

Commercial Hunting Area Gamebird Disease Testing Requirements

Disease Testing

All birds being released into a CHA must be tested for the following diseases prior to release or come from a facility that is NPIP-certified for these diseases:

- Avian influenza (AI)
- *Salmonella pullorum-typhoid* (PT)

UDWR may randomly sample gamebird flocks for *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* and *Mycoplasma synoviae*. This testing will be conducted at UDWR's expense.

Here are the number of birds that must be tested:

Number of birds to release	Number of birds to test
1-30 birds	All birds tested
31-300 birds	30 birds tested
301-500 birds	10% of birds tested
More than 500 birds	50 birds tested

Testing Requirements By Facility Type

If the facility:

- 1. Possesses any number of birds for less than 30 days prior to release:**
 - Birds must come from a PT NPIP-certified source OR birds must be tested for PT within 30 days prior to arrival at the CHA.
 - Birds must come from an AI NPIP-certified source OR birds must be tested for AI within 30 days prior to arrival at the CHA.
 - Documentation that the birds have been tested or were sourced from a certified facility must be provided by the source facility of the birds.
 - Birds moving into or out of an AI disease control area (the 10 km circle around an infected facility) must have a permit approved by UDAF and the state of origin, if from out-of-state.
- 2. Possesses at least 1,000 gamebirds for more than 60 days**
 - Facilities that possess more than 1,000 gamebirds for more than 60 days are considered Commercial Gamebird Facilities under state law and must be licensed with the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF). A Commercial Gamebird License costs \$300 and the application can be found under the Avian/Poultry section of the UDAF Animal Health Program website at this link: <https://ag.utah.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Gamebird-License-Application-2025.pdf>
 - Commercial gamebird facilities must be NPIP-certified or source from NPIP-certified facilities and must test for AI quarterly.
 - UDAF will provide quarterly avian influenza testing for all registered commercial gamebird facilities. Facilities that wish to conduct their own avian influenza testing

should follow directions from the UDAF swab and blood collection procedure handouts.

- Birds moving into or out of an AI disease control area (the 10 km circle around an infected facility) must have a permit approved by UDAF and the state of origin, if from out-of-state.

3. Possesses less than 1,000 gamebirds for more than 30 days or possesses 1,000 gamebirds or more for between 30-60 days:

- These facilities must have a personal possession permit or a Commercial Hunting Area Certificate of Registration from UDWR.
- Purchased eggs or birds must come from a NPIP-certified source for PT.
- Facilities that hatch their own eggs must test for PT or be NPIP-certified for PT.
- Birds must be tested for avian influenza quarterly (if held for more than three months) or within 30 days of release (if held for less than three months).
- To conduct your own disease testing, follow directions from the UDAF swab and blood collection procedure handouts.
- To have an independent certified tester conduct the testing for you, please call UDAF for more information.
- Birds moving into or out of an AI disease control area (the 10 km circle around an infected facility) must have a permit approved by UDAF and the state of origin, if from out-of-state.

Other Notes:

- Utah facilities that test positive for AI, PT, *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*, or *Mycoplasma synoviae* or any other problematic disease may be quarantined by the UDAF State Veterinarian at their discretion and cannot move birds or purchase new birds until the requirements of the quarantine are met.
- If you incur any large ($\frac{1}{4}$ of the flock) or unusual mortality events, you must notify UDWR within 48 hours.
- Facilities wishing to be NPIP-certified or licensed as a commercial gamebird facility should contact Dr. Danilo Franco at UDAF at dfranco@utah.gov or 385-499-4722.
- To view the UDAF gamebird import requirements, go to [UDAF Import Requirements](#), scroll to "Poultry/Gamebird."