



TFO Small-Scale Grower Procedure

Purpose and Scope

To meet growing consumer and producer requests to produce turkey to meet targeted markets, including smaller retail outlets, farmers markets, small butchers, and primary processing needs.

To facilitate small scale growers in establishing themselves in the Ontario turkey industry with the end goal to acquire quota.

Process and Procedures

Section 1 – Eligibility

Applicants

1. Persons who are interested in growing 1000kg – 5000kg of marketable quota for the applicable quota year.
2. If a returning grower, any requests to increase production need to be completed during the application process and will not be considered during the applicable quota year.
3. Applicants must be permanent residents of Ontario.
4. Applicants must own the land on which the turkeys are to be raised.
5. Applicants are responsible for ensuring turkeys are processed at a provincially or federally licensed primary processing facility.
6. Applicants cannot already own turkey quota on a registered premises within Ontario.
7. Only one licence will be issued each quota period for each registered premises.
8. Applicants may only apply for three consecutive or non-consecutive quota years.
9. Current Premises Deed and/or Land Transfer documents must be submitted with application.
10. Water Test Reports from an accredited laboratory must be submitted as part of the application process.
 - a. Water Test Reports must be no more than 12 months prior to the application date.
 - b. Water Test Reports must include results for “Total Coliform and E.Coli” and meet the requirements as outlined in the TFC On Farm Food Safety Program.

Section 2 – Application Timeline

1. Applications may be submitted annually from August 1 – November 30 for production in the next quota year.
2. Applications are reviewed and approved or denied by March 1 of each year.
3. Applications will not be approved until a successful site visit occurs and all requirements are met.
 - a. As part of the application process, premises will be inspected by a member of the TFO Field Staff to ensure suitable for turkey production.
 - i. A comprehensive checklist supporting the Turkey Farmers of Canada (TFC) On Farm Programs will be utilized.
 - b. During this on-site visit a TFC On Farm Program binder and orientation will also be provided.
 - c. If any issues or concerns arise during the on-site visit a corrective action report will be issued with timelines for completion.
 - i. Growers will be prohibited from placing poult until corrective actions are complete.



Section 3 – Application Approval Process

1. All applications will be reviewed and a response given to the applicant by March 1 of each year
2. Once a successful site visit has occurred the grower will be recommended for approval for the quota year to the board for the issuance of a small-flock grower licence.
3. If approved, communication will be sent to the successful applicants outlining the full requirements of the program.
4. If approved, a licence to grow and market turkeys will be issued, along with the associated Licence Fees that are due.
5. The licence will be specific to the approved grower, registered premises, and applicable quota year.

Section 4 – Approved Growers

1. All turkeys processed under this policy must be transported in accordance with the federal and provincial agency having jurisdiction over transporting animals.
2. All approved growers must comply with applicable TFO policies and regulations.
3. All turkey marketed under this program must be marketed at a price not less than the minimum live price as communicated in the Weekly Pricing Order.
4. Processors used must be provincially or federally licensed.

Section 5 – Licence Fee

1. A fee of 15 cents per kg accessed will be applied.
2. The approval notice will include the amount owed to the board office.
 - i. Fees are due within 30 days of the licence being issued.
3. Any overmarketing above approved kgs accessed will result in a financial penalty of \$1.00/kg and impact consideration of future licences.
 - a. Notice will be given and will include the amount owed to the board office.
4. No licence will be renewed until fees from the previous quota year are paid and all applicable reporting requirements are met.

Section 6 – Reporting Requirements

1. Each licensed grower must submit a copy of their hatchery invoice, poult delivery slip, or dealer invoice for all poults purchased during the quota period for which the licence is valid.
2. Each licensed grower must submit their mortality as per Section 8 – Producer Reporting Requirements (b)-(g) of the TFO General Regulations.
3. Growers are exempt from Section 8 – Producer Reporting Requirements (h) of the TFO General Regulations.
4. Section 15 – Buyer Reporting Requirements of the TFO General Regulations must be followed and reporting requirements must be met.

Section 7 – Review

1. This procedure may be reviewed periodically by TFO, such review will include an evaluation of whether the objectives of the policy are being achieved.
2. The commodity board may on occasion determine that it is appropriate to make specific orders and directions in relation to and as a supplemental to this policy for the purpose of better achieving the intended effect.



Section 8 – Sunset Clause

1. This procedure shall remain in effect until the end of the third (3rd) quota period in 2028/2029 of its coming into force, with the first quota period of it coming into force being the 2026/2027 quota period.
2. TFO Directors may extend the term of this procedure.