PROTECT YOUR NEIGHBORS -- IF A CHOLERA OUTBREAK OCCURS

If a cholera outbreak is suspected in the turkey flock, immediately get a complete laboratory report and diagnosis to verify the existing condition as cholera. Why? Because field diagnosis is difficult since cholera symptoms are very much like those of other infectious diseases.

If cholera is confirmed by the laboratory report, a representative of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Commerce will post a strict isolation notice on the premise unless the owner requests otherwise. He will make suggestions for flock management during the period of maximum death loss and will also make marketing recommendations.

The "Strict Isolation" notice is intended to warn other people including neighbors that cholera is on the premise and to stay away so the cholera organism will not be carried into other flocks.

In 1968, 46 cases of cholera were reported in Virginia by the State Diagnostic Laboratories. This was less than one-third the number of cases reported in 1966, the year before the Virginia Cholera Control Program was inaugurated. This resulted in the saving of many thousands of dollars due to the reduction in mortality as well as decreased use of drugs.

The cooperation of everyone in the turkey industry is necessary if we are to further reduce cholera losses in Virginia. If your neighbor had cholera, you would want to know it. Infected turkey flocks are a great hazard as a source of infection to other nearby flocks. Therefore, "Protect Your Neighbor." Keep the strict isolation signs displayed where they can be easily seen by everyone coming to the farm.

Inform your neighbor and dispose of all dead birds promptly in an incinerator or approved type disposal pit.

Everyone is important in the cholera control program. Be sure you do your part.

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