

COMPARATIVE MEDICINE  
LABORATORY ANIMAL FACILITIES

**STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES  
for  
QUARANTINE PROCEDURES FOR CHICKENS**

- 1.0 Purpose:  
This procedure outlines quarantine and vendors of eggs and chickens acquired by the CMLAF.
- 2.0 Scope:  
This procedure applies to all CMLAF personnel and principal investigators working with chickens and/or eggs.
- 3.0 Procedure:  
All chickens, chicks, and chicken eggs must be ordered from approved vendors. Poultry are obtained from commercial poultry operations, which are certified free of Newcastle Disease and Avian Influenza. Chicks and chickens must undergo a physical examination by the veterinary staff and complete a designated quarantine period upon arrival at the CMLAF.
- 3.1 Source of Poultry:
- A. Chicken eggs are obtained from:
    - Nicholas Kron
    - 1036 Townline Road
    - Alden, NY 14004
    - or
    - CBT Farms
    - 201 Valley Road
    - Chestertown, MD 21620
  - B. Baby Chicks are obtained from:
    - CBT Farms
    - 201 Valley Road
    - Chestertown, MD 21620
- 3.2 Certificate of Health:
- A. CBT will submit a “Certificate of Veterinary Inspection” with each shipment of chicks. This will be submitted to the CMLAF veterinarian for review and kept on file.
  - B. Certificates will be dated from the most recent farm inspection.
  - C. Either the USDA inspector or the farm’s attending veterinarian will sign certificates.

3.3 Quarantine Period:

- A. Each shipment of poultry will be housed separately and not mixed with other shipments or vendors.
- B. Poultry may be quarantined in an appropriate animal holding room in the animal facilities.
- C. During this time, animals will be monitored for signs of illness (coughing, diarrhea, respiratory distress, weakness, picking/scratching), behavior abnormalities, and appetite. Abnormalities will be reported to the veterinary staff.
- D. Quarantine will last for 5 days.
- E. Poultry may be “released” from quarantine pending an approved examination.

veterinary

3.3 Veterinary Examination:

- A. All poultry will receive an examination by the veterinary staff within 2 days of arrival.
- B. The following parameters will be evaluated:
  - 1. Fecal exam for parasites
  - 2. Feather exam for lice or mites
  - 3. Body weight
  - 4. Palpation of breast muscle and keel bone for overall body condition
  - 5. General overall visual inspection for signs of illness described above.
- C. Results of the evaluation and a copy of the farm health report will be appended to each chicken’s medical file.
- D. Abnormalities on exam will be reported to the CMLAF veterinarian and treated accordingly.
- E. CMLAF veterinary technicians will inform the caretaking staff if poultry are healthy and can be released from quarantine.