



State of New Jersey

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor
SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Division of Animal Health
PO Box 400
TRENTON NJ 08625-0400

DOUGLAS H. FISHER
Secretary

June 3, 2022

Dear Registered Poultry Distributor:

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has continued to detect highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) across numerous states. Additionally, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has confirmed HPAI in several Canadian provinces.

As a reminder, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:3-7.4 (b) Avian Influenza:

No poultry, or hatching eggs originating from a state, territory, or country where Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) has been detected, shall be imported into New Jersey for live bird markets unless:

1. The poultry or hatching eggs are approved and provided a permit by the State Veterinarian, and
2. The poultry or hatching eggs meet testing requirements as follows:
 - i. All poultry shall originate and move directly from an established flock in which a minimum of 30 birds, seven days of age and older, were tested negative for Avian Influenza using real-time reverse transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction (rRT-PCR). If the flock contains less than 30 birds, all birds from within the flock must be tested.
 - (1.) rRT-PCR testing is accepted for all gallinaceous poultry and domestic ducks. The date of sample collection must be within 72 hours prior to the date of entry into New Jersey, and the shipment must be accompanied by a copy of the finalized laboratory report indicating that poultry tested negative for Avian Influenza.

Poultry purchased from production/supplier flocks in any state, territory, or country where HPAI has been detected, and the poultry is destined for the New Jersey Live Bird Marketing System require a permit issued by the New Jersey State Veterinarian and a negative avian influenza test within 72 hours of movement. The State Veterinarian must issue the permit before moving such poultry into the State of New Jersey.

For your reference, the permit request form is located on the Division of Animal Health's website:

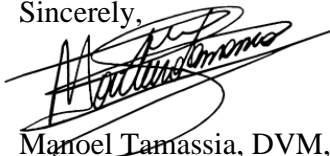
https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/ah/pdf/Permitting%20Procedure%20for%20Poultry_HPAI_2022.pdf

Under N.J.A.C. 2:3-1.10, poultry not meeting import requirements shall be refused entry into the State, or if already in the State, shall remain under quarantine until the poultry is either:

1. Slaughtered;
2. Tested upon epidemiologic evaluation and risk determination and released;
3. Returned to the State or country of origin; or
4. Disposed of in accordance with the decision of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture.

NJ import requirements must be met to ascertain the health and welfare of New Jersey poultry. To accomplish this, the NJ rules require permitting procedures to be followed. The detection of HPAI in the New Jersey Live Bird Marketing System will seriously impact business continuity and disrupt timely poultry movement for an extended period. Negative avian influenza results before movement helps ensure that the live bird marketing system remains free of HPAI and its associated impacts. State and federal inspectors will continue to perform routine inspections and sampling for Avian Influenza at your facility. Your continued commitment to poultry health is essential. If you have any questions, please contact the Division of Animal Health at (609)-671-6400.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Manoel Tamassia", written over a horizontal line.

Manoel Tamassia, DVM, MS, Ph.D., Dipl. ACT
Division Director and State Veterinarian

Cc: Live Bird Market Owners