



Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

VS Bulletin 2015.04

Date: September 14, 2015

Veterinary Services

4700 River Road

Riverdale, MD 20737

Commercial Private Bird Import Quarantines – Minimum Frequency of Visits

1. Purpose

The purpose of this document is to ensure consistent application of Veterinary Services (VS) oversight of privately owned/operated commercial bird import quarantines. This document describes VS policy on the minimum frequency of VS visits to the facility for intake, release, sampling, health inspections, oversight of operations and security/ biosecurity, and other actions required by 9 CFR 93.

2. Document Status

- A. Valid through September 14, 2016
- B. This document replaces VSB 2014.02, which is cancelled.

3. Reason for Reissuance

Not applicable.

4. Authority and References

- A. Authorities (*Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR)):
 - [7 CFR 371.4](#)
 - [9 CFR 93](#)
- B. References
 - [VSM 591.22, "Procedures Governing Submission of Diagnostic Specimens from Birds and Hatching Eggs of Ratites of Foreign Origin to the National Veterinary Services Laboratories and Reporting of Test Results," \(8/1/00\)](#)

5. Audience

VS employees, other Federal and State agencies, and members of the public.

6. Policy

Private Commercial Bird Import Quarantines Visits:

- A. VS must visit the quarantine daily from Day 1 thru Day 16 of the minimum 30 day quarantine period to oversee operations, account for daily deaths, and collect samples according to VSM 591.22.
- B. At minimum, VS must visit the quarantine every 5 days between Day 17 and the date of release to oversee operations, review security and biosecurity, and inspect the birds.
- C. VS must visit the facility to release the birds.
- D. A VS veterinary medical officer (VMO) must perform the visit, at a minimum, on the date of arrival or first day of quarantine (whichever is later), and on the date of release.
- E. At the discretion of the VMO or at the request of the importer, VS personnel may visit more frequently to ensure animal health and safety.
- F. VS personnel are required to place seals on the entrances to private commercial bird import quarantines when no facility or VS personnel will be inside. Access to any sealed facility will be available only when VS personnel are present to break seals.
- G. User fees will apply during each VS visit.

7. Inquiries

For questions, please contact:
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