



United States Department of Agriculture



THE USE OF COMPARTMENTALIZATION FOR BUSINESS CONTINUITY

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Why have a compartment instead of zoning?

- Need guarantee of business continuity
- Cost of additional biosecurity is justified by the unique nature of product or high value of product
- Trade disruption from a particular facility would be catastrophic.



COMPETENT AUTHORITY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Set minimum standards for the compartment based on management and husbandry practices (coordinate with industry)
- Communicate the standards
- Inspect and approve acceptable compartments
- Audit compartments for continued compliance




INDUSTRY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Work with competent authority to establish standards that make sense for your industry
- Identify the epidemiological factors that will affect your compartments
- Train staff members in constant vigilance and the importance of maintaining the compartment
- Make regular investments in biosecurity, training, and monitoring – it is hard to be vigilant if there is no disease outbreak in the area.
- Maintain excellent traceability of animals and products – need to convince partners that they will only get animals/products from compartment in the event of an outbreak.



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<https://www.poultryimprovement.org/documents/subpartf-compartmentalization.pdf>



**COMPARTMENTALIZATION FOR
PROTECTION AGAINST Avian Influenza
DISEASE IN PRIMARY POULTRY
BREEDING COMPANIES IN THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA**

**Specifications For:
Management Guidelines and Protocols**



United States Department of Agriculture ~ National Poultry Improvement Plan



PRIMARY BREEDER INFORMATION

- Export value approximately \$350 million per year
- 60% of turkey breeders worldwide originate from the US.
- 55% of meat type chicken breeders worldwide originate from the US.
- 44% of egg type chicken breeders worldwide originate from the US.



COMPARTMENT REQUIREMENTS

All companies participating in the compartment must be able to provide the following general management protocols (GMP) on request.

1. Biosecurity training for employees, contract staff and visitors.
2. Biosecurity compliance agreement for employees, contract staff and visitors.
3. Biosecurity risk assessment for each component of the compartment.
4. Cleaning, sanitation and control of vehicles prior to entering biosecure areas.



COMPARTMENT REQUIREMENTS

5. General physical traits of each compartment component.
6. Detailed diagrammatic description for movement of people, vehicles, equipment, birds, and eggs between all components inside and outside the compartment.
7. Company emergency response plan
8. Veterinary Health Plan – regular surveillance to ensure that animals in compartment are free of disease.



Potential scenarios

Embryo or semen collection facility

Facilities are used to high level of biosecurity

Normally minimal movements of animals in and out of facility

Routine surveillance of animals in facility

Highly trained staff

High value of product makes it cost effective to have high level of biosecurity.



Poultry Experience

- Compartments have been established by primary poultry breeders in US
- Regulations published in 2016 as part of the National Poultry Improvement Plan
- First compartment was approved in 2017
- Standards updated in 2018 (minor change about visitors).
- APHIS still negotiating international acceptance with trading partners
- 2019 – APHIS published proposed rule with standards to accept international compartments of trading partners. Comment period closes June 3, 2019



SUMMARY

- The standards for the compartment are specific to the business practices of the particular industry. US industry standards might not work somewhere else, and vice versa.
- Time and money are needed to properly implement a compartment. Compartmentalization is not the right answer for every industry.
- Analysis must be done to ensure that all the potential risks are being addressed in a comprehensive manner.
- Competent authority needs to be involved in standard setting and auditing role.



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