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און טורק אר
24 February 2016

השע"ו שבט ז

To whom it may concern,

As stated clearly in the shulchan Aruch and the Rema, the requirement for a bird to be treated as kosher is the existence of an impeccable mesorah transmitted from generation to generation that a specific bird is kosher.

Although decades ago, prior to the advent of global communication and travel, my esteemed father in law, the gaon Rav Moshe Feinstein Z"l was unable to locate a mesorah for common pheasant also called ringed necked pheasant, whose scientific name is *Phasianus colchicus*. It is now clear to me that such a mesorah exists.

Ari Greenspan and Ari Zivotofsky, experts in bird mesorahs, have interviewed several shoctim who accurately and faithfully recall and describe the eating of this pheasant in their locale. Most significantly and importantly, the great Yemenite gaon Rav Yosef Kafich Z"l attested to Ari Greenspan and Ari Zivotofsky while examining a ringed neck pheasant in front of them that said bird was known to him to be kosher and that he had a mesorah regarding its kosher status. He shechted one with a bracha. In addition I met with Rav Shlomo Machpud and he attested to a mesorah on the common ring necked pheasant. Based on this I believe the pheasant to be kosher. I am sure that my father in law, Rav Moshe Feinstein would have accepted both of these mesorot to permit the shechita of the ring necked pheasant.

signed,

Moshe Dovid Tendler

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