The Gamebird Industry and an Update on the Secure Upland Gamebird Supply Plan

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North American Gamebird Association

- Strong Voice in Government
- Over 675 member businesses in the USA
- Annual Convention and Short Courses
- Research and Educational Projects
What is the Game Bird Industry?

The Industry *IS* Pheasant
What is the Game Bird Industry?

The Industry IS

- Maturing & integrating industry with small and large players
- NPIP monitored in many instances
What is the Game Bird Industry?

The Industry *IS NOT*

- Cock fighting
- Chickens
- Live markets – no live auctions
- Show birds
Segments

- Hatcheries and Breeders – most NPIP monitored
Segments

- Terminal Producers who grow birds to market age from day old to maturity
Segments

- Hunting Preserve
- Owners who buy mature birds for harvest
• Meat Producers and Processors
Annual Production Numbers

- 5 million mature pheasants sold.
- 15 million quail sold.
- 3 million chukar sold.
Top Producing Gamebird States

- OH, PA, WI, SD, KS, MN are top pheasant producing states
Top Producing Gamebird States

- NC, AL, GA, TX are top quail producing states
2015 HPAI outbreak in WI

- 10 cases
  - Jefferson
  - Chippewa
  - Barron
  - Juneau

- Upland gamebirds were not in Control Areas in 2015
The need for Secure Upland Gamebirds

- Just like any other industry, gamebirds can’t be held indefinitely.
- In 2015, in some cases the ability to move gamebirds was restricted even though the birds were not in a Control Area.
- Recognized the need for a Secure Upland Gamebird Supply plan that would provide scientific guidance upon which these decisions could be based.
Focus of Secure Upland Gamebirds

- Target movement: *Live birds for release from a premises outside a Control Area but in a state with HPAI*

- Given our production practices, we recognize that it is unlikely gamebirds for release would be allowed to move from a Control Area but, we face similar restrictions when HPAI is in our states

- The risk assessment process was used to move products from Control Areas in 2015, we think it can help us to move our birds during an outbreak when we are outside a Control Area but in a state with HPAI
Risk Assessment process

- Target movement: Live birds for release
  - What are the pathways to infection on an upland gamebird farm (focused on the ready to release age)?
  - How could this activity spread infection to susceptible populations if an infected but undetected flock (worst case scenario) was moved?
  - How likely is detection of an HPAI infection?
- Upland gamebirds released from a state with HPAI sounds risky but what is the real risk of spreading an outbreak?

- SUGS will help us to understand risk, how to mitigate it and give us a place to start a conversation about movement.

No cases of HPAI in 2015

Production systems with different biosecurity rules