

# National Poultry Improvement Plan



FIGURE 1.

## GUIDELINES FOR CERTIFICATION FOR INDEPENDENT FLOCKS AND HATCHERIES

As supervised by: Arkansas Livestock & Poultry Commission

**\$30.00/Inspection**

**\$.15/test**

**\$.15/band**

**\$ 7.00/incubator swabs (up to 4 swabs)**

## **GENERAL PARTICIPATION**

Any person may participate in the plan when he/she has demonstrated, to the satisfaction of Arkansas Livestock & Poultry Commission (AL&PC), that the facilities and practices are adequate for carrying out the provisions of the plan and has signed an agreement with AL&PC to comply with the general and the applicable specific provisions of the Plan and any regulations of AL&PC.

Each participant shall comply with the Plan throughout the operating year - full 12 months. Each participant must participate with all of the poultry on premises over 4 months of age or at sexual maturity (i.e., Coturnix Quail at 6 weeks). This does not have to include any waterfowl located on the same farm, but should you want to have the waterfowl listed in the national directory they must be tested.

Participating flocks receive a Salmonella pullorum-free certified status, which covers the following 12 months. This certificate is recognized through-out the United States and the world as meeting entry requirements regarding Salmonella pullorum.

In addition, an annual directory is published and distributed nationwide, listing all participants and the breeds on record.

Participation in the Plan shall entitle the participant to use the Plan emblems reproduced below:



NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

FIGURE 1.



FIGURE 2

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Records of purchases must be kept with the date of purchase, name, address, breed, and NPIP # listed. All eggs must be purchased from a current NPIP participant. If birds are purchased from a non-certified person/farm the birds **must** be Salmonella pullorum tested before being brought onto the premises or mixed with your birds at a sale; a 90-day certificate, 9-2 or similar certificate must be obtained and kept on file with breeds listed. When new breeds are purchased, a copy of the purchase and a letter must be sent to the NPIP office requesting a breed addition. All sales should include a bill of sale with each shipment including all pertinent information and your personal sale records shall be maintained in a manner satisfactory to AL&PC.

## **SPECIFIC PROVISIONS FOR FLOCKS**

Poultry equipment, poultry houses and the land in the immediate vicinity thereof shall be kept in sanitary conditions as recommended.

All flocks shall consist of healthy, normal individual's characteristic of the breed, variety, or cross which they are stated to represent.

Biosecurity should be practiced to the best of the owner's ability.

Birds must be contained in some manner which is satisfactory to the State official.

## **SPECIFIC PROVISIONS FOR HATCHERIES**

Hatcheries, including brooder rooms, shall be kept in sanitary condition.

- 1) Incubator walls, floors, and trays shall be kept free from broken eggs and eggshells.
- 2) Tops of incubators and hatchers shall be kept clean.
- 3) Entire hatchery, including sales room, shall be kept in a neat, orderly condition and free from accumulated dust.
- 4) Hatchery residue, such as eggshells, infertile eggs, and dead germs shall be disposed of promptly.
- 5) Hatchers and hatching trays shall be cleaned and disinfected after each hatch.

The records of all flocks maintained primarily for production of hatching eggs shall be examined annually by a State Inspector. Records shall include shipping papers, blood testing records, set and hatch records, egg receipts, and egg/chick orders or invoices. Records shall be maintained for 3 years.

## **DEBARMENT FROM PARTICIPATION:**

Participants in the Plan, who after investigation by AL&PC or its representative, are notified of their apparent noncompliance with the Plan provisions or regulations, shall be afforded a reasonable time to demonstrate or achieve compliance. If compliance is not demonstrated or achieved within the specified time, AL&PC may debar the participant from further participation in the Plan for such period or indefinitely, as the Agency deems appropriate.

For further questions, contact:

Arkansas Livestock & Poultry Commission  
NPIP Division  
#1 Natural Resources Drive  
Little Rock, AR 72205

501-219-6391 - Kevin Simmons – NPIP Coordinator  
501-823-1717 - Faye Ratthasombath  
Email: [npip@agriculture.arkansas.gov](mailto:npip@agriculture.arkansas.gov)

## **NPIP - REGULATIONS FOR TESTING, IDENTIFICATION, MOVEMENTS, AND MEETING THE NPIP REQUIREMENTS**

### **Aviculture**

Definitions:

Aviculture includes exotic chickens, upland birds (chuckers, pheasants), peafowl, and backyard chickens. Waterfowl are included when they are domesticated and transported into the state.

Commission - the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission.

Person - an individual, firm, partnership, corporation, estate, judiciary or other groups or combinations acting as a unit.

Premise - the land and all buildings thereon.

Federal employee - a representative or agent of the federal government.

Hatchery - hatchery equipment on one premise operated or controlled by any person for the production of baby poultry.

NPIP - the National Poultry Improvement Plan.

Swap meets and flea markets - those events either so named or a place where there is a gathering of people to exchange goods and/or services whether they are for sale, barter, or loan.

State Inspector - a person who is a designated and trained employee of the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission NPIP Division.

Testing Agent - the person who has properly passed a NPIP training school put on by the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission and is duly licensed. Testing agents may only issue 90-day certificates.

Compliance Team - those people who are known as the Compliance Unit of the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission.

Game Bird – includes quail, pheasant, partridge/grouse, and domesticated wild turkeys.

Game Fowl – includes chickens (both male and female) genetically bred and specifically selected to preserve the ancestral purity of the gamecock.

(1) 90-Day Certificate for Pullorum-Typhoid

A 90-Day certificate can be obtained from a licensed blood tester. The licensed blood tester will band the birds, then run a card test by using the USDA approved antigen and issue a certificate by completing a state form or VS Form 9-2(other states) stating that the birds have been tested for pullorum-typhoid and found to be negative.

(2) Interstate Movement

Birds are to be moved on a negative pullorum-typhoid test with proper documentation and identification at all times. One of the following documents will fulfill this requirement:

- A. 90-Day Certificate
- B. NPIP VS Form 9-2 or 9-3
- C. NPIP PT Clean Certificate

Birds that move into the state for a show will need accompanying documents to show that they are Pullorum-Typhoid clean. Birds that move into the state for show and sale will also need a health certificate in addition to documents stating that they are Pullorum-Typhoid Clean.

- (3) NPIP certified flocks of chickens, turkeys, and domesticated fowl may enter the state with a valid VS 9-3 or NPIP flock certification stating that the birds are Pullorum-Typhoid free. Turkeys must also have originated from a US MG clean flock or have had a negative MG test within thirty (30) days of entry. NPIP certified flocks are exempt from the requirement of a certificate of veterinary inspection unless a state emergency has been declared.
- (4) Flocks that are not NPIP certified must have a 90-day certificate and a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection stating that the birds are Pullorum-Typhoid free.
- (5) Birds at flea markets, or swap meets, for exhibition will need to be pullorum-typhoid clean as documented by a 90-Day Certificate or come from a NPIP certified flock. If birds are not tested when entered at flea markets, then the owner/manager of the flea market will be requested to offer the service.
- (6) Independent Flocks or hatcheries may voluntarily come under the NPIP which will mean:
  - A. Eggs must come from a NPIP pullorum-typhoid clean flock or be 100% blood tested negative for pullorum-typhoid.
  - B. Hatchery will be swabbed periodically.
  - C. Cleaning and disinfection procedures must be followed to control salmonella and other infectious diseases according to the NPIP.
  - D. Offspring out of this hatchery can move interstate on a VS Form 9-3.
- (7) Birds found to be reactors to the pullorum-typhoid test must be immediately brought to the diagnostic lab either at Little Rock or Fayetteville.

- A. Send all papers to the NPIP office at #1 Natural Resources Drive, Little Rock, AR 72205.
  - B. Birds will be re-bled and further examined at labs.
  - C. Birds must be sacrificed for culture and isolation of salmonella if found positive.
  - D. This applies to all reactors under any circumstances.
  - E. Reactors will be examined serologically and cultured for bacteriological examination acceptable to the NPIP program.
- (8) If exhibition birds show signs of illness regardless of the pullorum-typhoid test, they may be sent home under quarantine either by the person in charge of the show or a representative of the state or federal government.
- (9) Schools - Each individual participating as a testing agent will be expected to keep his/her schooling and/or license current as required by the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission. A license will be issued each time upon completion of the test requirements for a length of time spelled out on the license. Annual licensing fee will apply.
- (10) Blood testing can be done by a state or federal employee, veterinarian, or an agent. NPIP certification can only be performed by a State Inspector.
- (11) Removal of License as an Agent:  
An agent's license will be revoked under the following conditions:
- A. Failure to report all blood testing results to the NPIP office within 10 days following the completion of such tests.
  - B. Failure to send reactors to the labs. Reactors must be sent to the lab within two days from the time of the blood test.
  - C. Any retest by a state NPIP inspector of flocks tested by an agent which reveals discrepancies of 5% or more in two or more flocks or any one flock containing 100 or more birds, shall be grounds for suspension of the license until such time as an official investigation is completed.

- D. Any falsification of testing records or flock selection shall be grounds for suspension of license and a possible fine of \$100.00 to \$1,000.00 per count and/or up to one year in jail.
- E. The first violation that is contrary to the regulation will result in suspension of the license for 60 days. The second violation will result in the revocation of the license for 9 months or until the next blood testing school is held, whichever comes first.

(12) Independent Flock Certification under the NPIP (Voluntary)

- A. Participants must sign and have on file a document in the NPIP office which discloses their willingness to participate in one or more of the following categories: Hatchery, Dealer and/or Flock owner.
- B. Participants must demonstrate to the NPIP office that they have complied with the following regulations during the preceding 12 months:
  - 1. Have the flock blood tested by a NPIP state inspector. Wing bands or leg bands to be used for I. D. where applicable and/or reasonable.
  - 2. Buy only pullorum-typhoid clean birds and ask for VS Form 9-3 to accompany the shipment. Please forward paperwork (copy of 9-3 or equivalent) to the NPIP office to ensure records are current. If new breeds are purchased, forward breed information, including breed codes, to the NPIP office.
  - 3. Follow good husbandry practices.
  - 4. We recommend you attend the pullorum-typhoid blood testing school and keep the license current.
  - 5. The following Testing protocol will be followed by all participants:



## Sub-Part E Salmonella Verification Procedures

Year	With Incubator in Use	No Incubator in Use
1	1. Swab Incubator 2. Blood test 100% of Breeders and 10% of others	1. Blood test 100% of all breeders and 10% of others.
2	1. Swab Incubator 2. Blood test 75% of Breeders and 10% of others	1. Blood tests 100% of all breeders and 10% of others.
3	1. Swab Incubator 2. Blood test 50% of Breeders and 10% of others	1. Blood test 100% of all breeders and 10% of others.
4	1. Swab Incubator 2. Blood test 25% of Breeders and 10% of others	1. Blood test 100% of all breeders and 10% of others.
5	1. Swab Incubator 2. Blood test 10% of others	1. Blood test 100% of all breeders and 10% of others.

Subpart E consists of all Game Birds, Exhibition Poultry, and Back Yard Flocks.

6. A NPIP official will visit your farm to check papers (record keeping) and determine the general cleanliness. Your flock will be certified Pullorum-Typhoid Clean if all tests are negative for pullorum-typhoid. Your name will be forwarded to the NPIP office at Conyers, Georgia to be published in the Director of Participants Handling Waterfowl, Exhibition Poultry and Game Birds.

### U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean State

#### Primary Breeding Flocks

300 birds/flock or, for game birds, an approved serological examination monitoring program may be used, or for waterfowl and exhibition breeding flocks located in a state which has been a U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean State for the past three years, during which time no pullorum or typhoid was traced to a source in the state, an approved serological examination monitoring program may be used.

#### Multiplier Breeding Flocks

No testing required.

\*The number of serum samples to be pulled will depend upon the size of the flock, the origin of the flock, whether the flock is a primary breeding flock or a multiplier breeding flock, and whether or not they have proper papers to prove their origin. However, the following NPIP regulations will be implemented and practiced, if applicable, since Arkansas is a "U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean State:

\*\*First generation progeny of a primary breeding flock which is intended solely for the production of multiplier breeding flock will qualify on the same basis as a multiplier breeding flock. This provision is intended only for birds in grandparent flocks which will not be saved for further genetic improvement.

\*\*\*Must originate from PT clean primary breeding flocks or equivalent and have proper documentation. All isolations of PT in the state must be reported.