

<p>ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE</p> <p><b><u>SUBSTANTIVE POLICY STATEMENT</u></b></p> <p>ANIMAL SERVICES DIVISION</p> <p><b>Enforcement of poultry husbandry and production of eggs sold in this state. A.R.S. § 3-710J. and R3-2-901 et seq.</b></p>	<p><u>DIVISION/PROGRAM</u>      <u>ASD</u></p> <p><u>SP 24-05</u></p> <p><i>Paul E Brierley</i></p> <p>SIGNATURE</p> <p>November 23, 2024</p> <p>DATE</p>
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This Substantive Policy Statement is advisory only. A Substantive Policy Statement does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal procedures of the agency and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or include confidential information or rules made in accordance with the Arizona administrative procedure act. If you believe that this Substantive Policy Statement does impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties, you may petition the agency under section 41-1033, Arizona Revised Statutes, for a review of the statement.

**1. BACKGROUND**

The Arizona Department of Agriculture, Animal Services Division (the “Division”) is responsible for the development and adoption of rules for poultry husbandry and the production of eggs sold in this state. Those standards were updated to include cage-free requirements, to be effective October 1, 2022. Since that rulemaking there has been an outbreak of Avian Influenza that has affected egg production for an Arizona egg producer governed by these standards and may affect others as well. The spread of Avian Influenza poses significant animal health and welfare risks and economic concerns, as well as practical challenges for producers and the Division. Accordingly, the Department has decided to partially delay enforcement of A.A.C. R3-2-907(C), (D), (E), (F), and (H).

**2. POLICY**

The Department will not enforce the standards listed in A.A.C. R3-2-907(C), (D), (E), (F), and (H), except for the requirement that UEP Animal Husbandry Guidelines be followed, for any producers and/or distributors that otherwise would be governed by these standards (whether located in Arizona or another State).

All other standards listed in A.A.C. R3-2-907 shall remain in effect.

Substantive Policy Statements 22-02, 24-01, and 24-04 shall be rescinded and replaced with this Substantive Policy Statement.

**3. EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Substantive Policy Statement is effective immediately and will expire January 1 of 2027 unless extended by the Division.