



Memo

To: Growers, Hatcheries, & Processors Date: Updated October 27, 2025
Re: 2025 Avian Flu (HPAI) Temporary Measures to facilitate Chick Placement

The BC Chicken Marketing Board (BCCMB) appreciates that everyone is working hard to keep the industry moving forward and to arrange placement of chicks on farms.

If HPAI restrictions prevent chicks from being placed at an intended farm, all parties are obligated to work with the hatcheries to secure an alternative home for the chicks.

Growers are responsible for finding and arranging barns or quota leases — working with their hatchery to do so.

The BCCMB will do its best to be flexible and accommodate the needs of the industry. But if you must update your chick placement arrangements, please ensure that you communicate your intentions as soon as possible.

For more details, or to alert the BCCMB of an update or concern, contact directly:
Karlie Erickson, Quota & Production Coordinator
karlieerickson@bcchicken.ca or 778-600-0259

While HPAI is present in BC, several critical policies are active for those directly impacted by HPAI-infection:

1) Leasing Kgs

Last-minute leases may be submitted for any kilograms being leased and **must:**

- a. **be submitted no later than the day the chicks are being placed on farm,**
- b. be between growers that are shipping in the same period,
- c. be approved (signed off) by both processors if the involved growers are contracted to different processors.

2) Leasing Space

Any grower who is unable to place their birds on their registered premise is allowed to lease out up to 100% of their quota holdings.

Growers with available barn space can lease in as many kilograms as their maximum barn space allows. The Board will disregard the maximum lease sleeves in these instances.

Growers can lease available barns for temporary barn leases, considering:

- a. lease must be for an entire barn—leasing partial space or separate floors of a barn is strictly prohibited.
- b. if the space is not already registered with the BCCMB, it must first be approved by the BCCMB.
- c. any required inspections and signed lease agreements must be submitted to BCCMB prior to the placement of any chicks.

3) Disaster Flocks

Infected Premises are eligible to apply for Disaster Flock conditions (Part 31 of The General Orders) which will increase their underproduction sleeve from 6% to 10% for the cycle. Not all requirements will need to be met for approval.

4) Market Development

If you are looking to lower the processor Market Development (MD) allotment, please discuss it with the BCCMB. Normally a reduction in MD must occur 9 weeks before the start of the cycle. These requests will be handled on an individual basis.

5) Off-schedule Bird Movement

If any birds are held in the barn for longer than contracted, alert the BCCMB immediately. These growers may be eligible for a reduction in their OML's.

Communicate:

- a. what caused the delay,
- b. how many birds were impacted,
- c. how many extra days the birds were in the barn.

We must all remain vigilant for the sake of the entire chicken-growing industry. Failure to follow the above policies could result in losing the opportunity to grow ones allotment. A quota allocation is an obligation to produce, therefore it is crucial that you find a suitable arrangement to produce your quota.

When in doubt, please ask! If there are any other questions or scenarios being considered, we are happy to talk it over. Please reach out to Karlie at the BCCMB (info above) directly via phone or email.

Thank you for your cooperation in these measures.