

Animal Sciences

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Indiana Poultry Emergency Disease Response - Fact Sheet

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Authority and Span of Control

By Indiana Code (IC 15-2.1), the Indiana Board of Animal Health (BOAH) has jurisdictional authority over all animal disease situations. They will consult specifically on overarching issues with other local, state, and federal agencies, including but not limited to: USDA-APHIS, IDEM, ISDH, and DNR. Nevertheless, BOAH maintains and directs the surveillance, testing, quarantine, eradication, and recovery efforts prior to, during, and after the animal disease situation.

Levels of Response by the Poultry Industry

The Indiana State Poultry Association (ISPA) has had an Emergency Poultry Disease Plan (EPDP) since 1985, and has routinely updated and improved upon it since that time. For example, most recently the EPDP has been updated to incorporate the federal Incident Command System (ICS) structure for responsiveness during a suspected and/or confirmed animal disease emergency.

The ICS structure was developed in the 1970s by the National Forest Service and has spanned into other large scale coordinated efforts (Summer Olympics in Atlanta, police and fire respondents in New York City after 9/11/2001). The Indiana EPDP has four levels of disease preparedness and responsiveness.

Level 1 – Prevention

Basic ongoing biosecurity program when no emergency disease exists within the state. This level of protection includes the following practices:

- a) Minimize contact with wild and other domestic birds.

- b) Isolate poultry facilities from other wild and domestic birds and their contact with rodents and insects.
- c) Minimize contact with visitors who are often a significant vector for transmission of disease. Monitor the time between when one can visit another poultry farm after having been around other birds which is limited to 48 to 72 hours.
- d) Monitor and provide surveillance for any emergency disease (i.e., routine testing).

Level 2 – Prevention – Increased Biosecurity and Surveillance

This level occurs when there is an emergency poultry disease (EPD) in areas adjacent to Indiana, or in areas connected with supplying resources to the poultry industry in IN, or when there is a national security alert. The ISPA routinely monitors for the occurrence of all EPD in areas outside of Indiana and in the event of a neighboring EPD and enacts a cascade of contacts with the poultry industry including all poultry farmers and employees. The poultry industry may then increase their level of biosecurity by doing the following:

- a) Increase levels of monitoring and testing for the particular EPD.
- b) Further restrict farm visits within Indiana.
- c) Implement increased environmental testing of trucks and equipment coming from infected areas.
- d) Wash and disinfect trucks and equipment if they are moving through an outbreak area before returning to Indiana.

Level 3 – Disease Control of Suspect Disease in Indiana

The key of this level is containment and isolation when the disease has not been readily confirmed. When moving to this level, do the following:

- a) Investigate and isolate the farm(s) in question.
- b) Begin extensive testing.
- c) Disinfect all contaminated material and personnel entering and leaving the farm.
- d) As some time lag can occur due to EPD confirmation of testing procedures, educate all personnel. This is paramount to prevent the spread of the disease.

Further specifics and information on particular emergency poultry diseases and responsiveness can be found through:

Indiana Board of Animal Health

<http://www.in.gov/boah/birds/>

Indiana State Poultry Association

765-494-8517

Purdue University – Extension Disaster Education Network (Avian Influenza information)

<http://www.ces.purdue.edu/eden/disasters/agro/AI/index.html>

Level 4 – Disease Control – Confirmed Disease in Indiana

During the disease confirmation process, the Indiana BOAH orchestrates the mitigation, preparedness, and recovery process in coordination with ISPA, the affected poultry company(ies), as well as local, state, and federal organizations. As an example, the table on the following page encompasses tasks and resources and entities to accomplish them during the actual disease event.



Response Tasks	Resource
Isolate the diseased flock	Flock Owner; Poultry Industry; Indiana State Poultry Association; & Indiana State Board of Animal Health
Determine guidelines for personal protection equipment	Indiana State Department of Health; & Department of Health and Human Services
Implement biosecurity procedures for all state agencies.	Indiana State Poultry Association; Indiana State Board of Animal Health; & Indiana Department of Homeland Security
Implement biosecurity procedures for all Levels 1-4 according to the Indiana Emergency Poultry Disease Plan.	Poultry Industry; Indiana State Poultry Association; Indiana State Board of Animal Health; & Purdue Extension Service
Conduct trace-backs and epidemiological investigations regarding recent imports of poultry or products into Indiana.	Indiana State Board of Animal Health; & United States Department of Agriculture
Implement emergency public information and education program regarding poultry health issues during emergency operations.	Indiana State Poultry Association; Indiana State Board of Animal Health; & Indiana Department of Homeland Security
Continue or establish border inspection activities involving incoming and outgoing commercial vehicles for poultry products, agricultural equipment, and other items.	Law Enforcement Emergency Support Function; Indiana State Board of Animal Health; & Indiana Department of Homeland Security
Call for an emergency meeting of the Indiana State Board of Animal Health	Indiana State Board of Animal Health
Request a state of emergency by the Governor.	Indiana State Board of Animal Health Governor's Office
Request a Secretary of Agriculture Emergency or Extraordinary Declaration as appropriate.	Governor's Office; Indiana State Board of Animal Health; & Indiana Department of Homeland Security
Request Presidential Declaration in order to implement the Federal Response Plan.	Governor's Office
Establish and deploy when needed a Poultry Health Field Response Team to identify, contain, and eradicate the disease in each infected area. Designate an Incident Commander and a Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostician for each site team.	Indiana State Poultry Association; Indiana State Board of Animal Health; & Indiana Department of Homeland Security
Coordinate with support agencies and other Emergency Support Functions as needed to establish control zones around the infected premise(s).	Indiana State Poultry Association; Indiana State Board of Animal Health; & Indiana Department of Homeland Security
Initiate steps to quarantine the infected area and contain the spread of the disease.	Indiana State Board of Animal Health; & Indiana Department of Homeland Security
Conduct surveys of susceptible wildlife populations in quarantine areas and surrounding territory to determine the incidence of foreign animal disease in those populations.	Department of Natural Resources; & Indiana State Board of Animal Health
Implement measures to prevent the movement of susceptible and carrier wildlife from quarantine areas, to include depopulating other species if necessary.	Department of Natural Resources; & Indiana State Board of Animal Health
Seek other possible cases other than the current case using field veterinarians, agricultural extension educators, industry partners, private practice licensed veterinarians and public awareness campaigns.	Indiana State Board of Animal Health; Indiana State Poultry Association; Poultry Industry; Purdue Extension Service; & United States Department of Agriculture

