

Information Note for Applicants for Registration of a Poultry Holding

The Control on Places where Poultry are Kept Regulations 2014 (S.I. No. 114 of 2014) requires that anyone who keeps poultry be entered on the register of poultry premises. Such records will be of vital importance in containing and controlling an outbreak of disease should one occur in Ireland.

Registration Process

Most commercial producers and processors of poultry and eggs are already registered with the Department. If you are not already registered and if at present, or in the near future, you are likely to

- Keep domestic poultry (even small numbers of chickens, hens, turkeys, ducks or geese for your own use),
- Own or trade in domestic poultry or other captive birds (such as pigeons, sporting birds or exotic birds but not pet birds in domestic households),

please complete the application form (PR1) and send it to your local District Veterinary Office (addresses under) as soon as possible.

COUNTY	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
Dublin/Kildare/Laois/West Wicklow/Clare/Limerick	Poplar House, Poplar Square, Naas, Co. Kildare	045 873552
Cork	4 th Floor, Hibernian House, 80 South Mall, Cork	021 4851451
Donegal	Meeting House St, Raphoe, Co. Donegal	074 9173619
Waterford/Kilkenny/Kerry	Eircom Building, Knockmay Road, Portlaoise, Co Laois	057 8689932
Galway	Aras an Tsaile, Lakeshore Drive, Renmore Galway.	091 507637
Cavan/Monaghan/Tipperary/Offaly/Westmeath/Roscommon	Government Offices, Farnham Street, Cavan	049 4368215
Leitrim/Longford/ Sligo	Drumshanbo, Co. Leitrim	071 9682001
Mayo/Carlow/Wexford/East Wicklow	Michael Davitt House., Castlebar, Co Mayo	094 9035311
Meath/Louth	Government Offices, Athlumney, Kilcarn, Navan, Co Meath	046 9082968

Commercial/Market sale

Any person intending to place poultry products on the market, regardless of the point of sale, must fill in this form (PR1). Please ensure that the declaration on the back of this form is signed. It may be necessary for you to also fill in form PR2 which the DVO will issue to you, if it is necessary for you to register on the Departments supplementary commercial poultry registers (eg. Egg producers, free-range producers, hatchery, export approved premises, organic etc)

Poultry kept for home Consumption or as a Hobby

Keepers of backyard flocks must fill in form PR1. The declaration on the back must be signed. Upon receipt the District Veterinary Office will either approve or refuse registration. You will be informed of this by letter.

Definitions

For the purposes of this application form:-

(a) 'holding' as defined in Council Directives 2009/158/EC - a facility - which may include an establishment - used for the rearing or keeping of breeding or productive poultry. ("holding", means establishment, construction or, in the case of an open-air farm, any place in which animals are held, kept or handled.)

(b) ‘premises’ as defined in SI No 114 of 2014 - includes any land (with or without buildings) vehicle, ship or other vessel, aircraft, railway wagon or other means of transport or any container used in transport.

(c) “keeper” means any natural or legal person responsible, even on a temporary basis, for poultry.

Please Note:-

- A Poultry Holding Number is an administrative device issued by the District Veterinary Office (DVO) to a distinct poultry holding solely for the purposes of disease control.
- A poultry holding number issued by the Department to any particular individual acting as the keeper does not infer ownership of production sites, lands or animals under that poultry holding number.
- For the purposes of disease eradication schemes, welfare legislation and record keeping a “keeper” is a natural person responsible for the care and maintenance of animals. This person does not necessarily have to be the owner.

Biosecurity

Biosecurity is the term used for all measures that may be taken to prevent the introduction or spread of disease into a flock. The site should be clearly secured at all times to prevent the entry of unauthorised personnel or vehicles. The perimeter of the site must be clearly identified and if possible, fenced.

The conditions:-

Listed below are the principal conditions that are assessed by the DVO before a Poultry holding number may issue. In seeking to prevent disease transmission, the individual Poultry holding must fulfil the following criteria:

- 1) the Poultry holding occupies a defined holding (*see “holding” definition*).
- 2) entry points onto other adjoining poultry holdings that are not part of the application must be permanently blocked off.
- 3) the fencing and husbandry must be such that there is no direct contact between poultry flocks on contiguous or adjoining/adjacent holdings.
- 4) there are independent and separate facilities such as
 - a. feeding and watering facilities that are not shared with other poultry holdings
 - b. farm machinery that is not shared with other poultry holdings
- 5) there are adequate facilities for the purpose of inspection, isolation, loading, unloading, watering, feeding, treatment of sick/injured birds and housing as appropriate.
- 6) there are adequate facilities for the collection of manure and wastewater (if relevant to scale).
- 7) there are records maintained in accordance with SI No. 114 of 2014.
- 8) implement biosecurity measures as may be specified from time to time.

To summarise, the conditions are that the Poultry flock must be maintained separately without intermixing of stock from other Poultry flocks and that the flock is managed as an independent unit and that records are maintained.

“The flockowner” means the nominated company or entity or person(s) associated with a specific flock number to whom any payments, should they arise, will be made. The “keeper” role is classified as a non-financial role and therefore it is not possible to make payments to “keepers”. It is only possible to make payments to ‘flockowners’. For example (i) John and Mary Smith jointly own a farm. In this case John and Mary can be recorded jointly as the ‘flockowner’ and receive payments but they must agree which of them will be the keeper as only a single name can appear in the keeper role. Example (ii) Acme Farms Ltd. owns a farm and Chris Tree is the manager responsible for the day-to-day running of the farm. Acme Farms Ltd is recorded in the ‘flockowner’ role and Chris Tree is recorded in the ‘keeper’ role.