



B.C. POULTRY INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY PROGRAM

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1) Pacific Ag Show Speaker

A session entitled “Preventing the Spread of Disease Onto and From your Farm” will take place at the Pacific Agricultural Show at the Tradex in Abbotsford on the afternoon of February 15.

Dr Bruce McNab, Lead – Veterinarian, Epidemiology Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs will discuss the effectiveness of biosecurity measures to prevent the spread of disease, based on modeling technology. The second session will feature a biosecurity panel.

The first session starts at 1:30 pm in the Dairy Room. The second session follows in the same room at 3:15 pm. The session concludes at 4:30 pm.

Funding provided by:

Canada



2) Important dates for the BC POULTRY BIOSECURITY PROGRAM – Note new enhanced dates

Program Component	Producer Significance	Important Date	Appropriate Action
Completion of a Biosecurity Plan	The opportunity for assistance in completing a Biosecurity Plan concludes on this date	<u>Feb 29, 2008</u>	Contact Garth Bean at 604-854-0222
Last date to submit applications for “ Mandatory ” Beneficial Biosecurity Practices	If you are applying for up to \$5,000 of funding assistance for the completion of “Mandatory” Biosecurity Practices your application must be received by this date	<u>Feb 29, 2008</u>	Submit an application for “mandatory” action items so that it is received at the ARDCORP offices # 140 - 32160 S Fraser Way, Abbotsford, BC, V2T 1W5, Attn: Jyl
Last date for the submission of invoices for funding of “ Mandatory ” Beneficial Biosecurity Practices	If you have completed approved “Mandatory” Beneficial Biosecurity Practices, copies of your paid invoices (dated no later than June 30, 2008) must be received by this date in order to be eligible for program funding	July 31, 2008	Submit invoices so that they are received at the ARDCORP offices # 140 - 32160 S Fraser Way, Abbotsford, BC, V2T 1W5, Attn: Jyl
Last date to submit applications for “ Enhanced ” Beneficial Biosecurity Practices	If you are applying for up to \$5,000 of additional funding assistance for the completion of “Enhanced” Biosecurity Practices, your application must be received by this date	June 30, 2008	Submit an application for “enhanced” action items identified in your biosecurity plan that you wish to complete
Last date for completing “ Enhanced ” Beneficial Biosecurity Practices	All “Enhanced” Beneficial Biosecurity Practices must be completed by this date.	Sept 30, 2008	Payment will only be made for completed projects. All invoices must be dated on or before Sept 30, 2008
Last date for the submission of invoices for funding of “ Enhanced ”	If you have completed an approved “Enhanced” Beneficial Biosecurity Practice, copies of your invoices must be received for payment by this date in order to be eligible for program funding	Oct 31, 2008	Submit invoices so that they are received at the ARDCORP offices # 140 - 32160 S Fraser Way, Abbotsford, BC, V2T 1W5, Attn: Jyl

The maximum cost share funding for Enhanced Biosecurity Beneficial Practices has been increased to **\$5,000** per controlled access zone.

The date for completing Board and Commission Biosecurity Audits has yet to be finalized. However, if you are expecting program funding, proof of successfully completing your audit must be received at the ARDCORP office by November 30, 2008.

A Biosecurity Plan must be completed prior to applying for “Mandatory” or “Enhanced” funding. On-farm projects must not be initiated prior to receipt of written funding approval. Payment will be provided upon notice to ARDCORP of completion of the project and successful completion of a Board or Commission Biosecurity Audit within the timelines identified.

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3) Scheduling Biosecurity Audits:

If you have completed a Biosecurity Plan and completed any identified action items you should request an audit by contacting your relevant Board or Commission:

BC Chicken Marketing Board	Brian Hoven	604 859-2868
BC Egg Marketing Board	Birgit Gagne	604 820-1741 or 604 556-3348
BC Turkey Marketing Board	Susan Mallory	604 534-5644
BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission	Stephanie Nelson	604 854-4487

4) Food Safety, Environmental Farm Planning and Biosecurity

Producers are challenged with the number of programs that have recently been developed to deal with issues related to Food Safety, Environmental Farm Planning and Biosecurity. The requirements of these programs often overlap and regrettably, on occasion, can conflict. The BC Poultry Association and the Boards and Commission are working towards an integrated approach that minimizes the impact on the producers. This is a challenging task as the programs have rolled out at different times and have either been delivered or created by different organizations.

It is anticipated that following the first Biosecurity Audit, many of the future Biosecurity and Food Safety Audits will be undertaken at the same time. It is also anticipated that there will be future streamlining of Standard Operating Procedures that take into account the objectives of the various programs that are similar. If you have questions about any these programs please call one of the Program Coordinators.

5) Dispute Resolution Sub-Committee information

The BC Poultry Biosecurity Committee has established a Dispute Resolution Sub-Committee (DRSC). Please note that there are limited timelines available for producers to request the assistance of the DRSC. If you have concerns with regard to any of the potential areas of dispute outlined below, or you would like more details about the dispute resolution process, please contact Ron Bertrand. Ron's contact information can be found at the end of this bulletin.

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Producers can access the Dispute Resolution Sub-Committee for any one of the following three reasons:

1. There is an opportunity for Beneficial Biosecurity Practices and Enhanced Biosecurity Practices applicants to seek a review of funding decisions not approved by the BC Agriculture Council's Agriculture Research and Development Corporation (ARDCORP). Producers seeking a determination from the DRSC must notify ARDCORP through a written submission **within 30 days** of the date on their BBP or EBBP application decision letter. The decision of the DRSC is final.
2. Where a farm has implemented a biosecurity plan developed under the BC Poultry Biosecurity Program and the plan fails to achieve certification, there is potential for a dispute. In almost all instances, it is expected that such disputes will be resolved through discussions between the Auditor, the producer and potentially, the Planning Advisor. In the event of an unsuccessful audit which is not resolved by way of discussions between the Auditor, producer and the Planning Advisor, the affected producer may make a request for dispute resolution. Reasons for requesting dispute resolution must accompany the request for a review. The DRSC will review the matter and will make recommendations within 30 days of receiving the request for dispute resolution. Producers seeking a determination from the DRSC must notify ARDCORP through a written submission **within 7 days** of the date their unsuccessful audit process notification.
3. Where the Program Coordinators are not successful in resolving a dispute between a producer and a Planning Advisor the DRSC may undertake a process that attempts to achieve a resolution of the issue. The ultimate decision of the DRSC is final. Producers seeking a determination from the DRSC must notify ARDCORP through a written submission **within 30 days** of the first visit of their Planning advisors.

For further program information producers can go to the BC Agriculture Council web site at www.bcac.bc.ca and follow the links to the Poultry Biosecurity program or contact one of the following:

Garth Bean
Delivery Coordinator
(604) 854-0222
garthbean@look.ca

Niels Holbek, PAg
Program Coordinator
250-334-6547
nholbek@telus.net

Ron Bertrand, PAg
Program Coordinators:
604-308-6755
rbertrand@shaw.ca

Funding provided by:

