



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Date: May 4, 2009
To: Fair Managers / Poultry Superintendents
From: Leonard E. Eldridge, DVM
State Veterinarian
Subject: Pullorum-Typhoid Testing: 2009 Fair Season

Pullorum-Typhoid Testing

For the 2009 fair season, the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) is asking fair managers and poultry superintendents to ensure that poultry being shown at their fairs meet Washington's Pullorum-Typhoid testing requirements. WAC 16-59-030 states that all poultry going to exhibit must test **negative** for Salmonella pullorum-typhoid (P-T) within 90 days of going to exhibit. This rule applies to chickens, exotic fowl, and game birds; but excludes waterfowl, doves, and pigeons.

For the 2009 fair season, exhibitors that meet one of the two options below **do not** need to have their birds P-T tested prior to exhibit:

1. The exhibitor is a participant in the **National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP)**; or
2. The show birds were bought from:
 - a. **NPIP participants;**
 - b. **Hatcheries; or**
 - c. **Feed stores**

WSDA recommends that exhibitors that purchase show birds from NPIP participants, hatcheries, or feed stores provide the poultry superintendant with documentation that verifies that they have purchased their birds from an approved source (i.e. VS 9-3 form, receipts etc.). Please use the NPIP participant list enclosed to cross reference which exhibitors are participants.

Exhibitors that do not meet the criteria above **must** be tested within 90 days of going to exhibit. Exhibitors can meet the requirements using the options below:

1. A veterinarian, vet tech or trained personnel can draw ½ CC of blood from each bird and send the samples to the WSU Avian Health and Food Safety Laboratory in Puyallup, WA. (Enclosed is WSU testing prices);
2. An accredited veterinarian, trained by WSDA to complete a Rapid Whole Blood Plate Agglutination P-T test, can perform the P-T test; or

3. WSDA field veterinarians are available to perform P-T testing at your fair (applicable fee will apply). If you are interested in this service, please contact Julie Broome (see contact information below).

The last case of P-T in Washington occurred in 1987. Washington is a “Pullorum Clean” state and this status allows us to move poultry and poultry products to other states. With your assistance we will be able to keep Washington P-T free.

If you have any questions concerning this matter or would like WSDA to test at your fair, please feel free to contact Julie Broome at:

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