



Commodity Movement Guidance

SPENT LAYER HENS

Product Description

Spent layer hens are domesticated egg layer type chickens that have reached the end of their productive egg laying life. Spent layer hens are considered a by-product of the egg industry and if they enter the human food chain, they are generally used in products such as soups or stock.

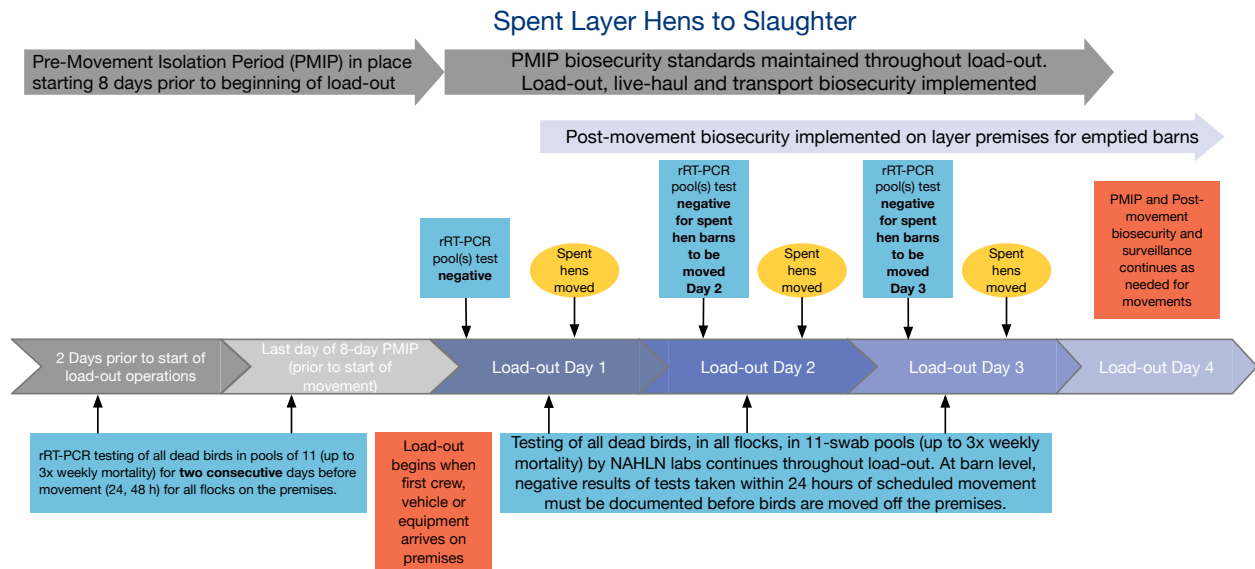
Requirements to be Met Prior to Movement

- Poultry are moving from a premises that meets the criteria for a Monitored Premises designation (not an Infected Premises, Contact Premises, or Suspect Premises) and has a national premises identification number (PIN).
- A Pre-Movement Isolation Period (PMIP) is established as defined by the cross-commodity PMIP standards, and for the duration defined for the type of movement requested (eight days for spent layer hens).
- Product-specific biosecurity as described in the appropriate Secure Poultry Supply Permit Guidance document (see sub-bullets) is implemented and acceptable to Responsible Regulatory Officials.
 - [Movement of spent layer hens to slaughter¹](#) (moderate to high risk)
 - An additional checklist of enhanced biosecurity measures that may impact risk and subsequently narrow the risk likelihood of moving infectious hens may be used along with the above document: [Checklist of enhanced biosecurity recommendations for the movement of spent layer hens to slaughter²](#)
- Load-out and live haul biosecurity is implemented.
- Transport biosecurity is acceptable and implemented.
- Post-movement biosecurity is implemented.
- Active surveillance protocol of real-time reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (rRT-PCR) testing of all dead birds in pools of 11 (up to three times weekly mortality) for two consecutive days before movement (24, 48 h) for all flocks on the premises. Active surveillance protocol post-movement is implemented.

¹ https://securepoultrysupply.umn.edu/sites/securepoultrysupply.umn.edu/files/2022-06/temporary_permit_guidance_spent_hens_to_slaughter.pdf

² https://securepoultrysupply.umn.edu/sites/securepoultrysupply.umn.edu/files/2022-06/checklist_of_enhanced_biosecurity_recommendations_for_permit_guidance_spent_hens_to_slaughter.pdf

Commodity Requirements Flowchart



Spent layer hens may move by permit to slaughter, provided permit requirements have been met. Requirements include appropriate premises designations, an eight-day pre-movement isolation period (PMIP), appropriate biosecurity, and rRT-PCR testing. Active surveillance protocols are followed during the PMIP, load-out, and post-movement (pre-pullet placement into emptied barns). PMIP testing includes rRT-PCR testing of all dead birds in pools of 11 (up to 3x weekly mortality) for two consecutive days before movement (24, 48 h) for all flocks on the premises. Testing of all dead birds, in all flocks, continues throughout load-out and negative results must be documented at the barn level, with tests taken within 24 hours of scheduled movement, before birds are moved off the premises. Prior to placement of new pullets, post-movement active surveillance of all existing lay flocks must be conducted on day 8 of the empty barn quarantine period after spent hen load-outs for multi-age sites.