



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

Veterinary Services

Riverdale, MD
20737

Commerical Private Bird Import Quarantines – Minimum Frequency of Visits

1. Purpose and Background

This document ensures that Veterinary Services' staff provides consistent oversight of privately owned or operated commercial bird import quarantines. This document describes the minimum frequency of VS visits to the facility for intake, release, sampling, health inspections, oversight of operations and security/biosecurity, and other actions required by title 9, *Code of Federal Regulations* (9 CFR) part 93.

2. Document Status

- A. Review date: 09/06/2022.
- B. This document replaces Veterinary Services Bulletin 2015.4, which is cancelled.

3. Reason for Reissuance

VS is reissuing this bulletin to accommodate updates in its current structure and practice.

4. Authority and References

- A. Authorities (*Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) and U.S. Code (U.S.C.)):
 - [7 CFR 371.4](#)
 - [9 CFR part 93](#)

- B. References

[VSG 13410.1, Disease Testing and Sampling Requirements for Imported Live Poultry and Birds \(and Hatching Eggs of Poultry, Birds, and Ratites\) during Entry Quarantines](#)

5. Audience

VS employees, other affected Federal and State agencies, and affected members of the public.

6. Body

- A. A VS veterinary medical officer (VMO) must visit the quarantine daily from Day 1 (or the date of arrival, whichever is later) through Day 16 of the minimum 30-day quarantine period to oversee operations, account for daily deaths, and collect samples as set forth in VSG 13410.1.

- B. At a minimum, the VMO must visit the quarantine every other day between days 17 and the date of release to oversee operations, review security and biosecurity, and inspect the birds.
- C. VS must visit the facility to release the birds from quarantine.
- D. At the discretion of the VMO or at the request of the importer, VS personnel may visit more frequently to ensure animal health and safety.
- E. VS personnel must place seals on the entrances to private commercial bird import quarantines when no facility or VS personnel are inside. Access to any sealed facility is available only when VS personnel are present to break seals.
- F. User fees apply during each VS visit.

7. Inquiries

For questions, please contact the Strategy and Policy Live Animal Imports Staff at 301-851-3300.