

**National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) LPAI Monitored Program  
Enrollment Instructions for Commercial Table Egg Layer Flocks; Slaughter Plants and  
Affiliated Flocks; and Raised for Release Game Birds/Waterfowl in PA**

National NPIP website: [www.poultryimprovement.org](http://www.poultryimprovement.org)

**National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP)**

The PA Department of Agriculture Bureau of Animal Health and Diagnostic Services acts as the Official State Agency (OSA) for the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) and administers the program in PA in cooperation with USDA. The technical and management provisions of the NPIP have been developed jointly by industry members and state and federal officials. These criteria have established standards for the evaluation of poultry with respect to freedom from NPIP diseases.

Enrollment in NPIP is voluntary.

Several years ago, a program for commercial birds was made available – the H5/H7 LPAI Monitored program. The program was developed for:

- (a) Commercial table egg layer flocks or table egg pullet flocks ( $\geq 75,000$  bird capacity on the premises where the birds are located);
- (b) Raised-for-release upland game bird premises and raised-for-release waterfowl premises ( $\geq 25,000$  total birds/year on the premises where the birds are located);
- (c) Upland game bird or waterfowl slaughter plants (processing  $\geq 50,000$  birds/year) and all affiliated flocks;
- (d) Meat-type chicken slaughter plants (processing  $\geq 200,000$  birds/operating week) and all affiliated flocks; and
- (e) Meat-type turkey slaughter plants (processing  $\geq 2$  million birds/year) and all affiliated flocks.

Flocks or plants not meeting these minimum size requirements are exempt from enrolling in NPIP regarding AI indemnity payments.

All participating flocks, and all equipment used in connection with the flocks, shall be separated from non-participating flocks in a manner acceptable to the Official State Agency.

Poultry equipment, and poultry houses and the land in the immediate vicinity thereof, shall be kept in sanitary condition in accordance with part 147 of the NPIP Provisions.

A participating slaughter plant shall participate with all of the commercial upland game bird, commercial waterfowl, meat-type chicken, spent fowl, and/or meat-type turkey flocks that are

processed at the facility, including affiliated flocks. Affiliated flocks must participate through a written agreement with a participating slaughter plant that is approved by the Official State Agency.

## **1. Inspections**

NPIP inspections by PDA personnel are conducted annually. Participants must provide testing records of affiliated flocks as requested by the inspector. Participating flock premises may also be inspected to ensure testing, sanitation and separation requirements are being met.

Test records shall be maintained for at least three years.

## **2. Overview of the NPIP Provisions for the Low Path Avian Influenza Monitored Program**

### **Subpart 146B: Table Egg Layers and Pullets**

Commercial table-egg laying premises with fewer than 75,000 bird capacity at any one time are exempt from the special provisions of subpart 146B.

- a. *Table-egg layer pullet flocks:* A commercial table-egg layer pullet flock in which a minimum of 11 birds have been tested negative to the H5/H7 subtypes of avian influenza within the 21 days prior to movement to the layer house.
- b. *Table-egg layer flocks (all table-egg layers of common age or pullet source on one premises):* A commercial table-egg layer flock in which a minimum of 11 birds have been tested negative to the H5/H7 subtypes of avian influenza within the 21 days prior to disposal; **and** a minimum of 11 birds have been tested negative for the H5/H7 subtypes of avian influenza within a 12-month period. If a premises has multiple layer houses, and the layers are not of common age or pullet source, each house must be treated as a separate flock and tested accordingly.
- c. Each participant shall be audited at least once annually or a sufficient number of times each year to satisfy the Official State Agency that the participant is in compliance with the provisions of this subpart. Testing records will be checked at inspection. On-site flock inspections may be conducted if there is a breach in testing requirements or other NPIP standards.

### **Subpart 146C: Meat-type Chicken Slaughter Plants**

- a. Only commercial meat-type chicken slaughter plants that are under continuous inspection by the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) or under State inspection that the FSIS has recognized as equivalent to Federal inspection may participate in the Plan.
- b. If spent fowl are slaughtered at meat-type chicken slaughter plants that participate in the Plan, they may participate in the Plan through the provisions of subpart 146C of the NPIP Provisions.
- c. Meat-type chicken slaughter plants that slaughter fewer than 200,000 chickens in an operating week are exempt from the special provisions of subpart C.

- d. It is a meat-type chicken slaughter plant where a minimum of 11 birds per shift are tested negative for the H5/H7 subtypes of avian influenza at slaughter; OR it is a meat-type chicken slaughter plant which accepts only meat-type chickens from flocks where a minimum of 11 birds have been tested negative for antibodies to the H5/H7 subtypes of avian influenza no more than 21 days prior to slaughter.
- e. A participating slaughter plant shall participate with all the commercial meat-type chicken and spent fowl flocks that are processed at the facility, including affiliated flocks. Affiliated flocks must participate through a written agreement with a participating slaughter plant that is approved by the Official State Agency. All associated flocks must be listed on the NPIP 9-5 application.
- f. A commercial meat-type chicken flock is defined as all the meat-type chickens or spent fowl on one farm.
- g. Each participant shall be audited at least once annually or a sufficient number of times each year to satisfy the Official State Agency that the participant is in compliance with the provisions of this subpart. Testing records will be checked at inspection. On-site flock inspections may be conducted if there is a breach in testing requirements or other NPIP standards.

#### **Subpart 146D: Meat-type Turkey Slaughter Plants**

- a. Only commercial meat-type turkey slaughter plants that are under continuous inspection by the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) or under State inspection that the FSIS has recognized as equivalent to Federal inspection may participate in the Plan.
- b. Meat-type turkey slaughter plants that slaughter fewer than 2 million meat-type turkeys in a 12-month period are exempt from the special provisions of subpart 146D of the NPIP Provisions.
- c. It is a meat-type turkey slaughter plant that accepts only meat-type turkeys from flocks where a minimum of 6 samples per flock have been collected no more than 21 days prior to movement to slaughter and tested negative for type A avian influenza. It is recommended that samples be collected from flocks over 10 weeks of age with respiratory signs such as coughing, sneezing, snicking, sinusitis, or rales; depression; or decreases in food or water intake.
- d. A participating slaughter plant shall participate with all the commercial meat-type turkey flocks that are processed at the facility, including affiliated flocks. Affiliated flocks must participate through a written agreement with a participating slaughter plant that is approved by the Official State Agency. All associated flocks must be listed on the NPIP 9-5 application.
- e. A commercial meat-type turkey flock is defined as all the meat-type turkeys on one farm.
- f. Each participant shall be audited at least once annually or a sufficient number of times each year to satisfy the Official State Agency that the participant is in compliance with the provisions of this

subpart. Testing records will be checked at inspection. On-site flock inspections may be conducted if there is a breach in testing requirements or other NPIP standards.

### **Subpart 146E—Commercial Upland Game Birds, Commercial Waterfowl, Raised-for-Release Upland Game Birds, and Raised-for-Release Waterfowl**

#### **Slaughter Plants:**

- a. Only commercial upland game bird and commercial waterfowl slaughter plants that are under continuous inspection by the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) or under State inspection that the FSIS has recognized as equivalent to Federal inspection may participate in the Plan.
- b. Commercial upland game bird and commercial waterfowl slaughter plants that slaughter fewer than 50,000 birds annually are exempt from the special provisions of subpart 146E of the NPIP Provisions.
- c. It is a commercial upland game bird slaughter plant or commercial waterfowl slaughter plant where a minimum of 11 birds per shift are tested negative for the H5/H7 subtypes of avian influenza at slaughter; OR it is a commercial upland game bird slaughter plant or commercial waterfowl slaughter plant that only accepts commercial upland game birds or commercial waterfowl from flocks where a minimum of 11 birds per flock have been tested negative for the H5/H7 subtypes of avian influenza no more than 21 days prior to slaughter.

#### **Raised-for-Release Upland Game Birds and Waterfowl:**

- a. Raised-for-release upland game bird premises and raised-for-release waterfowl premises that raise fewer than 25,000 birds annually are exempt from the special provisions of subpart 146E of the NPIP Provisions.
- b. A premises will qualify for the classification when the Official State Agency determines that a representative sample of 30 birds from the participating premises has been tested with negative results for the H5/H7 subtypes of avian influenza, as provided in §146.13(b), every 90 days (minimum age-3 weeks per PDA).

#### **Upland Game Birds and Waterfowl Flocks – Egg Production for Human Consumption**

- a. Commercial upland game bird premises and commercial waterfowl premises producing eggs for human consumption that raise fewer than 25,000 birds annually are exempt from the special provisions of subpart 146E of the NPIP Provisions.
- b. A commercial upland game bird or waterfowl premises that produces eggs for human consumption will qualify for the classification when the Official State Agency determines that a minimum of 11 birds per flock have been tested negative to the H5/H7 subtypes of avian influenza within the 30 days prior to disposal or within a 12-month period.

### **3. Biosecurity Plans:**

**Written Biosecurity Plans for the NPIP U.S. LPAI Monitored Program flocks are required as follows to comply with the NPIP Provisions and must be approved by PDA:**

Minimum flock size requirement (per premises) for biosecurity plan audit requirement:

\*Commercial table egg layers, commercial table egg layer pullets  $\geq$  75,000 bird capacity on the premises.

\*Broilers  $\geq$  100,000 birds per year on the premises.

\*Turkeys  $\geq$  30,000 birds per year on the premises.

\*Raised for Release Game birds and waterfowl  $\geq$  25,000 birds per year on the premises.

NPIP Program Standard E provides a 14-item template for biosecurity plans, and plans must be written in this order for approval.

A current, individualized WRITTEN biosecurity plan for each flock included under this requirement must be presented for inspection every two years with a signature and current date, even if there are no changes (refer to 9CFR 53.10).

A company participant may provide a standard biosecurity plan to all their flocks meeting the size requirement as the template. However, there must be a signed and dated individual plan for each premises with line of separation (LOS) and perimeter buffer area (PBA) shown. A voluntary risk assessment by PDA is available for on-site verification of these plans and will be required for a movement permit for flocks in a disease quarantine area during an outbreak situation.

Contact your regional PDA veterinarian to discuss your biosecurity plan.

### **4. Forms and other records:**

Report of Sales of Hatching Eggs, Chicks, and Poults (9-3 form): NPIP H5/H7 LPAI Monitored participants moving product interstate may utilize a federal 9-3 form if required to meet the import requirements of the state of destination. The electronic 9-3 form is available through the NPIP database. Please request a user ID to gain access to this database when you are ready to start shipping as NPIP certified. All the shipment information can be entered into the NPIP database and will be processed quickly at PDA. You can print a hard copy to send with the shipment.

### **5. Samplers:**

- a. PDA provides training and licensing for certified poultry technicians (CPTs) to sample birds in PA. Anyone wishing to become a CPT in PA may contact Stacy Rakocy at 717-783-6897 or [srakocy@pa.gov](mailto:srakocy@pa.gov).
- b. All CPTs must complete initial training and must renew licenses every 2 years. See the CPT licensing link on the PDA website for training information and licensing requirements. CPT activities are monitored closely by PDA. PDA website link: [PA Dept. of Agriculture](#)
- c. PA-accredited, licensed veterinarians may also collect samples for program testing.

## **6. Enrollment procedures:**

To enroll in the NPIP H5/H7 LPAI Monitored Program:

- a. Contact Stacy Rakocy at PDA – [srakocy@pa.gov](mailto:srakocy@pa.gov) or 717-783-6897, or Dr. Nan Hanshaw – [nhanshaw@pa.gov](mailto:nhanshaw@pa.gov) or 717-783-6677.

You will receive an NPIP 9-5 form (application) and instructions on filling out the form correctly. You will also be sent an NPIP packet of information, including the current version of the NPIP Provisions and Program Standards, which include the program requirements. Also included in the packet is an “PDA NPIP Participant Agreement” which must be completed and returned in order to participate in the program.

- b. Review the NPIP Provisions and Program Standards. If you have any questions, contact Dr. Nan Hanshaw at PDA.
- c. If you do not already have a premise ID number for the flock premises and slaughter plants, register the premises with PDA. This can be done online through the PDA website or contact Stacy Rakocy for a registration form.
- d. When you are familiar with the program requirements, have your required qualifying testing completed at an NPIP-approved laboratory. The Pennsylvania Animal Diagnostic Laboratory (PADLS) laboratories are approved by NPIP. Include the premise ID number on all laboratory submission forms (you will also include the NPIP number on submission forms after enrolled). Samples must be collected by a PA accredited licensed veterinarian or a certified poultry technician licensed in PA.
- e. Send your completed application (9-5 form), NPIP “Participant Agreement”, and the negative test report to Dr. Nan Hanshaw at PDA. The application must be complete and accurate. Include the premise ID number on your application. Stock codes are available from the NPIP website and must be included on the application. Instructions on filling out the application are included with the form.

Mail to:  
PDA BAHDS/ Poultry  
Rm 412  
2301 N Cameron St  
Harrisburg PA 17110

These may also be scanned and emailed to [nhanshaw@pa.gov](mailto:nhanshaw@pa.gov) .

- f. Call your regional PDA office to set up an initial records inspection (and review of your biosecurity plans if required) after your application has been submitted. Refer to the PDA Regional Map to locate your PDA regional office.
- g. After the steps above have been successfully completed, each participant shall be assigned a permanent approval number by the USDA NPIP office. This number, prefaced by the numerical code of the State (23), will be the official approval number of the participant and should be used on each certificate, invoice, shipping label, or other document used by the participant in the sale of his or her products. The approval number shall be withdrawn when the participant no longer qualifies for participation in NPIP.
- h. Annual renewal is required with PDA – renewal notices will be sent each June and must be returned with current information to PDA by August 1 to remain an active participant.