

USDA proposes changes in nat'l poultry improvement plan

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Poultry breeders and hatchers have asked the U.S. Department of Agriculture to adopt 22 changes in the national poultry improvement plan.

The changes were approved by about 100 delegates representing the poultry breeding and hatching industries at the 1980 biennial

national poultry improvement conference held in New Orleans, La.

The 22 changes USDA is proposing include

—Revising the sample from breeding chicken flocks being tested for official Mycoplasma gallisepticum and Mycoplasma synoviae classification;

—Providing for a Mycoplasma gallisepticum testing and classification program for started poultry;

—Providing for a Mycoplasma meleagridis testing and classification program for turkey breeding flocks;

—Exempting the testing of waterfowl for Salmonella pullorum

and Salmonella gallinarum when located on the same premises as a participating chicken, turkey or game bird breeding flock, if they are incidental to the participating flock;

—Amending procedures for bacterial examination of Salmonella reactors;

—Establishing procedures for

bacterial examination of Mycoplasma reactors.

—Expanding the duties of the general conference committee to include the study of all problems relating to poultry health.

These proposals were published in the Oct. 16 Federal Register. Comments may be submitted until Dec. 15 to: Deputy Administrator, USDA, APHIS, Bldg. 265, BARC-EAST, Beltsville, Md., 20705

The National Poultry Improvement Plan is a voluntary state-federal cooperative program to improve poultry and poultry products by controlling certain egg-transmitted and hatchery-disseminated poultry diseases

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