

LIVE BIRD MARKET PRODUCTION FLOCKS—MOVEMENT and PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

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A. Requirements for LBM flocks located in a PA Control Area (10 kilometers (6.21 miles)) around an infected flock or moving into a PA Control Area:

1. **Biosecurity Plan Requirements:** There are now two options for certain non-commercial flocks to meet the biosecurity plan requirements when needed for obtaining a movement permit:
 - a. **Option 1** is a written biosecurity plan that follows the NPIP Program Standard E format and has been reviewed and approved by PDA. **This is required if the poultry premises meets the commercial size requirement as specified below or has a flock of any size containing waterfowl.** Non-commercial premises are encouraged to submit an approved biosecurity plan using this template along with a permit application.
 - Biosecurity plan templates are available at [NPIPStandardEBiosecurityPlanTemplate.pdf \(pa.gov\)](#) and [HatcherySampleBiosecurityPlan.pdf \(pa.gov\)](#)
 - An example of a commercial flock biosecurity plan is available at: [SampleCommBasicBiosecurityPlan.pdf \(pa.gov\)](#)
 - Submit a plan in the proper format to RA-AGBIOSECURITYPLAN@pa.gov for evaluation.

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Bird Type	Number
Commercial Layers and pullets	75,000 or more birds on premises at one time
Commercial Broilers	Raise 100,000 or more/year
Commercial Meat Turkeys	Raise 30,000 or more/year
Commercial Upland Game Birds/ Commercial Waterfowl	Raise 25,000 or more/year
All Breeder Flocks (all types)	5,000 breeder birds or more on premises at one time

- b. **Option 2** is acknowledging and signing the applicable Secure Poultry Supply (SPS) plan permit guidance document which applies to the species related to the permit application.
- The signed SPS plan permit guidance document must be attached to the permit request to avoid delays in obtaining an approved permit.
 - Signature acknowledgement of adherence to the SPS biosecurity guidance document can be used for non-commercial flocks of the following species: layers, pullets, broilers, meat turkeys, and upland gamebirds, if a biosecurity plan is not currently approved.
 - **There is currently no written SPS plan for waterfowl** — use option 1 (above) and if you have any questions about waterfowl requirements please contact the permitting unit for additional information at RA-AG-PAPERMITS@pa.gov or call 717-772-2852, and choose option 1, followed by option 4.

The Department may require an on-farm biosecurity audit before approving a permit request for any premises.

- 2. HPAI Poultry Inspection Certificate (PIC):** To be used instead of a Monitored Flock or Tested Flock PIC, and only when there is an active Control Area in PA
- 3. Test Report:** A copy of the final AI-negative lab report
- 4. A movement permit:** From PDA/EMRS, which has been approved by PDA and the state of destination if moving out of state
- 5. An additional NJ permit:** From the NJ Dept of Agriculture if birds are entering a NJ live bird market
- 6. Testing** so that all of the following requirements are met:
 - Monitored Flock or Tested Flock requirements for live bird markets (30 per flock, 3 weeks of age and older, representative of the entire flock, including all houses/areas

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and bird types). Include a random, representative sample of poultry kept for personal use on the premises in the sample collection.

- EMRS/PDA Permit/ Secure Poultry Supply requirements (22 per house for chickens, turkeys, and game birds; 35 per house for waterfowl)
- Samples must be collected *within the 24 hours prior to movement*, with AI-negative PCR results—this also meets the NJ requirement of testing within the 72 hours prior to entry into NJ

B. Requirements for Flocks located outside of a Control Area, and not moving into a Control Area, when a Control Area is in place, moving into NJ

- 1. HPAI Poultry Inspection Certificate (PIC):** To be used instead of a Monitored Flock or Tested Flock PIC, and only when there is an active Control Area in PA
- 2. Test Report:** A copy of the final AI-negative lab report
- 3. A permit from the NJ Dept of Agriculture:** If birds are entering a NJ live bird market
- 4. Testing to meet the NJ requirements for entry into a NJ live bird market**
 - All poultry shall originate and move directly from an established flock in which a minimum of 30 birds, seven days of age and older and representative of the entire flock, including all houses/areas and bird types, were tested negative for AI by PCR within the 72 hours prior to entry into NJ. Include a random, representative sample of poultry kept for personal use on the premises in the sample collection.

C. Timing of Sampling: Because the 24-hour or 72-hour (NJ) testing requirement may result in a flock being sampled in the morning and shipped that evening—good communication and coordination is critical between the person requesting the permit, the state official approving the permit(s), the sampler, the flock owner, the distributor/hauler, the live bird market, and the laboratory. The date and time of sample collection should be included on the submission form and the PIC. Getting samples to the laboratory before the daily cut-off time is vital for same-day testing. Exceptions to the cut off-time are only made at PDA request for samples collected for testing of suspect flocks.

D. Reporting suspect flocks: If any houses have an increase in the number of sick or dead birds, call the PDA sick bird emergency line at (717-772-2852, option 1, 24/7)

E. Examples of Sample Collection

- For flocks with a single poultry house that contains only gallinaceous birds (chickens, turkeys,

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game birds), 30 oropharyngeal swab samples are required to meet both the LBM and Secure Poultry Supply requirements. Include a random, representative sample of poultry kept for personal use on the premises in the sample collection.

- For flocks with both gallinaceous birds (chickens, turkeys, game birds) and waterfowl, 22 oropharyngeal swabs per house from gallinaceous birds and 35 cloacal swabs per house from waterfowl are needed to meet both the LBM and Secure Poultry Supply requirements. Include a random, representative sample of poultry kept for personal use on the premises in the sample collection.
- For flocks with a single house of waterfowl, 35 cloacal swabs per house are needed to meet both the LBM and Secure Poultry Supply requirements. Include a random, representative sample of poultry kept for personal use on the premises in the sample collection.

F. Samples to Collect

- Always swab fresh dead birds first, then sick birds, then healthy birds to get the necessary number of swabs. Swabs from dead and sick birds can be combined in a tube, but swabs from healthy birds should be placed in a separate tube when possible. Target sampling of any birds located near incoming air vents or doors. Label the tubes or number the tubes and mark on the submission form to indicate which birds are represented in the tube (dead, sick, or healthy). Also label tubes if you are sampling different species so the lab knows which bird type they are testing.
- Always collect a representative sample of the house when swabbing healthy birds. Collect samples randomly from birds representing each house, pen, or poultry area. Do not just collect samples from the group of birds being moved. Include a random, representative sample of poultry kept for personal use on the premises in the sample collection.
- When collecting oropharyngeal swab samples from gallinaceous birds (chickens, turkeys, game birds) swab up to 11 birds per tube of BHI broth, but do not leave the swabs in the tube;** instead, after swabbing several birds, swirl the swabs in the broth, squeeze them against the side of the tube, and remove the swabs from the tube of BHI. Dispose of the swabs properly. Repeat until you have the correct number of swabs. Do not mix swabs from more than one species in a tube. Place swabs from different species in separate tubes and label the tube with that species.
- When collecting cloacal swab samples from waterfowl, swab up to 5 birds per tube.** Swabs are left in the tubes and the swab handle is broken off to properly close the tube cap. Place swabs from different species in separate tubes and label the tube with that species.

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- Please consider that the flock you are visiting may be an infected flock and use your best biosecurity practices while you collect samples, and afterward.
- For additional information on HPAI testing, refer to the PADLS website “Sampling/Submitting” tab ([PADLS HPAI Sampling/Submitting Information](#))

G. Approved Sample Collectors

Samples for regulatory testing (testing for HPAI surveillance, movement, or program purposes) may be collected only by the following:

- A Certified Poultry Technician licensed in PA
- A current PDA-approved HPAI Sampler (may only collect samples from flocks for which they were approved by PDA and may only collect samples from a flock located within a control area or surveillance zone).
- An Accredited Veterinarian

H. Important Links and Permitting Information

- Sick Bird Reporting Line: **717-772-2852, option 1 (24/7)**
- Biosecurity plan submission: RA-AGBIOSECURITYPLAN@pa.gov
- Premises registration or premises ID questions: RA-PREMISE-ID@PA.GOV or call 717-772-2852, and choose option 5
- Control Zone Address Checker Map on the PADLS website: [Control Zone Address Checker Map](#)
- For additional information on HPAI testing, refer to the PADLS website “Sampling/Submitting” tab ([PADLS HPAI Sampling/Submitting Information](#))
- Additional HPAI Response Information—USDA APHIS: [HPAI Response Documents- USDA](#) (<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/emergency-management/hpai/fadprep-hpai>)
- The USDA EMRS Gateway is recommended for anyone who needs a movement permit. Instructions for applying for a permit are located under the *Permitting* tab on the PADLS website. [PADLS HPAI Permitting Information](#)
- For specific product permit guidance, refer to the HPAI PA Permit Guidance Table on the PADLS website; [HPAI PA Permit Guidance Table](#)
- Contact the permitting section with questions about testing of flocks with multiple species and houses, or other permitting or EMRS Gateway questions by email at: RA-AG-PAPERMITS@pa.gov or via telephone (717-772-2852, option 1 followed by option 4)