

National Australian Poultry Identification Scheme

www.napis.com.au



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Dear Club Committee Members,

This letter is an introduction to the National Australian Poultry Identification Scheme (NAPIS) and to request that the following information be made available to your club members.

NAPIS is a scheme designed to offer a unified Ringing Scheme for all Breeders of pure bred poultry, allowing breeders to self - regulate their movements by using a Breeders Logbook. The attached Presentation of NAPIS explains the Scheme in detail. It is an aid to protect the exhibition poultry industry from serious disease outbreaks and to help, trace, contain and treat these viruses before they become out of control and unnecessarily infect innocent breeder's yards. It is quite a simple process with no real adverse effects to the scheme participants.

The Modern Game Promotional Societies members have already undertaken a trial of applying closed lifelong leg bands to approximately 7000 modern game bantams and they will be recording their movements across the country in the Breeders Logbook as part of an optional trial. This trial was designed to highlight any problems arising from applying these leg bands and the results have shown us that the only problem encountered, is that we need to adopt a larger band for the females, which we will do for the next breeding season of chicks in 2013.

We are now at the stage of extending this trial to all other breeds so that other enthusiasts can join NAPIS and be afforded the same protection and benefits that NAPIS has to offer. NAPIS is free to join and offers a host of benefits to its participants. With NAPIS being open to all breeds the breeders will need to measure the legs of their adult birds and send their order in with the size ring that will fit their bird's so we can organize the supply and delivery of rings for use on their 2013 bred chicks.

To do this, the breeder simply measure's the legs of their Cocks and Hen Birds, Old Drakes and Ducks, Old Goose and Ganders, Old Turkey Gobblers and Hens from the front to the

back (usually the widest part of the leg) and this measurement will tell them the smallest size ring that they can use without damaging the shank.

Then measure the ball of the foot, from the front to the back, with the back toe pushed down into the rest of the foot. This measurement will give the breeder an idea of the largest size ring they can use and then they simply choose a size in the middle that will not go over the ball of the foot and not be too tight on the bird's shank and write this on the order form.

Breeders will need to measure both male and female birds, as each sex will have a different size leg and hence a different sized ring will be used. The ring is very durable, extremely light weight with nicely rounded edges and only 6 mm high, so it is absolutely in no way intrusive to the birds in fact, in our experience, our Modern Game Bantams have more trouble with a small cable tie on their leg than the ring, picking at the cable and not worried by the ring at all.

The rings are applied to the birds at an age where it will slide snugly over the ball of the foot and stay there as the bird continues to grow, remembering the older the bird is when rung the better, as you have a better chance of determining its sex. Vernier callipers will be ideal for taking these measurements as they will leave you with a free hand to hold the birds. Alternately, use a tape measure and have a second person hold the bird.

We would appreciate it if you could table this letter, along with the presentation pack for your member's consideration and move a motion to have your schedules amended to allow the NAPIS approved rings to be shown at your club shows without prejudice.

We would also appreciate it if you could advise us of your club's decision (as soon as possible) so that we can print a list of those clubs who wish to support this extremely important endeavour, and those who do not. This list will inform the NAPIS participants of what clubs support this scheme and what clubs don't, allowing NAPIS participants to choose what shows they can and cannot attend with rung birds Please bear in mind, that our hobby will be faced with a Bio Security breach at some stage, it is inevitable that this will happen, and we are far better off being prepared for such outbreaks.

This is an optional trial only and we envisage that it will take a few seasons to it get correct, so all we ask is for a little patience and some positive attitudes during the implementation stages. The more participants we have trialling this scheme, than the more accurate the collected data will be. The other thing that is worth mentioning at this stage is the cost of these rings will be kept to maximum of \$20.00 per hundred plus a small fee for postage and they are available in multiples of 20. NAPIS will be taking Ring Orders from February to May for June delivery, so let's get busy.

Kind regards,

Wayne Ingleton.

Implementation Manager

NAPIS