

Arkansas Livestock & Poultry Commission
Effective November 1, 2000
Jack Gibson, Executive Director

FINAL RULE

Act 87 of 1963 and Act 150 of 1985

ARKANSAS REGULATIONS TO PREVENT THE INTRODUCTION OF AVIAN INFLUENZA

The State Veterinarian, after consultation with the Poultry Federation and consent of the Commission, shall declare the following emergency regulations to be implemented when an outbreak of avian influenza threatens production or sales of poultry and poultry products.

1. All live poultry, hatching eggs, domesticated waterfowl, waterfowl being transported into Arkansas, and psittacines or passerines, or other avian species entering Arkansas will do so accompanied by an official certificate of veterinary inspection signed by a licensed, accredited veterinarian stating that: *“The poultry, waterfowl, psittacines, passerines, other avian species, or hens producing the eggs have been examined and found to be free of any signs of avian influenza H5 or H7, and to the best of my knowledge, avian influenza H5 or H7 has not been diagnosed within a five (5)-mile radius of the location where this flock originated and they did not originate from within an avian influenza quarantined area.”* (In case of doubt, the certifying veterinarian shall require a negative agar gel precipitin test or other authorized serological test for avian influenza to be administered no longer than two (2) weeks prior to the time of the shipment.) In addition, all birds must have a negative pullorum test within the last ninety (90) days or be from an NPIP certified flock. Psittacines, passerines, and other avian species are also required to have an entry permit number. Day-old baby chicks or poults and hatching eggs will also be allowed to enter Arkansas with an NPIP Form VS 9-3 in lieu of a certificate of veterinary inspection if item #10 states: *“These birds originate from breeder flocks located in an area where avian influenza H5 or H7 has not been diagnosed within a 5-mile radius of the location where this flock originated and they did not originate from*

within an avian influenza quarantined area". Poultry being brought into Arkansas for slaughter are exempt from the above requirement if they are owned by the company and being transported into the state of Arkansas by Arkansas-based poultry operations using equipment and vehicles controlled solely by those operations. All such vehicles must be issued a decal prior to the initiation of a haul into the state. If these vehicles are not controlled solely by the Arkansas company, the poultry will be exempt from a certificate of veterinary inspection if documentation shows they are owned by the company, but the vehicle must have been cleaned and disinfected (see item 3). Spent fowl not intended for slaughter (leghorn hens for molting and return to egg production) must have an official certificate of veterinary inspection stating that: *"The poultry have been examined and found to be free of any signs of avian influenza H5 or H7, and to the best of my knowledge, avian influenza H5 or H7 has not been diagnosed within a five (5)-mile radius of the location where the flock originated and they did not originate from within an avian influenza quarantined area. Furthermore, this is to certify that the above mentioned flock was diagnosed as avian influenza negative on the basis of a negative avian influenza agar gel precipitin test or other authorized serological test administered no longer than two weeks prior to shipment."* The minimum number of blood samples submitted will be thirty (30) regardless of the flock size unless the number is less than thirty (30), then 100% testing will be required.

2. All table eggs, including graded eggs (cartoned and loose pack), nest-run, etc., along with all eggs to be processed by breakage will be accompanied by a certificate of origin attesting to where all the eggs originated from and a statement that they did not originate in an area where there is any known avian influenza H5 or H7 infection. Company management must sign this form. Any reusable materials used in the shipping of eggs into this state must be either new or free of visual debris and contaminates, especially feces and egg contents. In the event contaminated materials are found the entire lot will be disposed of immediately at the expense of the shipper. Non-exempt: Eggs direct from grading stations or eggs direct from producer grading

stations, entering Arkansas on trucks owned by them or contracted by them, making direct deliveries to retail outlets, distributors, other egg producers or grading stations, breaking plants, etc., must follow the regulations as outlined above. This regulation to be monitored by state egg inspectors. Exempt: Egg distributors entering Arkansas are exempt from the certificate of origin and the certificate of cleaning and disinfecting provided they make direct sales to retail outlets such as stores, restaurants, etc. and eggs must be in new packaging materials and cannot originate in an area where there is any known avian influenza infection H5 or H7.

3. All Vehicles used to transport birds, eggs, or inedible materials that enter the state of Arkansas will be certified by a licensed or state/federal veterinarian, a designated appointee of state/federal veterinarian, a plant manager or a hatchery manager to be cleaned and disinfected in such a way that avian influenza virus will be inactivated. Vehicles are to be washed to remove all organic debris using a detergent and water rinse with final application of a disinfectant that is approved for use in the activation of avian influenza virus. Live poultry and transportation equipment owned and controlled by poultry operations in Arkansas may be exempted from these restrictions upon issuance of a decal by the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission.
4. All personnel who come from any foreign country or area known or suspected of having avian influenza must be quarantined by the company from live poultry or other avian species for a period of three (3) days following their arrival in Arkansas. All clothing, footwear, and headgear brought from any foreign country or area that has or is suspected of having avian influenza or any avian influenza area will be washed and sanitized in such a way that avian influenza virus will be inactivated. Individual companies shall enforce this provision.
5. The sale, barter, or giving away of all live poultry or domesticated waterfowl in any farmer's market, flea market, roadside stand, feed store, etc. will be allowed if they are accompanied by documents showing they have been tested negative for pullorum

within ninety (90) days or are from an NPIP certified flock. These birds will be subject to being sampled for avian influenza by state or federal personnel.

6. All poultry identified or suspect of having avian influenza virus infection in the state of Arkansas will be quarantined immediately and the Arkansas State Veterinarian's office notified for final disposition.
7. Poultry exhibitions will be allowed using existing exhibition regulations, except, out of state birds will be required to have a certificate of veterinary inspection as outlined in Item 1.
8. All avian influenza vaccination of any avian species is prohibited, unless authorized by the State Veterinarian, because it is impossible to distinguish an infected from a vaccinated bird using routine serological procedures.
9. If allied industry personnel must visit a poultry farm, hatchery, feed mill, or other type of poultry operation they are advised to conduct strict bio-security measures that will assure that avian influenza virus will not be inadvertently transmitted by their presence. Individual companies shall enforce this provision.
10. Any ratites entering the state will be accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection with an entry permit number stating that: *"The ratite(s) have been examined and found to be free of any signs of avian influenza, and to the best of my knowledge, avian influenza H5 or H7 has not been diagnosed within a five (5)-mile radius of the location where the ratites originated and they did not originate from within an avian influenza quarantined area. Furthermore, these ratites were diagnosed as being avian influenza negative on the basis of a negative avian influenza agar gel precipitin test administered no longer than two weeks prior to shipment."*

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Ark. Livestock & Poultry Comm.