



United States Department of Agriculture

Checklist for Approval of Privately Owned Avian Quarantine Facilities (VSG 13401)

(Includes Approval Criteria for Facilities Housing Commercial Birds and/or Poultry Eggs for Hatching)

Quarantine Facility Physical Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Mailing Address (if different) _____

Latitude/Longitude Facility Coordinates: _____

Facility Owner/Operator _____

Phone _____ **Email** _____

Inspecting Veterinarian (VS) _____

Inspection Date _____

Inspection Type: Initial _____ **Re-inspection** _____

Physical Plant Requirements

Facility Location

- ☐ The facility is in an area within a reasonable commuting distance to a U.S. port of entry. The port of entry will be listed on the import permit.
- ☐ The facility is located at least ½ mile from any commercial avian facility.
- ☐ The facility is a self-contained building (or group of buildings) in good repair.

Comments:

Facility Construction

- ☐ Floors and ceilings are made of solid construction materials.
- ☐ Surfaces in containment areas are durable and impervious to fluids.
- ☐ All construction materials in contact with avian animals can withstand repeated cleaning and disinfection.
- ☐ All exits from the building and exits from the quarantine holding areas are double screened. Interior screens may be metal or nylon mesh and must be intact. Exterior screens must be metal mesh and separated from interior screens.

Guidance documents lack the force and effect of law, unless expressly authorized by statute or incorporated into a contract. USDA may not cite, use, or rely on any guidance that is not available through their guidance portal, except to establish historical facts.

- ☐ The quarantine containment area is of sufficient size to prevent overcrowding.
- ☐ The water supply to the quarantine containment area is adequate for cleaning as well as for animal maintenance.
- ☐ Wastewater or other liquid wastes drain to a municipal or septic waste treatment system and are not discharged untreated to the exterior of the quarantine facility.
- ☐ Access to containment areas is only from within the building.
- ☐ Containment areas are not directly connected to any area exterior to the building. Entrances and exits from the exterior, if present, have an associated safety/buffer zone.
- ☐ Exterior doors and doors leading into the containment areas have tamper-proof hasps and hinges from which the pins cannot be removed.
- ☐ The facility has individual isolettes and/or cages (indicate which is used in the remarks).
- ☐ If present, individual isolettes are of sound integrity and construction, fully operational, and used per manufacturer's specifications. Individual isolettes have standalone air handling systems and use appropriately sized, high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) or antibacterial filters in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.
- ☐ If present, cages are well constructed without loose wires or parts that can cause injury.
- ☐ If present, perches are constructed with materials that can be cleaned and disinfected.
- ☐ Water and feed containers are durable for repeated cleaning and disinfection.
- ☐ Emergency exits are well identified.
- ☐ Indoor heating and ventilation systems are adequate in design and capacity to control the ambient temperature, humidity, and odors at levels that are not injurious to quarantined animals or VS personnel.
- ☐ Lighting is adequate for VS inspections and is considerate of avian husbandry needs.
- ☐ Feed and bedding storage areas are vermin- and moisture-free.
- ☐ The facility has a dedicated office space not in contact with bird containment areas.
- ☐ The facility has a dedicated necropsy/sample collection area.
- ☐ The facility has a refrigerated storage space for carcasses retained for laboratory examination.

Comments:

Biosecurity

- ☐ Adequate equipment and supplies are present/ available to keep the facility clean and sanitary and to control pests.
- ☐ A stock of APHIS-approved disinfectant is available sufficient to disinfect the entire facility.
- ☐ The facility has a separate area for washing equipment.
- ☐ The facility has at least one unisex shower, for use by one individual at a time, or two walk-through showers, one for men and one for women, at the entrance/ exit of the containment areas.
- ☐ The facility has an anteroom on either side of the shower(s) for clothes storage and changing, at the entrance to the area of the facility involved in quarantine containment and necropsy (the dirty side of the showers).
- ☐ The facility has a receptacle to collect clothing worn on the dirty side of the showers in the dirty-side anteroom of each shower.
- ☐ The facility has a standard operating procedure to ensure that shower(s) are kept clean.
- ☐ A laundry facility is available to handle soiled clothing.
- ☐ Clean laundry, including towels and coveralls, is available on the clean side of the showers.
- ☐ Footbaths with disinfectant are present at all entries/ exits to quarantine containment areas.
- ☐ The facility can dispose of wastes and other materials onsite (e.g., incineration) or adequate bio secure waste holding capacity until the end of quarantine.
- ☐ If the facility has an incinerator, it is in a separate building.

Comments:

Security

- ☐ The facility has adequate locks to deter unauthorized entry.
- ☐ The facility displays visible Quarantine Area signs indicating that visitors are prohibited.
- ☐ The facility operator has provided a 24-hour contact phone number: _____
- ☐ The facility has a functional security system (e.g., fences, guards, video cameras).
- ☐ The facility has a working camera monitoring system for the containment quarantine areas or a window large enough to provide a full view of the containment area.

- ☐ A written standard operating procedure is in place requiring facility personnel to immediately report any breaks or suspected breaks in security, as well as any escape of quarantined animals, to supervising VS personnel.
- ☐ The facility has systems in place to record the initial count of animals entering quarantine, to record all mortalities during quarantine, and to allow reconciliation of the initial count against the final count prior to quarantine release.

Comments:

Personnel Requirements

- ☐ Statements from authorized employees agreeing to no contact with other avian animals until 72 hours after quarantine has ended are maintained for VS review.
- ☐ Agreements by authorized personnel to follow cooperative service agreement or Memorandum of Understanding requirements are maintained for VS review.

Comments:

Recordkeeping Requirements

- ☐ The facility operator keeps a daily log of personnel entering and exiting the facility.
- ☐ The facility operator keeps a daily log of mortalities, hatchings, and other quarantine events, including a list of all laboratory specimens removed from the facility.
- ☐ Written mortality handling procedures are available for review.
- ☐ A written standard operating procedure is in place for daily operations.
- ☐ A written standard operating procedure is in place for waste management.
- ☐ The facility operator keeps and provides on request evidence of identification methods to be used for psittacine birds.

Comments:

Inspector's Remarks:

Based on my inspection, I recommend the facility be:

- ☐ **Approved**
- ☐ **Not approved**

VS Inspector Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____

VIC Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____

Facility Operator Acknowledgement of Receipt

I hereby acknowledge receipt of this inspection report on the below listed date.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Printed Name: _____ **Title:** _____