

צילום יב

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
FEDERAL BUILDING
HYATTSVILLE, MARYLAND 20782

September 28, 1977

Rabbi Sholom Y. Gross
Executive Director
International Kashrus Association
P.O. Box 163, Dyker Heights Station
Brooklyn, NY 11228

Dear Rabbi Gross:

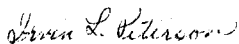
Your letter of July 25, 1977, addressed to the Commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Department of Agriculture was forwarded to our office for reply.

The answers to the itemized questions posed in your letter according to our present knowledge are as follows:

1. Most of the inoculated egg-type chicks and meat-type chicks (broilers) are inoculated subcutaneously in the neck region just posterior to the head.
2. A conservative estimate of the percentage of the commercial chicks that are vaccinated for Marek's disease would be 95 percent. The broiler industry in the Northwest is vaccinating a small percent (1 percent) of the chicks with another type of vaccine. The broiler pen mates are then exposed by contact to this nonpathogenic virus. To our knowledge, this practice is limited to only that area of the United States.
3. We are not aware of any commercial hatchery in the Denver vicinity or New York State that does not vaccinate chicks for Marek's disease.

If additional information is desired concerning the use of the Marek's disease vaccine and its safety, you may wish to contact Dr. H. Graham Purchase, National Program Staff, Agricultural Research Service, USDA, Beltsville, MD 20705, telephone Area Code (301) 344-2716.

Sincerely,



Irvin L. Peterson
Chief Staff Veterinarian
Swine and Poultry Diseases Staff
Veterinary Services