

## MN HPAI Appraisal SOP

Objective: Provide consistent method for the appraisal process and ensure biosecurity during the HPAI.

Flock appraisals are initiated after a presumptive positive HPAI diagnostic test result is reported by the Disease Reporting Officer (DRO).

A mini memo, if available, containing the date of the MN HPAI lab positive, farm name and contact information (owner/grower and/or flock supervisor) will be forwarded to Operations for assignment from the Incident Disease Management Branch.

1. The following information is required to be sent to the Operations Field Epidemiologist for presumptive positive HPAI cases:

- Type of flock (turkey, chicken, layer, breeder, backyard, etc.)
- Flock information including the age, sex, and number of each type of bird; number of barns and number of birds in each barn
- Date of onset of clinical signs (if present)
- Date of facility quarantine
- Reason for test (area surveillance, pre-movement, NPIP, sick-bird call)
- County of premises
- The GPS coordinates (lat/long) and 911 address of premises
- Name of facility/complex
- Name of owner/manager
- Name of NAHLN lab submitting samples

2. Prior to deploying to the farm, the assigned appraiser reviews provided information:

- Lab Report – EMRS2 data
- Additional research as necessary
  - Google Earth
  - Discussion with individuals familiar with the premises
  - Other information sources

3. Initial Phone Call from the Appraiser – to explain appraisal process

- Contact Farm's Point of Contact (POC)
- Introduces himself/herself, ensure you include you are from the USDA
- Gather information from POC and schedule an appointment for an interview and appraisal
- Provide VMO Case Manager's name if assigned and contact information
- Explains the significance of the DRO status date (usually "Presumptive Positive" date) as it applies to the bird inventory
- Complete a short infected premises questionnaire that gathers information needed for the case manager and depopulation crews. This can also be done during the appraisal visit.
- Explain that the official quarantine documentation will be delivered during the scheduled appointment

- Requests copies of the barn mortality sheets, and if available; a map of the farm
- Verify meeting location (office, driveway, off site location, etc.) and landmarks

4. Prepare for Appraiser Farm Visit:

- Clean Vehicle
  - IF you were previously on another farm, makes sure the vehicle has been washed, use undercarriage wash
- Verify the address and directions to the farm (911 address, Google Earth map, Map Quest)
- Confirm the DRO status date (for the appraisal date)
- Assemble PPE (Level C Required)
  - Tyvek Coveralls
  - Boot covers (two pair)
  - N95 respirators (minimum)
  - Latex or Nitrile gloves (inner and outer gloves)
  - Head Bonnet
  - Safety glasses/goggles or face shield
  - Garbage Bags (at least 3)
  - Small Bottle Sprayer – with 1% Virkon
  - Hand Pressure Sprayer – with 1% Virkon
- Make a folder or packet containing
  - Quarantine form
  - Appraisal forms
  - Electronic Funds Transfer form (if not on file)
  - Infected Premises questionnaire
  - HPAI outreach materials containing FAQ on Avian Influenza, MN Health Department Handout and Composting guide

5. During Appraisal Farm Visit, the Appraiser will [Suggest this be done in pairs]:

- Ensure they are at the correct location by calling the contact person and (if possible) arrange to meet at the farm entrance. Do not enter a premises or driveway until you are 100% you are at the correct location.
- Establish a Cold/Hot Zone (clean/dirty line)
  - Park the vehicle in the Cold Zone
- Do paperwork first (if possible):
  - Issue quarantine
  - Complete questionnaire
- Obtain copies or photographs of the barn charts/daily mortality records to determine bird inventory
- Advise the farm POC about:
  - Development of a **Flock Plan** and **Cooperative Agreement** – a Case Manager will contact the POC
  - The depopulation process (foaming procedure or CO<sub>2</sub> euthanasia). The foaming process may require birds to be segregated into a smaller area.
  - The composting process

- Determine if there is material at the farm that can be used in the depopulation and composting process and note this on the questionnaire
- Note the quantity of feed per barn and average consumption rates
- Prior to entry into the Hot Zone (barns will be in the Hot Zone, but the Hot Zone may extend out 200 yards from infected houses).
  - Don PPE in the Cold Zone
    - Remove all jewelry, watches, and cell phones (unless cell phone is sealed in a plastic bag)
    - Put on first set of disposable booties inside of vehicle
    - Don disposable coveralls (use duct tape to make a zipper pull)
    - Put on second set of disposable booties.
    - Wrap duct tape around top of booties
      - Make a tab with the end of the tape to facilitate doffing
      - To avoid chaffing the tab, it should be placed on the outside of the leg
    - Put on first pair of gloves – this pair of gloves should be under the sleeve of the disposable coverall
    - Put on second pair of gloves and wrap duct tape around the top of the gloves
      - Make a tab with the end of the tape to facilitate doffing
      - To avoid chaffing the tab, it should be placed on the outside of the arm
    - Put on the respirator
    - Put on safety glasses/goggles
      - Put on head bonnet
  - Remember to bring 2 garbage bags, boot brush and bucket with 1% Virkon, and Virkon bottle sprayer to the Cold Zone border
  - Place cell phone in a clear, resealable plastic bag so it can be Cleaned and Disinfected (C&D) – Paperwork must not be taken into the Hot Zone as it cannot be decontaminated

#### YOU MUST WEAR PPE ON INFECTED PREMISES

- Inspect Animals (accompanied by the farm contact)
  - Look for barn number of ID
  - Follow farm's biosecurity processes
    - If curtains are open you can do a visual assessment from the outside – make sure to note the barn chart
  - Slowly open the door
  - Start with the youngest birds, moving to the oldest
  - Observe the sick or positive birds last
  - Verify birds observed match the ages and inventory given
  - If you don't already have a copy of the barn chart, take a picture of the barn chart with your phone through the plastic bag

- Doff PPE
  - Go to established Hot/Cold Zone (clean/dirty line)
  - Examine PPE for any damage
  - Spray plastic bag containing phone with 1% solution of Virkon, set in a clean area
  - Unzip Tyvek and grab shoulders and pull arms along with the outer pair of gloves and turn Tyvek inside out
  - Only touch the inside of the Tyvek with gloved hands as you continue to roll the suit inside out
  - Step out of the Tyvek along with the outer bootie as you step from the dirty side to the clean side. – KEEP INSIDE SET OF BOOTIES ON UNTIL YOU REACH YOUR VEHICLE
  - Dispose of the Tyvek in the garbage bag
  - Remove hair net and dispose of in garbage bag
  - Remove respirator
  - Remove safety glasses/goggles and spray with 1% solution of Virkon, set in a clean area
  - Remove gloves and dispose of in garbage bag – close bag
  - Spray the outside of the trash bag with Virkon –S and place inside a clean bag.
  - Leave the garbage bag on the premises (unless the owner objects) – ensure garbage bag is secured so it won't blow around
  - Remove booties as you re-enter the vehicle and place in clean garbage bag maintained at the vehicle
  - Spray shoes and floor mats with disinfectant
  - Use hand sanitizer and wipes after you enter the vehicle

#### 6. After Appraisal

- Notify your supervisor you are safe. Alert them of any special situations.
  - Logistic Issues
  - EMRS Issues
  - News/Media Contact
- Wash the vehicle, disinfect appropriate areas of the interior and exterior of the vehicle
- Shower and change clothing prior to entering the EOC, common areas of work, or other public areas (within reason).
- Email [HPAIOps@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:HPAIOps@aphis.usda.gov) with a unit price request – needed prior to filling out the VS 1-23 Appraisal Claim. There is some turn-around time so please do this ASAP
  - Email Subject Line: MN HPAI Unit Price Request, County Name/#, Prem ID
  - Included in Body of Email: Class of Poultry, Sex, Age in Days
    - Be specific in such cases as hatching eggs or purebred backyard poultry

7. Return to EOC and finish paperwork – See most recent version of HPAI Outbreak 2014-2015, Processing Indemnity Payments for Approval Process of the VS 1-23 Form