

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION**

<small>DISTRICT ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER</small> One Montvale Avenue Stoneham, MA 02180 (781) 587-7500 Fax: (781) 587-7556 Industry Information: www.fda.gov/oc/industry	<small>DATE(S) OF INSPECTION</small> 05/02/2011 - 05/10/2011
	<small>FEI NUMBER</small> 3001056284

NAME AND TITLE OF INDIVIDUAL TO WHOM REPORT ISSUED
TO: George S. Bass, Owner

<small>FIRM NAME</small> The Country Hen Inc	<small>STREET ADDRESS</small> 16 Williamsville Rd
<small>CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE, COUNTRY</small> Hubbardston, MA 01452-1311	<small>TYPE ESTABLISHMENT INSPECTED</small> Egg Producer

This document lists observations made by the FDA representative(s) during the inspection of your facility. They are inspectional observations, and do not represent a final Agency determination regarding your compliance. If you have an objection regarding an observation, or have implemented, or plan to implement, corrective action in response to an observation, you may discuss the objection or action with the FDA representative(s) during the inspection or submit this information to FDA at the address above. If you have any questions, please contact FDA at the phone number and address above.

DURING AN INSPECTION OF YOUR FIRM WE OBSERVED:

OBSERVATION 1

Your written SE prevention plan lacks appropriate SE prevention measures.

Specifically, we observed that the ~~items listed below are inadequately covered in the SE prevention plan.~~

1) ~~Biosecurity measures:~~

- ~~Practices limiting the transfer of SE from one farm to another as a result of the farm's use of re-usable flats to collect eggs are not listed in the SE prevention plan.~~

2) Refrigeration:

- The SE prevention plan does not include requirements to refrigerate eggs in the pre-cooler once 36 hours after time of lay has passed.

OBSERVATION 2

Your written SE prevention plan is not fully implemented and followed.

Specifically, with regard to biosecurity procedures we observed:

- Stray animals are not prevented from entering poultry houses. We observed a bird flying in house number # 2. We also observed numerous holes in the poultry wires covering open windows in house numbers 2, 3 and 5/10. The current poultry netting covering the windows in these houses allows the entry of small birds into the layer houses when the windows are open.
- Visitors are not limited on the farm.

AMENDMENT 1

SEE REVERSE OF THIS PAGE	<small>EMPLOYEE(S) SIGNATURE</small> Wendy A. Johnecheck, Investigator <i>Wendy A. Johnecheck</i> Osama A. Khatib, Investigator <i>Osama A. Khatib</i>	<small>DATE ISSUED</small> 06/06/2011
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TYPE ESTABLISHMENT INSPECTED

Egg Producer

OBSERVATION 3

Environmental testing for SE, using approved methods, was not done in a poultry house containing more than one group of laying hens, when each group of laying hens was 40 to 45 weeks of age.

Specifically, houses 8/11 have **b4** with each level holding layers of different ages. Based on the current environmental sampling carried out at Country Hen Inc. each level of these houses was swabbed when the group residing in the given level was between 40 to 45 weeks of age. These houses **b4** require swabbing when each group of laying hens in the house is 40 to 45 weeks of age.

OBSERVATION 4

Eggs intended to be processed as table eggs were held at room temperature for more than 36 hours just prior to processing.

Specifically, at approximately 12:30 pm on 5/2/2011 we observed eggs collected from production at 3:00 pm on Saturday 4/30/2011 being held in a pre-cooler located inside the farm's on-site, off-line processing facility. The thermometer in the pre-cooler read 50 degrees F. Further, based on the production schedule provided by the farm's General Manager, we noted that on a **b4** basis eggs are collected from the barns at **b4** and then held in the pre-cooler to be processed on **b4**. The pre-cooler is not turned on during this period, resulting in the eggs being held at 45 degrees or higher after the 36 hour period of time of lay has passed.

OBSERVATION 5

You did not maintain records documenting compliance with biosecurity measures.

Specifically, we observed that Country Hen Inc. has developed the following forms for documenting biosecurity measures:

- 1) Forms for documenting visitors on the farm: a Farm Visitor Questionnaire, a Main Farm Visitor Log Form, a Barn # ___ Visitor Log Form, a Delivery Log - Office Form, and a Delivery Log-Loading Dock Form;
- 2) A "Check List" form that documents the measures taken to prevent stray poultry, wild birds, cats and other animals from entering poultry houses: Repair Entry Points for Wild Birds, Etc.; Inspect for Wild Birds, and Pen Doors Closed; and a
- 3) A Foot Bath Inspection Log documenting the concentration of the **b4** foot bath at the entrance of each house/barn.

We noted that these records currently reside in the SE Prevention plan folder, but have not yet been implemented on the farm.

AMENDMENT 1

**SEE REVERSE
OF THIS PAGE**

EMPLOYEE(S) SIGNATURE

Wendy A. Johncheck, Investigator
Osama A. Khatib, Investigator

Wendy A. Johncheck
Osama A. Khatib

DATE ISSUED

06/06/2011

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OBSERVATION 6

You did not maintain records documenting compliance with rodent and other pest control measures.

Specifically, we observed that Country Hen Inc. has developed the following forms for documenting rodent and other pest control measures:

- 1) Forms for documenting the level of products used for controlling rodents and other pests: Barn interiors, Barn Exteriors - Normal Materials, Barn Exteriors - Level 4 Materials [b4] Usage Log, and [b4] Usage Log;
- 2) A form for monitoring average flies on a [b4] on a [b4] basis. This form does not include name and location of the farm, the date and time of activity that record reflects, and the signature or initials of person creating the record;
- 3) A "Check List" form used to ensure that [b4] are monitored and replaced.

We noted that these records currently reside in the SE Prevention plan folder, but have not yet been implemented on the farm.

OBSERVATION 7

You do not maintain records documenting compliance with refrigeration requirements.

Specifically, we observed that Country Hen Inc. does not maintain records for the pre-cooler refrigeration unit located in the on-farm, off-line processing facility. This walk-in cooling unit holds eggs after time of lay until the eggs are processed at the farm.

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