



California Poultry Letter

January 3, 2005

Poultry Health Symposium

Plan to attend the Poultry Health Symposium in February, 2005. **Attendance at the Symposium will qualify for California Egg Quality Assurance Program continuing education credit.**

The program agenda and registration information are included with this mailing. *If you are paying at the door with a check, please make it out to UC Regents.*

Summary of the FDA Proposed Regulation Regarding Prevention of *Salmonella Enteritidis* in Shell Eggs During Production

The following is a brief summary of the FDA's **proposed** regulation for egg producers as of September 20, 2004. This regulation has been discussed in depth at public hearings where verbal and written comments have been received. As a result of the public hearings and written comments received, the final regulation may be modified.

Procurement of Chicks and Pullets: Chicks and pullets must come from breeder flocks that meet the USDA NPIP standards for *S. enteritidis* monitoring.

Biosecurity Program: A program must be instituted that would prevent the spread of *S. enteritidis* between flocks and houses on the farm.

Pest and Rodent Control Program: A program must be developed to effectively control vertebrate (rodents, birds etc.) and invertebrate (flies) pests. The regulation would require that these pest populations be monitored.

Cleaning and Disinfection of Poultry Houses: If a poultry house was found to be positive for *S. enteritidis* through environmental sampling, the house would have to be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before repopulation with a replacement flock. Cleaning and disinfection include manure removal, dry cleaning followed by wet cleaning with a disinfectant, and a final disinfection.

Refrigeration of Stored Eggs on the Farm: Eggs that are held on the farm more than 36 hours would have to be refrigerated at 45° F or less.

Identification of a Person Responsible for *S. enteritidis* Prevention: One individual on a farm would be responsible for the *S. enteritidis* prevention program and would have to be trained in a curriculum recognized by the FDA.

Producer Testing for *S. enteritidis* in Poultry Houses: The regulation requires that producers environmentally sample all houses for *S. enteritidis* ***IF***:

- They have 3,000 or more laying hens producing for the table egg market
- They do not sell all their eggs directly to consumers
- Any of the eggs produced on the farm are not pasteurized

In the event that an environmental sample is found positive for *S. enteritidis*, egg testing must begin within 24 hours.

Egg Diversion of *S. enteritidis* Positive Eggs: If *S. enteritidis* positive eggs are found, all eggs must be diverted to pasteurization or destroyed until 4 consecutive egg tests done 2 weeks apart are negative. From that point forward, eggs must be tested each month for the life of the flock.

Recordkeeping Requirements: Records must be maintained that indicate compliance with environmental and egg sampling requirements, and egg diversion requirements including all test results, ***IF***:

- They have 3,000 or more laying hens producing for the table egg market
- They do not sell all their eggs directly to consumers
- Any of the eggs produced on the farm are not pasteurized

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