

CHAPTER 9

AVIAN INFLUENZA

Authority

N.J.S.A. 4:1-11, 4:1-21.2, 4:1-21.5, 4:5-1 et seq., and 4:5-94 et seq.

Source and Effective Date

Effective: October 29, 2021.
See: 53 N.J.R. 2005(a).

Chapter Expiration Date

Chapter 9, Avian Influenza, expires on October 29, 2028.

Chapter Historical Note

Chapter 9, Avian Influenza, was adopted as R.1986 d.250, effective July 7, 1986. See: 18 N.J.R. 870(a), 18 N.J.R. 1370(a). Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 9, Avian Influenza, expired on July 7, 1991.

Chapter 9, Avian Influenza, was readopted as new rules by R.1991 d.430, effective August 19, 1991. See: 23 N.J.R. 1485(a), 23 N.J.R. 2498(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 9, Avian Influenza, was readopted as R.1996 d.400, effective July 26, 1996. See: 28 N.J.R. 2815(b), 28 N.J.R. 3915(a).

Chapter 9, Avian Influenza, was readopted as R.2001 d.284, effective July 20, 2001. See: 33 N.J.R. 1887(a), 33 N.J.R. 2806(b).

Subchapter 1, Indemnification, was renamed Subchapter 1, Indemnification and Disposal Costs; and Subchapter 2, General Provisions, Subchapter 3, Live Bird Markets, Subchapter 4, Poultry Distributors, Subchapter 5, Production/Supplier Flocks and Subchapter 6, Penalties, were adopted as new rules by R.2006 d.201, effective June 5, 2006. See: 38 N.J.R. 865(a), 38 N.J.R. 2413(a).

Chapter 9, Avian Influenza, was readopted as R.2007 d.19, effective December 15, 2006. See: 38 N.J.R. 3203(a), 39 N.J.R. 185(a).

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1b, Chapter 9, Avian Influenza, was scheduled to expire on December 15, 2013. See: 43 N.J.R. 1203(a).

Chapter 9, Avian Influenza, was readopted as R.2014 d.101, effective May 15, 2014. See: 46 N.J.R. 155(a), 46 N.J.R. 1471(b).

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1, Chapter 9, Avian Influenza, was scheduled to expire on May 15, 2021. Pursuant to Executive Order Nos. 127 (2020) and 244 (2021) and P.L. 2021, c. 103, any chapter of the New Jersey Administrative Code that would otherwise have expired during the Public Health Emergency originally declared in Executive Order No. 103 (2020) is extended through January 1, 2022. Chapter 9, Avian Influenza, was readopted, effective October 29, 2021. See: Source and Effective Date.

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SUBCHAPTER 1. INDEMNIFICATION AND DISPOSAL COSTS

2:9-1.1 Indemnities

(a) The handling and disposition of any and all poultry, poultry products or equipment, which is in the opinion of the Department of Agriculture likely to spread or harbor Avian Influenza shall be dealt with in accordance to the directives of the Division of Animal Health of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture.

(b) Indemnity shall be paid for any bird destroyed pursuant to an order of the Department, subject to availability of funds. Appraisal value for all birds will be determined by either Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)-developed valuation lists or by APHIS' Appraisal-Indemnity-Compensation Specialist (AICS).

(c) No indemnity shall be paid for any actions not taken pursuant to a directive of the Department, or in contradiction of a directive of the Department.

(d) Subsections (a) through (c) above shall not apply to premises quarantined pursuant to this chapter for infection with Avian Influenza more than twice within the registration year.

Amended by R.2006 d.201, effective June 5, 2006.
See: 38 N.J.R. 865(a), 38 N.J.R. 2413(a).

Added (d).

Amended by R.2014 d.101, effective June 16, 2014.
See: 46 N.J.R. 155(a), 46 N.J.R. 1471(b).

Rewrote (b).

2:9-1.2 Disposal costs

(a) The disposal costs of any birds destroyed pursuant to a directive of or by the Department shall be paid, subject to the availability of funds, as follows:

1. Should the owner undertake to dispose of the birds pursuant to the directives of the Department, the owner shall submit the disposal bill to the Department. If the Department finds the bill reasonable, the Department shall

reimburse the bill, or such costs as the Department deems reasonable.

2. No disposal undertaken without Department supervision, or in contradiction to the directives of the Department, shall be paid.

(b) Subsection (a) above shall not apply to premises quarantined pursuant to this chapter for infection with Avian Influenza more than twice within the registration year.

Amended by R.2006 d.201, effective June 5, 2006.

See: 38 N.J.R. 865(a), 38 N.J.R. 2413(a).

Added (b).

Amended by R.2014 d.101, effective June 16, 2014.

See: 46 N.J.R. 155(a), 46 N.J.R. 1471(b).

In the introductory paragraph of (a), inserted “; subject to the availability of funds.”.

2:9-1.3 (Reserved)

Repealed by R.2006 d.201, effective June 5, 2006.

See: 38 N.J.R. 865(a), 38 N.J.R. 2413(a).

Section was “Movement into live poultry markets”.

2:9-1.4 (Reserved)

Repealed by R.2006 d.201, effective June 5, 2006.

See: 38 N.J.R. 865(a), 38 N.J.R. 2413(a).

Section was “Definitions”.

SUBCHAPTER 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS

2:9-2.1 Definitions

The following words and terms, as used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

“Accredited veterinarian” means a veterinarian approved by the Administrator of USDA, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), in accordance with the provisions of 9 CFR Part 161, to perform functions required by state-Federal-industry cooperative programs.

“Animal health official” means a full-time employee of any state animal health department or of APHIS who has authority from the State Veterinarian or the area veterinarian in charge to carry out program activities.

“APHIS-VS” means Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service — Veterinary Services.

“Assistant District Director” means the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) veterinarian who is assigned by the Administrator of the APHIS to supervise and perform official duties of APHIS in a specified state or states. Information as to the name and address of the Regional Director for the state or states concerned can be obtained by writing to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Animal Care, 4700 River Road, Unit 84, Riverdale, MD 20737-1234.

“Certificate of Veterinary Inspection” means an official document, which includes:

1. The information outlined in N.J.A.C. 2:3-1.4;
2. A statement made by the examining veterinarian that includes the date, a statement of negative avian influenza status, and lab accession number(s) of qualifying tests;
3. A copy of the finalized laboratory report indicating that the poultry tested negative for avian influenza; and
4. A statement verifying that the identified poultry are from a monitored flock or tested flock.

“Certified poultry technician” means an individual who has been specially trained in poultry health monitoring and specimen collection by the state in which they are certified, who is included on an official list of technicians certified by the state in which they reside to perform inspections and specimen collections, and whose state certification program has been approved by the NJDA. A state’s certification program, at a minimum, must contain standards for:

1. Certification that include training in sample collection, sample handling and submission, biosecurity protocol and poultry health monitoring;
2. Recertification that includes an annual training update, review of the technician’s testing history and paperwork, and review of reports of non-compliance with poultry certificate requirements and biosecurity protocol; and
3. Termination of certification that include disciplinary action protocols.

“Distribution system” means businesses engaged in the transportation and/or sale of poultry to the live bird markets, including, but not limited to, poultry distributors, wholesalers, poultry dealers, haulers/truckers, and qualified poultry auctions.

“Established flock” means poultry of the same species held together on one premises for at least 21 consecutive days; or at the discretion of the State Veterinarian, any group of poultry on one premises that has been segregated from another group for at least 21 consecutive days. The flock shall be kept separate and apart from all other poultry of unknown health status and no additional birds may be added between the testing date and the date that the birds leave the farm.

“Hauler/trucker” means a business entity or individual that transports poultry from producer/supplier premises to another producer/supplier, a poultry distributor, a live bird market, or qualified poultry auction.

“Live bird market” or “live bird marketing” means any facility that gathers live poultry to be slaughtered and sold onsite. End-stage poultry markets that are not “slaughter-only” markets, will require development and approval of special biosecurity safeguards pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:9-2.2(b)7 and inspections to ensure that they meet the requirements of this chapter and are successful in the prevention and control of low pathogenicity avian influenza.

“Live bird marketing system” means live bird markets and their production/supplier flocks and distribution systems.

“Monitored flock” means an established flock that meets the following criteria:

1. A sample size of at least 30 birds is tested monthly for signs of avian influenza. If the flock contains less than 30 birds, all birds within the flock must be tested monthly;
2. The birds tested have tested negative for avian influenza for three consecutive months;
3. The flock is registered with the New Jersey Department of Agriculture pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:9-2.2;
4. With the exception of day-old chicks moved directly from a National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) U.S. Avian Influenza Clean hatchery or pullets moved directly from an NPIP U.S. H5/H7 Avian Influenza Monitored flock, no birds of lesser status may be added to the flock. When birds of lesser status are added to the flock, the flock loses its monitored status. After waiting 21 consecutive days, a flock that has lost its monitored status may requalify for monitored status if 30 birds have tested negative for avian influenza monthly for three consecutive months;
5. The flock must comply with the requirements set forth in N.J.A.C. 2:9-5.2 and 5.3(a); and
6. The flock must receive a poultry inspection certificate indicating negative avian influenza status prior to movement.

“NJDA” shall mean the New Jersey Department of Agriculture.

“Positive sample” means a diagnostic specimen that is:

1. Positive for avian influenza virus, subtype H5 or H7, by realtime reverse transcriptase/polymerase chain reaction assay (RRT-PCR), gene sequencing, or virus isolation;
2. Positive for specific antibodies to avian influenza virus, subtype H5 or H7, but not as a consequence of vaccination; or
3. Other avian influenza virus subtypes based on epidemiologic evaluation and risk determination.

Specimens positive for avian influenza virus must be confirmed by the National Veterinary Services Laboratory.

“Poultry” means any species of domestic fowl raised for food production or other purposes, including, but not limited to, chickens, turkeys, ostriches, emus, rheas, cassowaries, waterfowl, guinea fowl and game birds.

“Poultry dealer” means any business entity or individual engaged in the business of trading birds in the live bird marketing system, acquiring birds from multiple flocks and geographic areas for resale, and/or movement of live poultry between the production/supplier flocks and live bird markets.

“Poultry distributor” means any business entity or individual working within the distribution system serving the live bird markets, including, but not limited to, production/supplier flocks, wholesalers, poultry dealers, haulers/truckers and qualified poultry auctions.

“Poultry inspection certificate” means a document issued by a state agency based on negative avian influenza test results by a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) approved laboratory. The certificate shall be accompanied by a copy of the finalized laboratory report indicating that the poultry tested negative for avian influenza. The certificate shall include:

1. The full name of the flock owner and the phone number of the flock owner/manager;
2. The address of the origin of the poultry;
3. The breeds and quantity of all poultry maintained on the premises of origin at the time of testing that qualify for movement;
4. The dates that the poultry were tested, number of samples collected, lab accession number(s) of qualifying tests and a statement of negative avian influenza status;
5. The date of issue and expiration date of the certificate;
6. A signed statement by the flock owner certifying that the identified poultry are from:
 - i. A monitored flock; or
 - ii. A tested flock; and
7. A signed statement by an accredited veterinarian, animal health official or certified poultry technician certifying that the flock was inspected at the time of testing and no signs of clinical disease were observed.

“Poultry invoice” means a document issued by a poultry distributor or production/supplier flock, which shall include:

1. The full name and address of the poultry distributor or production/supplier flock where the poultry originated;
2. The breeds and quantity of the poultry being moved;
3. The date of movement;
4. A statement of negative avian influenza status; and
5. The name and address of the poultry distributor or live bird market where the poultry are being moved.

“Production/supplier flock” means the backyard flock or farm that is the origin of poultry offered for sale within the live bird marketing system.

“Qualified poultry auction” means an auction where all poultry have tested negative for avian influenza prior to entering the auction, surveillance is conducted at the auction and an authorized agent of the New Jersey Department of

Agriculture is present during the sale of the birds. These auctions shall be considered poultry distributors within the live bird marketing system.

“State Veterinarian” means the state official who is responsible for the livestock and poultry disease control and eradication programs in a state.

“State animal health department” means the department or division within the executive branch of a state government who is responsible for development and implementation of livestock and poultry disease control and eradication programs for the state.

“Tested flock” means an established flock in which 30 birds have tested negative for avian influenza 10 days prior to the date of movement and no poultry have been added to the flock after testing and prior to movement. If the flock contains less than 30 birds, all birds within the flock must be tested.

“Unit” means any division or quantity accepted as a standard of measurement or exchange. Where it is possible to determine the exact number of animals (livestock or poultry), the Department will use that number as the basis for calculating a penalty. Where the exact number of animals is not known, the department will use the next identifiable quantity as the unit (that is, crate or truckload) on which the penalty will be based.

“USDA” shall mean the United States Department of Agriculture.

“Wholesaler” means a business with a permanent facility that buys birds from production/supplier flocks, poultry distributors, or qualified poultry auctions, and then trades or resells them.

Amended by R.2014 d.101, effective June 16, 2014.
See: 46 N.J.R. 155(a), 46 N.J.R. 1471(b).

Substituted definition “Assistant District Director” for definition “Area veterinarian in charge”; in definition “Assistant District Director”, substituted “Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)” for the first occurrence of “APHIS”, and substituted the second occurrence of “APHIS” for “Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service”; in the introductory paragraph of definition “Certificate of Veterinary Inspection”, inserted a comma following “document”, in paragraph 2, inserted a comma following “status”, and deleted “and” from the end, added new paragraph 3, and recodified former paragraph 3 as paragraph 4; in definition “Established flock”, inserted the last sentence; in definition “Monitored flock”, rewrote paragraph 4; in the last paragraph of definition “Positive sample”, deleted “or a National Veterinary Services Laboratory approved laboratory” following “Laboratory”; in the introductory paragraph of definition “Poultry inspection certificate”, inserted the second sentence; in the introductory paragraph of definition “Poultry invoice”, inserted “or production/supplier flock”, in paragraph 1, inserted “or production/supplier flock where the poultry originated”, and in paragraph 5, inserted “poultry distributor or” and “where the poultry are being moved”; and in definition “Tested flock”, inserted the last sentence.

2:9-2.2 Registration

(a) Live bird markets, poultry distributors, and production/supplier flocks that conduct business in the State of New

Jersey must register annually with the NJDA and must comply with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 2:3 and this chapter, as evidenced by no pending violations or unsatisfied penalties. The registration year shall begin September 1 and end August 31. Production/supplier flocks that conduct business within New Jersey but are located in another state/country shall be exempt from registering with the NJDA if:

1. Their premises has been assigned a national premises identification number from the country of origin where the poultry originate;
2. The premises identification number has been registered with the state/country in which the premises is located; and
3. Proof of registration is provided to an authorized agent of the NJDA.

(b) Applicants for registration shall provide the following information to the NJDA:

1. The business name, premises address and telephone number;
2. The owner’s name, mailing address and telephone number;
3. The days and hours of operation for live bird markets and poultry distributors;
4. Bird capacity;
5. Other businesses or premises under the same ownership within the live bird marketing system, including, but not limited to, live bird markets, poultry distributors and production/supplier operations;
6. A list of all avian and nonavian species raised or sold on the premises;
7. A proposed biosecurity protocol, which must contain, at a minimum, the following:
 - i. For live bird markets, procedures addressing market compliance with the requirements set forth in N.J.A.C. 2:9-3.2(a) through (g);
 - ii. For poultry distributors, procedures addressing distributor compliance with the requirements set forth in N.J.A.C. 2:9-4.2(a); and
 - iii. For poultry production/supplier flocks, procedures addressing production/supplier flock owner compliance with the requirements set forth in N.J.A.C. 2:9-5.2(a);
8. A proposed recordkeeping system, which must contain, at a minimum, the following:
 - i. For live bird markets, procedures addressing market compliance with the requirements set forth in N.J.A.C. 2:9-3.1(a) through (c);

ii. For poultry distributors, procedures addressing distributor compliance with the requirements set forth in N.J.A.C. 2:9-4.2(b) and (c); and

iii. For poultry production/supplier flocks, procedures addressing production/supplier flock owner compliance with the requirements set forth in N.J.A.C. 2:9-5.2(c);

9. Any additional information requested of a specific applicant by the State Veterinarian.

(c) By registering with the NJDA, the live bird market, poultry distributor and production/supplier flock shall allow any authorized agent of the NJDA access to the following:

1. All facilities, businesses and premises;
2. All of the birds in the facility for inspection and testing;
3. All biosecurity records; and
4. All records of bird receipts, sales and test papers.

(d) Registration will not be approved until the applicant's premises, biosecurity protocol, recordkeeping system, and the cleaning and disinfection of its conveyances and equipment has been inspected and approved pursuant to this section by authorized agents of the NJDA. Any applicant or registrant located outside the state shall be subject to inspection by authorized agents of USDA-APHIS-VS or agents of the state in which the registrant premises is located on behalf of the NJDA.

(e) All personnel that work for the business or on the premises shall be trained annually in biosecurity by an authorized agent of the NJDA or by a trained representative from the applicant or registrant's business. Certification of employee training shall be maintained on file on the premises for 12 months and must be presented upon demand by any authorized agent of the NJDA.

Amended by R.2014 d.101, effective June 16, 2014.
See: 46 N.J.R. 155(a), 46 N.J.R. 1471(b).

In the introductory paragraph of (a), inserted a comma following "distributors" and following "chapter", and inserted ", as evidenced by no pending violations or unsatisfied penalties"; in the introductory paragraph of (a) and in (a)2, inserted "/country"; and in (a)1, inserted "national", and substituted "country of origin where the poultry originate" for "USDA".

(b) Live bird markets are responsible for obtaining poultry invoices for all birds at the time of their receipt. If poultry invoices are not available, the birds must not enter the live bird market.

(c) All poultry invoices must be maintained at the live bird market for a minimum of 12 months from the date of entry into the market and must be presented upon demand by any authorized agent of the NJDA.

(d) All poultry entering a live bird market shall be slaughtered within 10 days of entering the market.

Amended by R.2014 d.101, effective June 16, 2014.
See: 46 N.J.R. 155(a), 46 N.J.R. 1471(b).

In (a), deleted "a" preceding "New Jersey", and substituted "markets that have met the requirements of N.J.A.C. 2:9-2.2" for the first occurrence of "market".

2:9-3.2 Live bird market sanitation and biosecurity

(a) Live bird markets shall develop and adhere to a biosecurity protocol that is approved by the NJDA pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:9-2.2(b)7. All biosecurity protocols shall include, at minimum, quarterly closure of the market with complete sanitation, cleaning, disinfection and at least 24 hours of downtime after disinfectant is applied. The market must be inspected, tested and approved by an authorized agent of the NJDA before it will be allowed to reopen. The market will be approved for reopening when the market has been sanitized, cleaned, disinfected and retested in accordance with biosecurity protocols approved pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:9-2.2(b)7.

(b) All locations on the premises that are used to house poultry, livestock and all associated conveyances, equipment and supplies, must be of a material that can be routinely cleaned and disinfected in accordance with the NJDA approved biosecurity protocol on a year-round basis.

(c) Poultry shall be housed separate and apart from swine in accordance with the NJDA-approved biosecurity protocol to minimize disease transmission between these species.

(d) Only animals for sale and slaughter shall be kept in areas where poultry are housed.

(e) No person shall permit live poultry to leave the live bird market.

(f) Live poultry shall not be moved from one live bird market to another, or to any other location.

(g) Each live bird market shall maintain an effective and safe pest control program that minimizes or eliminates the presence of rodents, flies, roaches, and other insects and vermin. The premises shall be kept in such condition as to prevent the breeding, harborage, or feeding of these pests.

SUBCHAPTER 3. LIVE BIRD MARKETS

2:9-3.1 Movement of poultry into live bird markets

(a) Only poultry distributors who have met the requirements of N.J.A.C. 2:9-2.2 and 4.1 may move live poultry into New Jersey live bird markets that have met the requirements of N.J.A.C. 2:9-2.2. All poultry moving into a live bird market must be accompanied by a poultry invoice.

2:9-3.3 Live bird market surveillance

(a) Live bird markets shall be required to undergo at minimum monthly inspections for compliance with this chapter and quarterly testing.

(b) Premises suspected or confirmed positive of infection with avian influenza shall be quarantined by the NJDA, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:5-4. Premises under quarantine must comply with the following:

1. All premises shall dispose of its poultry population. Market personnel shall immediately depopulate all poultry, pigeons and doves in the market, or at the discretion of the State Veterinarian, may be given up to five days to sell down poultry. No new poultry or animal deliveries may be accepted once the premises have been placed under quarantine. At the close of business on the fifth day, any poultry and/or pigeons and doves remaining, shall be depopulated by market personnel;

2. All other livestock must be removed from the market, and placed into temporary holding pens on the premises in accordance with N.J.A.C. 2:8, Humane Treatment of Domestic Livestock, while the entire market is cleaned, disinfected and allowed to dry, or moved directly into a USDA recognized slaughter establishment by permit issued by the NJDA;

3. Once emptied of birds and livestock, the premises must be cleaned of all organic material, then disinfectant shall be applied. All areas where poultry and livestock were housed shall be cleaned and disinfected. An authorized agent of the NJDA will determine if the cleaning and disinfection is satisfactory; and

4. The premises must remain empty of poultry and livestock for a minimum of 24 hours after disinfectant is applied. The premises must be retested and approval must be obtained from an authorized agent of the NJDA before it will be released from quarantine.

(c) Once official confirmation of avian influenza exists, such premises shall remain under quarantine until an authorized agent of the NJDA is satisfied that the risk of disease exposure no longer exists.

(d) Live bird markets that test positive on quarterly testing will be required to undergo monthly testing, unless the State Veterinarian determines that more frequent testing is necessary. If more frequent testing is necessary, the testing shall occur at intervals recommended by State Veterinarian. If results are positive for avian influenza virus, the live bird market will again be placed under quarantine and shall follow the requirements of (b) above. After three consecutive months of negative testing, the market may be allowed to return to a schedule of quarterly testing and monthly inspection.

Amended by R.2014 d.101, effective June 16, 2014.
See: 46 N.J.R. 155(a), 46 N.J.R. 1471(b).
Rewrote (b)l.

SUBCHAPTER 4. POULTRY DISTRIBUTORS**2:9-4.1 Testing requirements for poultry distributors**

(a) Poultry distributors may only conduct business with live bird markets, poultry distributors, and production/supplier flocks who have met the requirements of N.J.A.C. 2:9-2.2. A poultry distributor must obtain a completed poultry invoice and either a completed poultry inspection certificate or a certificate of veterinary inspection from the production/supplier flock for all poultry intended for movement into a New Jersey live bird market, qualified poultry auction, and poultry distributor.

(b) The poultry invoice and poultry inspection certificate or certificate of veterinary inspection required in (a) above shall remain in the possession of the poultry distributor and a new poultry invoice shall accompany all poultry delivered to live bird markets. If poultry are sold or transferred from one poultry distributor to another, a copy of the poultry inspection certificate or certificate of veterinary inspection and a new poultry invoice must accompany each transaction.

(c) The State of New Jersey adopts as the official laboratory tests of the avian influenza program Part IV of USDA's Prevention and Control of H5 and H7 Low Pathogenicity Avian Influenza in the Live Bird Marketing System Uniform Standards for a State-Federal-Industry Cooperative Program, effective October 20, 2004, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented. A copy of this document is on file in the State Veterinarian's Office, Division of Animal Health, New Jersey Department of Agriculture, NJPHEAL, 3 Schwartzkopf Drive, Ewing, NJ 08628 or online at http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/hot_issues/avian_influenza/contents/printable_version/uniform_standards.pdf.

(d) Poultry less than seven days of age are exempt from testing requirements if:

1. The poultry originated and moved directly from a monitored or tested breeding flock; and

2. The poultry are accompanied by a poultry inspection certificate or certificate of veterinary inspection.

(e) Poultry distributors may not remove live poultry or other live animals from live bird markets.

Amended by R.2014 d.101, effective June 16, 2014.
See: 46 N.J.R. 155(a), 46 N.J.R. 1471(b).

Rewrote (a); in (b), inserted "poultry invoice and", and inserted "new" twice; and in (c), substituted "NJPHEAL, 3 Schwartzkopf Drive, Ewing, NJ 08628 or online at http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/hot_issues/avian_influenza/contents/printable_version/uniform_standards.pdf" for "Health and Agriculture Building, John Fitch Plaza, Trenton, NJ 08625".

2:9-4.2 Poultry distributor sanitation and biosecurity

(a) All poultry distributors shall develop and adhere to an NJDA approved biosecurity protocol. All biosecurity proto-

cols submitted pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:9-2.2(b)7, at a minimum, must include the following:

1. Cleaning, sanitation and disinfection to prevent transmission of Avian Influenza virus from one premises to another;
2. All non-disposable footwear shall be disinfected before entering and after leaving any premises containing poultry;
3. All disposable footwear shall be discarded after each visit to any premises containing poultry;
4. All poultry distributor personnel shall wash their hands prior to and between each entry of a premises containing live poultry;
5. Cabs (interior and exterior), tires and bodies of all conveyances shall be cleaned and disinfected to prevent transmission of the Avian Influenza virus from one premises to another; and
6. Coops, crates, flats, cages or other conveyances and other equipment shall be cleaned and disinfected prior to reuse when moving live poultry, using NJDA-approved washing equipment and protocols.

(b) All poultry distributors shall maintain records of all poultry transfers, including: poultry invoices, poultry inspection certificates, and certificates of veterinary inspection for a period of 12 months at the business premises. These records must be presented upon demand to an authorized agent of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture.

(c) All poultry distributors shall maintain a logbook in each vehicle used to transport live poultry certifying that they have complied with the biosecurity protocols in (a)5 and 6 above.

1. All completed logbooks must be maintained at the business premises for a period of 12 months and must be presented upon demand to an authorized agent of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture.
2. Each logbook shall contain the following information for each entry:
 - i. The date, time and location that each act of cleaning and disinfection required by (a)5 and 6 above was performed;
 - ii. The following statement: "I certify under penalty of law that the information provided in this entry is true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant civil penalties for submitting false, inaccurate or incomplete information and significant criminal penalties, including fines and/or imprisonment for submitting false, inaccurate or incomplete information or information which I do not believe to be true."; and
 - iii. The printed name and signature of the agent who performed the act of cleaning and disinfection on behalf of the poultry distributor.

3. The NJDA will accept logbooks from other states that meet the requirements of (c)1, 2i and 2iii above.

4. Each logbook must be reviewed quarterly by the poultry distributor to ensure compliance with the NJDA approved biosecurity plan. Proof of this quarterly review must be shown by a certification containing the following information for each quarter:

- i. The following statement: "I certify under penalty of law that I have reviewed the entries in the logbook for this quarter and that the actions of the above named agent(s) are in compliance with my NJDA approved biosecurity plan. I am aware that there are significant civil penalties for submitting false, inaccurate or incomplete information and significant criminal penalties, including fines and/or imprisonment for submitting false, inaccurate or incomplete information or information which I do not believe to be true.";
- ii. The printed name and signature of the poultry distributor if the poultry distributor is an individual, or the signature of a person authorized to act on behalf of the poultry distributor if the poultry distributor is a business entity; and
- iii. The date in which the logbook was signed and the time period the review covers.

(d) Incidents involving false swearing or false reporting in the documents required by this subchapter may be referred by the Department for prosecution including, but not limited to, those authorized pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:28-3.

Amended by R.2007 d.19, effective January 16, 2007.
See: 38 N.J.R. 3203(a), 39 N.J.R. 185(a).

In (c)2iii and (c)4ii, inserted "printed name and"; and in (c)3, inserted ", 2i" and "iii".

Amended by R.2014 d.101, effective June 16, 2014.
See: 46 N.J.R. 155(a), 46 N.J.R. 1471(b).

In (b), inserted "poultry transfers, including:"; and inserted a comma following the first occurrence of "certificates"; and in the introductory paragraph of (c), inserted "5 and 6".

2:9-4.3 Poultry distributor surveillance

(a) Poultry distributors including all premises, conveyances, crates and birds will be inspected for compliance with this chapter and tested at least quarterly for evidence of avian influenza virus. Any registered poultry distributor located outside the State shall be subject to quarterly inspection and testing by authorized agents of USDA-APHIS-VS or agents of the state in which the registrant premises is located on behalf of the NJDA.

(b) Poultry distributor facilities that test positive for avian influenza virus shall be quarantined according to N.J.A.C. 2:5-4 and shall remain under quarantine until an authorized agent of the NJDA is satisfied that the risk of disease exposure no longer exists. Premises under quarantine must comply with the following:

1. All premises shall be quarantined according to N.J.A.C. 2:5-4 and will be required to depopulate all poultry, including pigeons and doves, and undergo cleaning and disinfection. The premises shall be retested and approved by an authorized agent of the NJDA before it will be released from quarantine. A negative environmental test result is required before restocking;

2. All other livestock must be removed from any area where the poultry were housed or stored while the entire poultry area is cleaned, disinfected and allowed to dry. Livestock must be placed into temporary holding pens on the premises in accordance with N.J.A.C. 2:8, Humane Treatment of Domestic Livestock, or moved directly into a USDA recognized slaughter establishment pursuant to conditions established by NJDA;

3. Once emptied of birds and livestock, all areas where poultry were housed or stored must be cleaned of all organic material, then disinfectant shall be applied. An authorized agent of the NJDA will determine if the cleaning and disinfection is satisfactory; and

4. The premises must remain empty of poultry and livestock for a minimum of 24 hours after disinfectant is applied. Any disinfectant and/or cleaning solution applied to the premises must be allowed to thoroughly dry before restocking with poultry or livestock. The poultry distributor premises must be inspected, tested and approved by an authorized agent of the NJDA before it will be allowed to restock.

5. At the discretion of the State Veterinarian, under special circumstances poultry distributors may be exempted from depopulation if they are determined to be low risk for disease transmission. In such cases, the State Veterinarian will approve and implement a special quarantine release protocol. Under this protocol, the poultry distributor premises will be quarantined until tested negative and the quarantine is lifted by the State of New Jersey.

(c) A poultry distributor that fails biosecurity inspections and/or tests positive during the quarterly testing shall undergo monthly inspections and testing until there have been three consecutive months of negative testing, at which time quarterly testing will resume.

(d) Poultry distributors located in other states that test positive for Avian Influenza may be embargoed by the NJDA according to N.J.A.C. 2:5-2.1(a) and (b).

SUBCHAPTER 5. PRODUCTION/SUPPLIER FLOCKS

2:9-5.1 Production/supplier flocks

(a) Production/supplier flocks may only conduct business with live bird markets, poultry distributors, and production/supplier flocks who have met the requirements of N.J.A.C. 2:9-2.2.

(b) A completed poultry invoice and either a completed poultry inspection certificate or a certificate of veterinary inspection must accompany all poultry intended for movement through a poultry distributor or into a production/supplier flock.

(c) Birds from production/supplier flocks may not be moved directly to live bird markets unless the flock owner or manager is also registered as a poultry distributor pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:9-2.2, with the necessary NJDA-approved biosecurity protocols and equipment to ensure effective cleaning and disinfection of conveyances and equipment.

Amended by R.2014 d.101, effective June 16, 2014.

See: 46 N.J.R. 155(a), 46 N.J.R. 1471(b).

Added (a) and (b); inserted designation (c); and in (c), substituted "moved" for "sold".

2:9-5.2 Production/supplier flock sanitation and biosecurity

(a) Production and supplier flock facilities, conveyances, and other equipment shall be clean and sanitary at all times.

(b) A biosecurity protocol shall be developed by the producer/supplier, approved by NJDA pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:9-2.2(b)7 and shall be in place for all production/supplier premises.

(c) Flock test records, including all poultry inspection certificates and certificates of veterinary inspection, as well as records of bird transfers, poultry invoices, and biosecurity records, must be maintained at the flock premises for 12 months and shall be presented upon demand to an authorized agent of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture.

Amended by R.2014 d.101, effective June 16, 2014.

See: 46 N.J.R. 155(a), 46 N.J.R. 1471(b).

In (c), inserted "including all poultry inspection certificates and certificates of veterinary inspection," and substituted "poultry invoices," for "receipts".

2:9-5.3 Production/supplier flock surveillance

(a) Premises may be subjected to random inspections by authorized agents of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture to ensure that the premises, conveyances, and coops are clean and sanitary. Random samples may be collected for virus identification from birds and/or environment at the time of inspection.

(b) Premises that have results confirmed as positive for avian influenza virus shall be quarantined according to N.J.A.C. 2:5-4 and will be required to depopulate all poultry, including pigeons and doves, and undergo cleaning and disinfection. All premises under quarantine shall remain under quarantine until an authorized agent of the NJDA is satisfied that the risk of disease exposure no longer exists. The premises shall be retested and approved by an authorized agent of the NJDA before it will be released from quarantine. A negative environmental test result is required before restocking.

(c) All other livestock must be removed from any area where the poultry were housed or stored while the entire poultry area is cleaned, disinfected and allowed to dry. Livestock must be placed into temporary holding pens on the premises in accordance with N.J.A.C. 2:8, Humane Treatment of Domestic Livestock, or moved directly into a USDA-recognized slaughter establishment by permit issued by the NJDA.

(d) Once emptied of birds and livestock, all areas where poultry were housed or stored must be cleaned of all organic material, then disinfectant shall be applied. An authorized agent of the NJDA will determine if the cleaning and disinfection is satisfactory.

(e) The premises must remain empty of poultry and livestock for a minimum of 24 hours after disinfectant is applied. Any disinfectant and/or cleaning solution applied to the premises must be allowed to thoroughly dry before restocking with poultry or livestock. The premises must be inspected, tested and approved by an authorized agent of the NJDA before it will be allowed to restock.

(f) At the discretion of the State Veterinarian, under special circumstances small positive flocks may be exempted from depopulation if they are determined to be low risk for disease transmission. In such cases, the State Veterinarian will approve and implement a special quarantine release protocol. Under this protocol, the flock will be quarantined and allowed to remain in its environment until it tests negative and the quarantine is lifted by the State of New Jersey.

(d) Additional penalties or actions may be taken at the discretion of the State Veterinarian until epidemiology, testing or retesting discloses no potential threat of avian influenza infection to contact animals.

(e) An authorized agent of the NJDA shall make the initial determination as to whether a violation of this chapter has occurred and what penalty should be assessed pursuant to (a) above.

(f) The State Veterinarian shall make the initial determination as to whether to deny a registration in N.J.A.C. 2:9-2.2, or revoke a registration as provided in (a)2i above.

(g) Any applicant who is aggrieved by the determination of the State Veterinarian pursuant to this section shall, upon written request transmitted to the NJDA within 20 days of the penalty assessment, registration denial, or notice of intent to revoke a registration, be afforded the opportunity for a hearing thereon in the manner provided for contested cases pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq., and the Administrative Procedure Rules, N.J.A.C. 1:1.

(h) Poultry not meeting the requirements of this chapter shall be refused entry into the State, or if already in the State, are subject to quarantine by the NJDA as follows:

1. Actions taken by the NJDA as part of a quarantine, in accordance with this subsection, may include, but shall not be limited to:

i. A directive prohibiting movement of poultry into or out of a quarantined area;

ii. A directive requiring diagnostic tests and procedures to confirm that the poultry are not affected by Avian Influenza and shall remain under quarantine until such confirmation is received; and/or

iii. A directive in accordance with N.J.A.C. 2:9-3.3(b)1 through 4.

2. Poultry subject to a quarantine imposed by the NJDA in accordance with this subsection shall remain under quarantine until one of the following requirements are met:

i. The poultry owner provides written proof to the NJDA that the poultry are in compliance with the requirements of this chapter; or

ii. The poultry owner has complied with the requirements of the directive issued by the NJDA pursuant to (h)1 above.

(i) Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 4:23-11 et seq., actions to enforce the provisions of this section may be brought by and in the name of the Secretary of Agriculture against any person or entity that fails to comply with this section. Any penalties assessed pursuant to (a) above shall be recovered by and in the name of the Secretary of Agriculture.

SUBCHAPTER 6. PENALTIES

2:9-6.1 Penalties for violations of this chapter

(a) Any person who violates the provisions of this chapter, shall be subject to the following penalties:

1. First offense: not less than \$100.00 per unit or violation nor more than \$200.00 per unit or violation; and

2. Each subsequent offense: \$200.00 per unit or violation or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

i. After the second violation of any part of this chapter by the same registered live bird market, poultry distributor, poultry producer/supplier flock during the same calendar year, the Department of Agriculture may revoke its registration for the remainder of the registration year.

(b) Every day a violation occurs at the same location, or by the same individual or persons representing that individual, shall be considered a separate violation.

(c) The Department may require poultry to be tested for avian influenza if in its judgment such testing would be necessary to prevent introduction of the disease.

