

STATE OF MARYLAND  
MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ORDER OF:	*	ORDER # 03-2018
THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE	*	AUTHORITY: Agriculture
TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF	*	Article, §§ 3-101 <i>et seq.</i> ,
ANIMAL DISEASES IN THIS STATE	*	Annotated Code of Maryland
	*	

\*Effective Date: March 1, 2018

\* \* \* \* \*

**ORDER OF THE SECRETARY GOVERNING THE MOVEMENT OF  
POULTRY AND HATCHING EGGS INTO MARYLAND, AND  
IMPLEMENTING CERTAIN BIOSECURITY REQUIREMENTS**

WHEREAS, Maryland poultry growers and owners could now experience significant economic losses from Avian Influenza, a contagious and infectious disease,

WHEREAS, in the past, Avian Influenza outbreak eradication efforts and indemnity payments have been costly to the federal government and to the State of Maryland,

WHEREAS, another serious outbreak of Avian Influenza could threaten the future of the Maryland poultry industry,

WHEREAS, there has been an outbreak of Avian Influenza in certain other states and within Maryland, which has resulted in the destruction of flocks in those states,

WHEREAS, to protect the health of poultry in this State, the Secretary of Agriculture has determined that it is necessary to take prompt action pertaining to the importation of hatching eggs and other poultry into this State, and

WHEREAS, the Secretary has determined that there is a need to amend the requirements of Order # 01-2018, due to the continuing threat of an Avian Influenza outbreak by protecting against new emerging strains of Avian Influenza entering this State.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to Agriculture Article, §§ 3-101 *et seq.*, Annotated Code of Maryland, the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Agriculture, on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of March 2018, having found cause to extend Order #01-2018 (that was issued on January 1, 2018) as Order # 3-2018 for an additional six months, hereby **ORDERS**:

A. Terms Defined. For the purposes of this Order, the following terms have the meanings indicated:

- (1) "Baby Poultry" means newly hatched poultry.
- (2) "Control Zone" means any area or region designated by a State or Federal Animal Health official that restricts movement of animals for purposes of disease control.
- (3) "Department" means the Maryland Department of Agriculture.
- (4) "Department Approval" means a written statement, which generally will be accompanied with a control number, that the Department issues to the poultry importer indicating the State Veterinarian's approval to move poultry into Maryland from another state (such approval may have quarantine, inspection or testing requirements once the poultry is allowed into the State as a condition of approval).
- (5) "Flock" means any group of poultry which is segregated from another group and has been so segregated for a period of at least 21 days.
- (6) "Grower" means a commercial poultry grower.
- (7) "NPIP" means the National Poultry Improvement Plan, a cooperative, industry, state, and federal program to improve poultry and poultry products.
- (8) "Official Certificate" means a written document, such as the Veterinary Services (VS) Form 9-3, issued by a State or Federal agency certifying the health of animals, and documenting any required testing or other information necessary for animal movement.
- (9) "Poultry" means any domesticated fowl, including but not limited to chickens, turkeys, ostriches, emus, rheas, cassowaries, waterfowl, and game birds.



B. Importation requirements governing hatching eggs and poultry.

- (1) A person may not import, ship, or otherwise move poultry, hatching eggs, and baby poultry into Maryland if that person knows or has reason to know that the poultry or, in the case of hatching eggs, the flock from which they originated, are infected with Avian Influenza.
- (2) A person may not import, ship, or otherwise move poultry into Maryland unless:
  - (a) The poultry meets at least one of the following requirements:
    - (i) The poultry originates from a flock that participates in and meets the requirements of the NPIP "U.S. Avian Influenza Clean" or U.S. H5/H7 Avian Influenza Clean program in Code of Federal Regulations, Title 9, Parts 145-147, or an equivalent State Avian Influenza Monitoring program; or
    - (ii) The poultry, if destined for immediate slaughter (within 72 hours of entry) and going directly to a USDA approved and inspected slaughter facility, originates from a flock that participates in and meets the requirements of the NPIP "U.S. Avian Influenza Monitoring" program in Code of Federal Regulations, Title 9, Parts 145-147; or
    - (iii) The poultry originates from a flock in which a minimum of 30 birds, 3 weeks of age or older, or the complete flock if it is fewer than 30 birds, are found negative for Avian Influenza within 21 days before entering Maryland.
  - (b) The person importing, shipping, or otherwise moving poultry into Maryland:
    - (i) Includes a completed Official Certificate with the shipment and, if applicable, a copy of the laboratory report documenting the requisite Avian Influenza testing, or alternatively, a statement that the owner of the flock(s) shipping the poultry participates in and meets the requirements of the NPIP "U.S. Avian Influenza Clean" or "U.S H5/H7 Avian Influenza Clean" program, or an equivalent State Avian Influenza Monitoring program; and