

Gamebird Movement Requirements for Permitted Hunts within Ohio

Gamebirds, excluding waterfowl, (Pheasants, Quail, Chukars, and Hungarian Partridges) are considered to be a low risk for spreading Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, (HPAI) and may be used for Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) permitted hunts if the following protocols are used.

- A. The birds moving from an Ohio based operation to be hunted on an ODNR permitted property within Ohio must originate from a National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) flock.
- B. Out-of-state birds being shipped to a permitted ODNR facility must originate directly from a NPIP flock and have negative PCR (Polymerase Chain Reactor) tests within thirty days of shipment.
The testing requirements are:
 - a. Sample size: whole flock if under 22 birds or 22 birds if bird numbers >22/flock.
 - b. 2 X 11 cloacal swabs/5.5 mL BHI tube and 2X 11 oropharyngeal swab/5.5 mL BHI tube (total number of 4 tubes)
 - c. Samples must be collected by a veterinarian and/or a NPIP certified agent
 - d. Samples must be stored on ice immediately after collection and kept cold before shipment
 - e. Samples must be shipped on ice via overnight mail (UPS or FedEx) to a National Animal Health Laboratory Network approved laboratory for avian influenza testing
 - f. Samples must be shipped within 24 hours of collection
- C. Strict biosecurity practices must be followed when shipping birds:
 - a. Spraying disinfectant on vehicle tires entering and exiting both the breeding and/or growing operation and the ODNR permitted facility is required
 - b. Clean clothes and boots are required before entering a premise, for shipping and receiving birds.
 - c. The containers carrying chicks or adults must be disposable or made of a material (such as plastic or fiberglass) that can be properly disinfected between shipments. **Wooden crates cannot be reused unless the wood is sealed.**
 - d. **Deliveries should be made to a single stop and no more than one farm should be visited each day.**
- D. No live birds may leave the premise once released. Birds delivered to hunting preserves or hunt clubs are considered terminal and cannot move to another premise, unless the birds have remained in containment, provided the testing procedures outline in B have been met.
- E. Out-of-state birds must have an interstate certificate of veterinary inspection (ICVI) or an NPIP 9-3 form and must obtain an import permit from the Ohio Department of Agriculture. The permit can be obtained by calling 614-728-6220.
- F. In addition, the birds must not have exhibited clinical signs of Avian Influenza in the past 30 days. **Birds originating from an HPAI infected premise or control zone cannot be brought into the state.**
- G. Failure to abide by these protocols may result in, but not be limited to, revocation of ODNR permits and charges may be filed by the Department of Agriculture.
- H. Please direct questions to the Ohio Department of Agriculture at 614-728-6220.

Note: No field trials will be permitted using waterfowl.