



Note: This is a general flock plan template intended to serve as a guide applicable for domestic poultry and backyard exhibition chickens for virulent Newcastle disease (vND). It must be amended as necessary to be specific to the premises listed below.

Premises Information Needed	
ID #	
State abbreviation, county, and site #	
<i>Premises owner</i>	
Name of premises	
Address of premises	
<i>Contact person (for Premises)</i>	
Contact's phone number	
Contact's e-mail address	
<i>Bird owner</i>	
Name of representative if applicable	
Address of bird owner	
Birds present on date of appraisal (include: census, type, purpose, & age)	

OWNER/OPERATOR:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

VS INCIDENT COMMANDER OR VS DISTRICT DIRECTOR/ASSISTANT DIRECTOR:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

STATE INCIDENT COMMANDER OR STATE VETERINARIAN:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

This is a written flock management agreement developed between USDA APHIS Veterinary Services (VS) and _____ (*Insert State initials*) (hereafter, "the State" or "State") with input from _____ (*Insert bird owner and/or premises owner*). This flock will be handled in accordance with the Newcastle Disease Response Plan Red Book (hereafter, *vND Response Plan Red Book*), other applicable policy guidance, and Code of Federal Regulations (CFR).

BRIEF HISTORY

Information Needed	
Clinical signs (<i>brief</i> description)	
Baseline daily mortality rate: (Insert rate from farm records)	
Daily mortality rate (# of dead birds/bird population on date of initial sampling)	
Date first clinical signs were noted	
Date initial samples were collected	
Date presumptive positive test results were reported	
Date confirmatory positive test results were reported	
Virus characterization (subtype/characterization from NVSL report)	
Date written premises quarantine was issued	

THE MAIN TENETS OF THIS PLAN INCLUDE:

- ◆ Restricting movement and enhancing biosecurity,
- ◆ Investigating sources of infection,
- ◆ Euthanasia/depopulation of poultry on the premises,
- ◆ Disposal of birds, eggs, litter, and any other contaminated materials,
- ◆ Eliminating vND virus from the premises, and
- ◆ Ensuring the premises is free of vND.

REQUESTS FOR INDEMNITY FOR DISPOSAL, CLEANING, AND DISINFECTION ACTIVITIES

The bird owner(s) will be eligible for indemnification. Prior to euthanasia/depopulation, the Appraisal and Indemnity Request form must be completed and signed. The value of the birds will be obtained from (a) a VS-prepared calculator based on the fair market value of the birds, and/or (b) receipts.

Before cleaning and disinfection, the premises will be inspected by the bird or premises owner and VS to determine whether there are contaminated items for which the cost of cleaning and disinfection would exceed the value of the materials, or for which cleaning and disinfection would be impractical for another reason. The fair market value (used price) of these items will be determined by a State or VS appraiser with input from the owner. Prior written VS approval is required for destruction of items for which reimbursement will be claimed.

Any disposal of birds and cleaning and disinfection of premises, conveyances, and materials for which indemnity is requested must be performed under a separate agreement between the claimant and VS. The agreement, consisting of a detailed financial plan must be signed by all parties before the start of any of the activities for which indemnity is claimed. Any work performed before the agreement is signed may not be eligible for reimbursement.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

- ◆ *Euthanasia/depopulation* will be,
 - the responsibility of _____ (*insert responsible party*), and
 - carried out by _____ (*insert person performing euthanasia/depopulation*), with oversight by VS and the State.
- ◆ *Disposal* of dead birds, litter (bedding), and other contaminated materials will be,
 - the responsibility of _____ (*insert responsible party*), and
 - carried out by _____ (*insert who will be doing the disposal*), with oversight by VS and the State.
- ◆ *Cleaning* of contaminated equipment, structures, vehicles, and other contaminated areas and materials will be
 - the responsibility of _____ (*insert responsible party*), and
 - carried out by _____ (*insert who will be cleaning*), with oversight by VS and the State.
- ◆ *Disinfection* of equipment, vehicles, and other contaminated materials will be,
 - the responsibility of _____ (*insert responsible party*), and
 - carried out by _____ (*insert who will be disinfecting*), with oversight and documentation by VS and the State.

MOVEMENT RESTRICTIONS AND ENHANCED BIOSECURITY

The verbal quarantine was issued by _____ (*insert name of animal health official*) on _____ (*insert date*). The written quarantine document was issued on _____ (*insert date*) and receipt was acknowledged by signature of _____ (*insert bird or premises owner, or representative*). The quarantine states that no domesticated birds or other animals, bird products such as hatching eggs, or contaminated materials (manure, mortalities, eggs, shells, feed, etc.) are to enter or leave the premises without a permit issued by the State and appropriate biosecurity. Quarantine instructions include increasing biosecurity measures to minimize traffic and implementing protocols to clean and disinfect vehicles and equipment.

THE QUARANTINE WILL NOT BE RELEASED BEFORE:

- ◆ completion of an epidemiologic investigation,
- ◆ contaminated materials are composted or otherwise disposed of;
- ◆ the farm is cleaned and disinfected according to measures outlined by State and/or APHIS officials, and
- ◆ all flock and environmental testing in the Control Area has been completed with negative results.

EPIDEMIOLOGIC INVESTIGATION

A State or Federal veterinarian will conduct an investigation to identify potential pathways for vND virus to enter or leave the premises. This investigation should be initiated as soon as possible, preferably no later than one (1) week following detection of vND.

An investigation form is provided and serves as a guide for identifying potential pathways of vND virus introduction onto the premises and potential movement of vND virus off the premises. All sections of the form should be completed through direct conversation with the individual(s) most familiar with the management of the poultry on the premises for the period of two weeks prior to the detection of vND until the date the quarantine was issued. In addition to interviewing the flock caretaker(s), the veterinarian conducting the investigation may directly observe biosecurity or management practices.

Copies of completed investigations will be provided to the signatories of this plan.

EUTHANASIA/DEPOPULATION

_____ (Insert all, or specify which subset of) domesticated birds on the premises will be euthanized/depopulated as quickly and humanely as possible. Until euthanasia/depopulation procedures are initiated, the responsible party will ensure that birds are provided with food, water, and appropriate environmental conditions (e.g. ventilation and temperature control).

Workers will be fit tested and medically approved to wear a respirator before entering the premises and will don personal protective equipment (PPE) according to VS vND standard operating procedures. Before euthanasia/depopulation or disposal activities begin, the responsible party will designate a clean area and a dirty area and maintain biosecurity measures in these areas according to VS vND standard operating procedures, with oversight by State or VS personnel.

Birds _____ (insert will be/were) euthanized/depopulated using _____ (insert method – foam, CO₂, etc.). Euthanasia/depopulated is expected to begin on _____ (insert date) **or** Euthanasia was completed on _____ (insert date). Euthanasia/depopulated _____ (insert will be/was/was not) conducted under the direct supervision of State or VS personnel.

DISPOSAL

Amend the text below as necessary for this premises, to clearly describe the disposal methods and procedures used.

◆ Disposal of all dead poultry and eggs.

_____ (Insert other method if applicable.) These items will be composted on site with supervision by State and/or VS personnel.

◆ Disposal of litter, manure, feed, and other organic debris.

_____ (Insert other method if applicable.) These items will be composted on site under the direction of State and/or VS personnel and in accordance with any other applicable policy guidance.

- Composted materials will be monitored by State and/or VS personnel to ensure virus destruction and to identify when material can be turned or removed from the facility.
- All composted material must remain on the premises for a minimum of 30 days.
- Composting must be completed prior to any cleaning of the houses.
- Once the compost material is considered safe to move by State and/or VS personnel, said material can be _____ (insert disposal method, spread on field, stored etc., and preferably be 2 miles from any other commercial poultry premises). State and/or VS personnel will oversee, monitor, and document this process.

- ◆ **Destruction and disposal of contaminated materials that can't be cleaned and disinfected.**

These items will be _____ (*insert disposal method(s)*).

ELIMINATING THE VIRUS FROM THE PREMISES

All contaminated structures, equipment, vehicles, and surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected following the depopulation/euthanasia of poultry on the premises. The party responsible for cleaning and disinfection, in consultation with State or VS personnel, will prepare a site-specific cleaning and disinfection plan in accordance with VS vND standard operating procedures. State or VS personnel must approve the plan before implementation.

The elements of the site specific cleaning and disinfection plan include the following; disinfection procedures will be overseen and documented by State and/or VS personnel:

1. Immediately after depopulation/euthanasia of the birds, applying insecticides and rodenticides and removing any debris from around the exterior of the poultry houses.
2. Cleaning and disinfecting all vehicles and equipment used in holding, handling, or transporting, or that have been in contact with, affected poultry, poultry products, or contaminated materials, prior to leaving the premises.
3. Dry cleaning and/or wet cleaning contaminated structures and equipment according to VS vND standard operating procedures. Structures and equipment will be inspected by State or VS personnel to ensure that cleaning has sufficiently removed contaminated materials or substances and that houses and equipment are completely dry before a disinfection step is started.
4. Eliminating the virus structures and equipment by: **(choose one)**
 - a. Drying and heating according to VS vND standard operating procedures, or
 - b. Wet disinfection with an EPA-registered antimicrobial pesticide effective against vND, or
 - c. Fumigation with an EPA registered product for porous and non-porous surfaces.

REDUCING THE RISK OF REINFECTION

Any significant risk factors for the reintroduction of vND must be addressed prior to the restocking of poultry on the premises. If identified risk factors are not addressed, and the premises becomes re-infected with vND, VS will not provide indemnity funding for infected flocks on that premises.

{Case Managers/Site Managers should list significant risk factors here. Those would include significant biosecurity lapses, significant bird, rodent or insect activity in the houses, untreated water supplies, traffic too close to houses (such as rendering, trash trucks, etc.)}

ENSURING THE PREMISES IS FREE FROM NEWCASTLE DISEASE

1. **Birds Restocked After 21 Day Downtime and Environmental Testing**

Following depopulation, cleaning and disinfection (virus elimination), the premises will remain free of avian species for at least 21 days. During this time, environmental sampling will be performed by State and/or VS personnel. If environmental tests are negative, the producer may request permission to restock after the 21 day downtime requirement is met. **(States may have additional requirements added here).**
2. **Repopulation**

State and VS personnel must concur in writing prior to any restocking activities. If restocking occurs without prior written approval of State and VS officials, this repopulation

is at the producer's risk; VS will not indemnify previously affected premises that are restocked without prior written approval and subsequently become re-infected.

3. **Post-Quarantine Newcastle Disease Poultry Surveillance**

Besides routine National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) surveillance, all post-quarantine abnormal mortality within 180 days of quarantine release should be investigated and tested for vND by State and/or VS personnel. Abnormal mortality is defined as follows: **(Remove info that does not apply to this flock.)**

- ◆ Commercial broiler turkeys: mortality in excess of 2 birds/1,000 per day;
- ◆ Commercial breeder turkeys: mortality in excess of 2 birds/1,000 per day or a decrease in egg production of 15 percent occurring over a 2-day period;
- ◆ Commercial layers: 3 times normal daily mortality per day (0.13 birds per 1,000 per day for layers from 2-50 weeks and 0.43 per 1,000 per day for layers over 50 weeks) or 5 percent drop in egg production over 3 days;
- ◆ Commercial broiler breeders: mortality in excess of 2 birds per 1,000 per day;
- ◆ Commercial broilers: mortality in excess of 3.5 birds per 1,000 per day
- ◆ Small-volume, high-value commercial poultry: any sudden and significant mortality event or sudden drop in egg production.