

# REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PULLORUM DISEASE ERADICATION

## AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF AVIAN PATHOLOGISTS

August 21, 1961 Detroit, Michigan

Progress continues in the reduction of the incidence of pullorum disease and fowl typhoid. During this past year members of this committee have had the opportunities to discuss the overall Salmonella Control Programs with the leaders of various industry and veterinary medical groups including the American Poultry Association, Poultry Breeders of America, American Poultry and Hatchery Federation, National Turkey Federation, National Game Bird and Shooting Reserve Operations, Regional Poultry Disease Conferences, Feed Control Officials, Feed Manufacturers, and Renderers Association. From these discussions it is apparent that some leaders of the poultry industry are reluctant to accept the premise that these diseases can be eradicated from the United States. The educational process must continue and the model programs in certain states must be used to demonstrate to the skeptics that eradication is practical and can be accomplished.

In the 1960 report of this committee five specific areas were recommended to be considered in the development of an eradication program on a state level. The committee wishes to re-emphasize the recommendations presented in 1960.

1. 100 per cent participation of all chicken and turkey breeding flocks and hatcheries under an official pullorum-typhoid control program.
2. Pullorum disease and fowl typhoid be made reportable diseases.
3. Infected flocks be quarantined and the marketing of such flocks be under supervision of the disease control agency.
4. A federal regulation be adopted to control the interstate movement of poultry from the standpoint of pullorum disease and fowl typhoid.
5. Poultry consigned to public exhibition originate from a flock under an official pullorum-typhoid control program.

Before a national eradication program can be developed, state programs must be improved using as a base the above points. Several states (such as Mass., Maine, Minn., New Hampshire and Vermont) have effective programs in operation at the present time based on these areas.

The National Plans (NPIP and NTIP) are voluntary programs that include phases of poultry improvement in addition to disease control. It would appear from contacts with the poultry industry that there is need for the development of a unified official pullorum-typhoid control program on a state and federal level. This program will provide a pullorum disease and fowl typhoid eradication plan for that segment of the industry who is not interested in participating in all provisions of the National Plans. Many of the members of the industry recognize the importance of a pullorum-typhoid control program but will not accept the all-inclusive phases of the National Plans. If progress toward eradication of pullorum disease and fowl typhoid is going to be made under the National Plans re-evaluation of the direction of this program appears necessary.



Leaders in the industry have expressed considerable interest that the reporting of outbreaks of pullorum disease and fowl typhoid be required so that the sources of the diseases may be established and a determined effort be made to eliminate the infection. The NE Conference has collected data on the incidence of these diseases that has been helpful in demonstrating the progress of the control programs in that area. It would be desirable that other regional groups collect similar data and make it available to a federal disease control agency for national publication.

The Task Force of the USDA on contamination of animal and poultry feedstuffs with pathogenic organisms has made an extensive review of the problem. The transmission of S. pullorum and other salmonellas by contaminated feedstuffs cannot be ignored. The development of a practical method that will eliminate contaminated feedstuff is essential to the pullorum-typhoid eradication program.

#### Committee Recommendations:

1. It is urged that members of this organization encourage State Livestock Disease Control agencies to develop programs for the eradication of pullorum disease and fowl typhoid.
2. It is recommended that this committee be retained as a permanent committee of AAAP to work toward continued progress in the eradication of pullorum disease, fowl typhoid and other Salmonella infections of poultry. The committee is to be composed of one member from each of the four regions as designated in the constitution and additional members may be appointed from official livestock disease control agencies. Committee members will serve a four-year term on a rotation basis, one new member to be appointed by the president each year and members from disease control agencies will serve on a yearly basis.
3. It is also recommended that the AAAP go on record in support of the adoption of a Federal Regulation on Interstate Movement of Poultry and Hatching Eggs (OCFR, Part 84) as published as a new proposal in the Federal Register, July 12, 1961. This regulation must be considered part of the overall approach to an eradication program. It is further recommended that individual members encourage industry support and have them write their comments to the Director of A.D.E., USDA.

Respectfully submitted,

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