



Georgia Department of Agriculture

Capitol Square • Atlanta, Georgia 30334-4201

Gary W. Black
Commissioner

Date: July 24, 2014

Action: Notice of Intent to Consider the Adoption of Amendments to Rule 40-13-2-.15 of the Georgia Department of Agriculture relating to the Interstate Movement Health Requirements for Poultry

To All Interested Persons and Parties:

Pursuant to the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, O.C.G.A. §§ 4-4-2 and 4-4-83, notice is hereby given that the Georgia Department of Agriculture Animal Industry Division will be considering the adoption of amendments to Rule 40-13-2-.15 relating to the Interstate Movement Health Requirements for Poultry. The Department will be accepting written comments from July 24, 2014, to close of business (4:30 p.m. EDT) on August 25, 2014.

Synopsis, Main Features and Differences:

The Animal Industry Division of the Georgia Department of Agriculture is proposing to amend Rule 40-13-2-.15(1) by removing the qualification “if produced under a pullorum-typhoid control phase of the N.P.I.P.”

Proposed Rule 40-13-2-.15(3) would also remove “control phase of the” N.P.I.P. from the current language and require all domestic quail, pheasants, and pigeons not participating in the N.P.I.P. to be tested for pullorum-typhoid disease as opposed on those birds.

The Department is also proposing to amend the definition for “Low pathogenic avian influenza” in Rule 40-13-2-.15(6)(a)(4) by replacing detection “by serology, antigen detection, or virus isolation” with detection “confirmed” by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Additionally, the Department is proposing to replace the current definition for “State affected with low pathogenic avian influenza” in Rule 40-13-2-.15(6)(a)(5) and with a definition for “State Control Zone (SCZ)”.

The Department is proposing to amend the definition for “Cleaned and disinfected” in Rule 40-13-2-.15(6)(a)(6) by clarifying that the item is free of visible organic matter and is disinfected with a disinfectant effective against Influence virus as opposed to being disinfected with a phenolic, quaternary ammonium, or chlorine based disinfectant or other approved agent that is virucidal to avian influenza virus.

The Department is further proposing to add a definition for “Contiguous State Business Continuity Control Zone (CSBCCZ)” as new Rule 40-13-2-.15(6)(a)(7) which shall mean control zone within a state sharing a border with Georgia that encompasses poultry companies doing daily business across state lines including transportation of feed and poultry products.

The proposed rule change will clarify in Rule 40-13-2-.15(6)(b) that “No live poultry or poultry products” includes unfed baby chicks and hatching eggs. This Rule will also be amended by replacing products originating from “any flock affected with low pathogenic avian influenza” with products originating from “an SCZ”. Furthermore, Rule 40-13-2-.15(6)(b) will add a provision that no live poultry or poultry products may enter Georgia for any purpose “until the state has depopulated infected flocks and had no new infection for at least thirty (30) days post depopulation (or three (3) consecutive rounds of testing seven (7) to ten (10) days apart with negative results, following the affected State Response Plan). Live poultry, including baby chicks and hatching eggs, or poultry products originating from a CSBCCZ will follow procedures outlined in the Georgia (or contiguous state) Initial State Response and Containment Plan.”

The Department is proposing to amend Rule 40-13-2-.15 by removing current provisions 40-13-2-.15(6)(c) through 40-13-2-.15(6)(f) and renumbering the remainder of the Rule accordingly.

Finally, the Department’s proposed amendments would replace the terms “state” and “states” in current Rule 40-13-2-.15(6)(g) and Rule 40-13-2-.15(6)(h) with “SCZ”.

Comment Period and Additional Information:

The Department will be accepting written comments from July 24, 2014, to close of business (4:30 p.m. EDT) on August 25, 2014. Comments will be considered on August 26, 2014. Please submit written comments to:

Dr. Robert Cobb, State Veterinarian
Animal Health Division Director
Georgia Department of Agriculture
19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, S.W., Room 106
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
Telephone Number: (404) 656-3671
FAX Number: (404) 657-1357

Interested persons may call or submit a written request to obtain a copy of the proposed rule(s). A copy of the synopsis and the proposed rule(s) may be downloaded from the Georgia Department of Agriculture website at www.agr.georgia.gov.

This notice is given in compliance with the Georgia Administrative Procedure Act, O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4.