

Procedures for Handling Premises and Birds Associated with VVND Infected Aviaries

California Department of Food
and Agriculture
Division of Animal Industry
Bureau of Animal Health

Premises Receiving Birds From Infected Aviary

A. Commercial Premises (Birds in Trade Channels)

1. All shipments made from the infected aviary since a date established by epidemiological investigation are to be traced.
2. An accurate inventory of all birds on the premises receiving birds from an infected aviary will be taken.
3. All birds which originated from the infected aviary during this period will be purchased for diagnostic purposes and submitted to the San Gabriel laboratory.
4. All birds which originated from the infected aviary that have already been resold should be traced, appraised, purchased, and taken to the San Gabriel laboratory.
5. If other birds on the premises show symptoms and lesions of VVND, the entire premises should be placed under hold order and evaluated for depopulation by an epidemiologist. Specimens for laboratory analysis may be taken at this time.
6. If there has been no sickness and the birds appear healthy, they are to be placed under hold order pending the results of laboratory tests. In the case of pet shops,

these birds may not be sold until the premises are released from hold order unless the owner agrees to record and submit the name, address, and telephone number of each purchaser. The terms of the agreement should be noted on the hold order.

7. All commercial premises receiving birds from the infected aviary will have a 30-day dead bird pickup beginning on the date birds from the infected aviary are removed, as well as other testing deemed appropriate by the evaluating veterinarian. The 30-day dead bird pickup may be shortened, lengthened, or not required depending on epidemiological evaluation.
8. Hold orders may be removed on the recommendation of the evaluating veterinarian after laboratory results are received on birds from the infected aviary and the results are negative.
9. Should laboratory results prove that VVND virus is present, all sales will cease and any birds already sold will be subject to tracing, purchase, and laboratory analysis.
10. Birds from the infected aviary in private homes and clearly personal pets, as well as those not in trade channels, should be purchased if possible, but may be put under hold order and allowed to remain at the discretion of the

evaluating veterinarian and handled as in B. below.

B. Birds in Private Homes or Otherwise Not in Trade Channels; i.e., Zoos, Aviaries, and Private Collections, etc.

1. Each private residence and premises not in trade channels containing birds from the infected aviary and contact birds must be evaluated to assure that an immediate risk to other caged birds or domestic poultry does not exist before implementing this policy.
2. Birds moving from the infected aviary, as well as contact birds belonging to persons as defined in A.10. above, and which are physically located in a private residence or those not in trade channels will be placed under hold order.
3. If all birds received from the infected aviary are purchased and a 30-day dead bird pickup is maintained, swabbing may not be required. Hold orders may be removed on the recommendation of the evaluating veterinarian after negative laboratory results are received on the birds from the infected aviary.
4. If all birds from the infected aviary are not purchased, the birds from the infected aviary and all other birds, or at least 30 birds or more, located on the same premises will be tested one or more times as deemed necessary by the evaluating veterinarian.

5. When laboratory tests and other epidemiological evaluations determine the birds are not infected, the hold order will be released.

Premises Through Which Birds From the Infected Aviary Have Passed but do Not Presently Contain Birds From the Infected Aviary

- A. The decision to place hold orders on premises through which birds from the infected aviary have passed but no longer contain birds from the infected aviary, would be based upon the evaluation of the premises by the assigned evaluating veterinarian.
- D. All premises under hold order shall maintain records for all movements during the evaluation period.
- C. All premises receiving birds from the infected aviary will have a dead bird pickup, as well as any other testing deemed appropriate by the evaluating veterinarian. The specimens shall be submitted to the San Gabriel laboratory.
- D. Hold orders will be removed based on epidemiological evidence that the disease is not present.

Infected and Exposed Premises

- A. Premises where VVND is diagnosed shall be placed under quarantine and may be depopulated based on (a) virus isolation, (b) a field diagnosis, or (c) on epidemiological evidence of exposure. Epidemiological evidence of exposure will take into consideration history of sickness and mortality in the bird population, the probability of exotic Newcastle disease virus being on the premises, and the hazard to poultry and other birds.
- B. Quarantines on premises depopulated because of birds being infected with or exposed to exotic Newcastle disease will be maintained for a minimum of 15 days following cleaning and disinfection.
 - 1. Premises which have impervious floors and walls, stainless steel and/or glass or plastic cages which may readily be cleaned and disinfected may be released from quarantine and restocked in 15 days following the completion of cleaning and disinfection.
 - 2. All other bird facilities which do not have impervious floors and walls, do not have cages con-

structed of impervious material, allow free-roaming birds, may restock in 30 days following completion of cleaning and disinfection.

Protocol for Preserving Rare and Endangered Species

Whenever rare or endangered species are encountered, they will not be depopulated, but will be placed under hold order pending evaluation by an epidemiologist. Even on premises where VVND virus has been diagnosed, it may still be possible to preserve rare and endangered species by isolating them and depopulating other birds in the aviary. The epidemiologist will recommend examination of any isolated birds that die, swabbing and other diagnostic methods that are appropriate. Unless the rare and endangered birds actually become infected with VVND virus, destruction may not be required.

An evaluation will continue until it is deemed safe to release the hold order. Any time the attempt to preserve rare and endangered species on infected premises becomes a threat to other caged birds or poultry populations, the epidemiologist may recommend a different procedure for the birds.

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