

SPS Permit Guidance

Moving Turkey Day-Old Poults from Hatchery to Brooder Premises

RISK ASSESSMENT FOR MOVEMENT: Completed; USDA reviewed March 2014

*Turkey day-old poults (newly hatched poults that are moved from the hatchery within a day after hatching) from hatcheries within an HPAI Control Area moving to brooder premises represent a **negligible to low risk**, provided that the permit guidance below has been met. Turkey day-old poults moving to brooder premises may move within or out of the Control Area by permit.*

PERMIT GUIDANCE INCLUDES:

1. Poults are moving from a hatchery that has a national premises identification number and that receives eggs from breeder flock(s) in the Control Area designated as Monitored Premises.
2. Truck and driver biosecurity is implemented.
3. Product-specific biosecurity as described in individual plan (i.e., Secure Turkey Supply [STS] Plan) is implemented.
4. Poults are placed under 21-day quarantine at destination premises (quarantine may be released after 21 days, at the discretion of the appropriate regulatory officials, with no further testing if there are no unexplained clinical signs and no unexplained mortality).
5. At onset of outbreak, initial testing of all breeder flocks located in the Control Area with eggs in hatchery egg room (but not necessary if eggs in incubators/hatchers) should have 2 negative PCR tests per house before any poults move.
6. Once Control Area and breeder flock testing is established, thereafter only poults from breeder flocks designated HPAI Free or Monitored Premises may be moved from a hatchery within the Control Area.

1. Poults are moving from a hatchery that has a national premises identification number and that receives eggs from breeder flock(s) in the Control Area designated as Monitored Premises.

- A Monitored Premises objectively demonstrates that it is not an Infected Premises, Contact Premises, or Suspect Premises. Only At-Risk Premises are eligible to become Monitored Premises. Monitored Premises meet a set of defined criteria in seeking to move susceptible animals or products out of the Control Area by permit. For the Secure Poultry Supply (SPS) Plans, the following criteria must be met:
 - Pre-movement RRT-PCR testing is negative,
 - Epidemiological questionnaire is completed,
 - No unexplained mortality, no unexplained clinical signs, and no unexplained changes in production parameters, and
 - Biosecurity measures are acceptable to state and federal authorities.
- For permitted movement through EMRS (the USDA's Emergency Management Response System for foreign animal diseases), an accurate national premises identification number (i.e., 7 character alphanumeric code as described in the Code of Federal Regulations [9 CFR § 71.1], not the state ID) or other acceptable identification system for movement is required.

2. Truck & driver biosecurity is implemented

- The risks of spreading virus to and from the premises associated with the truck (including possible transportation of insects) must be managed in accordance with specific industry and commodity recommendations.
 - Turkey day-old poults must be moved directly to the designated premises.
 - Poults delivery trucks must be cleaned and disinfected after delivery into a Control Area.
 - Spray the floors, pedals, and bottoms of feet with disinfectant after every stop.
 - The outside of all vehicles will be cleaned and disinfected as approved by regulatory personnel with an approved disinfectant at a cleaning and disinfection (C&D) station at

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- or near the turkey premises within the Infected Zone. If C&D cannot be completed at the turkey premises, the vehicles must be accompanied by a permit issued by the Incident Command to travel to a C&D station within the Infected Zone.
- Vehicle windows should be rolled up at all times while on the poultry farm in order to prevent flies from getting into the vehicle.
- Spray insecticide inside trucks as needed to eliminate the transporting of flies from farm to farm during warm months of the year.
- The risks of spreading virus to and from the premises associated with the driver must be managed in accordance with specific industry and commodity recommendations.
 - All drivers and passengers must wear boots (rubber or disposable) before getting out of the vehicle. When exiting the farm, put disposable boots in an appropriate disposal container prior to exiting the farm and spray shoes with disinfectant before entering your vehicle. Rubber boots and any tools used on the farm must be cleaned and disinfected prior to being removed from the turkey premises.
 - Use a hand sanitizer before leaving and after re-entering the cab.

3. Product-specific biosecurity as described in individual plan (i.e., STS Plan) is implemented

3.1. Hatchery measures

- Poults shall be moved in clean reusable or new paper boxes with clean reusable or new pads.
- Disposable (cardboard) poult-handling materials are used in place of reusable boxes such that only the truck and dollies return to the hatchery. If padding material is used in boxes, it should be disposed of at the farm after poults are placed. If reusable poult-handling materials are used, they should be cleaned and disinfected upon return to the hatchery, where they are unloaded at a specially designated dock.
- Hatchery personnel must wash their hands with soap and water and/or apply a hand sanitizer before entering or leaving the hatcher room or poult processing rooms as well as prior to leaving the hatchery.
- Hatchery loading docks, connecting passages, and receiving storage areas are cleaned and disinfected with an EPA registered disinfectant after receiving each truckload of hatching eggs.
- Egg contents leaked onto hatchery floors or equipment must be cleaned and disinfected according to the hatchery standard operating procedure as soon as possible.
- Employees must take precautions to prevent the potential transfer of contamination into the poult processing room via shoes by utilizing a foot bath or clean disposable shoe covers.
- If the hatchery has a loading dock that is used for hatching eggs and poults, the poults will move first before the eggs are received. Egg deliveries to the hatchery will only occur after all live bird (i.e., hatching) and poult processing has occurred for the day.
- Poult processing will occur and be completed prior to any egg-room work or egg movement to setter room.
- Transfer of hatching eggs into setters and movements of unwashed materials originating from breeder farm must be conducted after the hatching and poult processing operations on the same day have been completed.
- For essential visitors, cleaned and disinfected footwear or site-provided footwear or footwear covers must be worn prior to entering the hatchery. Clean protective clothing and head covering dedicated to the hatchery should be worn prior to entering. Hands must be washed or sanitized before entering and prior to leaving the hatchery.
- Essential visitors who have had contact with other birds during the preceding 24 hours are prohibited from entering poult-processing area.

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- Visitors collecting hatchery waste should not enter the hatchery building. Hatchery personnel should keep waste bins outside for collection to facilitate this protocol. Waste bins should be stored in a way to prevent access to wild birds or wildlife.
- If dollies are unloaded from the vehicle during poult placement, their wheels should be sprayed with a disinfectant before being brought back into the hatchery.

3.2. Brooder Premises Measures Prior to Poult Placement

- One of the three options for the observation period* and C&D protocols prior to placement of poults in a brooder premises in a HPAI Control Area listed below should be followed:
 - i. 10-day observation period with litter removal followed by C&D.
 - ii. 7-day observation period with litter removal followed by C&D in conjunction with RRT-PCR testing of the birds previously moved from the brooder house on observation time days 6 and 7. The sampling protocols described below should be followed for the RRT-PCR testing.
 - iii. 10-day observation period with RRT-PCR testing of the birds moved from the brooder house on observation time days 9 and 10. The sampling protocols described below should be followed for the RRT-PCR testing.

* Observation period refers to the time focused on observing the birds that have been moved out from the brooder premises before placing new batch of birds into the brooder house (the term downtime is used by the industry and refers to the premises and the intentional time the house is left empty between flocks prior to introducing new birds into the house). Observation period is defined to begin when the previous flock leaves the house and end when the new batch of day-old poults is placed.

- Sampling protocol for poult placement:
 - i. At least one 5-bird pooled sample must be tested by RRT-PCR for each 50 dead turkeys. If there are less than 5 dead turkeys in the house, the remainder of the samples should be taken from sick turkeys.
 - ii. Birds on a multiple-age brooder premises in a Control Area should be tested before testing day-old poults.
 - iii. The tests shall be conducted by a National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) laboratory.

4. Poults may be placed under 21-day quarantine at destination premises (quarantine may be released after 21 days, at the discretion of the appropriate regulatory officials, with no further testing if there are no unexplained clinical signs and no unexplained mortality).

5. At onset of outbreak, initial testing of all breeder flocks located in the Control Area with eggs in hatchery egg room (but not necessary if eggs in incubators/hatchers) should have 2 negative PCR tests per house before any poults move.

6. Once Control Area and breeder flock testing is established, thereafter only poults from breeder flocks designated HPAI Free or Monitored Premises may be moved from a hatchery within the Control Area.

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Example Movement of Turkey Day-Old Poults

