United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

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Inspection Report

National Animal Disease Center
P.O. Box 70
Ames, IA 50010

Customer ID: **334305**
Certificate: **42-G-0001**
Site: 001
NATIONAL ANIMAL DISEASE CENTER

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION
Date: 19-SEP-2017

2.131(b)(1) CRITICAL

HANDLING OF ANIMALS.

Agricultural Guide Chapter 9 page 103.
Thirty-eight of a flock of fifty-three turkey poults approximately 2 weeks of age died between September 1 and September 2, 2017. This incident had not been reported to the IACUC as of the date of this inspection. The IACUC last met on September 14, 2017.

On the morning of September 1, 2017, approximately 22 turkey poults in one housing room were found dead by the caretaker. According to the caretaker, several other poults appeared to be severely depressed at that time. Over the next 24 to 48 hours, several other poults died. The daily observation (NCAH Animal Care and Use Log Sheets) sheet posted on the animal housing room door stated that a total of 38 died during this incident.

The daily observation sheet for this group of birds begin August 17, 2017 with no room temperatures recorded until September 1st when it was noted the room was 64°F in the morning when the caretakers arrived to find the dead birds. The caretaker stated that this room is normally maintained at a temperature of approximately 72°F. These birds are maintained in this room with two heat lamps. Additionally, the facility was not monitoring the temperatures in the areas under the heat lamps.

The HVAC system was examined and adjusted the same day. Since September 2nd, the NCAH Animal Care and Use Log Sheets record the High/Low room temperatures for the surviving birds between 68-73°F. For poults, the housing temperature surrounding the brooding areas that allow birds to move toward or away from a separate heat source (such as heat lamps) should be maintained at 68 to 77°F (Ag Guide pg 116).

A gross necropsy performed by a staff veterinarian on one bird revealed no significant findings. Four birds were sent for pathology/necropsy. This pathology report states: "…Laboratory Diagnosis: Inanition…" (exhaustion caused by a lack of nourishment) "and dehydration. High magnesium/manganese…" and "…Gross pathology: 4/4 dry, dark, shanks (dehydration – picture). 4/4 empty crops. 4/4 atrophied intestines with enlarged gall bladder…" A

Prepared By: [redacted]
CUNNINGHAM DEBBIE, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care
Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER 6072
Date: 18-OCT-2017

Received By: [redacted]
Title:
Date: 18-OCT-2017

feed sample was also submitted with results pending.

Thermoregulatory mechanisms are poorly developed in poults (Ag guide pg 116) making adequate ambient temperatures important for their health and comfort. Also, the necropsy report suggests lack of nutrition (inanition). The physical environment afforded by a poultry research or teaching facility should not put birds at undue risk of injury or expose them to conditions that would be likely to cause unnecessary distress or disease (Ag guide pg 103)

Correct by: From this date forward.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with facility representatives.

NOTATION: This facility was experiencing a staffing shortage at the time of this inspection. They were operating with 9 fewer animal caretakers and 2 fewer supervisors than their usual staff numbers.
ARS Animals observed during inspection: 2558 mice and 928 other animals.

ARS mice	2558
Cattle	209
Pigs	188
Bison	34
White Tail deer	139
Sheep	184
Raccoon	14
Cat	1
Goat	14
Rabbit	4
ARS Birds	112
Elk	29

Additional Inspectors

Mchenry Kerry, Veterinary Medical Officer

Rosendale Marcy, Veterinary Medical Officer

Shaver Margaret, Veterinary Medical Officer

Prepared By: [redacted]

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