



Maryland Department of Agriculture

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Animal Industries and Consumer Services

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NOTICE FROM THE STATE VETERINARIAN

April 26, 2019

To: Maryland Poultry Testing Agents
NPIP Participants
Maryland Fairs and Shows

From: Office of the State Veterinarian
NPIP Official State Agency
Dr. N. Jo Chapman, Acting State Veterinarian

Subject: **PT Antigen Shortage - State Contingency Plans**

Due to a nationwide shortage of Pullorum-Typhoid antigen for regulatory testing, and given that Maryland is currently a U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Free State, the Maryland Department of Agriculture will be taking the following actions until the PT antigen becomes readily available again, which is expected by August 1, 2019. **The following policies are in effect in Maryland as of April 26, 2019:**

1. Pullorum Typhoid (PT) testing requirements are waived for the 2019 Maryland Fair and Show season. The exception to this waiver is that Out-of-State participants must possess a VS 9-3 that signifies poultry are from an NPIP U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean Flock for entry into Maryland shows.
2. Current NPIP Participants due for status renewal between May 1st and August 1st will be extended through August 31, 2019.
3. Certification for new NPIP Participants will be discontinued until availability of antigen is assured.

PLEASE NOTE: The requirement for Avian Influenza testing in Maryland is still in effect:

1. **In State Maryland poultry** must have a negative Avian Influenza test for 15 birds (or up to 15 birds in a flock of fewer than 15 birds) tested within 21 days prior to the exhibition, or be from a NPIP Certified U.S. Avian Influenza Clean or H5/H7 Avian Influenza Monitored flock.
2. **Out-of- State poultry** must have a negative Avian Influenza test for 30 birds (or up to 30 birds in the flock) tested within 21 days prior to the exhibition, or be from a NPIP Certified U.S. Avian Influenza Clean or H5/H7 Avian Influenza Monitored flock.

If you have any questions, please contact us at npip.md@maryland.gov or call 410-841-5810.

Cc: MDA PIO, Jason Schellhardt
MDA Animal Health Website, Emily Taylor