

צילום יא



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE  
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE  
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20852

Mr. Sholom Y. Gross  
Executive Director  
International Kashrus Association  
P.O. Box 163  
Dyker Heights Station  
Brooklyn, New York 11228

MAY 10 1977

Dear Mr. Gross:

Reference is made to your letter of April 19, 1977, regarding the injection of chickens and turkeys. Some hatcheries do inject day old chicks and day old turkey poults with drugs when they are sorted into boxes prior to consignment to the growers. This is done to control diseases which are transmitted through the egg or from bacterial contamination of the egg shell. The practice is more prevalent in turkey poults than in chicks.

Growing or mature chickens are seldom, if ever, injected with drugs because of the high labor costs of injecting individual chickens. There are two principal diseases of growing turkeys, which in the event of a disease outbreak, are controlled by injection of drugs. Infectious sinusitis of turkeys is controlled by injecting drug into the infraorbital sinus (located below the eye). Erysipelas occurs in growing and mature turkeys and is controlled by injecting the birds with suitable drugs into the muscles of the thigh.

Many of the diseases of poultry have been controlled by blood testing and slaughtering of infected carrier parent stock; therefore, fewer injectable drugs are necessary today than they were in the past. The types of injectable drugs that are used are antibiotics.

In answer to your specific question, most inoculations take place under the skin of the neck, but, as previously stated, some are injected in the muscles of the thigh, i.e., erysipelas, or into the sinus, i.e., infectious sinusitis.

Chickens are immunized against diseases by several methods, e.g., vaccine by drinking water, by eyedrop, by dust, by removing feathers from the leg in the case of fowl pox and applying the virus vaccine directly into the feather follicles after removing a few feathers

or by a superficial injection of the pox virus into the web of the wing. The cost of labor causes poultrymen in most cases to vaccinate their birds by some method other than by injection, although, some do inject their chickens to protect them, principally against virus respiratory diseases. All licensing of poultry vaccines sold interstate is under the control of the United States Department of Agriculture.

There certainly are non-inoculated poultry. We know, however, of no way that the poultry can be identified by some outside markings.

We would suggest that you contact your supermarket(s) to determine the source of the poultry which your group is purchasing. Once you ascertain their name and address, (usually one or more large company) you can obtain the desired information. Your respective state agricultural extension service might also be able to assist you in locating such poultry. They could also put you in contact with poultry companies which would help you with the information that you desire. Perhaps, they could set aside certain of their growers to raise poultry to meet your specifications. The poultry industry will adapt to meet significant market demands.

Sincerely,

*David P. Ducharme*

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