

**Chicken Farmers of Ontario**  
**On Farm Food Safety and Animal Care Policy**  
**No. 243-2019**

Made under the *Farm Products Marketing Act*

Effective: January 1, 2019

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**Section 1.0: Purpose and Application**

- 1.01 As a condition of being authorized by CFO under applicable regulations and policies made under the *Farm Products Marketing Act* to engage in the producing or marketing of chicken, CFO requires that every person so authorized shall also comply with the provisions of this Policy.
- 1.02 In this Policy, “farmer-member” means a person authorized by CFO to engage in the producing or marketing of chicken and may be an allottee of quota, the holder of a specialty breeds allotment, or a licence holder.

**Section 2.0: Program Fundamentals**

- 2.01 CFO hereby adopts by reference Chicken Farmers of Canada’s (“CFC”) [On-Farm Food Safety Program](#) and requires every farmer-member to comply with it except for the following variations with which farmer-members must also comply and despite any provision to the contrary contained in the CFC On-Farm Food Safety Program:
- a) Every farmer-member shall record in CFO Connects the vaccination and medication history of each flock, setting out the type of vaccination or medication, the medication dosage administered and the withdrawal period, including vaccines and medications administered at the hatchery and during the grow-out.
  - b) Every Artisanal Chicken Farmer shall record on their Form 3000 the vaccination and medication history of each flock, setting out the type of vaccination or medication, the medication dosage administered and the withdrawal period, including vaccines and medications administered at the hatchery and during the grow-out.

- c) If a farmer-member is dissatisfied with the findings of an audit, they must submit their concerns in writing to the CFO Certification Agent within 10 business days of the completion of the audit. The Certification Agent will review the written submission, the audit process and the auditor's findings and advise the farmer-member of the conclusions within ten business days of receipt of the written submission.
  - d) Feed bins not used for storage and feed lines must be emptied and fines removed between flocks.
  - e) Registered premises without an inhabited, supervising residential building must have gates or barriers at the entrance to the Controlled Access Zone ("CAZ") that is lockable during times of heightened biosecurity. It is highly recommended for all registered premises to have gates or barriers that are lockable at the entrance to the CAZ, to be used during times of heightened biosecurity.
  - f) Farmer-members must obtain a written biosecurity protocol from their processors/catchers, feed mills and hatcheries.
  - g) Farmer-members must participate in antimicrobial use training.
  - h) Farmer-members must participate in the CFC antimicrobial surveillance program.
  - i) As of January 1, 2019, farmer-members must obtain documented confirmation from every feed mill from which they source feed that states that the feed mill will not be using Category I or II antibiotics preventively as of January 1, 2019.
  - j) As of January 1, 2019, farmer-members must obtain documented confirmation from every hatchery from which they source that states (i) that the eggs and/or chicks supplied to the farmer-member will not receive Category I or II antibiotics preventively as of January 1, 2019, and (ii) that the hatchery undertakes to notify the farmer-member and provide them with a copy of the prescription if Category I or II antibiotics are used for treatment purposes in any of the eggs and/or chicks supplied to the farmer-member after January 1, 2019.
  - k) Farmer-members should consider adding mineral and organic acids to the drinking water during withdrawal time to reduce post-harvest crop contamination.
- 2.02 CFO hereby adopts by reference CFC's ([Free Range On-Farm Food Safety and Animal Care Program](#)) for farmer-members that allow chickens to access the outdoors at any point during the grow-out, except for the following variations with which farmer-members must also comply and despite any provision to the contrary contained in the CFC Free Range On-Farm Food Safety Program and Animal Care Program:
- a) Farmer-members must also comply with the updated Animal Care Program requirements ([Animal Care Brochure](#)).
  - b) Every farmer-member shall record in CFO Connects the vaccination and medication history of each flock, setting out the type of vaccination or medication, the medication dosage administered and the withdrawal period, including vaccines and medications administered at the hatchery and during the grow-out.

- c) Every Artisanal Chicken Farmer shall record on their Form 3000 the vaccination and medication history of each flock, setting out the type of vaccination or medication, the medication dosage administered and the withdrawal period, including vaccines and medications administered at the hatchery and during the grow-out.
- d) If a farmer-member is dissatisfied with the findings of an audit, they must submit their concerns in writing to the CFO Certification Agent within 10 business days of the completion of the audit. The Certification Agent will review the written submission, the audit process and the auditor's findings and advise the farmer-member of the conclusions within ten business days of receipt of the written submission.
- e) Feed bins not used for storage and feed lines must be emptied and fines removed between flocks.
- f) Registered premises without an inhabited, supervising residential building must have gates or barriers at the entrance to the CAZ that are lockable during times of heightened biosecurity. It is highly recommended for all registered premises to have gates or barriers that are lockable at the entrance to the CAZ, to be used during times of heightened biosecurity.
- g) Farmer-members must obtain a written biosecurity protocol from their processors/catchers, feed mills and hatcheries.
- h) Farmer-members must participate in antimicrobial use training.
- i) Farmer-members must participate in the CFC antimicrobial surveillance program.
- j) As of January 1, 2019, farmer-members must obtain documented confirmation from every feed mill from which they source feed that states that the feed mill will not be using Category I or II antibiotics preventively as of January 1, 2019.
- k) As of January 1, 2019, farmer-members must obtain documented confirmation from every hatchery from which they source that states (i) that the eggs and/or chicks supplied to the farmer-member will not receive Category I or II antibiotics preventively as of January 1, 2019, and (ii) that the hatchery undertakes to notify the farmer-member and provide them with a copy of the prescription if Category I or II antibiotics are used for treatment purposes in any of the eggs and/or chicks supplied to the farmer-member after January 1, 2019.
- l) Farmer-members should consider adding mineral and organic acids to the drinking water during withdrawal time to reduce post-harvest crop contamination.
- m) All birds remaining in barn after load out must be humanely euthanized, in a timely manner, by farmer and/or approved farm personnel.
- n) Farmer-members must arrange and complete on farm validation of their euthanasia plan.
- o) If daily mortality levels, including daily culls, exceeds 1% in a 24 hour period, a farmer-member must:

- i. immediately consult with a licenced veterinarian and immediately notify CFO, if the cause of mortality is as a result of or based on a suspicion of an infectious poultry disease.
  - ii. immediately consult with a licenced veterinarian and notify CFO within one business day, if the cause of mortality is as a result of or based on a suspicion of a poultry disease.
  - iii. notify CFO within one business day, if the cause of mortality is production practice related.
- p) A farmer-member must record: the cause; action taken by the licenced veterinarian and/or farmer-member; and, any outcome, achieved or anticipated to be achieved.
- 2.03 CFO hereby adopts by reference CFC's [Animal Care Program](#) except for the following variations with which farmer-members must also comply and despite any provision to the contrary contained in the CFC Animal Care Program:
- a) Farmer-members must arrange and complete on farm validation of their euthanasia plan.
  - b) If daily mortality levels, including daily culls, exceeds 1% in a 24 hour period, a farmer-member must:
    - i. immediately consult with a licenced veterinarian and immediately notify CFO, if the cause of mortality is as a result of or based on a suspicion of an infectious poultry disease.
    - ii. immediately consult with a licenced veterinarian and notify CFO within one business day, if the cause of mortality is as a result of or based on a suspicion of a poultry disease.
    - iii. notify CFO within one business day, if the cause of mortality is production practice related.
    - iv. a farmer-member must record: the cause; action taken by the licenced veterinarian and/or farmer-member; and, any outcome, achieved or anticipated to be achieved.
  - c) All birds remaining in barn after load out must be humanely euthanized, in a timely manner, by farmer-member and/or approved farm personnel.

### **Section 3.0: New Production Buildings**

- 3.01 Newly built production buildings or existing buildings adding production space must have the following:
- a) Farmer-members building a barn greater than 300 m<sup>2</sup> must provide an anteroom with a minimum space of 10 m<sup>2</sup> with a 4 m<sup>2</sup> designated CAZ dedicated to a Biosecurity change area. Farmer-members that are using portable brooders or huts must demonstrate a biosecurity change area. Farmer-members building barns smaller than 300m<sup>2</sup> must provide an adequately sized ante-room with a step-over barrier to demonstrate an effective biosecurity change area.

- b) A physical barrier or step over barrier that separate the CAZ and the RA.
- c) A minimum one metre wide barrier strip of  $\frac{3}{4}$  crushed stone, no less than 8 cm deep, that encircles the non-driveway areas of the permanent production building as a rodent deterrent.
- d) A designated visitor parking area with signage outside the CAZ.
- e) A two feed bin system to facilitate the management of antimicrobials in the feed. Farmer-members may use other systems of feed delivery and storage, if the proper management of antimicrobials and biosecurity of the feed supply is documented in a Standard Operating Procedure and can be demonstrated.
- f) Concrete pad or similar non-porous surface floors installed on the ground floor (i.e. no dirt floors) for sanitation and ease of cleaning.

#### **Section 4.0: Audits and Certification**

- 4.01 New farmer-members will begin to implement these provisions immediately, and be in an auditable position following their third crop.
- 4.02 CFO may, on occasion, deem it appropriate to make certain specific orders and directions in relation to and as an adjunct of this policy for the purpose of furthering the intended effect of its application.
- 4.03 Any variation or new procedure implemented by a farmer-member subsequent to certification must also comply with the requirements of this policy.
- 4.04 Farmer-members may engage in planned thinning provided they indicate their intent to do so on a Form 101N and Form 101 for the applicable crop quota period and, at its highest point, stocking density shall not exceed 31 kg/m<sup>2</sup> (6.35 lb./ft<sup>2</sup>) or 38 kg/m<sup>2</sup> (7.78 lb./ft<sup>2</sup>).
- 4.05 A duly appointed auditor of CFO will undertake an audit of each farmer-member in order to determine whether the farmer-member complies with this policy.
- 4.06 At the close of each audit the farmer-member will be provided with a copy of the auditor's findings, which may include recommendation for certification or Corrective Action Requests (CARs). A farmer-member in receipt of CARs will be subject to an additional audit for the purpose of confirming that CARs have been satisfactorily implemented.
- 4.07 Every farmer-member that completes an audit to the satisfaction of CFO will be recognized as being in compliance with CFO's On-Farm Food Safety Program or Animal Care Program or both. It is a condition of recognition and certification that an audited farmer-member completes and executes an undertaking to continue to comply with the requirements of this policy.
- 4.08 Audit schedules under the Animal Care Program shall be completed in conjunction with On-Farm Food Safety Program for every farmer-member except as otherwise provided for by CFO at its discretion.

- 4.09 Full audits will be conducted when at least one barn is populated with chickens. Full audit dates will be scheduled so that the age of chickens at the time of the audit varies for each successive on-farm audit.
- 4.10 Every farmer-member shall retain the books, records and documents created and compiled in relation to the On-Farm Food Safety Program or the Animal Care Program and make them available for inspection upon request by an appointed inspector of CFO for a minimum of two years following the date of creation of the books, records or documents.

### **Section 5.0: Failure to Comply**

- 5.01 Failure to comply with this policy may result in the following:
- a) CFO refusing to allot a quota, reducing, refusing to increase, or cancelling a quota allotted to a farmer-member; and/or
  - b) CFO refusing to approve or re-new a licence, or cancelling a licence to a farmer-member;

### **Section 6.0: Revocation**

- 6.01 On Farm Food Safety Assurance and Animal Care Policy No. 241-2018 made by CFO on September 26<sup>th</sup> 2018 is hereby revoked on the effective date.

### **Section 7.0: Effective Date**

- 7.01 This policy is effective on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2019.

**BY ORDER OF** Chicken Farmers of Ontario

**DATED AT** Burlington, Ontario this.



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Chair



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Secretary