

from accumulated manure, rubbish, and unnecessary equipment. Dogs, cats, sheep, cattle, horses, and swine should never have access to poultry operations. Visitors should not be admitted to poultry areas, and authorized personnel should take the necessary precautions to prevent the introduction of disease.

(d) Poultry houses and equipment should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected prior to use for a new lot of birds. (See §147.24(a).) Feed and water containers should be situated where they cannot be contaminated by droppings and should be frequently cleaned and disinfected. Dropping boards or pits should be constructed so birds do not have access to the droppings.

(e) Replacement breeders shall be housed at the proper density consistent with the type of building and locality and which will allow the litter to be maintained in a dry condition. Frequent stirring of the litter may be necessary to reduce excess moisture and prevent surface accumulation of droppings. Slat or wire floors should be constructed so as to permit free passage of droppings and to prevent the birds from coming in contact with the droppings. Nesting areas should be kept clean and, where appropriate, filled with clean nesting material.

(f) When an outbreak of disease occurs in a flock, dead or sick birds should be taken, by private carrier, to a diagnostic laboratory for complete examination. All Salmonella cultures isolated should be typed serologically, and complete records maintained by the laboratory as to types recovered from each flock within an area. Records on isolations and serological types should be made available to Official State Agencies or other animal disease control regulatory agencies in the respective States for followup of foci of infection. Such information is necessary for the development of an effective Salmonella control program.

(g) Introduction of started or mature birds should be avoided to reduce the possible hazard of introducing infectious diseases. If birds are to be introduced, the health status of both the flock and introduced birds should be evaluated.

(h) In rearing broiler or replacement stock, a sound and adequate immunization program should be adopted. Since different geographic areas may require certain specific recommendations, the program recommended by the State experiment station or other State agencies should be followed.

(i) Feed, pelleted by heat process, should be fed to all age groups. Proper feed pelleting procedures can destroy many disease producing organisms contaminating feedstuffs.

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[36 FR 23121, Dec. 3, 1971, as amended at 41 FR 14257, Apr. 2, 1976; 41 FR 48726, Nov. 5, 1976. Redesignated at 44 FR 61586, Oct. 26, 1979, and amended at 50 FR 19900, May 13, 1985; 59 FR 12805, Mar. 18, 1994]

§ 147.22 Hatching egg sanitation.

Hatching eggs should be collected from the nests at frequent intervals and, to aid in the prevention of contamination with disease causing organisms, the following practices should be observed:

(a) Cleaned and disinfected containers should be used in collecting the eggs, and precautions taken to prevent contamination from organisms that may be present on the hands or clothing of the person making the collection.

(b) Dirty eggs should not be used for hatching purposes and should be collected in a separate container from hatching eggs. Slightly soiled eggs may be dry cleaned by hand or motor driven buffer.

(c) The visibly clean eggs should be fumigated (see §147.25) or sanitized as soon as possible after collection. The sanitized eggs shall be stored in a cool place at temperatures which will prevent the eggs from sweating at any time.

(d) Egg handlers should thoroughly wash their hands with soap and water and change to clean outer garments prior to handling the sanitized eggs. Sanitized eggs should be immediately removed from the cleaning and grading area and preferably removed to a separate clean and sanitized room. A wall-installed fumigation cabinet (or authorized sanitizing equipment) through

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which eggs can be passed from the receiving and cleaning area to the sanitary packing and storage areas is a good practice.

(e) The sanitized eggs should be placed in new flats or sanitized reusable flats or racks. New or clean, fumigated, or otherwise sanitized used cases should be utilized for packing. Proper temperature and humidity in the egg cleaning, packing, and storage areas should be maintained. Eggs should be stored no longer than necessary before setting.

(f) The entire egg processing area should be cleaned and sanitized daily on a routine basis; dust, insects, feathers, and other airborne debris should be effectively controlled to prevent recontamination of sanitized eggs. Ink stamps and pads shall be maintained in a sterile condition.

(g) The egg processing building or area should be designed, located, and constructed of such materials as to assure that proper egg sanitation procedures can be carried out, and that the building itself can be easily, effectively, and routinely sanitized. The egg processing building or area should be considered part of a hatchery and the same construction details and physical and personnel sanitation requirements implemented.

[36 FR 23121, Dec. 3, 1971, as amended at 41 FR 14257, Apr. 2, 1976; 41 FR 48726, Nov. 5, 1976. Redesignated at 44 FR 61586, Oct. 26, 1979, and amended at 49 FR 19806, May 10, 1984; 57 FR 57343, Dec. 4, 1992; 63 FR 3, Jan. 2, 1998]

§ 147.23 Hatchery sanitation.

An effective program for the prevention and control of Salmonella and other infections should include the following measures:

(a) The hatchery building should be arranged so that separate rooms, with separate ventilation, are provided for each of the four operations: Egg receiving, incubation and hatching, holding of baby poultry, and disposal of offal and cleaning of trays. These rooms should be placed under isolation so that admission is granted only to specifically authorized personnel who have taken proper precautions to prevent introduction of disease.

(b) The hatchery rooms, and tables, racks, and other equipment in them should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected frequently. All hatchery wastes and offal should be burned or otherwise properly disposed of, and the containers used to remove such materials should be cleaned and sterilized after each use.

(c) The hatching compartments of incubators, including the hatching trays, should be thoroughly cleaned and fumigated or otherwise sanitized after each hatch.

(d) Only clean eggs should be used for hatching purposes. All eggs set should be fumigated or otherwise sanitized prior to setting or as soon as possible (preferably within 12 hours) after they are placed in the incubator. They should also be fumigated or otherwise sanitized after transfer to a separate hatcher. (See §147.25.)

(e) Only new or clean, fumigated or otherwise sanitized egg cases should be used for transportation of hatching eggs. Soiled egg case fillers should be destroyed.

(f) Day-old chicks, poults, or other newly hatched poultry should be distributed in clean, new boxes. All crates and vehicles used for transporting started or adult birds should be cleaned and disinfected after each use.

[36 FR 23121, Dec. 3, 1971. Redesignated at 44 FR 61586, Oct. 26, 1979, and amended at 49 FR 19806, May 10, 1984; 57 FR 57343, Dec. 4, 1992]

§ 147.24 Cleaning and disinfecting.

The following procedures are recommended:

(a) In the poultry houses, hatchery rooms and delivery trucks:

(1) Settle dust by spraying lightly with the disinfectant to be used.

(2) Remove all litter and droppings to an isolated area where there is no opportunity for dissemination of any infectious disease organisms that may be present. Housing where poultry infected with a mycoplasma disease were kept should remain closed for 7 days before removal of the litter.

(3) Scrub the walls, floors, and equipment with a hot soapy water solution. Rinse to remove soap.