RESOLUTION NUMBER: 42  APPROVED

SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON TRANSMISSIBLE DISEASES OF POULTRY AND OTHER AVIAN SPECIES

SUBJECT MATTER: SECURE EGG SUPPLY PLAN FOR WHOLE SHELL EGGS, EGG PRODUCTS, AND DAY-OLD CHICKS WITHIN, OUT OF, AND INTO HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA DISEASE CONTROL AREAS

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In the event of a highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) outbreak, ensuring market continuity for the egg producing sector is a significant challenge. Through continuity of business planning prior to an HPAI outbreak, the standards outlined in the August 2010 draft of Foreign Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Plan, Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Secure Egg Supply Plan, hereinafter referred to as the Secure Egg Supply Plan, promote food security and animal health. Developed collaboratively by a multi-disciplinary group of industry, public, and academic partners, the Secure Egg Supply Plan provides clear recommendations for emergency response leaders to facilitate the movement of whole shell eggs and egg products.

Egg production facilities often do not have the capacity to store whole shell eggs or egg products for prolonged periods of time. Therefore, a brief interruption in movement may result in serious shortages of eggs. The Secure Egg Supply Plan provides a transparent process for the movement of whole shell eggs and egg products during an HPAI outbreak, benefiting consumers, producers, and regulators. The science- and risk-based recommendations provided in this plan provide a high degree of confidence that the health of uninfected flocks will not be endangered by the movement of whole shell eggs and egg products and that HPAI virus will not exist in whole shell eggs or egg products destined for human consumption.

The Secure Egg Supply Plan provides guidelines and requirements that have been developed and agreed upon by egg producers, processors, poultry disease experts, and public health experts, as well as federal and state officials. The plan consists of three components: 1) Overview of the Secure Egg Supply Plan, 2) the Egg Movement Control (EMC) Plan, and 3) the Federal and State Transport (FAST) Eggs Plan.

The egg industry, state egg associations, United Egg Producers, state veterinarians, academia, and other regulatory individuals have reviewed and support the Secure Egg Supply Plan.


RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association commends the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services for endorsing the Secure Egg Supply Plan as part of Foreign Animal Disease preparedness and response planning, and requests all states and tribal agencies incorporate the Secure Egg Supply Plan into their highly pathogenic avian influenza response plans.
RESPONSES:

Favorable State responses received from:
Georgia
Hawaii
Maryland
Massachusetts
New York
South Dakota
Tennessee
Washington
West Virginia