


Poultry Biosecurity and Health



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1

Biosecurity

“Procedures intended to protect humans or animals against disease or harmful biological agents”

... Safety for your chickens!

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2

Location of Your Coop

- Away from other chicken coops or farms
- Put up signage before entrance to your coop, telling people the area contains birds
- Prevent contact with other birds and animals



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Daily Cleaning

- Fresh water, Remove any spoiled feed
- Collect and store eggs daily
 - Dispose of any cracked or dirty eggs
- Ensure predators don't have coop access
- Manage rodent and pest populations
- Clean all new and returned farm equipment





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Weekly Coop Cleaning

- Routinely and thoroughly clean cages and pen area
 - Feces
 - Dust
 - Spilt feed or water
- Fresh bedding and nest box material
- Clean egg trays, tools, water, feed containers

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Seasonal Coop Deep Clean

- Remove chickens from the coop
- Remove feeders, waterers, drinkers, nest boxes
 - Clean with a household cleaner
- Rake out all the bedding from the coop floor
- Hose the floor down
- Apply coop cleaning product (Prevail) on the floor and walls
- Allow coop to dry



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Feed and Water

- Provide non-moldy feed and water daily
- Keep feed and water areas covered
- Clean up any spilt feed and litter
- Keep feed in sealed containers




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Protective Gear

- Wash your hands before entry and after exiting
- Booties, boot covers, or boots specific to the coop
- Face Masks
- Hair nets
- Plastic Gloves
- Coop specific clothes (i.e. coveralls)



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... For you and your visitors!

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"Danish Entry"



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Record Keeping

- Visitors
- Incoming and outgoing birds, breeder information
- If a bird gets sick
 - Date
 - Clinical signs of disease
 - Age of bird
- Medications or vaccinations used
- Veterinary Reports

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Quarantine

- Location that is separate from the main flock
- Sick AND Returning AND New Birds
 - Quarantine for 30 days (watch for signs of sickness)
 - Then: place the new birds in a separate pen that allows them to be seen by the original birds for 1 week



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Sick Birds

- Early detection of sick birds can decrease spread of disease
- Know the signs of sickness. . .
 - Let's talk about disease and then we will come back to how to identify sick birds!




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Respiratory Diseases

- Sniffing and sneezing
- Watery eyes and nose
- Swollen face/Sinuses
- Open mouth breathing
- Fatigue
- Puffed up feathers




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14

Respiratory Diseases

- Causes:
 - Management
 - Dust
 - Stress
 - Temperature
 - Bacterial
 - Viral

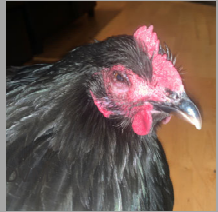


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15

Respiratory Diseases

- Causes:
 - Management
 - Dust
 - Stress
 - Temperature
 - Bacterial
 - Mycoplasma
 - Infectious Coryza
 - Viral




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16

Respiratory Diseases

- Causes:
 - Management
 - Dust
 - Stress
 - Temperature
 - Bacterial
 - Mycoplasma
 - Infectious Coryza
 - Viral
 - No treatment



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Provincially Reportable Diseases

- Avian Influenza
- Infectious Laryngotracheitis
- Newcastle Disease
- Salmonella
- Death/disease due to a toxic substance



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... Free Provincial testing!

18

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Chicken Cuddling . . .

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A Case of New Castle Disease

Reported

California:

- Virulent (Severe) New Castle Disease (VND) since August 2018
- Approx 500 confirmed cases of VND
- 1.1 million commercial birds and 100K backyard birds destroyed
- Last time this happened: 1970s

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20

Intestinal Diseases

- E. coli
 - Management
 - Environmental Hygiene
 - Susceptible birds
 - Treat with antibiotic
- Coccidiosis
- Worms

Good Poop

Diarrhea

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21

Intestinal Diseases

- E. coli
 - Management
 - Environmental Hygiene
 - Susceptible birds
- Coccidiosis = parasitic infection
 - Humans can not get this
 - Birds: weight loss, watery and bloody poop, less eggs, death
 - Treatment: Amprolium
 - Prevention: Sanitation

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22

Intestinal Diseases

- E. coli
- Coccidiosis
- Worms
 - Birds losing weight, not laying eggs
 - Running poop
 - Prevent: Environmental Hygiene
 - Treat: Poultry Dewormer

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Ectoparasites: Mites and Lice

- Very common in backyard flocks
 - Restless birds, weight loss, feather loss, laying less eggs
- To find them: part the feathers on your bird and watch for 15 seconds
 - Scotch tape
- Prevent: Sanitation and Biosecurity
 - Diatomaceous earth on staldren?
- Treat: Pyrethroid sprays ...


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Mareks Disease

- A virus that is everywhere in every environment
- Difficult to vaccinate
 - Contact your hatchery
- Cancer like lesions (tumors)
- Really prevalent in backyard flocks
 - Genetic susceptibility
- Clinical signs: have trouble moving, confused, death




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What to do when you get a sick bird(s)

- Try not to ask the internet
- Call your vet right away
 - Potential medication
 - Blood tests
- Quarantine/Isolation




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26

How To Prevent Hen Disease

- Biosecurity
- Quarantine New Birds
- Only get your birds from trustworthy sources
 - Previous testing
 - Vaccination history
 - References

*ok, don't let them know you're a chicken"
Interviewer: What do you like?
Me: Not crossing the road



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27

Vaccines

- Marek's disease and Coccidiosis
 - Discuss with your hatchery
- Infectious bronchitis and New Castle Disease
 - Discuss with your hatchery, talk with your vet
- Infectious Laryngotracheitis (ILT) and Colibacillosis/E.coli
 - Talk with your veterinarian

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28

If There is a Death in the Flock

- Remove the bird from the coop as soon as possible
- Call your vet or the Provincial Lab
 - Bring or mail it in for diagnostics
- If no diagnostics:
 - Need to follow proper disposal methods as per your bylaw. Do not allow any humans or animals access to this bird

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29

If you find a sick chicken in your flock . . .

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Call Your Vet!!!!

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31

Questions?

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32

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