

Mississippi Avian Influenza (AI) Program

11/29/2005

The purpose of this program is to enhance Avian Influenza(AI) surveillance and control within the state and to aid in the identification, control, and elimination of avian influenza in commercial poultry. Surveillance and control of avian influenza is essential to maintain free international trade for the commercial poultry industry both live poultry and poultry products, and eliminate production loss due to infection.

Since H5 and H7 subtypes of avian influenza have the propensity to mutate into highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) if they are allowed to persist in poultry populations, the active surveillance, diagnostic surveillance, and initial state response and containment plans are essential in assuring that H5/H7 LPAI outbreaks don't persist in commercial poultry populations spread and mutate into HPAI.

Economic Impact Statement:

State Agency Cost:

This regulation is not expected to have an economic impact.

Industry Cost of Regulation:

The minimum cost of the program will be to test 11 samples per shift at 14 processing plants within our state. Assuming 2 shifts per 24 hour period and assuming a 52 work week year, this would result in a potential laboratory test cost of \$160,160/year to the poultry industry.

Small Business Impact:

No impact on small business

A comparison of the costs and benefits of the proposed rule to the probable costs and benefits of not adopting the proposed rule or significantly amending an existing rule;

Published reports of an outbreak in Virginia of low pathogenic avian influenza resulted in the destruction of 4.7 million birds at a total cost to industry and government of approximately \$130 million due to destruction of birds, disease containment costs, loss of international trade and loss of income. The purpose of this proposed program is to detect disease before it can get established and cause devastating economic loss.

1. Entry Requirements:

1. All poultry and waterfowl- (including direct to slaughter) requires a negative AGID of 20 birds per flock within 15 days of shipment. If the flock is a participant in the NPIP AI Clean, or part of a recognized State Monitoring Plan that is equivalent, then this requirement is waived.
2. Pet birds susceptible to AI may not enter from an affected area without a negative test.
3. No poultry, waterfowl or susceptible pet birds may enter Mississippi from an affected area without a prior permit.

2. AI Surveillance Plan (no disease present in state)

The surveillance plan is designed for commercial poultry only. This plan is designed to give assurance to our poultry industry and to international trading partners that commercial poultry in Mississippi is free from avian influenza.

1. **Commercial Broiler/Layers breeder flocks (NPIP Protocol)**
30 blood samples to qualify/ then 10 samples per quarter with MG/MS blood
 2. **Commercial Layers-** 15 eggs every 30 days (representative samples from within the house) 50% of houses
 3. **Broiler flocks-** suffering from significant respiratory disease or mortality will have samples submitted for AI surveillance.
 4. **All Pullets/Hens** that are submitted for illness or death will have samples submitted for AI testing.
 5. **Commercial Broilers-** 11 samples/shift/plant (NPIP proposed plan)
11 Samples/flock prior to processing
15 samples/flock- 25% of flocks (Texas Plan)
 6. **Sample Submission-** CVM –Poultry Research Diagnostic Laboratory (PDRL)
 - i. Blood for routine monitoring program – AGID test or ELISA with AGID confirmation of positives.
 - ii. Tracheal/Cloachal swabs for PCR/Directogen/Virus Isolation for disease surveillance program
3. Action to be taken on notification of **positive AGID** (no clinical signs in flock)
1. Notification of Company
 2. Collection of samples for PCR and Virus isolation at CVM-PRDL
 3. Forward samples to NVSL for confirmation
 4. Initiate Stage 1 of the Emergency Response Plan
4. Action to be taken upon notification of a **presumed positive H5/H7** test to avian influenza or a **highly suspicious diagnosis** based on clinical signs and or positive AGID. A “presumed positive” is any positive test, not yet confirmed by NVSL
- a. Action to be taken by **State Veterinarian**
 - i. Notify Industry(Contact List)
 - ii. Issue Quarantine/ Hold Order to affected farm
 - iii. Activate Response Plan (Stage II of Emergency Poultry Disease Response Plan)
 - iv. Activate Euthanasia/Disposal Plan
Depopulate flock (presumed positive test) at company expense
 - v. Utilize indemnity plan for non-commercial poultry (if needed)
 - vi. Begin epidemiological investigation
 - vii. Begin surveillance of all poultry (commercial & non-commercial) within 3 miles of Infected Premise (IP). Commercial surveillance will be made by daily pick up of daily dead from farms within the surveillance zone. Non-commercial surveillance will consist on farm sample collection.
 - b. Action to be taken by **Company**.
Activate Company Emergency Response Plan (Biosecurity Plans)
 - c. Action to be taken by **Grower**

Activate Grower Emergency Response Plan (Biosecurity Plan)

5. Action to be taken upon notification of **confirmed non** H5/H7 LPAI
 - a. Action to be taken by **State Veterinarian**
 - i. implement area surveillance.
 - ii. Implement Stage I/II of Emergency Response Plan
 - iii. Slaughter / move flocks and products only under permission (if needed)
 - iv. Implement indemnity plan for non-commercial poultry (if needed)
 - b. Action to be taken by **Company**.
Implement stringent biosecurity plansAction to be taken by **Grower**
Implement stringent biosecurity plans
6. Action to be taken by **State Veterinarian /Company / Grower** upon notification of **confirmed** H5/H7 LPAI.
 - a. Implement Stage II/III Emergency Poultry Disease Response Plan
 - b. Complete epidemiological investigation
 - c. Implement movement restrictions of live poultry and poultry products as necessary
 - d. Expand surveillance zone to 6 miles around IP
 - e. Indemnity Plan for non-commercial (if needed)