



---

Please note: These procedures may be revised as the situation develops.

## GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- ◆ The best practices to contain and eradicate highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) virus by “stamping-out” within 24 hours of detection will require rapid depopulation, appraisal, and indemnity procedures.
- ◆ State Animal Health Officials and APHIS officials must approve depopulation prior to the depopulation of any birds and eggs. This will require rapid communication between producer, company, State officials, APHIS, and laboratory officials.
- ◆ These appraisal and indemnity procedures apply to both the first detection of HPAI in a State and subsequent HPAI detections in a State.
- ◆ All foreign animal disease (FAD) investigations and depopulation decisions must be approved by State and Federal animal health officials.

## Procedures

1. An inventory of poultry and other information required for appraisal and indemnity (itemized below) should be compiled as soon as a FAD investigation is initiated, or an HPAI [presumptive positive case](#) is identified, or an HPAI [suspect case](#) is identified, or whichever is earliest.
2. A State or APHIS official will work with the owner, grower, licensed veterinarian, or company official to electronically transmit flock records, information and inventory to the [HPAI OPS Group](#), State Animal Health Officials, VS District personnel, and/or IMT personnel. APHIS officials will collect hard copies of barn records or other documents that substantiate the claim for indemnity for the records.
3. The VS 1-23 Appraisal & Indemnity Claim Form is created by an APHIS official based on the information provided and the age, sex, type, and value of birds. Indemnity values for birds and eggs are provided by the HPAI OPS Group based on current USDA calculators.
4. If Veterinary Services (VS) District or Incident Management Team (IMT) personnel cannot meet the 24-hour deadline to prepare the VS1-23, especially for new cases in new States, the [HPAI OPS Group](#) will prepare the VS1-23.
5. As soon as the HPAI [presumptive positive case definition](#) is met, or joint State-APHIS decision to depopulate is made, a State or APHIS official will obtain the owner signature on the completed VS 1-23. Owner signatures will be signed in ink, but electronically transmitted (fax, digital image, electronic form, etc.) to the [HPAI OPS Group](#) prior to depopulation. APHIS officials will collect the hard copy signed VS 1-23, barn inventories, and supporting documents for the records.
6. In some investigations, the HPAI [suspect case definition](#) will be used to initiate depopulation; the same above procedures will apply.
7. A signed flock plan (owner, APHIS, State Animal Health Official) is not required for indemnity payments, but is required for State quarantine or hold order release, APHIS disposal assistance, and APHIS cleaning and disinfection assistance.

## SPECIAL NOTE FOR FIRST DETECTIONS OF HPAI IN A STATE

- ◆ To maximize speed of APHIS international trade notifications, please send samples to the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) lab and National Veterinary Services

Laboratory (NVSL) at the first indication of increased mortality or clinical signs, and follow FAD investigation procedures.

- ◆ Don't wait to rule out other causes. Duplicate or second set of samples are the standard for FAD investigations.
- ◆ NVSL confirmation is not required for depopulation and indemnity, but is required for APHIS international trade notifications. Timely reporting prevents unnecessary trade disruptions with some trading partners.

## INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR APPRAISAL AND INDEMNITY

Information required for appraisal and indemnity is listed below and must be sent to the preparer of the VS 1-23 Indemnity Form. Some of this information may need to be provided or verified by owner, grower, private veterinarian, VS personnel, or State Animal Health Officials.

- ◆ 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; barn mortality records
- ◆ Date of onset of clinical signs (if present)
- ◆ Date of facility quarantine
- ◆ Reason for test (area surveillance, pre-movement, NPIP [National Poultry Improvement Plan], sick-bird call)
- ◆ County of premises
- ◆ Premises Identification Number (PIN) – location of poultry, not company home
- ◆ The GPS coordinates (latitude/longitude) and 911 address of premises
- ◆ Name of facility/complex
- ◆ Claimant name and address
- ◆ Confirmation of mortgage status
- ◆ Appraisal Date – date value is assigned to the birds or eggs
- ◆ Name of NAHLN lab submitting samples.

## LINKS TO RESOURCES

- ◆ [FAD Investigation Procedures](#)
- ◆ [HPAI Case Definition](#)

## USDA HPAI INCIDENT COORDINATION GROUP (ICG) CONTACT INFORMATION

The below personnel are part of the HPAI OPS Group (and larger ICG), which may include other rotating personnel. The [HPAI OPS Group \(hpaioops@aphis.usda.gov\)](mailto:hpaioops@aphis.usda.gov) is to be notified of all HPAI FAD Priority 1, 2, or A HPAI investigations, HPAI suspect cases, and HPAI presumptive positive cases. No need to email the [HPAI OPS Group](#) personnel individually if the [HPAI OPS Group](#) mail is working. However, phone contact and conference calls are required for any FAD investigations.

To: [Patricia.E.Fox@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:Patricia.E.Fox@aphis.usda.gov); [Jonathan.T.Zack@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:Jonathan.T.Zack@aphis.usda.gov);  
[Fidelis.N.Hegngi@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:Fidelis.N.Hegngi@aphis.usda.gov); [LeeAnn.Thomas@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:LeeAnn.Thomas@aphis.usda.gov)

Cc: [Thomas.J.Myers@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:Thomas.J.Myers@aphis.usda.gov); [Burke.L.Healey@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:Burke.L.Healey@aphis.usda.gov);  
[Elizabeth.M.Brown@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.M.Brown@aphis.usda.gov); [Sharon.S.Fisher@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:Sharon.S.Fisher@aphis.usda.gov)