



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
HEALTH / AGRICULTURE BUILDING
PO Box 330
TRENTON NJ 08625-0330

PHIL MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA OLIVER
Lt. Governor

DOUGLAS H. FISHER
Secretary

June 6, 2019

To: National Poultry Improvement Plan Participants
New Jersey Certified Pullorum Testers
New Jersey Poultry Club Leaders

From: New Jersey Department of Agriculture
Division of Animal Health

Subject: Pullorum Antigen Shortage – State Contingency Plan

Due to a nationwide shortage of pullorum antigen needed to conduct pullorum-typhoid (P/T) testing in poultry, the New Jersey Department of Agriculture (NJDA) will be taking the following actions until the pullorum antigen becomes readily available again which is expected in September of 2019.

1. **National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) Participants** – Current flocks that are in good standing in the NPIP for P/T will retain their status through the antigen shortage period. As antigen becomes available, these flocks will be scheduled for testing.
2. **New NPIP Participants** – Certification for new NPIP participants will be discontinued until antigen is available.
3. **New Jersey Poultry Exhibitors**
 - All chickens, quail, pheasant, guinea, chukar, ostrich, turkey and peacock must be P/T tested within 90 days of exhibition. The following are exempt from P/T testing requirements:
 - i. Poultry originating from a NPIP P/T Clean Flock (must possess a valid VS Form 9-2 or VS Form 9-3); or
 - ii. Poultry originating from a NPIP hatchery within 90 days of exhibition (must possess a valid VS Form 9-3 from hatchery); or
 - iii. Waterfowl, pigeons and doves are exempt from testing for exhibition
 - The NJDA has a limited supply of antigen in stock and this antigen expires June 22, 2019. All other sources of antigen have been exhausted. Therefore, testing of poultry for exhibition must be completed by June 22, 2019.
 - To permit all exhibitors to participate in the 2019 fair season, restrictions will be placed on the number of birds and flocks that can be tested.
 - Each exhibitor will be limited to (2) birds with a maximum of (4) birds per family.
 - Testing locations have been scheduled in most Counties. Please contact 4-H Poultry Club leaders or County 4-H Programs Coordinators for test dates.

New Jersey is a U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean State and pullorum-typhoid testing is important to maintain a pullorum-free flock. We will resume routine flock testing when the antigen becomes available.

If you have any questions, please contact us at: state.veterinarian@ag.nj.gov or call 609-671-6400.