

Becoming a Pullorum Tester Common Questions and Answers

Q: As a Pullorum tester, can I certify a flock as NPIP?

A: No. The only person who can certify a flock as NPIP is an OPA Authorized Agent. As a Pullorum tester you can certify a bird as Pullorum Clean when you test at a show or auction and that test is good for 90 days. You may also go to the location the birds are housed and perform a flock test which is good for 1 year.

Q: Can I charge to test?

A: Yes. We ask you keep the fee at a reasonable amount, such as \$1-\$2 per bird.

Q: Can I test my own birds?

A: Technically Yes, however we ask you to find another tester whenever possible. We understand finding a tester isn't always easy so testing your own birds is allowed. Keep in mind, Pullorum is a reportable disease and any positive must be reported to the Ohio Department of Agriculture right away.

Q: Do I have to renew my certification?

A: Yes, the Pullorum certification is \$50 and good for 5 years. At the time of your expiration, OPA will contact you to let you know of upcoming classes if you wish to renew.

Q: Who provides the supplies for testing?

A: You are responsible for purchasing your own testing supplies. Antigen is manufactured by AVS Bio (<u>avsbio-2023-catalog</u>, Pg 6) but can also be purchased from <u>Stromberg's</u>, <u>Cutler Supply</u>, and <u>Twin</u> <u>City Poultry Supplies</u>.

If you or someone you know has high unexplained/abnormal mortality or expect disease, contact the Ohio Department of Agriculture: (614) 728-6220.