 doses. It remains a very good idea to order and purchase Antigen early in the blood testing season.

## **Twin City Poultry Supplies, LLC**

P.O. Box 215  
Baltimore, OH 43105  
PH: (614) 595-8608  
WEBSITE: [www.twincitypoultrysupplies.com](http://www.twincitypoultrysupplies.com)

## **Stromberg's Chicks & Gamebirds Unlimited**

501 1st Street South  
Hackensack, MN 56452  
PH: (800) 720-1134  
WEBSITE: [www.strombergschickens.com](http://www.strombergschickens.com)

## **Smith Poultry Supply**

14000 West 215th Street  
Bucyrus, KS 66013  
PH: (913) 879-2587  
EMAIL: [smithkct@centurylink.net](mailto:smithkct@centurylink.net)  
WEBSITE: [www.poultrysupplies.com](http://www.poultrysupplies.com)

## **Cutler Supply**

1940 North Old 51  
Applegate, MI 48401  
PH: (810) 633-9450  
EMAIL: [sales@cutlersupply.com](mailto:sales@cutlersupply.com)  
WEBSITE: [www.cutlersupply.com](http://www.cutlersupply.com)

*The ISPA will make updates to this document as necessary,  
check [www.INpoultry.com](http://www.INpoultry.com) for the latest version of this document.*



# INDIANA POULTRY EXHIBITOR FORM

DECEMBER 2021

Indiana was certified a United States Pullorum-Typhoid Clean State on December 9, 1981. In order to maintain this classification, we must comply with seven specific requirements. One of these requirements pertains to exhibition poultry.

Therefore, **by law**, to exhibit your poultry must have either:

» *Originated **directly** from a National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) Pullorum-Typhoid certified clean flock **within one (1) year***

*or*

» *Had a **negative Pullorum-Typhoid test within ninety (90) days prior to exhibition***

I, the undersigned:

EXHIBITOR'S PRINTED NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

(Print Full Name)

EXHIBITOR'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE Indiana ZIPCODE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

hereby attest that the poultry exhibited by me in Indiana:

Has originated from an officially NPIP Pullorum-Typhoid Clean Flock.

**FLOCK or HATCHERY OWNER'S NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**STATE NPIP APPROVAL NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIPCODE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

AND / OR

Have been tested negative for Pullorum-Typhoid within ninety (90) days preceding exhibition.

CERTIFIED NPIP BLOOD TESTER (SIGNATURE) \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF TEST \_\_\_\_\_

**Present this document to the County Fair Poultry Superintendent or other assigned representative.**

**POULTRY OWNER:** Complete this document and submit it to the County Fair Poultry Superintendent, State Fair Representative or other assigned representative. This document acts as a USDA VS Form 9-2. **RETAIN A COPY OF THESE COMPLETED FORMS FOR YOUR OWN RECORDS.**

**SUPERINTENDENT:** The County Fair Poultry Superintendent keeps the Exhibitor Forms and USDA VS Form 9-2's for their records. The Superintendent submits the "Superintendent's NPIP Report" to the Indiana State Poultry Association.

**QUESTIONS?** Contact the ISPA at (765) 494-8517 or [ispa@purdue.edu](mailto:ispa@purdue.edu)

# INDIANA COUNTY FAIR POULTRY SUPERINTENDENT'S NPIP REPORT

DECEMBER 2022

*THIS REPORT MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE INDIANA STATE POULTRY ASSOCIATION OFFICE  
WITHIN SEVEN (7) DAYS OF THE FAIR OR EXHIBITION.*

INDIANA COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT COUNTY ABOVE)

This certifies that **POULTRY EXHIBITORS** showing at the above stated **COUNTY FAIR** have provided documents demonstrating that the birds:  
(Select Option Listed Below and Sign/Date)

Originated **DIRECTLY** from a National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) Pullorum-Typhoid certified clean flock **WITHIN ONE (1) YEAR**

or

Had a **NEGATIVE** Pullorum-Typhoid test **WITHIN NINETY (90) DAYS PRIOR TO EXHIBITION.**

Signature of Poultry Superintendent: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Poultry Superintendent: \_\_\_\_\_  
(PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME)

## **POULTRY SUPERINTENDENT CONTACT INFO:**

**EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Main Contact Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

We use the contact information to email important notices regarding poultry health issues throughout the year. If your county does not have a Poultry Superintendent, consider listing a 4-H Youth Development Extension Educator as a main contact person. *This is an internal list and will not be shared with the public.*

**This form can also be completed at**  
**[www.inpoultry.com/poulttrysuperintendentresources](http://www.inpoultry.com/poulttrysuperintendentresources)**

Indiana State Poultry Association,  
Purdue University-ANSC, 270 South Russell Street, West Lafayette, IN 47907

PH: (765) 494-8517 📧 ISPA@purdue.edu

## Stay Healthy When Working with Farm Animals:

Follow these simple tips to help prevent illness when working with farm animals

Working with farm animals can be a rewarding and meaningful experience for children. Caring for and showing these animals are great ways for children to learn about agricultural sciences and personal responsibility. However many farm animals, including cattle, goats, sheep, swine, and poultry, can carry germs such as *Salmonella* or *E. coli* that can make people sick. Luckily, there are simple steps that you can take to help prevent illness.

### How do people get sick from farm animals?

Animals can carry germs even when they appear healthy and clean. The germs are shed in animals' feces (poop) and can easily contaminate their bodies (fur or feathers) and anything in areas where these animals live and roam. People can become ill by touching farm animals or the areas where the animals live and roam.

### Who is at most risk?

Anyone can get sick from farm animals, but some people are more likely to have a serious illness:

- Children younger than 5 years of age
- Adults 65 years of age or older
- Pregnant women
- People with some illnesses (like cancer) that weaken immune systems



### Follow these simple tips to help prevent illness:

- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water right after touching farm animals or anything in the areas where they live and roam. Washing hands with soap and water is the best way to reduce the number of germs on them.
  - If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Supervise children younger than 5 years of age if they handle or touch farm animals or animal areas and equipment. Young kids should avoid certain animals that are more likely to spread germs, including poultry, pre-weaned calves, young goats and sheep, and any ill animals.
- Keep your food and drinks away from farm animals and out of animal areas.
- Keep animals away from areas where food or drink is prepared, stored, or consumed, including kitchens and outdoor patios.
- Have a set of dedicated shoes or boots, gloves, coveralls, or other work clothes that you use just for working in animal areas. Remove them as soon as possible after leaving animal areas.
- Clean gloves and work clothes regularly.
- Clean and disinfect work shoes, boots, and equipment regularly.

To learn more, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/Features/AnimalExhibits/>



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture



# POULTRY TERMS QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

**BIRDS ARE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO CLASS, BREED, VARIETY, SEX AND AGE.**

## GENERAL POULTRY TERMS:

**BREED** – Each breed has a distinct shape and temperament of its own

**BROODING** – The process of caring for newly hatched chicks

**CLASS** – This refers to the origin of the bird as part of the classification system. Example: American Class –

Rhode Island Reds, Plymouth Rocks, and New Hampshires

**EXHIBITION BIRDS** – Birds raised based on aesthetics, not on production capability

**FINISH** – Completion of growth, ideal weight, ideal size, and perfection of plumage

**POULTRY** – Any kind of domesticated bird

**PRODUCTION BIRDS** – Birds solely raised on production capability

**SEX** – Either female or male

**SYMMETRY** – Perfection of proportion of shape in all sections of the fowl

**VARIETY** – Feather pattern, feather color and comb determine the variety of a bird within a breed.

Example: White Leghorn and Brown Leghorn are separate varieties due to the difference in their feather pattern

## STRUCTURE / BODY PARTS:

**AXIAL FEATHERS (KEY FEATHER)** - Short feather between primary and secondary feathers of the wing

**COVERTS** - Feathers that cover primary and secondary wing and tail feathers

**FLUFF** - Soft downy feathers located at the base of the shaft: Soft downy feathers on lower thighs and abdomen

**HACKLE FEATHERS (CAPE FEATHERS)** - Neck plumage: Males exhibit thin and pointed feathers;

Females exhibit thick and rounded feathers

**HOCK** – Joint between the thigh and shank

**PARTI-COLORED** – Fowl having feathers of 2 or more colors or shades of color. Example: Banded Plymouth Rock

**PRIMARY FEATHERS** - Longer wing feathers growing from the outer section (completely hidden when wing is folded under)

**QUILL** - Hollow shaft of where feather is attached to the body

**SADDLE FEATHERS** - Long and pointed back plumage of back at the base of tail feathers. Prominent on male fowl

**SECONDARY FEATHERS** - Longer wing feathers growing from middle section

(Exposed when the wing is folded under)

**SHAFT** - Extension of quill through the entire length of feather

**SHANK** – The portion of fowl's leg below the hock

**SICKLE FEATHERS** - Long tail feathers of male fowl

**SPUR** - Hard projectile on inner side of shanks

**WATTLE** - Thin growths of red colored flesh on the sides of the upper throat on fowl. More pronounced on mature males

## CHICKEN TERMS:

**BABY CHICK** – Chick just hatched usually 1 to 7 days old

**BROILER or FRYER** – A young meat bird chicken of either sex butchered around 4-8 weeks of age

**CAPON** – A castrated male chicken with soft skin or tender flesh

**COCK (OLD ROOSTER)** – A mature male over 12 months of age

**COCKEREL** – A male chicken under 12 months of age

**HEN** – A mature female chicken over 12 months of age

**PULLET** – A female chicken under 12 months of age

**ROASTER** – A young chicken of either sex usually butchered after 8 weeks of age

## WATERFOWL TERMS:

**BEAN** - A hardened bean-like bulge on the upper portion of the bill

**DRAKE** – A male duck

**DUCK** – A female duck

**DUCKLING** – A young duck

**GANDER** – A male goose

**GOOSE** – A female goose

**GOSLING** – A young goose

**SCOOP BILL** - Depression located at the top of the bill

## TURKEY TERMS:

**HEN** – A female turkey

**POULT** – A young turkey before its sex can be determined

**TOM** – A male turkey

## FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:

[www.inpoultry.com/raising-your-birds](http://www.inpoultry.com/raising-your-birds)

[www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealthdefendtheflock](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealthdefendtheflock)



# RAISING FOWL IN URBAN AREAS

*Adapted from Penn State Flyer: UM194 (Updated May 13, 2016)*



Raising domestic poultry such as pigeons, ornamental poultry, and small meat and egg flocks has become an increasingly popular pastime for urban residents.

Most of us can appreciate the pleasures and benefits of raising birds. It is a relaxing activity that offers an insight into other forms of life and basic life processes. People enjoy the companionship of their birds and the social interaction that comes from club activities and competitions.

However, before you purchase any birds, you must check with your local government and property associations to make sure you can raise poultry in your area. Many localities restrict the raising of poultry. Recently, however, many cities, towns, and subdivisions throughout the nation have reexamined local laws, ordinances, and property owners' guidelines to allow residences to raise small numbers of poultry in urban areas.

The urban animal hobbyist must try not to infringe on the neighbor who may be sensitive to noise, odor, flies, rodents, and unsightliness due to inadequately designed and maintained facilities. People differ in their tolerance to the same conditions. Just because you let your chickens run free for a year doesn't mean the new neighbor will enjoy them in their yard or garden.

The following are some guidelines for owners of poultry in urban areas. Remember to follow all local laws and ordinances. By following the guidelines, you can avoid a good deal of conflict with others in your community and the development of ordinances banning the raising of certain animals in your community.

## Health and Safety

The important factors to consider are the location of animal enclosures in relation to residences, storage of feed to avoid rodent problems, fly control, sanitation, and disposal of animal waste in a safe manner. The health and well-being of the animals should also be taken into account. The animals must be given adequate space, proper nutrition, sufficient attention, and a place to seclude themselves. The enclosure should also provide protection from the environment and predators.

## Confinement

Never allow animals or birds to roam free. Provide the following amount of space of confinement for your birds (fenced outdoor access is optional):

- Provide a minimum of 1 square foot per pound of body weight for permanent indoor confinement areas.
- Provide 3 cubic feet of air (total enclosed space) per pound of body weight for permanent indoor confinement quarters.



- Provide a minimum of 2 square feet per pound of body weight for permanent outdoor fenced areas.

### **Setbacks for Housing**

Do not place outdoor enclosures within 25-50 feet of a residence or dwelling or place any permanent detached structures too close to the residence of another property owner.

- For urban settings, keep structures 25 feet from property lines.
- For rural settings, keep structures 100 feet from property lines.

### **Waste**

Clean litter and animal waste on a regular basis and dispose of it promptly and properly. Pens with a 3-inch-deep bed of pine shavings should be cleaned at least once every 6 weeks or when the litter gets wet or starts to develop an odor. Poultry waste with pine shaving bedding makes a great amendment for composting. Some localities require that waste be double bagged and disposed of with household waste. Poultry waste must be composted before adding to soil. Waste from home slaughter of poultry for meat consumption is not allowed in most localities. If it is allowed, follow local and state laws as to the proper disposal of waste (feathers, internal organs, and other parts you do not wish to consume) produced from slaughter.

### **Predators and Rodents in the Neighborhood**

To avoid attracting rodents and other predators to the neighborhood, store feed in rodent-proof containers. When building or preparing the coop and outdoor pens to raise poultry, do the following:

- Cover outdoor pens.
- Make sure you have a way to lock the birds inside safely at night.
- Bury the sides of outdoor pens so animals cannot dig under and get to your birds.
- Prevent animals from digging under any permanent structures.
- Use small mesh wire to keep wild birds and rodents from accessing your pens.

## **Public Nuisance**

### **Appearance and Property Values**

The appearance of all types of equipment and housing, particularly external runs that are visible to neighbors, should not detract from the overall appearance of the surroundings. Exteriors of sheds and other structures should be kept painted and well maintained. Most localities require that structures be built to conform to local architecture or building materials being used in the community. Weeds and trash should be removed from around the facilities. Provide a sight fence or shrub screening to a minimum height of 4 feet around any outdoor enclosure.

Keep all structures or fences well maintained. Old, poorly maintained structures surrounded by weeds and piles of trash are not acceptable and detract from the appearance of the neighborhood. If your activity is seen as an eyesore, neighbors will quickly find other aspects of your poultry flock a nuisance as well.

### **Noise and Odors**

All animals and birds have characteristic noises and odors. Owners are obliged to house animals so the odors are not offensive and noises are no louder than the normal speaking voice of an adult human. Owners can do this by insulating quarters, providing adequate ventilation, and using good sanitation practices.

The crow of male chickens tends to bring the greatest objection from neighbors. Most localities only allow you to raise four to six female chickens and no males at anytime.

Proper landscaping walls and vegetative barriers can provide screening and also help muffle sounds. These barriers also keep your activities out of full view, which often leads to fewer questions and complaints.

Odor should not be an issue if pens are large enough for the birds, are cleaned regularly, and kept dry. Waterfowl, due to the wet nature of their environment, are hard to keep on a small urban lot due to odors. However, it can be done with proper planning.

A few other guidelines that local ordinances may require in order to raise chickens in your area include a minimum lot size to be allowed to raise poultry, a minimum or maximum coop or pen size, and an application for a permit to raise poultry on your property, which may also require an annual fee and inspection by a predetermined party.

Once you do have poultry, remember that you are responsible for providing “good management practices” for your flock. Good management practices are the minimum care that is required to humanely maintain the birds. Caring for the birds and tending to their basic needs is a constant responsibility--24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

- Birds need to be sheltered from the environment and predators.
- Birds need a constant supply of fresh water.
- Birds need to be fed a balanced diet appropriate for their age and state of production--starter diets for 0-6 weeks, grower diets for 6-18 weeks, and layer diets for birds over 18 weeks of age that are in egg production.
- Birds should have a 3-inch base of dry litter such as pine shavings in their pen, and it should be cleaned every 6 weeks. If the birds are raised in wire floored pens, the waste pans should be cleaned daily to prevent odors and flies.
- Eggs should be collected daily.
- As an owner, you should monitor bird health and seek help if anything appears questionable.

If you are just becoming interested in raising poultry on your property or have been for years, remember that diplomacy and cooperation can help avoid conflicts. If you are raising birds in an urban environment, follow some of the suggestions provided in this fact sheet so you can prevent yourself and others raising animals in your community from unnecessary conflict and ordinances.

Prepared by Phillip J. Clauer, Penn State poultry extension specialist. Phillip Clauer is an Associate Teaching Professor and 4-H Youth Poultry Coordinator at Penn State.



United States Department of Agriculture

# Checklist for Adding or Replacing Poultry

Starting out with healthy poultry is the best way to keep flocks safe from disease. That means buying your poultry from sources that participate in the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP, [www.poultryimprovement.org](http://www.poultryimprovement.org)). Always practice good biosecurity to ensure that your flocks remain healthy and free of disease.

If you see or suspect anything unusual, call your flock supervisor, veterinarian, or cooperative extension office right away. Use this form to record phone numbers for contacts in your area. The earlier you act, the easier it is to contain the disease to a single flock.

 Check the list on the back for tips to help keep your flocks healthy.



## Report Sick Birds

If you see signs of illness, take action right away!

Veterinarian \_\_\_\_\_  
Cooperative Extension Office \_\_\_\_\_  
State Veterinarian/Animal or Poultry Diagnostic Lab \_\_\_\_\_  
USDA \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number

866.536.7593





# ✓ Checklist: Adding or Replacing Poultry

This checklist is a general guide to practicing good biosecurity, but if you have a site-specific biosecurity plan, please follow it. Commercial growers should make sure their site-specific plans follow the NPIP biosecurity principles.

- Only purchase or source poultry** from NPIP-certified breeders, hatcheries, and dealers. When sourcing replacement poultry, you can request a copy of the hatchery or source farm's biosecurity protocols.
- Confirm that the poultry you purchase** tested clean for the same diseases your current flock tested for.
- When purchasing poultry in person**, check for signs of good health and approximate age. Do not purchase birds that appear old or unhealthy.
- Always transport replacement or new poultry** in equipment and vehicles that are regularly cleaned, disinfected, and inspected. For commercial operations, the tractor/trailer carrying the birds should follow premises entry biosecurity protocols when entering the farm.
- Be sure to clean and disinfect** tools, cages, and any other equipment used for transport. Return empty cages to the trailer and then clean and decontaminate the cages before taking them to another site.
- Wear site-specific clothing**, including footwear, when loading or delivering poultry. For commercial operations, personnel loading poultry cages into the trailer should wear site-specific clothing or not enter the Line of Separation.
- Once home, quarantine the new additions** for 30 days. Check for sneezing, coughing, nasal drainage, swollen eyes, mites, lice, and other health issues daily.
- After combining new birds with your existing flock**, check original stock daily for any signs of illness. The stress of this change can cause an underlying illness to surface.
- To prevent bullying**, do not add young poultry to your existing flock until all the birds are about the same size.

**Did you know?**  
*Mail-order hatcheries offer vaccines for day-old baby chicks. Check for needed vaccines in your area based on past disease outbreaks and what vaccines the hatchery administered.*



For more information on biosecurity or poultry health contact:  
**Indiana State Poultry Association**  
270 South Russell St, West Lafayette, IN 47907  
PH: 765-494-8517  
[www.INpoultry.com](http://www.INpoultry.com)

For more information about how to keep your flocks healthy, follow **Defend the Flock** on **Facebook** and **Twitter** and visit [www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth/defendtheflock](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth/defendtheflock).







# Poultry Capture and Handling

Darrin Karcher

*Assistant Professor of Animal Sciences, Poultry Specialist*

As with any other species, the main objective when handling poultry is ensuring both the handler and the bird come away unharmed and relatively unstressed. The diversity among poultry species may require changes to how you capture and handle a specific bird (e.g., a Rhode Island Red chicken compared to a market turkey). Table 1 reports typical maximum body weights for various poultry species, but body weights vary depending on the birds' sex, breed, and variety.

A few things to keep in mind:

- Males are bigger than females.
- Adult birds are bigger than young birds.
- Market birds are bigger than fancy, ornamental, or heritage breeds.

**Table 1.** Adult bird body weight from different types of poultry species. Actual body weights will depend on the breed and age of the bird.

Species	Type	Sex	Body Weight (pounds)
Turkey	Market	Tom	50
		Hen	20
	Heritage	Tom	36
		Hen	25
Geese	Market	Gander	26
		Goose	20
	Heritage	Gander	26
		Goose	20

*Table continued on next page...*



Species	Type	Sex	Body Weight (pounds)
Duck	Market	Drake	6
		Duck	6
	Heritage	Drake	12
		Duck	7
Chicken	Market	Rooster	6.3
		Hen	5.4
	Heritage	Rooster	13
		Hen	10
Quail	Market/Heritage	Cock	0.3
		Hen	0.3
Pheasant	Market/Heritage	Rooster	3.5
		Hen	2.5
Peafowl	Market/Heritage	Peacock	13
		Peahen	8

Poultry may need to be captured in situations where they have:

- Escaped an enclosure
- Escaped from their owner while being handled or exhibited, or
- Become a nuisance that requires removal from an area by an animal control officer.

In any instance, these four points can help you more effectively capture a bird:

### 1) Birds are scared of you.

You are likely many times the body weight of most birds and viewed as a predator. Birds will engage a fight-or-flight response and try to evade you by running or flying. However, when birds are nesting or have young, their parental instincts will trigger aggression toward “threats” and protection of a nest of eggs or young neonates.

### 2) Remember flight zone and point of balance concepts.

The flight zone is the area surrounding an animal in which a person can approach before the animal moves away. An animal’s point of balance is located at the animal’s shoulder. A person standing in front of the point of balance will cause the animal to move backward. If a person is behind a point of balance, the animal will move forward. Understanding a bird’s flight zone and point of balance will help you direct the bird to the desired location. In addition, poultry are generally sensitive to rapid and unexpected movements. Move slowly and steadily, and avoid abrupt or sudden motions. Poultry have good hearing and will try to move away from a source of unfamiliar or unpleasant noise.

### 3) Corral birds into a corner, if possible.

The easiest, most efficient way to catch birds is to corral them into a corner and reduce the amount of space to escape. You can improvise a corner with materials from your surroundings. Attempt to make yourself “large” by extending your arms out and up, if needed. Again, keep the flight zone in mind. Also, if you’re working with someone else to corral the bird(s), discuss a plan on working together to ensure safe, effective capture.

### 4) Catch birds near dusk.

It is important to know your “prey” before catching them. Birds tend to become more docile as the sun sets; instinct drives them to seek a safe nesting place or area to perch for the evening. Therefore, birds are easier to catch once it is dark. Once birds have gone to roost for the night, you can use a red-light headlamp or flashlight to quickly identify the bird’s location, turn off the light, and catch the bird before it tries to escape.

Proper catching, handling, and carrying of poultry is species-dependent. In general, chickens, turkeys, pheasants, and peafowl are carried by the legs or wings; waterfowl are carried by the neck or wings; and quail are carried by the whole body. Remember: The more support you can offer the bird, the less the bird will flap and struggle. One should always try to carry birds in an upright orientation as much as possible. If you carry a bird by the wings, grasp the wings close to the body so you are holding a wing in each hand.

The following techniques can be used when catching different poultry species:

### 1) Turkeys

**OPTION 1:** Corral a turkey into a corner and back into that corner. Once you are close to the turkey, reach through your legs, grasp the turkey's shanks, and quickly pull the shanks through your legs — stopping when the wings hit your legs. Take care to step over — and not on — the wings and place both shanks in one hand. Reach down with the other hand and grasp either wing for control. At this point, you have full control over the bird and can carry it to a holding area or pen.



**OPTION 2:** Corral a turkey into a corner and walk toward it. Once you are close to the turkey, place its head between your legs, reach over its back, grasp its shanks, and quickly pull the shanks into the air. The turkey will likely flap, so firmly hold on and ride it out. Once the turkey stops flapping, place both shanks in one hand and reach down with the other hand grasping either wing for control. At this point, you have full control over the bird and can carry it to a holding area or pen.



### 2) Chickens

**CAGED BIRDS:** Caged birds are easy to catch. Reach into the cage and grab the bird's shanks. Remove the bird feet-first, supporting its breast as you take it from the cage. Once the bird is removed, grasp both shanks in a single hand, place the breast in the opposite hand for support, and carry the bird to the new location or pen.

**FREE BIRDS:** Birds running wild require more effort to catch. In this instance, use a catch hook or capture net. Corral a bird into a smaller area and, using either tool, proceed to catch it by the shanks. Once you've caught the bird, remove its shanks from the tool; grasp both shanks in a single hand, place the breast in the opposite hand for support, and carry the bird to the smaller pen.



### 3) Waterfowl

Waterfowl should be corralled into a smaller area to be captured. **DO NOT** catch waterfowl by the legs, as their shanks are easily dislocated or broken. A capture net is likely the best option. Once a duck or goose is caught, it can be carried by the wings or neck. Waterfowls' necks are flexible, and carrying them by the neck for a short distance will not impede respiration.

These general tips will allow you to capture and handle poultry. The techniques are a guide that can be modified to fit your particular situation. However, the main consideration when capturing and handling poultry should be safety of the handler and the welfare of the birds being handled.

## Resources

- American Poultry Association. 2010. American Standard of Perfection. Global Interprint, Santa Rosa, CA.
- Aviagen. 2014. Ross 708 Performance Objectives. Accessed Mar. 2018. [http://en.aviagen.com/assets/Tech\\_Center/Ross\\_Broiler/Ross-708-Broiler-PO-2014-EN.pdf](http://en.aviagen.com/assets/Tech_Center/Ross_Broiler/Ross-708-Broiler-PO-2014-EN.pdf)
- Aviagen Turkeys. 2015. Nicholas Commercial Performance Objectives. Accessed Mar. 2018. [http://www.aviagenturkeys.us/uploads/2015/11/13/nicholas\\_comm\\_perf\\_obj\\_select\\_2015.pdf](http://www.aviagenturkeys.us/uploads/2015/11/13/nicholas_comm_perf_obj_select_2015.pdf)
- FASS. 2010. Guidelines for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Agricultural Research and Teaching. FASS, Savoy, IL.
- National Farm Animal Care Council (NFACC). Code of practice for the care and handling of hatching eggs, breeders, chickens, and turkeys. 2016. ISBN 978-0-9936189-6-3.
- North American Meat Institute. 2017. Recommended Animal Handling Guidelines & Audit Guide: A systematic approach to animal welfare.
- Poultry Catching and Handling – Humane Slaughter Association, 2017. <https://www.hsa.org.uk/catching-and-handling/catching-and-handling>.



## Wash your hands before and after coming in contact with live poultry.

In addition to potentially spreading disease from farm to farm or bird to bird, you can also spread germs such as Salmonella that can impact human health. It's necessary to make sure hands are clean. Wash your hands with soap and water (always your first choice). If water is not available, remove as much organic material as possible before using hand sanitizer.



This pamphlet brought you by The Indiana State Poultry Association  
270 South Russell St, West Lafayette, IN 47907 ☎ PH: 765-494-8517 ✉ EMAIL: [ispa@purdue.edu](mailto:ispa@purdue.edu)  
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March 2018

# Transporting Poultry in a Humane Manner

*Phillip J. Clauer, Poultry Extension Specialist, Animal and Poultry Sciences*

Poultry is transported for a few different reasons, for instance to fairs or markets, to a new owner, the vet, or to slaughter. Unfortunately, few people put much thought into how to best transport their fowl. As a result, birds experience distress, get sick or die in transit. This can be easily avoided. Consider the following factors before transporting fowl.

## **Before transport**

Transport starts with catching and crating your birds. Noisy, aggressive catching can cause panic and injury. Approach the birds quietly and calmly, possibly under dim lighting. For larger bird-types, always have two points of contact when catching a bird, for instance by holding the legs and the body. Never catch birds by their neck, head, or tail. Avoid catching by their legs or wings alone. Do not hold birds upside down, they get stressed, fearful and may even die because of inverted restraint.

More information about catching specific fowl can be found here:

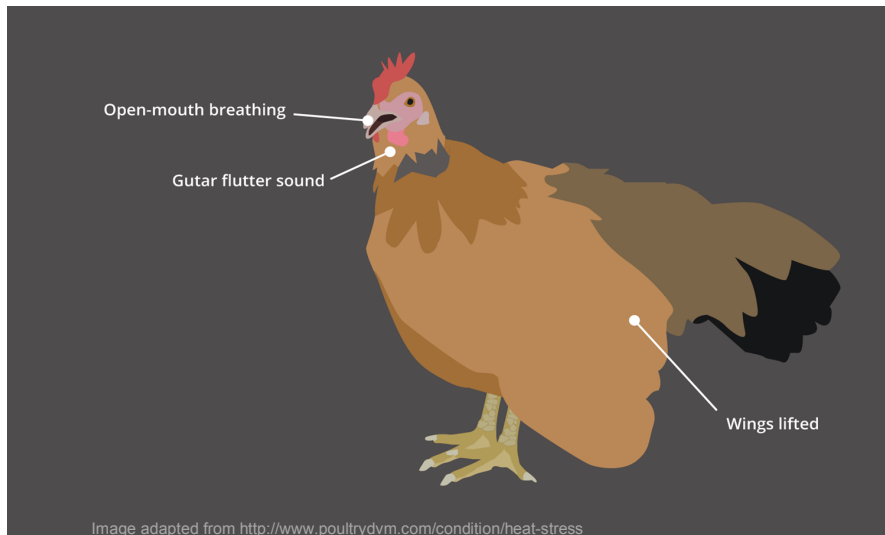
<https://www.hsa.org.uk/catching-and-handling/catching-and-handling>

## **Thermal conditions**

An important aspect during transport are the thermal conditions the birds are exposed to. Depending on the type of fowl, the birds may be more prone to heat stress (larger, meat-type birds) or cold stress (lighter, egg-laying birds). Warm weather with high humidity may cause heat stress, which can be avoided by proper ventilation, adapting the space allowance accordingly, and avoid exposure to sun.

## **Ventilation**

During hot weather, good airflow through the crate is very important. DO NOT use airtight crates, trailers or trucks to haul poultry in warm weather. Rather use crates that allows the air to flow through. Use care not to stack the crates to disrupt the air circulation. Never transport fowl in the trunk of a car, since they may suffocate, die due to exhaust fumes or heat build-up.



*Observe the birds to assess whether ventilation is appropriate. Birds that are experiencing heat stress will pant (fast breathing, with clear breathing movements of the breast/throat, open beak), and may lift their wings to increase heat loss. Temperature of their feet or comb can also indicate whether they are experiencing heat or cold stress.*

Remember, natural air circulation stops if you are stopped or in slow traffic. It may be necessary to open windows or doors until you get moving again. Open-air coops on open bed trucks and trailers can be too drafty at highway speeds and may cause eye and ear irritation, as well as feather damage.

In cold weather, avoid drafts and avoid birds getting wet. Excessively cold drafts can cause frostbite and colds. Observe your birds, if they huddle together, for instance in the corner of the crate, they may experience cold stress. A crouched posture, with fluffed up feathers may also be a sign your bird is experiencing cold.

### ***Direct sunshine***

Do not place crates in the direct sunshine. Dark colored trailers and crates can become deadly ovens in hot, sunny weather. Shade the crate with a light colored material or paint the cart a light color.

### ***Overcrowding***

Many hauling problems and deaths occur because of overcrowding. Allow enough space for the birds to sit comfortably during transport. Do not use crates that hold more than 4 to 6 adult birds. This will keep piling to a minimum, improve air-circulation, and limit accumulation of body heat.

Once you arrive at your destination, birds should be allowed the following cage space. One-half square foot per bird for bantams and pigeons, 1 square foot per bird for large chickens and pheasants and 2 to 3 square feet per bird for ducks, geese and turkeys. Leaving the birds packed in the carrying crate is inhumane.



### **Feed and water**

Birds should be watered continuously if possible, or every four hours. Carrying coops can be equipped with removable waterers since full waterers may spill while driving. When you stop to eat or drink, give the fowl a drink also. Feed could be provided upon arrival.

### **Litter**

Provide birds with a deep layer of loose, dry litter to absorb defecation, and avoid slipping and increase stability for the birds during transport. This will help keep the birds clean.

### **Other Precautions:**

1. Avoid using wire-bottomed cages. When you slide cages with wire floors, you can damage the toes of birds if they get caught between the wire and the floor. It also provides less comfort and can be a biosecurity risk due to defecation.
2. Do not use crates that allow the birds to stick their heads outside of the crate. If they can stick their heads out of the crate, their necks can easily be accidentally broken if the crate shifts or are stacked.
3. Make sure the crate is securely closed. If birds get out of crates during transit, they can be lost or hurt.
4. Do not place two crates next to each other if they are both holding males and they can see each other. They may try to fight each other and damage their combs and feathers in transport.
5. **DO NOT** transport your bird in an air-conditioned vehicle unless you adapt the temperature slowly to match the temperature at destination. When you arrive at your destination the bird may not be able to adjust to the outside temperature.
6. Take enough feed and water from home to care for your birds while traveling. Some birds will not consume water or feed that they are not accustomed to for the first day or more.
7. Thoroughly clean and disinfect all crates after using. Reused litter and dirty crates promote the spread of bacteria, parasites and other contagious infections.
8. Store crates off the floor and empty. This discourages rodents from using them as nests between uses.
9. Very young birds often do not have the ability to maintain their body temperature. They will need to be kept warm (but stay vigilant for signs of heat stress, like panting) .

(Some materials in this article were taken from "Practical Slaughter of Poultry" by The Humane Slaughter Association, 2016)

*Reviewed by Leonie Jacobs, Assistant Professor, Animal and Poultry Science*



United States Department of Agriculture

# Checklist for Cleaning and Disinfecting Poultry Enclosures

Keeping poultry houses, coops, and other enclosures clean is one of the best ways to prevent germs from spreading among poultry flocks. A thorough cleaning, and then applying disinfectant, takes time. But the process is vital to stop disease spread and keep our flocks healthy.

If you see or suspect anything unusual, call your flock supervisor, veterinarian, or cooperative extension office right away. Use this form to record phone numbers for contacts in your area. The earlier you act, the easier it is to contain the disease to a single flock.



Check the list on the back for tips to help keep your flocks healthy.



## Report Sick Birds

If you see signs of illness, take action right away!

Veterinarian

Cooperative Extension Office

State Veterinarian/Animal or Poultry Diagnostic Lab

USDA

Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

866.536.7593





# ✓ Checklist: Cleaning and Disinfecting Poultry Enclosures

This checklist is a general guide to practicing good biosecurity, but if you have a site-specific biosecurity plan, please follow it. Commercial growers should be sure their site-specific plans follow the National Poultry Improvement Plan biosecurity principles.

- Wear personal protective equipment** or clothing and shoes that you only use when caring for your poultry. This includes boot covers or boots that can be disinfected. Change into fresh protective gear between poultry houses or coops.
- Enclosures must be empty for a thorough cleaning.** If you have a poultry house, wait until the house is empty to start the cleaning process. If you have a coop or other type of enclosure, move the birds to a separate area before cleaning.
- Remove all litter, manure, and other debris.**
- “Dry” clean all areas**—brush, scrape, and shovel off manure, feathers, and other materials. Disinfectant will not penetrate organic matter or caked-on dirt.
- “Wet” clean all surfaces**—scrub with water and detergent. Work from top to bottom and back to front.
- Rinse all surfaces carefully with water.**
- Apply disinfectant** according to the directions on the label. Be sure to use a disinfectant that is registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and indicates that it is effective against avian influenza and other poultry diseases.
- Leave the enclosure empty** until it is completely dry. Use fans and/or open doors and windows to help speed the drying process. Wet surfaces can be harmful to poultry.
- When you’re done, remove and discard** your protective gear. If using dedicated clothing and boots, change clothing and clean and disinfect your boots.
- Wash your hands thoroughly** with soap and water. Wash and dry your dedicated clothing.



For more information on biosecurity or poultry health contact:  
Indiana State Poultry Association  
270 South Russell St, West Lafayette, IN 47907  
PH: 765-494-8517  
[www.INpoultry.com](http://www.INpoultry.com)

For more information about how to keep your flocks healthy, follow **Defend the Flock** on **Facebook** and **Twitter** and visit [www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth/defendtheflock](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth/defendtheflock).



## **SHELL EGG HANDLING & CLEANING BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES**

Darrin M. Karcher, Purdue University & Deana R. Jones, USDA-ARS

### **Egg Handling: Best Management Practices**

- Collect eggs at least once daily. Be sure to check in all nest boxes and corners to get all eggs.
- Eggs laid outside of the nest box should not be used in the food supply as there is a higher risk of bacterial contamination.
- Eggs should be candled to identify the cracks or any internal defects (blood or meat spots).
- Dispose of cracked (shell impaired or leaking contents), excessively dirty and internal defect eggs.
- Clean eggs upon collection (see Egg Cleaning section below).
- Place eggs into new cartons or flats (see Egg Packaging section below).
- Place eggs, in cartons, into a refrigerator or cooler as soon as possible. Temperature should be 45°F (7°C) for egg storage.

### **Egg Cleaning: Best Management Practices**

- Dedicated equipment used for egg cleaning must be maintained in a clean (free of visible dirt) and sanitary (reduction of microorganisms) manner.
- Potable water must be used to clean eggs. Iron level should be assessed and below 2 parts per million (ppm). Otherwise, a filtration unit should be utilized to remove the excessive iron in the water.
- Wash water temperature should be 90°F (32.2°C) to 120°F (48.8°C, and at least 20 °F (11 °C) warmer than the internal temperature of the eggs to be washed).
- 200 parts per million (ppm) chlorine, obtained by mixing 4 teaspoons of bleach into a gallon of water, should be used in the wash water to clean the eggs. Wash water can be reused but must be completely changed at least every 4 hours.
- Start with room temperature eggs. If they have been refrigerated, place the eggs in the room until they are not cold to the touch, no more than 6 hours.
- Egg washing must never consist of submerging the eggs into the wash water; rather the water should be sprayed or continuous flow over the eggs during the cleaning process.
- Sanitized clean cloths or soft brushes may be used to clean the eggs. Cloths or brushes should be changed as they become soiled.
- Eggs should be dried prior to packing into cartons. A disposable towel or sanitized clean cloth can be used to dry the eggs.
- After washing, eggs with excessive stains or staining should be removed; the stain poses a potential food safety risk.

### **Egg Packaging: Best Management Practices**

- Eggs must be placed into clean, unused cartons.
- Cartons must be labeled with your business name, contact information and date of packaging.
- Clean, packaged eggs should be immediately refrigerated at 45°F (7°C) for egg storage until purchase by consumer.



# COMMON EGG SHELL QUALITY PROBLEMS



## BLOOD STAINED EGGS

Smears of blood are more common on eggs from pullets in early lay. These eggs become contaminated by blood from a prolapsed cloaco, cannibalism or vent pecking.

### CAUSES:

- Pullets are overweight or coming into lay
- Poor gut health
- Poor hygiene in cage



## BROKEN & MENDED EGGS

In this case, a diagonal break occurs during formation and is mended again before lay.

### CAUSES:

- Stress during calcification



## CALCIUM DEPOSITS

White color, irregular shaped spots deposited on the external surface of the shell.

### CAUSES:

- Defective shell gland
- Disturbances during calcification
- Poor nutrition, e.g. excess calcium



## CORRUGATED EGGS

These eggs are characterized by a very rough surface. Produced when there is an inability to control plumping.

### CAUSES:

- Inherited
- Excessive use of antibiotics
- Excess calcium consumption
- copper deficiency

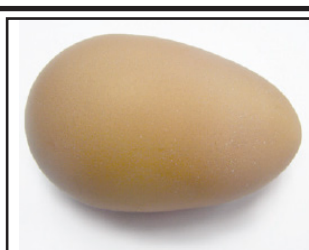


## DIRTY EGGS

All or part of the egg shell is stained by feces. Feed ingredients which can cause wet and sticky droppings should be avoided.

### CAUSES:

- Wet-droppings
- High indigestible compound
- Poor gut health
- Electrolyte imbalance/saline water



## MISSHAPEN EGGS

Differs from the normal shape and size is too small or large.

### CAUSES:

- Immature shell gland
- Stress
- Over-crowding



## SOFT-SHELLED EGGS

Eggs that are laid with an incomplete shell. A thin layer of calcium is deposited on shell membrane.

### CAUSES:

- Excess phosphorus consumption
- Heat stress
- Bird age: higher incidence in older hens
- saline water
- Mycotoxins



## WHITE BANDED EGGS

The result of two eggs coming into contact with each other in the shell gland pouch. Normal calcification is interrupted and the first egg in the pouch will have an extra layer of calcium, seen as the white band marking.

### CAUSES:

- Stress
- Change in lighting
- Disease

[www.inpoultry.com/eggshellqualityproblems](http://www.inpoultry.com/eggshellqualityproblems)

for more common egg shell quality problems



Information adapted from a poster created by Alltech.

Visit [www.alltech.com/animal-nutrition/poultry/articles](http://www.alltech.com/animal-nutrition/poultry/articles) for more information.



# HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA INFORMATION AND BIOSECURITY FACTSHEET

Worldwide, many strains of avian influenza (AI) virus can cause varying degrees of clinical illness in poultry. AI viruses can infect chickens, turkeys, pheasants, quail, ducks, geese, and guinea fowl, as well as a wide variety of other birds. Migratory waterfowl have proved to be the natural reservoir for this disease.

AI viruses can be classified into low pathogenic (LPAI) and highly pathogenic (HPAI) forms based on the severity of the illness they cause. Most AI virus strains are LPAI and typically cause little or no clinical signs in infected birds. However, some LPAI virus strains are capable of mutating under field conditions into HPAI viruses.

HPAI is an extremely infectious and fatal form of the disease for chickens. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) works to keep HPAI from becoming established in the U.S. poultry population. HPAI can strike poultry quickly without any infection warning signs. Once established, the disease can spread rapidly from flock to flock. It is essential for the U.S. poultry industry to be alert to this disease threat.

## **CLINICAL SIGNS**

Birds affected with HPAI may show one or more of the following signs:

- » Sudden death without clinical signs
- » Lack of energy and appetite
- » Decreased egg production
- » Soft-shelled or misshapen eggs
- » Swelling of the head, eyelids, comb, wattles, and hocks
- » Purple discoloration of the wattles, combs, and legs
- » Nasal discharge
- » Coughing, sneezing
- » Incoordination
- » Diarrhea

Hoosier bird owners who notice these signs should report them to: 1-866-536-7593.

## **BIOSECURITY MEASURES**

### **On the Farm**

Poultry producers should strengthen biosecurity practices to prevent the introduction of HPAI into their flocks. The following are some sound biosecurity practices:

- » Keep an "all-in, all-out" philosophy of flock management.
- » Protect poultry flocks from coming into contact with wild or migratory birds. Keep poultry away from any source of water that may have been contaminated by wild birds.
- » Permit only essential workers and vehicles to enter the farm.
- » Provide clean clothing and disinfection facilities for employees.
- » Thoroughly clean and disinfect equipment and vehicles (including tires and undercarriage) entering and leaving the farm.
- » Do not loan, or borrow equipment or vehicles to/from other farms.

- » Avoid visiting other poultry farms. If you do visit another farm or live-bird market, change footwear and clothing before working with your own flock.
- » Do not bring birds from slaughter channels, especially live-bird markets, back to the farm.

### At Live Bird Markets

To prevent a possible outbreak of HPAI, poultry producers and dealers must also use biosecurity precautions at live bird markets. Live bird markets operate in many major cities throughout the United States. Avian influenza viruses can be introduced into these markets if they receive infected birds or contaminated crates and trucks. Once the virus is established in the market, the movement of birds, crates, or trucks from a contaminated market can spread the virus to other farms and markets. Therefore, the following protective measures should be taken at live-bird markets to prevent the possible spread of disease:

- » Use plastic instead of wooden crates for easier cleaning.
- » Keep scales and floors clean of manure, feathers, and other debris.
- » Clean and disinfect all equipment, crates, and vehicles before returning them to the farm.
- » Keep incoming poultry separate from unsold birds, especially if birds are from different lots.
- » Clean and disinfect the marketplace after every day of sale.

Do not return unsold birds to the farm.

### DISEASE PREVENTION

USDA requires that all imported birds (poultry, pet birds, birds exhibited at zoos, and ratites) be quarantined and tested for this virus before entering the country. In addition to international import restrictions, APHIS and state veterinarians specially trained to diagnose foreign animal diseases regularly conduct field investigations of suspicious disease conditions. This surveillance is assisted by university personnel, state animal health officials, USDA-accredited veterinarians, and members of industry who report suspicious cases. Furthermore, APHIS and state animal health officials work cooperatively with the poultry industry to conduct surveillance at breeding flocks, slaughter plants, live-bird markets, livestock auctions, and poultry dealers. APHIS veterinarians are working with their state counterparts and the poultry industry to implement measures such as quarantine, control, and cleanup to prevent opportunities for the virus to spread.



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 Indianapolis, IN 46205  
**PH: 317-544-2400**  
**EMAIL: [animalhealth@boah.in.gov](mailto:animalhealth@boah.in.gov)**  
**WEBSITE: [www.in.gov/boah](http://www.in.gov/boah)**

Connect Through Facebook:  
**[@INBOAH](#)** or **[@INAvianHealth](#)**

**WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I SUSPECT  
 HPAI IN MY FLOCK?**

**Call the  
 USDA Veterinary Services Office  
 at 1-866-536-7593**

Information in this document adapted from the Indiana Board of Animal Health Website.

# TIPS FOR AVIAN INFLUENZA PREVENTION



## ? WHAT IS AVIAN INFLUENZA?

Avian influenza is a disease caused by influenza type A viruses, which can infect both wild and domestic birds.

## ! SYMPTOMS OF AVIAN INFLUENZA

- Sudden death without any signs
- Purple discoloration of the wattles, combs and legs
- Swollen head, eyelids, comb, wattles and hocks
- Soft-shelled or misshapen eggs
- Decreased egg production
- Lack of energy, appetite and coordination
- Diarrhea
- Nasal discharge
- Coughing or sneezing
- Ruffled feathers

## ? HOW IS IT SPREAD?

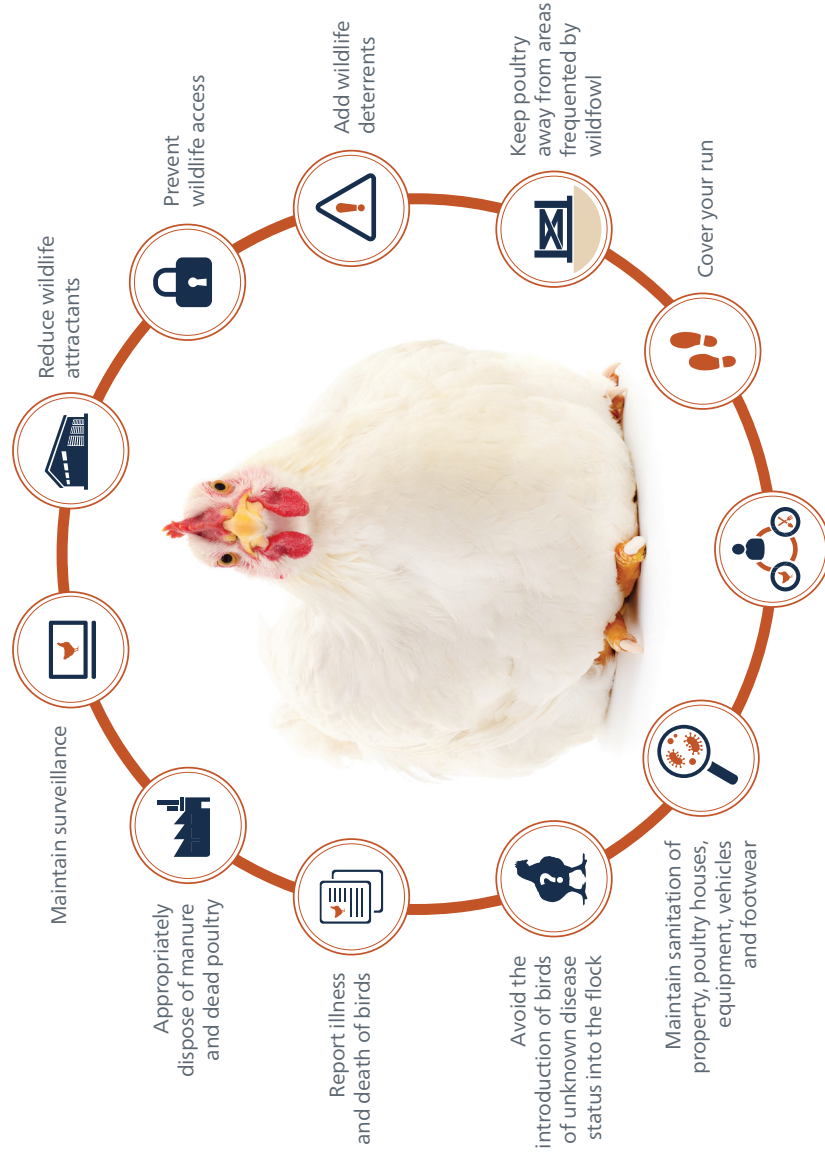
- Through direct contact with infected birds
- Through contaminated feed, water, equipment and clothing

## ! TREATMENTS FOR AVIAN INFLUENZA

Treatment with antiviral compounds is not approved or recommended. It is best to have a monitoring system in place and biosecurity measures as prevention.

Vaccination can be a powerful tool to support eradication programs if used in conjunction with other control methods.

## HOW TO PREVENT AVIAN INFLUENZA



Keep control over the access of people and equipment to poultry houses



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Alltech

## Common External Parasites in Poultry: Lice and Mites

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Parasites can be detected on the external surfaces of the body by way of a thorough physical examination. Periodical examination of the flock can help to detect an early infestation and can help to prevent a larger flock outbreak. It is important to detect infestations early because of the restrictions on treatments available for food-producing birds. Moreover, many of the parasites have an environmental component so treating the environment is also necessary for controlling infestations. Prevention and early detection are the keys to successful treatment and control of external parasites in poultry flocks. The most common external parasites seen in poultry are lice and mites.

### Poultry Lice

Poultry lice are tiny, wingless, 6-legged, flat-bodied, insects with broad, round heads. They lay their eggs on the host bird's feathers, especially near the base of the feather shaft (Figure 1). A female louse will lay 50 to 300 eggs at a time, which she cements to the feather shaft. There are several species of lice that affect poultry, and multiple species can affect a bird at any given time. Some species can be localized on specific locations like the quill lice; or others can be found over most of the body surface like the chicken body lice. The lice found on poultry do not suck blood as the lice found in other species of animals; rather they feed on dry skin scales, feathers, and scabs. However, they will ingest blood extruding from irritated skin. The entire life cycle of the lice occurs on the host bird, primarily in the feathers. Poultry lice are host specific and cannot be transferred to humans.

Fall and winter are the most common times to observe lice infestations. Inspect the ventral region of the bird for live lice crawling on the bird and for nits (lice eggs) as most infestations start in this area of the bird's body. Eggs are white and commonly appear in bunches on the lower feather shaft. Feathers of infested birds may have a moth-eaten appearance. Due to the feather damage, the bird may have a dull or roughened appearance.

### Poultry Mites

There are two major types of mites found on the body of poultry. They are the Northern Fowl Mite (or in tropical environ-

ments, the Tropical Fowl Mite) and the Chicken Mite (or Red Roost Mite).

The Northern Fowl Mite is the most common external parasite in poultry, especially in cool weather climates. It sucks blood from all different types of fowl and can live in the temperate regions of the world. As compared to the Chicken Mite, the Northern Fowl Mite primarily remains on the host for its entire life cycle. These mites can live off the host bird for 2 to 3 weeks. These mites are small and black or brown in color, have 8 legs, and are commonly spread through bird-to-bird contact. The Tropical Fowl Mite is comparable to the Northern Fowl Mite but lives in the tropical regions.

The Chicken Mite is a nocturnal mite that is primarily a warm weather pest. These mites suck the blood from the birds at night



Figure 1. Lice eggs at the base of the feather shaft



and then hide in the cracks and crevices of the houses during the day. Chicken Mites are dark brown or black, much like the Northern Fowl Mite.

The life cycle of mites can be as little as 10 days, which allows for a quick turnover and heavy infestations. Mites can be transferred between flocks by crates, clothing, and wild birds. Mites are capable of living in the environment and off the host bird for a period of time. Diagnoses of mite infestations are similar to that of lice; however since mites can live off the bird and some are nocturnal, inspect birds and housing facilities at night especially if you suspect that the Chicken Mite is the cause of the infestation. Observable signs may include darkening of the feathers on white feathered birds due to mite feces; scabbing of the skin near the vent; mite eggs on the fluff feathers and along the feather shaft (Figure 2); or congregations of mites around the vent, ventral abdomen, tail, or throat. Since mites congregate around the ventral region, they can also reduce a rooster's ability of successful matings.

## Flock Symptoms

Flocks infested with lice or mites show similar general symptoms. Birds will have decreased egg production; decreased weight gain; decreased carcass-grading quality; increased disease sus-

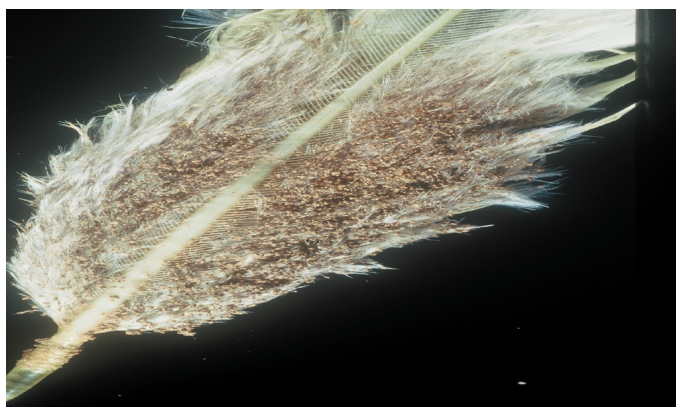


Figure 2. Mites and eggs along the feather shaft.

ceptibility; and decreased food intake. If any of these generalized symptoms are observed, a visual evaluation is recommended. Inspect birds around the ventral region for signs of lice or mites since infestations usually start in this area of the bird.

## Treatments

Sanitation and cleanliness are the keys to lice and mite control. Sanitation includes cleaning and disinfecting housing facilities and equipment between flocks. Moreover, reducing people traffic through housing facilities is recommended. Eliminating the contact between flocks and wild birds can reduce the potential transfer of external parasites. Chemical control can include the use of carbaryl (Sevin®). Treat the walls, floors, roosts, nest boxes, and the birds simultaneously. When dusting an entire house, be careful to avoid feed contamination. One treatment method for small flocks or individual birds is the use of a dusting bath with Sevin®. Place the bird into a garbage bag containing the medicated powder with the birds' head out and rotate/shake the bag to completely cover the bird with powder. Be sure not to inhale the medicated powder during treatments. The use of a facial mask is recommended to prevent inhaling this medicated powder. Because the life cycle of lice and mites is approximately 2 weeks, treatments should be repeated every 2 weeks as needed. Carefully read all labels prior to treatment to make sure withdrawal times are followed for food-producing poultry. Severe lice or mite infestations can be treated initially with a kitten strength dose of a pyrethrin-based medicated spray on the birds to reduce the initial numbers. If problems persist, contact a veterinarian for treatment with such medications as Ivermectin®. Prevention is the best method of treatment. For poultry used in exhibition or for new poultry entering the flock, a minimum quarantine period of 2 weeks is recommended. During this time birds should be physically examined and treated if necessary.

Table 1. Comparison chart to distinguish between lice and mites.

	Lice	Mites
<b>Size</b>	2-3 millimeters long	1 millimeter diameter (ground pepper)
<b>Speed</b>	Fast-moving	Slow-moving
<b>Color</b>	Straw-colored (light brown)	Dark reddish black
<b>Egg location</b>	Base of feather shaft	Along feather shaft
<b>Egg color</b>	White	White or off-white
<b>Best detection time</b>	Daytime	Nighttime or Daytime
<b>Location</b>	Lives only on host	Lives on host and in environment

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Keith L. Smith, Associate Vice President for Agricultural Administration and Director, OSU Extension

# MG --

## *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*

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[www.clemson.edu/LPH](http://www.clemson.edu/LPH)

**What is it?** *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* (MG, also known as CRD – Chronic Respiratory Diseases in chickens -- and infectious sinusitis in turkeys) is an infectious respiratory disease of chickens and turkeys. MG has also been found in pheasants, chukar, peafowl and quail.

**What's the big deal?** MG is a serious threat to all poultry industries: commercial, exhibition, backyard and gamebird flocks.

**What are the signs of disease?** Mild to severe respiratory signs including watery eyes, nasal discharge, face swelling, coughing, sneezing or rales. Egg production and feed consumption can decrease. These clinical signs are seen in quite a few viral and bacteria diseases, so a proper diagnosis is needed. Clinical signs are usually slow to develop and the disease has a long course. Backyard flocks may actually show no symptoms of disease (subclinical disease – carrier birds) if the infection is uncomplicated by other diseases or stress.

**How is the disease diagnosed?** Through flock history, clinical signs, gross lesions, blood tests and isolation of the organism from tracheal swabs performed at a diagnostic lab.

**How is the disease transmitted?** MG is spread through direct contact with infected or carrier birds and indirect contact through contaminated airborne dust, droplets, feathers, equipment and human traffic. Infected hens can shed the organism into their eggs and infect their chicks.

**How is the disease prevented?** Keeping MG-free flocks is the best prevention. Treating infected birds with antibiotic medication may alleviate signs and lesions, but does not always eliminate the infection and can produce carrier birds. Prevent introduction onto the farm by keeping a closed flock and practicing biosecurity – disease prevention management – whether you have a commercial poultry farm or backyard chickens:

- **Birds** – Keep a closed flock. Do not bring birds from poultry shows, auctions or untested sources back to the farm – this is a great way to introduce any disease. Separate new birds away from the flock for 2-4 weeks to see if they show any signs of disease. Take sick or fresh dead birds to a diagnostic lab to determine cause of illness or death.
- **People** – Avoid visiting other poultry farms or live-bird shows & auctions. If you do, shower and change clothing and footwear before working with your birds. Don't allow people who have birds to visit your farm without showering and changing clothes beforehand or have them wear protective clothing and footwear and visa versa.
- **Equipment** – Do not loan or borrow equipment or vehicles from other farms. If you have to, wash and disinfect all equipment before and after use. Wash and disinfect your vehicle/trailers/crates (including tires and undercarriage) after leaving a poultry farm, show or auction. Keep your houses/pens, equipment and work areas clean and sanitary.

# USING GOOD BIOSECURITY AGAINST THE THREAT OF AVIAN INFLUENZA

*Adapted from U.S. Dept of Agriculture APHIS Flyer: APHIS 91-55-099*

As part of its safeguarding mission, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) protects the health of our Nation's livestock and poultry. They respond to major animal disease events, helping to keep dangerous diseases from spreading.

Avian influenza is a viral disease that can infect wild birds (such as ducks, gulls, and shorebirds) and domestic poultry (such as chickens, turkeys, ducks, and geese). There is a flu for birds just as there is for people and some forms of the flu are worse than others. Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) can spread fast and quickly kill chickens and turkeys. Wild birds, however, can carry HPAI viruses without appearing sick.

The United States experienced a significant outbreak of HPAI in 2014–2015, affecting 21 States and leading to the destruction of almost 50 million birds. We must all do everything we can to prevent future outbreaks.

**BIOSECURITY IS KEY**, anyone who owns or works with poultry - whether on a commercial farm, in the wild, or at a hobby/backyard farm—should take proper steps to keep HPAI from entering their flocks. The best way to protect your birds is to follow good biosecurity. Even if you are already familiar with biosecurity, it is always good to double-check your practices.

Backyard poultry owners can follow six simple steps for biosecurity. Make them part of your routine to lower the risk that disease will enter your flock and spread via soil, droppings, and debris.

## 1.) KEEP YOUR DISTANCE

Restrict access to your property and your birds. Consider fencing off the area where your birds are to form a barrier between “clean” and “dirty” areas. The clean area is the immediate area completely surrounding your birds. The dirty (or “buffer”) area is the immediate adjacent area—consider this area to be infected with bacteria and viruses, even if your birds appear healthy and disease-free.

Create distance and use barriers to prevent contact between your birds and wild birds. Wild birds, especially ducks and geese, should not have contact with your flock because they can carry disease causing viruses and bacteria. If your birds are outdoors, try to keep them in a screened coop. Also, protect your birds' food and water from wild birds or any other wild animals that could bring disease to them.

Allow only people who take care of your birds to come into contact with them. If visitors want to see your birds, be sure they wash up first and clean their shoes. Better yet, keep clean boots or shoe covers for them to wear. If your visitors have birds of their own, do not let them enter your bird area or have access to your birds at all.

## **2.) KEEP IT CLEAN**

Bacteria and viruses can be picked up on shoes and clothing and moved from one place to another. Since this can make your birds sick, you need to protect their home by keeping it clean. To keep your birds “disease-free,” have a pair of shoes and a set of clothes to wear only around your birds. Clean and disinfect your shoes and launder your clothes before you check on or work with your birds. Scrubbing your shoes with a long-handled scrub brush and disinfectant will remove droppings, mud, or debris. Wash your clothes with laundry detergent. Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water before entering your bird area.

Keep cages clean and change food and water daily. Clean and disinfect equipment that comes in contact with your birds or their droppings. All manure must be removed before disinfectant can work, so clean surfaces with soap and water first.

## **3.) DO NOT HAUL DISEASE HOME**

Car and truck tires, poultry cages, and equipment can all harbor organisms that cause disease. If you travel to a place where other birds are present be sure to clean and disinfect these items before you return to your property.

Taking some of your birds to a fair or exhibition? Keep those birds separated from the rest of your flock and watch them for at least 3 weeks after the event to make sure they did not pick up a disease. New birds should be kept separate from your flock for at least 30 days before putting them with the rest of your birds. To prevent disease, it is best not to mix young and old birds or birds from different species or different sources.

## **4.) DO NOT BORROW DISEASE FROM YOUR NEIGHBOR**

Do not share birds, lawn and garden equipment, tools, or poultry supplies with your neighbors or other bird owners. If you do bring equipment or other items home, clean and disinfect them before they reach your property. Also, remember to clean and disinfect borrowed items before returning them.

## **5.) KNOW THE WARNING SIGNS OF INFECTIOUS BIRD DISEASES**

Early detection is very important to prevent the spread of disease. Here’s what to look for:

- Sudden death without any signs
- Lack of energy and appetite
- Decreased egg production
- Soft-shelled or misshapen eggs
- Swelling of the eyelids, comb, wattles, and shanks
- Purple discoloration of the wattles, comb, and legs
- Gasping for air (difficulty breathing)
- Nasal discharge (runny nose)
- Coughing, sneezing
- Twisting of the head and neck (torticollis)
- Stumbling or falling down
- Diarrhea

## **6.) REPORT SICK BIRDS! CALL USDA TOLL FREE AT 1-866-536-7593**

Don’t wait. If your birds are sick or dying, contact your local cooperative extension office/agent, your veterinarian, the State veterinarian, or your State animal/poultry diagnostic laboratory. There is no charge for a disease investigation, if one is needed. Early reporting is important to protect the health of your birds.



# BACKYARD BIOSECURITY SELF EVALUATION

**A poultry flock owner should be able to check off every item on this list!**

## KEEP YOUR DISTANCE

- I restrict visitor access to my property and my birds.
- My bird area is fenced in or has a barrier to keep visitors out.
- I prevent other bird owners from coming into contact with my birds.
- My birds are protected from contact with wild game birds and migratory fowl.

## KEEP IT CLEAN

- I properly clean and disinfect equipment that comes into contact with my birds.
- I change into clean clothes and shoes and wash my hands before entering my birds areas.
- I clean the cages and change my birds food and water daily.

## DO NOT HAUL DISEASE HOME

- After contact with other birds/bird owners, before returning home, I disinfect my vehicle tires, poultry cages and equipment.
- Birds that I took to the fair/exhibition are separated from the rest of the flock for at least two weeks after the event.
- New birds are isolated from my current flock for at least 30 days.

## DO NOT BORROW DISEASE FROM YOUR NEIGHBOR

- I do not share lawn and garden equipment, tools, or poultry supplies with my neighbors. When I borrow equipment from my neighbors, before I bring it onto my property I make sure to properly clean and disinfect the equipment.

## KNOW THE WARNING SIGNS OF INFECTIOUS BIRD DISEASE

- I can identify the warning signs of infectious bird diseases (such as Avian Influenza and Virulent Newcastle Disease). Symptoms can be:
  - Sudden increase in bird deaths in my flock
  - Sneezing, gasping for air, coughing, and nasal discharge
  - Watery and green diarrhea
  - Lack of energy and poor appetite
  - Drop in egg production
  - Swelling around the eyes, neck and head.
  - Purple discoloration of the wattles, combs, and legs (AI)
  - Tremors, dropping wings, circling, twisting of the head and neck, or lack of movement (vND)

## REPORT SICK BIRDS BY CALLING 1-866-536-7593

If you suspect that your birds might be showing symptoms of infectious bird disease, please call the above number or reach out to the Indiana State Poultry Association at **1-765-494-8517** or [ispa@purdue.edu](mailto:ispa@purdue.edu)

Information in this pamphlet provided by The Indiana State Poultry Association  
270 South Russell St, West Lafayette, IN 47907  
PH: 765-494-8517 • EMAIL: [ispa@purdue.edu](mailto:ispa@purdue.edu)

This pamphlet made possible through a cooperative agreement with the USDA APHIS VS Office.



# ✓ Checklist: Tips for Biosecurity Training

This checklist is a general guide to practicing good biosecurity, but if you have a site-specific biosecurity plan, please follow it. Commercial growers should be sure their site-specific plans follow the National Poultry Improvement Plan biosecurity principles.

- Train all owners, caretakers, and others who regularly enter the poultry area**— before they enter the first time. For employees who don't speak English, make sure you offer training and signage in a language they can understand.
- Cover these five key steps!** Anyone entering a biosecure premises should understand how to:
  1. Contact the Biosecurity Coordinator(s);
  2. Respect the Perimeter Buffer Area (PBA), including parking in the right place;
  3. Enter the PBA using arrival and biosecure entry procedures;
  4. Cross the Line of Separation (LOS) per biosecure entry procedures; and
  5. Perform biosecurity tasks assigned to their specific job.
- Always include site-specific procedures** in your training program. If you'd like, you can add any premises-wide or company-wide procedures, too.
- Stay ahead of visitors.** Inform contract crews, service personnel, consultants, and other visitors about your biosecurity procedures before they arrive onsite. You can tell them in advance either by phone or in writing.
- Give biosecurity training annually.** Document all training and keep training records for 3 years.

For more information about how to keep your flocks healthy, follow **Defend the Flock** on **Facebook** and **Twitter** and visit [www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth/defendtheflock](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth/defendtheflock).



# INDIANA CERTIFIED BLOOD TESTER LIST

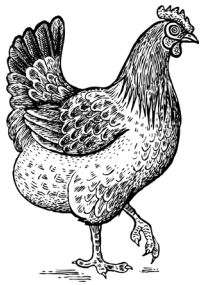
*(Current List Updated 12/2022)*

Indiana Certified Blood Testers can now be accessed through a page on the ISPA website. Using the online database you can search for Blood Testers by county or any of the other data points on the database. Blood Testers are listed with their preferred contact email and phone number. The database does not display the Blood Testers full address, only their city of residence.

**Website: [www.inpoultry.com/incertifiedbloodtesters](http://www.inpoultry.com/incertifiedbloodtesters)**

If you would like a full list of Indiana Certified Blood Testers, please feel free to request one by contacting our office at (765) 496-3594 or at [ispa@purdue.edu](mailto:ispa@purdue.edu). Any corrections to names listed in the database can be reported to our office.





# INDIANA TEST-TWELVE (T-12) PROGRAM POULTRY FLOCK EVALUATION

One of the primary goals of a flock owner  
is to keep their poultry healthy.

The Indiana T-12 Program, created by the Indiana State Poultry Association (ISPA) and its partners, helps to monitor your poultry's health through the submission of a dozen eggs.

And the best part is, this program is  
**FREE** for all Hoosier flock owners.

The ISPA is providing an opportunity for a FREE flock evaluation. The voluntary testing program, referred to as Indiana's T-12 Program, monitors Avian Influenza and other health factors through a simple antibody test from your hens' eggs. The T-12 Test is specifically designed for testing chicken eggs, other poultry species, e.g. duck, may not produce accurate results. Please note, results may aid in assessing the health status of the birds, but should not be used as a diagnostic test. If your birds are sick, consult a veterinarian.

To participate, request a FREE Egg Mailing Kit online through the website listed below. Upon receiving the Egg Mailing Kit, collect 12 eggs and return them in the postage paid package. The results of the T-12 Test will be emailed and/or mailed to you! Each T-12 Egg Mailing Kit contains information on common avian diseases, biosecurity flyers and other poultry related materials.



**NOTE: As this is a monitoring test only, the results are for the poultry owner's benefit and cannot be used to certify egg quality or as a replacement for poultry health papers. Due to the nature of the T-12 test, the ISPA cannot predict a specific date for the results.**

For More Information contact the ISPA by phone: (765) 494-8517  
or by email: [ispa@purdue.edu](mailto:ispa@purdue.edu)

**To request a postage paid  
T-12 Mailer visit:  
[www.INpoultry.com/t12mailer](http://www.INpoultry.com/t12mailer)  
or send an email to [ispa@purdue.edu](mailto:ispa@purdue.edu)**