

PART VI. AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Chapter No.

91.

Chapter Name

"PULLORUM DISEASE AND FOWL TYPHOID PROGRAM

Section

91.1

CHAPTER 91. PULLORUM DISEASE AND FOWL TYPHOID PROGRAM

<u>Section No.</u>	<u>Section Name</u>
91.1.	Applicability and Scope.
91.2.	Definitions.
91.3.	Methods of Compliance.
91.4.	Submission of Positives to a Recognized Laboratory and Restrictions on Sale and Movement Pending Laboratory Testing.
91.5.	Procedures for Handling Infected Flocks and Their Products.
91.6.	Cleaning and Disinfecting.
91.7.	Texas Pullorum-Typhoid Certified Flock and Approved Hatchery Classification.
91.8.	Exhibition of Poultry.
91.9.	Registration.
91.10.	Public Sales.

Authority: The provisions of this Chapter 91 issued under Acts 1977, 65th Leg., p. 364, ch. 179, effective August 29, 1977 (Texas Civ. St. art. 7014h-1), unless otherwise noted.

§91.1. Applicability and Scope.

The provisions of this chapter shall apply to all firms or persons producing hatching eggs, or hatching, selling, or exhibiting domesticated poultry within the State of Texas.

Source: The provisions of this §91.1 adopted to be effective April 21, 1978, 3 TexReg 1300.

§91.2. Definitions.

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

Dealer—A firm or person other than a flockowner or hatchery who offers poultry or hatching eggs for sale or trade.

Flock—Includes:

- (1) all the poultry and eggs under the same ownership or management on any given premises or on adjacent premises; and
- (2) all poultry under the control or ownership of a dealer.

Hatchery—Equipment on one premises operated or controlled by any person or firm for the hatching of poultry eggs.

Infected flock—A flock in which one or more birds has been diagnosed and confirmed by isolation of *salmonella pullorum* or *salmonella gallinarum* to be infected with pullorum disease or fowl typhoid.

Multiplier flock—A flock that originates from a primary breeding flock and that is intended for production of hatching eggs.

Negative test result—An approved testing procedure in which the blood or serum antigen mixture fails to clump.

Official test—Serological testing using a Texas agricultural experiment station-approved testing procedure conducted by a recognized laboratory or testing agent.

Positive test result—An approved testing procedure in which there is complete or nearly complete clumping of the blood or serum antigen mixture.

Poultry—Chickens, turkeys, game birds, and all other domestic fowl.

Primary breeding flock—A flock that is maintained for the purpose of establishing, continuing, or improving parent lines.

Products—Poultry or hatching eggs.

Recognized laboratory—A laboratory approved by the Texas agricultural experiment station for performing approved serological testing procedures and bacteriological culture techniques.

Testing agent—An employee, agent, or representative of the Texas agricultural experiment station authorized by the station to perform approved serological testing procedures and bacteriological culture techniques.

Source: The provisions of this §91.2 adopted to be effective April 21, 1978, 3 TexReg 1300; amended to be effective July 29, 1980, 5 TexReg 2837.

§91.3. Methods of Compliance.

All firms or persons hatching or selling or selling domesticated poultry within the State of Texas must have a pullorum typhoid status at least equivalent to that specified by the National Poultry Improvement Plan of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. A firm or person may obtain such status by compliance with one of the following methods:

- (1) Those firms or persons currently qualified under the National Poultry Improvement Plan are recognized as meeting the requirements of these sections.
- (2) Any firm or person presently under a program of monitoring and testing breeder birds for pullorum and typhoid, which is equivalent to the required program, may have the program approved by the Texas agricultural experiment station.
- (3) A firm or person unable to obtain a pullorum-typhoid status at least equivalent to that specified by the National Poultry Improvement Program by compliance with one of the methods outlined in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this section must submit his flock to an official test. A flock in which all test results are negative shall be considered to have a pullorum-typhoid status equivalent to that specified by the National Poultry Improvement Plan. The following testing procedures may be used to comply with this regulation:
 - (A) All birds in the primary breeder flocks are tested and all birds in multiplier flocks are tested.
 - (B) All birds in the primary breeder flock are tested, and birds in the multiplier flocks are tested according to the following:

Year	Size of Flock	Number Tested
1st	More than 2,000	25% of flock
	500-2,000	500
	Less than 500	All in flock
2nd	More than 2,000	20% of flock
	400-2,000	400
	Less than 400	All in flock
3rd	More than 2,000	15% of flock
	300-2,000	300
	Less than 300	All in flock
4th	More than 2,000	10% of flock
	200-2,000	200
	Less than 200	All in flock
5th	More than 2,000	5.0% of flock
	100-2,000	100
	Less than 100	All in flock

The amount of testing in multiplier flocks will be based on origin of the flock, the present testing program, and the number of years of continuous operation without evidence of pullorum or typhoid in a hatchery supply flock or in progeny from the hatchery.

- (C) All birds in the primary breeder flocks are tested. Multiplier flocks are not required to tests.
 - (D) At least 300 birds from the primary breeder flocks are tested. No test is required in multiplier flocks.
 - (E) Under the methods described in subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D), of this paragraph, in lieu of blood testing, the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station may determine that a primary breeding flock, a multiplier breeding flock, game birds, and water fowl may comply with this regulation if a bacteriological monitoring program and a bacteriological examination have been made of samples of down or fluff shed by baby poultry in the hatchery. At least three negative cultures on samples collected on three separate hatches are required. In making such a determination, the experiment station shall consider the origin of the flock and any history of pullorum disease or fowl typhoid in the flock or on the premises in which the flock has been housed, incubated, brooded, or ranged. The experiment station may require blood testing of flocks when there is any cause to suspect infection with pullorum disease or fowl typhoid. Before compliance by this method can be approved by the experiment station, the firm or person owning the flock must agree to submit specimens to an approved laboratory when excessive mortality in birds under four weeks of age has occurred.
- (4) A dealer may qualify by purchasing hatching eggs or the poultry only from pullorum-typhoid free flocks as established under the Texas Pullorum-Typhoid Program or the National Poultry Improvement Plan or an equivalent program.

Source: The provisions of this §91.3 adopted to be effective April 21, 1978. 3 TexReg 1300; amended to be effective July 29, 1980. 5 TexReg 2837.

Cross References: This section cited in 4 TAC §91.7 (relating to Texas Pullorum-Typhoid Certified Individual Flock and Hatchery).

§91.4. Submission of Positives to a Recognized Laboratory and Restrictions on Sale and Movement Pending Laboratory Testing.

- (a) Each flockowner of poultry indicating a positive test result in tests conducted by a testing agent shall submit such birds from the flock to a recognized laboratory for confirmation. If laboratory examination fails to reveal salmonella pullorum or *salmonella gallinarum* organisms, the flock shall be considered negative. If a flockowner or dealer of poultry refuses to pen or present poultry for field testing by a testing agent, or both, or if a field test indicates a positive result and a flockowner or dealer of poultry fails to submit such poultry to a recognized laboratory for confirmation, or if a flockowner or dealer offers for sale poultry lacking a pullorum-typhoid status equivalent to that specified by the National Poultry Improvement Plan of the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station may designate the entire flock an infected flock.
- (b) The number of poultry to be submitted for laboratory confirmation of serologic tests shall be all reactor birds up to five or as otherwise determined by the Texas agricultural experiment station or its representative.
- (c) The Texas Agricultural Experiment Station may order any flockowner or dealer who has refused to pen or present poultry for field testing by a testing agent, or who has offered for sale poultry lacking a pullorum-typhoid status equivalent to that specified by the National Poultry Improvement Plan of the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection service, or who fails to submit to a laboratory for confirmation poultry which has indicated a positive test result in a field test, to refrain from selling, trading, or moving his flock or hatching eggs without receiving prior written permission from the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station. Such order

shall remain in effect until the flock has been determined by field or laboratory examination to be free of *salmonella pullorum* or *salmonella gallinarum* organisms, or in cases where such organisms are present, until the Texas Animal Health Commission has imposed a quarantine or otherwise acted to restrict the movement of birds or eggs to prevent the further spread of infection.

Source: The provisions of this §91.4 adopted to be effective April 21, 1978, 3 TexReg 1300; amended to be effective July 29, 1980, 5 TexReg 2837.

§91.5. Procedures for Handling Infected Flocks and Their Products.

- (a) Any infected flock shall be reported to the Texas Animal Health Commission, who will impose a quarantine or otherwise restrict the movement of birds or eggs to prevent further spread of the infection. An infected flock may be disposed of in one of the following manners:
- (1) Birds reacting to the pullorum typhoid test may be removed from the flock and all remaining birds in the flock serologically tested. If, as a result of 2 consecutive negative flock tests, the first not less than 21 days later, the flock shall be considered to have a pullorum-typhoid status at least equivalent to that specified by the National Poultry Plan. The flock must not be treated with antibiotics or other drugs that may mask the presence of the disease.
 - (2) The flock may be moved to a state or federally inspected poultry processing establishment accompanied by a written certificate issued by the Texas Animal Health Commission or its representative.
 - (3) The flock may be depopulated without recompense to the owner under supervision of the supervision of the Texas Animal Health Commission and/or the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station.
 - (4) The experiment station may require the testing of any flock when such testing is necessary to the control and eradication of pullorum disease and fowl typhoid. The owner must pen or present his birds, or both, for testing at a time and place designated by a testing agent of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station.
- (b) All incubating eggs from infected flocks shall be removed from the incubator and destroyed under Texas Animal Health Commission and Texas agricultural experiment station supervision prior to hatching, except that by special permission eggs may be hatched under quarantine of the eggs and the progeny.

Source: The provisions of this §91.5 adopted to be effective April 21, 1978, 3 TexReg 1300; amended to be effective July 29, 1980, 5 TexReg 2837.

§91.6. Cleaning and Disinfecting.

Premises found to have housed, incubated, brooded, or ranged an infected flock shall be cleansed and disinfected under the supervision of the Texas agricultural experiment station within 15 days following depopulation, unless an extension of time is granted. No infected premises shall be restocked with poultry or eggs for hatching purposes until the cleaning and disinfecting requirement of this section is certified complete by the experiment station.

Source: The provisions of this §91.6 adopted to be effective April 21, 1978, 3 TexReg 1300.

§91.7. Texas Pullorum-Typhoid Certified Flock and Approved Hatchery Classification.

A flock classification of "Texas pullorum-typhoid certified" is established to recognize and identify those flocks and hatcheries that are free of pullorum disease and fowl typhoid.

- (1) A flock of poultry may attain this status by meeting the requirements of one of three alternatives. The alternatives are the following:
 - (A) A flock may attain this status when each chicken or turkey breeder flock 16 weeks of age or older and other poultry approaching sexual maturity, and before eggs are hatching, has been tested by an approved serological testing procedure, conducted by an authorized agent, with no positive reactors.
 - (B) A flock may attain this status when it is a flock originating from Texas pullorum-typhoid certified flocks, U.S. pullorum-typhoid cleans, or the equivalent to that specified by the National Poultry Improvement Plan by one of the methods described in §91.3 of this title (relating to Methods of Compliance).
 - (C) A flock found to be infected with pullorum disease or fowl typhoid may attain this status by 2 consecutive negative tests not less than 21 days apart provided that all eligible poultry on the premises have been included in such tests. These flocks must be retested one year from the date of their last negative test.
- (2) A flock of poultry which has been certified may be recertified each year under this system if there is no serological or other evidence of pullorum disease or fowl typhoid and all birds added to the flock are U.S. pullorum-typhoid clean, Texas pullorum-typhoid certified, or the equivalent.
- (3) Any hatchery in the state must be approved by the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station. Hatcheries desiring approval must be inspected and approved by a representative of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station. Factors which will be considered by the station in the approval process include physical facilities, hatchery sanitation, the source and identification of all hatching eggs, and the cleaning, disinfecting, and fumigation practices of the hatchery. Only eggs or products from flocks which meet the United States pullorum-typhoid clean status, according to the National Poultry Improvement Plan or a Texas pullorum-typhoid certified flock or

hatchery or equivalent, may be used by the certified hatchery. It is the responsibility of the hatchery management to require that only eggs from qualified flocks are placed in the incubators. Failure to enforce this requirement is a violation of the Pullorum-Typhoid Act and may result in quarantine or prosecution or both.

- (4) Approved hatcheries shall be subject to periodic inspections. Failure to meet the requirements of these regulations is cause for withdrawal of the approval status of the hatchery.

Source: The provisions of this §91.7 adopted to be effective April 21, 1978, 3 TexReg 1300; amended to be effective July 29, 1980, 5 TexReg 2837.

§91.8. Exhibition of Poultry.

All poultry going to public exhibition must originate from pullorum-typhoid clean sources and must be accompanied by a certificate of source or purchase. Poultry going to exhibition which are not accompanied by a certificate of source or purchase will be declared an infected flock by the experiment station. Organizers and sponsors of public exhibition are required to bar from exhibition any poultry not accompanied by a certificate of source or purchase.

Source: The provisions of this §91.8 adopted to be effective April 21, 1978, 3 TexReg 1300; amended to be effective July 29, 1980, 5 TexReg 2837.

§91.9. Registration.

- (a) All hatcheries must register and submit the following information to the Pullorum-Typhoid Program, Department of Veterinary Microbiology and Parasitology, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843:
- (1) Hatchery name, address, capacity, and type of poultry hatched.
 - (2) Name and address of each supplier of hatching eggs and location of breeder flocks.
- (b) All independent breeding flocks not associated with a registered hatchery must register, giving flock size, breed, where eggs are hatched and location of flock. A testing report form completed by a testing agent will satisfy the requirement for registration of a flock.

Source: The provisions of this §91.9 adopted to be effective April 21, 1978, 3 TexReg 1300; amended to be effective July 29, 1980, 5 TexReg 2837.

§91.10. Public Sales.

All poultry offered for public sale or trade at markets such as trade days, flea markets, auctions, or any other public sales must originate from pullorum-typhoid clean flocks or hatcheries. The seller must furnish proof of the source of poultry or hatching eggs offered for public sale. The owner or management of any market or public sale shall prevent the sale, trade, or offer for sale of any bird that is not properly qualified under the Texas Pullorum-Typhoid Program. Failure to enforce this requirement may result in the issuing of an order prohibiting any further sale of poultry on the grounds. All birds from states other than Texas must be accompanied by a health certificate from the state of origin, including a negative pullorum-typhoid test within 30 days of the sale. All poultry not properly identified and qualified as pullorum-typhoid clean is prohibited from sale and must be returned to the owner or dealer's premises.

Source: The provisions of this §91.10 adopted to be effective July 29, 1980, 5 TexReg 2837.