

Moving poultry into and within NSW

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This document applies to all commercial and pet poultry

Moving poultry into and within NSW

There are no restrictions on the movement of poultry into or within NSW but appropriate biosecurity measures should be taken (see below).

Importation of fodder

If you plan to move poultry into NSW and are bringing plant-based feed with them you must meet the requirements for the importation of plant material into NSW. These requirements vary depending on the state of origin.

See [Information on importing fodder into NSW from interstate](#) (Primefact 42). For more details, call Industry & Investment NSW Agricultural Compliance on 02 6391 3384.

Animal welfare

There are minimum animal welfare requirements for the transport and keeping of poultry in NSW.

The [Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Land Transport of Poultry](#) provides welfare directions for poultry in transit.

The [Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Domestic Poultry](#) provides welfare directions for the keeping of poultry.

Newcastle disease vaccination in commercial flocks

All commercial chicken flocks in NSW, i.e. flocks with 1000 or more birds, must be vaccinated against Newcastle disease. See [Newcastle disease compulsory vaccination](#) (Primefact 250).

Biosecurity guidelines for poultry owners

Biosecurity helps you to protect your poultry and other people's poultry from pests and diseases by minimising risks.

The main biosecurity risks for poultry owners are:

- neglecting the health of your poultry
- introducing poultry and other birds to your farm
- people, vehicles and equipment
- rats, mice, wild birds (particularly wild waterfowl), insects and other animals that can transfer infectious diseases
- contaminated feed, water or products.

You can minimise these risks by following a few simple guidelines.

Good health

- Inspect your poultry daily.
- Maintain an effective vaccination and medication program.
- Remove all sick and dead birds and unusable eggs as soon as possible.
- Ensure the water supply is cool, clean and not accessible to wild waterfowl.
- Optimise nutrition and shed temperatures.

Introductions

- Buy only from reputable sources.
- Don't keep backyard, show, aviary or other birds on poultry farms.
- If possible use 'all-in all-out' shed systems.
- Segregate age groups.
- Decontaminate sheds and equipment and allow at least 1 week between batches in single age sheds.

People, vehicles and equipment

- Minimise access to poultry sheds.

- Ensure strict biosecurity (washing, changing clothes and footwear) for essential personnel such as contract crews, vets and service people.
- Ensure visitors have no contact with other poultry in the same day.
- Don't share equipment and only use new, clean egg fillers.
- Require all vehicles entering the shed perimeter to be cleaned and disinfected before entry.

Rodents, insects, wild birds, other animals

- Control rats, mice, wild birds and insects in and around sheds.
- Prevent dogs and cats from accessing sheds and disposal areas unless they serve a specific protective purpose and are kept with the flock at all times (protection of free range flocks against foxes).

Emergency animal disease

If you suspect that poultry being moved into or within NSW are infected with an emergency animal disease, you must call the emergency animal disease hotline on 1800 675 888.

See [Emergency animal diseases](#) (Primefact 588) for details.

More information

For more information on moving poultry into and within NSW contact any I&I NSW or Livestock Health & Pest Authority (formerly Rural Lands Protection Board) office, or visit

www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/livestock/stock-movements

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Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (September 2009). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of Industry & Investment NSW or the user's independent adviser.

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