



Ontario Animal Health Network (OAHN) Poultry Expert Network

October 2015

This information is a professional communication for individuals in the poultry industry. The OAHN group is a dedicated group of veterinarians from primary care practices, academia, government and laboratories, who meet regularly to discuss disease and health issues in poultry health. It is the intent of this program to monitor and protect the health of poultry in Ontario.

SMALL FLOCK SURVEILLANCE PROJECT

Subsidized testing for non-quota, Ontario poultry flocks

The University of Guelph and OMAFRA, through the Animal Health Laboratory (AHL) and the Ontario Animal Health Network, are conducting a baseline surveillance study to determine the most common infectious diseases found in small flocks in Ontario.

The project entails a prospective study of small flock (non-quota / non-commercial) poultry postmortem submissions to the AHL for two years. Submissions must be made through your veterinarian, and will be accepted by the AHL, Kemptville & Guelph, from Thurs., Oct 1, 2015 to Fri., Sept 29, 2017. To enroll in the study completion of a consent and submission forms, a questionnaire about husbandry and biosecurity practices, and payment of \$25 fee per case is required. To be included in the study, the flock size must meet the criteria of a non-commercial, non-quota flock: < 300 broilers, < 100 layers, < 50 turkeys, < 300 geese and ducks, < 300 gamefowl.

This study will allow you to determine the infectious agents (viruses, bacteria, and parasites) that your flock is carrying, including those that can be harmful to you and your family (e.g. *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*), and will provide baseline information about the main pathogens present in non-commercial flocks in Ontario.

Ultimately, this study will be used to aid in prevention, control and surveillance of relevant diseases among small flocks in Ontario. The data derived from this study will also be used in extension programs to raise awareness of common poultry diseases linked to this type of production among small flock producers and veterinarians.

Further details are available at: OAHN: <http://oahn.ca/resources/poultry/small-poultry-flock-disease-surveillance-project/>

Animal Health Laboratory: http://www.guelphlabservices.com/AHL/Poultry_Flock_Disease.aspx

Poultry Health Research Network: <http://phrn.net/dis-surveillance-dr-susta-lab/>

If you have questions, please call (519)824-4120:

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Important poultry contact information:

Agency	When to contact	Number
CFIA emergency line	For veterinarians to report suspect foreign animal disease	1-877-814-2342
OMAFRA Agricultural Information Contact Centre	General information	1-877-424-1300
Chicken Farmers of Ontario Hotline (24/7 coverage for reporting health concerns)	Small flock chicken growers and commercial chicken flock growers	1-877-SOS-BYRD
Poultry Industry Council	Small flock kits, including visitor log books	1-519-837-0284