



Poultry Disease Prevention Checklist

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Disease prevention is much less stressful and costly than disease control and recovery. Biosecurity measures are a critical component of disease prevention. Use this list to rate your disease prevention practices and preparedness. Check the box for all questions to which you can answer "yes." A score of 80 or better is outstanding, 70 to 79 excellent, 60 to 69 good, 50 to 59 just fair, and 49 or less indicates a definite need for improvement.

A. Score 5 points for each "yes" answer.

- My farm is isolated from other poultry facilities.
- My poultry houses are set back at least 200 feet from public roads.
- Access deterrents are in place such as warning signs at entrances, perimeter fencing or gated driveways.
- My buildings are secured with locks.
- My employees do not own poultry.
- No other avian species are kept on my property.
- I have a pest management program to control mice, rats and other pests.

B. Score 4 points for each "yes" answer.

- My birds are observed every day for abnormal symptoms and overall flock health.
- I routinely analyze my poultry production, feed consumption, and mortality records for signs of problems.
- Dead birds are picked up daily from the houses for appropriate disposal.
- My farm has secure dead bird disposal, with no access to birds or animals.
- Vehicles or people cannot enter my farm or poultry houses without my permission or knowledge.
- Visitors must park vehicles in a designated area and sign a logbook.

C. Score 3 points for each "yes" answer.

- My poultry housing is animal and wild-bird proof.
- All tools and equipment are cleaned and disinfected before coming on my farm.
- Production houses are thoroughly cleaned and disinfected between flocks.
- Production house entryways are routinely cleaned and disinfected.
- Disinfectant footbaths are at each entryway of every facility and are routinely cleaned and recharged.
- Debris and vegetation are cleaned up and kept clear of the production facilities.
- Feed spills are cleaned up quickly when they occur.
- For necessary visitors, I provide clean coveralls and boots.
- My employees do not travel to other poultry premises not under my control.

D. Score 2 points for each “yes” answer.

- All utility and service vehicles entering my farm are properly sanitized before entry and the drivers do not enter the poultry houses.
- Farm employees work only in assigned areas; they do not go to other areas of the farm.
- Dead birds are not carried from house to house.
- Poultry waste from other farms is never spread on the fields adjacent to my farm.
- I have instructed my employees and service personnel about poultry disease and on-farm prevention measures.

E. Score 1 point for each “yes” answer.

- Household pets are kept away from the poultry buildings.
- I have implemented a fly control program for my farm.
- I follow all company-implemented disease prevention measures on my farm.
- I regularly attend educational programs to keep abreast of new developments in disease control.

_____ **Total** (Perfect score = 100)

Adapted from: Poultry Disease Prevention, Animal Nutrition and Health, 1974.

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