Federal Order Requiring Testing for and Reporting of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in Livestock

April 24, 2024

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), is issuing this Federal Order to prevent the spread of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI). HPAI is a contagious viral disease of domestic poultry and wild birds. HPAI is deadly to domestic poultry and can wipe out entire flocks within a matter of days. HPAI is a threat to the poultry industry, animal health, human health, trade, and the economy worldwide. In the US, HPAI has now been detected in dairy cattle.

This Federal Order is issued in accordance with the regulatory authority provided by the Animal Health Protection Act, as amended, 7 U.S.C. § 8301 et seq. Section 8305 authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to prohibit or restrict the movement in interstate commerce of any animal, article, or means of conveyance if the Secretary determines that the prohibition or restriction is necessary to prevent the introduction of any pest or disease of livestock into the United States or the dissemination of any pest or disease of livestock within the United States. Section 8308 authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out operations and measures to detect, control, or eradicate any pest or disease of livestock. Section 8315 authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to issue orders as he determines necessary to carry out the Animal Health Protection Act. Should this Order be deemed a substantive rule, APHIS has determined that good cause exists to impose these requirements without notice and comment, as further delay would threaten to hasten the spread of the disease, multiplying the potential harm to livestock, poultry, the dairy industry, and, potentially, human health.

On February 8, 2022, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) confirmed HPAI H5N1 virus in a commercial poultry flock in the United States. Since February 2022, USDA has worked swiftly with states and poultry producers to identify and respond to over 1,100 HPAI detections on poultry farms and mitigate the virus' impact on U.S. poultry production and trade.

Since late March 2024, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Drug Administration, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, state veterinary and public health officials and the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) laboratories have been investigating the emergence of the HPAI, H5N1 virus in dairy cows. The National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) is a nationally coordinated network and partnership of Federal, State and university-associated animal diagnostic laboratories. The laboratories are trained and proficiency tested by USDA's National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) to perform official federal animal health testing; the network provides ongoing disease surveillance, responds quickly to disease events, communicates diagnostic outcomes to decision makers, and has the capability and capacity to meet diagnostic needs during animal disease outbreaks.

APHIS will provide reimbursement for testing at NAHLN labs, including samples submitted for (1) dairy cattle suspected of disease due to clinical signs, (2) pre-movement testing, (3) producers interested in the disease status of their asymptomatic animals, and (4) samples taken from other animals on dairies associated with this disease event.

As of April 24, 2024, USDA has confirmed HPAI H5N1 clade 2.3.4.4b virus detections on 33 dairy cattle premises in 8 states (Kansas, Idaho, Michigan, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, South Dakota, Texas). USDA has also confirmed - based on specific phylogenetic evidence and epidemiological information - that 8 poultry premises in 5 states (Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico and Texas) have also been infected with the same HPAI H5N1 virus genotype detected in dairy cattle. Additionally, APHIS' National

Veterinary Services Laboratories found HPAI in a lung tissue sample from an asymptomatic cull dairy cow that originated from an affected herd and which did not enter the food supply.

HPAI has already been recognized as a threat by USDA, and the interstate movement of animals infected with HPAI is already prohibited. See 9 C.F.R. 71.3(b). However, the detection of this new distinct HPAI H5N1 virus genotype in dairy cattle poses a new animal disease risk for dairy cattle - as well as an additional disease risk to domestic poultry farms - since this genotype can infect both cattle and poultry.

In order to continue to monitor and understand the extent of this virus and reduce the risk of further disseminating HPAI H5N1 virus, resulting in greater threats to poultry and livestock, this Federal Order requires the following measures, effective Monday, April 29, 2024.

Mandatory Testing for Interstate Movement of Dairy Cattle

- Prior to interstate movement, dairy cattle are required to receive a negative test for Influenza A virus at an approved National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) laboratory.
- Owners of herds in which dairy cattle test positive for interstate movement will be required to provide epidemiological information, including animal movement tracing.
- Dairy cattle moving interstate must adhere to conditions specified by APHIS.
- As will be described in forthcoming guidance, these steps will be immediately required for lactating dairy cattle, while these requirements for other classes of dairy cattle will be based on scientific factors concerning the virus and its evolving risk profile.

Mandatory Reporting

- Laboratories and state veterinarians must report positive Influenza A nucleic acid detection diagnostic results (e.g. PCR or genetic sequencing) in livestock to USDA APHIS.
- Laboratories and state veterinarians must report positive Influenza A serology diagnostic results in livestock to USDA APHIS.

For more information regarding this Federal Order go to HPAI Detections in Livestock Page.

Technical Notes: Clarification to Inquiries Received on April 24 Federal Order

May 7, 2024

On April 24, USDA announced a Federal Order (FO) as part of its ongoing efforts to protect the U.S. livestock industry from the threat posed by highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI or H5N1) in dairy cattle. The Federal Order (FO) requires mandatory testing prior to the interstate movement of lactating dairy cattle and mandatory reporting of positive influenza A test results in livestock. USDA is taking these actions to address any risks to animal health, public health, and the safety of our food supply.

H5N1 is a contagious viral disease of domestic poultry and wild birds. HPAI is deadly to domestic poultry and can wipe out entire flocks within a matter of days. HPAI is a threat to the poultry industry, animal health, trade, and the economy. While HPAI causes less severe illness in cattle than in poultry, the disease remains of concern for all livestock and also for humans who come into contact with infected animals.

The novel movement of H5N1 between wild birds and dairy cows requires further investigation and this FO is critical to increasing the information available for USDA. Requiring positive test reporting will help USDA better understand this disease and testing before interstate movement will limit its spread.

Questions on Definitions

"Herd" is defined as: any group of one or more animals maintained on common ground. Does this include cattle in a sale barn pen? How long do they have to be "maintained" to be a herd?

For the purposes of the FO, "herd" refers to herd of origin.

How does USDA define "lactating dairy cow"? Does FDA use the same definition?

Lactating: The requirements outlined within this guidance apply to the movement of dairy cows currently in one of the lactation phases (i.e., early, mid, and late) of their production cycle.
Dairy: The requirements outlined within this guidance apply to the movement of lactating cattle breeds raised for the primary purpose of milk production. The FDA definitions are here.

Questions on Authority and Enforcement

For states with existing movement orders, does the FO govern interstate movement, while the state order governs intrastate movement?

Interstate movements of lactating dairy cattle must follow the Federal requirements outlined in the guidance. Additionally, intrastate cattle movement is governed by state-specific guidance.

The FO implementing guidance allows for direct to slaughter non-clinical, lactating cattle to move across State lines to arrive at the slaughter facility. Does the FO apply or does the individual State requirement apply where the slaughter facility is located?

Both the federal order and state-specific guidance for moving cattle must be followed.

Clarification on General Movement and Documentation

Prior to interstate movement, lactating dairy cattle are required to receive a negative test for Influenza A virus at an approved National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) laboratory using an NAHLN approved assay.

The interstate movement of all lactating dairy cattle must be accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) per 9 CFR Part 86, Animal Disease Traceability. The destination/receiving state(s) will continue to use CVIs as a basis to track the interstate movement of lactating dairy cattle.

- All cattle on the CVI must have individual official identification.
- The individual official identification must be recorded on the CVI.
- The CVI must include a statement that the cattle are both free from, and have not been exposed to, a known contagious and infectious disease

Are there any exemptions for cattle moving interstate within a closed system, such as when cattle are not commingled with other herds?

No, per the FO all lactating dairy cattle must have both a negative test for Influenza A virus at an approved National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) laboratory using an NAHLN approved assay prior to interstate movement and a CVI, even those within a closed system.

How long is a CVI valid?

This is up to the State; however, the negative test result is valid for 7 days after sample collection. Animals need to move within that 7-day window unless they meet a specific exemption regardless of the length of validity of the CVI.

What documents may be used to move non-clinical lactating dairy cows interstate from unaffected herds?

Under the FO, non-clinical lactating dairy cattle moving interstate must move on a CVI.

Would lactating dairy cows moving interstate after being purchased need to be tested and have a CVI?

Yes, the animals would need a CVI and a negative test since the movement would be interstate and is not a direct to slaughter movement.

Animals moving interstate to an exhibition, show, or sale may pass the 7-day testing window; is it possible to skip additional testing to return to the first farm?

Animals moving interstate to an exhibition, show, or sale must have a negative test result from samples collected within 7 days of movement. These animals may travel to their home herd using the same negative test result provided the exhibition, show, or sale does not exceed 10 days of length.

Clarification on Cattle Moving to/through Livestock Markets

How should markets handle lactating dairy cows arriving from non-dairy sources (i.e., a third party may have previously bought them from a dairy)?

If lactating dairy cows were moved interstate to the market, they should arrive with a CVI and a negative test result. If they arrived intrastate, the FO would not apply and state regulations would have to be met.

Do commingled lactating dairy cattle from a market traveling interstate only have to test 30 animals prior to movement?

Yes, at least 30 animals from assembled groups/lots of 30 or more animals moving interstate together must be tested and accompanied by movement documentation, unless moving directly to slaughter for which testing is not required.

Clarification on Cattle Moving to Slaughter

- Non-clinical lactating dairy cattle moving interstate direct to slaughter are not required to have a pre-movement test but must move on a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection or other documentation of movement approved by the sending and receiving State Animal Health Officials and provided to the sending and receiving State Animal Health Officials.

- Clinical lactating dairy cattle are ineligible for interstate movement or movement to slaughter

What "other documentation of movement" besides a CVI could be approved by State Animal Health Officials (SAHOs) to allow non-clinical lactating dairy cattle to move to slaughter without pre-movement testing?

The SAHOs have developed and reached consensus on using an Owner/Shipper Statement for the interstate movement of lactating dairy cattle to slaughter in lieu of a CVI.

What documentation of movement should be used for lactating dairy cows moved interstate from an affected herd directly to a recognized slaughter establishment?

Once a herd has positive animals, all lactating animals must be held for 30 days. Any necessary movements during this time, including movements to slaughter, need to be specifically approved by APHIS and the SAHO. APHIS and the SAHO may approve non-clinical lactating dairy cows from an affected herd to move interstate directly to a recognized slaughter establishment; the movement would include documentation of movement approved by the sending and receiving SAHOs.

What flexibility will exist for moving cull dairy cows direct to slaughter or through no more than one federally approved livestock facility (auction market) and then to slaughter?

Non-clinical lactating dairy cattle moving interstate direct to slaughter are not required to have a pre-movement test but must move on a CVI or other documentation of movement approved by the sending and receiving SAHOs and provided to the sending and receiving SAHOs. However, other interstate movements, including to a federally approved livestock facility (auction market) require a

negative result from a pre-movement test in addition to the required movement documentation. See APHIS Requirements and clarification issued 4/26 and 4/27, respectively.

Can haulers go farm to farm to collect cows to put together loads for slaughter if the entire load is going direct to slaughter?

Yes, the assembling of a load going direct to slaughter would be allowed provided the animals have appropriate movement documentation; however, USDA recommends the utmost level of biosecurity be followed if this is being done.

Would lactating dairy cows moving interstate direct to slaughter after purchase by a slaughter buyer need to be tested, or just required to have a CVI?

Non-clinical lactating dairy cattle moving interstate direct to slaughter are not required to have a pre-movement test but must move on a CVI or other documentation of movement approved by the sending and receiving SAHOs and provided to the sending and receiving SAHOs. Provided the movement is direct to slaughter, testing is not required for animals leaving a market or a buying station. Further, intrastate movements would not be subject to the FO, but state requirements should be followed.

For movements to slaughter from out of country, do they need to follow the same requirements as those for interstate movement?

The FO does not apply to animals imported from Canada or Mexico (or any other country).

Can non-clinical lactating dairy cows moving interstate direct to slaughter on a CVI be identified with backtags instead of an official ID?

Yes, because this is the only movement where official ID is not required to be recorded on the movement documentation.

Can backtags be used as official ID listed on the documentation of movement for the interstate movement of lactating dairy cows moving directly to slaughter?

USDA approved backtags are not considered official ID under any circumstances in the Animal Disease Traceability (ADT) rule (9 CFR Part 86) and cannot be used as the official ID listed on CVIs for the interstate movement of sexually intact dairy cattle of any age.

When can backtags be used for the interstate movement of lactating dairy cows directly to slaughter?

USDA approved backtags may be used in lieu of individual official ID for lactating dairy cows without existing individual official ID when moving interstate directly to slaughter and accompanied by an approved documentation of movement.

Can non-clinical lactating dairy cows moving interstate from an approved livestock facility directly to slaughter on a CVI be identified with backtags instead of official ID?

Yes, because this is the only movement where official ID is not required to be recorded on the movement documentation.

Clarification on HPAI Test Positive Animals/Herds

- Lactating dairy cattle from herds which have tested positive for Influenza A are not eligible for interstate movement for thirty (30) days from the most recent collection of any sample that tests positive from any individual animal in the herd. After the 30-day period, animals must be tested again for movement.
- If there are specific circumstances for isolating test-positive cattle and moving to another premises across state lines, this would need to be discussed and agreed upon with the respective State Animal Health Officials and APHIS.

When a lactating dairy cattle herd tests positive for Influenza A, will all other surrounding farms also need to be tested?

At this time, only the lactating dairy cattle from herds which have tested positive for Influenza A are not eligible for movement; surrounding farms are not required to be tested.

Is a positive herd quarantined for all lactating cow movements for 30-days?

Quarantine authority lies with the individual State in which the herd is located; producers should review any State quarantine restrictions; however, lactating dairy cattle from affected herds are not eligible for interstate movement for 30 days from the most recent collection of any sample that tests positive from any individual animal in the herd.

If the representative test (i.e., the 30 cows) indicates a positive animal along with negatives, do remaining animals need to be tested before movement or do all lactating dairy cows have to wait for 30 days to move?

All lactating dairy cows would need to wait to move interstate for 30 days, although movement under specific circumstances may be discussed and agreed upon with the respective SAHOs and APHIS.

Are cattle from a positive herd eligible for slaughter-bound movement?

When a herd is identified as affected/positive, APHIS and the SAHO will work with the herd owner to identify conditions and circumstances that may allow for movements of slaughter-bound cattle out of affected herds. These movements will still require (at a minimum) that the cattle be moved on a CVI or other documentation of movement approved by the sending and receiving SAHOs.

Clarification about Laboratory Testing

Samples for interstate pre-movement testing need to be submitted to an approved National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) Laboratory for testing. NAHLN laboratories will conduct NAHLN-approved PCR testing: FluA matrix, H5 and optionally 2.3.4.4b. Please see HPAI Livestock Testing Recommendations for details.

Will USDA pay for pre-movement testing?

Yes. The FO requires all pre-movement testing to be conducted at a NAHLN laboratory; this testing will be conducted at no cost to the producer. USDA will reimburse for Influenza A testing at NAHLN

laboratories associated with this event for pre-movement and voluntary submissions. See HPAI Livestock Testing Recommendations for details.

Is there funding available to support NAHLN labs with testing capacities, such as labor, equipment, etc. to handle this load of testing?

Funding is available to support the testing costs at NAHLN laboratories; the other laboratory costs are not reimbursable at this time.

Will USDA be reimbursing for testing at private labs?

No, funding is only provided for testing at NAHLN laboratories.

What is the status of validating serological testing for HPAI in dairy cattle?

This validation is ongoing.

What validated tests are available for this testing other than PCR?

At this time, USDA is only using PCR for the official pre-movement testing; however, APHIS is working rapidly to validate other assays.

Has USDA considered a bulk milk test in lieu of individual animal testing?

We are currently working to validate bulk tank milk as a sample.

Is it possible to balance testing capacity by allowing other federal or state labs to run the tests?

We have activated the NAHLN laboratories, which will provide for samples to be forwarded to other laboratories in the network to balance capacity.

To further clarify the "all livestock" for Influenza A matrix testing and reporting, would all non-negative AI Matrix tests by non-NAHLN labs within the state be routed to NAHLN labs for repeat testing in cattle?

Yes, for cattle.

Miscellaneous Questions

Who should State Vets be contacting with questions?

Please contact USDA APHIS VS Area Veterinarians in Charge (AVICs) for questions; contact information here.

Who can collect individual samples?

Samples are to be collected by an accredited veterinarian, or a state licensed veterinarian, or a sample collector approved by the appropriate state animal health official. Designated individuals on production sites can be trained to collect milk samples and nasal swab samples for diagnostic testing. All individuals coming onto the farm should follow strict biosecurity practices. Please see APHIS Requirements and Recommendations.

Incubation period in poultry is 14 days, how long is incubation period in bovine?

USDA continues to gather epidemiological information, perform diagnostic testing, and conduct field and laboratory pathogenesis and transmission studies to better understand the virus in cattle, including the incubation period in cattle.

Will there be restrictions on shipping or processing milk from herds that have a non-negative test?

Not at this time. However, the FDA recommends producers discard milk from symptomatic cows.

Is there any concern over other lactating ruminants such as dairy goats and sheep being affected by Influenza A?

We do not have any reports that other lactating ruminants have been affected. We will continue to monitor and per the FO, will be notified of any positive cases.

Are there any activities working toward possible vaccination?

On May 3, 2024, APHIS's Center for Veterinary Biologics released a request for information (RFI) to gather additional information from interested manufacturers on their capability to develop, license or permit, and manufacture a safe and effective vaccine to U.S. standards for use in cattle targeting HPAI. This RFI is open until May 17 and is intended to obtain an indication of interest and capability information from those interested sources. The RFI is for preliminary market research. The RFI is not a solicitation and does not constitute a request for proposals. USDA is taking this action to better understand options for sourcing these critical products to support efforts to eliminate H5N1 in dairy cattle.

Please note: This situation is evolving rapidly; this is guidance is subject to change. Check back frequently for updated versions. The intended audience for this document is State Animal Health Officials, Accredited Veterinarians and Producers

APHIS Requirements and Recommendations for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) H5N1 Virus in Livestock For State Animal Health Officials, Accredited Veterinarians and Producers
May 14, 2024

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Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza A (HPAI) H5N1 virus is an emerging disease in cattle. Federal and State agencies are moving quickly to conduct additional testing for HPAI (H5N1) virus, including viral genome sequencing to provide a better understanding of the situation to characterize the HPAI (H5N1) virus strain or strains associated with these detections as well as other components of this disease event at the connection between animals, people, and the environment. The genetic and epidemiological data indicate spillover of the virus from wild birds to dairy cows and some instances of spread from dairy to dairy and from dairy premises to poultry premises. Based on this analysis, we have learned that the whole genome sequence for virus found in positive herds in 8 states and on two recent commercial poultry premises in two different states indicates it is the same strain affecting both dairy cattle and poultry. While it is still unclear exactly how virus is spreading, the virus is shed in milk at high concentrations; therefore, anything that comes in contact with unpasteurized raw milk, spilled milk, etc. may spread the virus including other animals, vehicles, and other objects or materials. Therefore, both dairy and poultry producers should re-double biosecurity efforts and be vigilant about monitoring for and controlling disease in their herds and flocks.

Additionally, in order to continue to monitor and understand the extent of this virus and reduce the risk of further spread of HPAI H5N1, resulting in greater threats to poultry and livestock, APHIS issued a Federal Order on April 24, 2024 that requires premovement testing for lactating dairy cattle moving interstate and reporting of positive test results from all laboratories and State Animal Health Officials (SAHO). This document outlines both the interstate movement requirements, as well as APHIS recommendations to limit the spread. Updated laboratory guidance, including details on required reporting, are located on the APHIS website.

Our goal is to safeguard the health of U.S. livestock and poultry, protect the industry, keep our food supply safe, and protect public health and human safety based on the most up-to-date information we have. We continue to work diligently to understand the risk factors associated with this virus, transmission routes, and pathogenicity in cattle. This continues to be a rapidly evolving situation. USDA and Federal and State partners will continue to share additional updates as soon as information becomes available.

Scope and Definitions

Per the Federal Order, these steps are immediately required for lactating dairy cattle. Any requirements for other classes of dairy cattle, or expansion beyond dairy cattle, will be based on scientific factors concerning the virus and its evolving risk profile.

Definitions used in this document:

- Cattle – The requirements outlined within this guidance apply to the movement of members of the Family: Bovidae; Subfamily: bovinae; Genus: *Bos*; Species: *Bos taurus* and *Bos indicus*.
- Lactating – The requirements outlined within this guidance apply to the movement of dairy cows currently in one of the lactation phases (i.e., early, mid, and late) of their current production cycle.
- Dairy – The requirements outlined within this guidance apply to the movement of lactating cattle breeds raised for the primary purpose of milk production.
- Nonlactating – Nonlactating cattle include: heifers, dry cows, and bull calves.
- Affected herd – Any dairy cattle herd with suspect, presumptive, or confirmed positive cattle cases present as defined in the case definition, or exposed cattle present.
- Exposed cattle – Any cattle that have been on the same premises as an affected herd within the

last 30 days (which is roughly equivalent to two incubation periods of influenza in other species; we currently have studies underway in cattle to better determine) and/or are epidemiologically connected.
- Herd – Any group of one or more animals maintained on common ground

Clinical Signs in Dairy Cattle

See the case definition for a complete description. Briefly, dairy cattle may experience a sudden drop in feed intake; a marked drop in herd level milk production with some more severely affected cows having thickened milk or may have essentially no milk; subsequent acute drop in milk production; and respiratory signs including clear nasal discharge.

APHIS Requirements for Interstate Movement of Cattle

Interstate movements of lactating dairy cattle must follow the Federal requirements outlined below. Additionally, state-specific guidance for moving cattle must be followed. Clinical lactating dairy cattle are ineligible for interstate movement or movement to slaughter.

Nonlactating dairy cattle – including heifers, dry cows, and bull calves – are not currently subject to testing for interstate movement due to their risk profile.

Prior to interstate movement, lactating dairy cattle **are required to receive a negative test for Influenza A virus** at an approved National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) laboratory using an NAHLN approved assay.

Sample Collection and Testing for Interstate Premovement Testing of Lactating Dairy Cattle

- Samples are to be collected by an accredited veterinarian, or a state licensed veterinarian, or a sample collector approved by the appropriate state animal health official. Designated individuals on production sites can be trained to collect milk samples and nasal swab samples for diagnostic testing.
- Samples must be collected under the supervision of a licensed or accredited veterinarian or as determined by the respective State Animal Health Official.
- Milk samples: Samples to be collected include milk/udder secretions from individual cows. Each quarter is sampled and combined into one sample for submission to the laboratory. Submissions must be between 3-10 ml of milk per animal.
    - Pooling of milk samples can be done only at the laboratory.
- For groups/lots of 30 or fewer animals moving interstate, all animals being moved must be tested. If more than 30 animals are moving interstate, then only 30 animals total must be tested.
- Sample collection and testing must take place no more than seven (7) days prior to interstate movement.
- Samples for interstate premovement testing need to be submitted to an approved National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) Laboratory for testing. NAHLN laboratories will conduct NAHLN-approved PCR testing: FluA matrix, H5 and optionally 2.3.4.4b. Please see HPAI Livestock Testing Recommendations for details.

- APHIS will reimburse for all interstate premovement testing at NAHLN laboratories; therefore, this testing at NAHLN laboratories will be completed at no cost to the producer/submitter.
- At this time, APHIS is not reimbursing for sample collection or shipping.

For Cattle with Positive HPAI Test Results

- Lactating dairy cattle from herds which have tested positive for Influenza A are not eligible for interstate movement for thirty (30) days from the most recent collection of **any sample that tests positive from any individual animal in the herd.** After the 30-day period, animals must be tested again for movement.
- If there are specific circumstances for isolating test-positive cattle and moving to another premises across state lines, this would need to be discussed and agreed upon with the respective State Animal Health Officials and APHIS.

Cattle Moved Directly to Slaughter

- Nonclinical lactating dairy cattle moving interstate direct to slaughter are not required to have a premovement test but must move on a certificate of veterinary inspection or other documentation of movement approved by the sending and receiving state animal health officials and provided to the sending and receiving state animal health officials.
- Clinical lactating dairy cattle are ineligible for interstate movement or movement to slaughter.

Certificates of Veterinary Inspection

The interstate movement of all lactating dairy cattle **must be accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) per 9 CFR Part 86,** Animal Disease Traceability. The destination/receiving state(s) will continue to use CVIs as a basis to track the interstate movement of lactating dairy cattle.

- All cattle on the CVI must have individual official identification.
- The individual official identification must be recorded on the CVI.
- The CVI must include a statement that the cattle are both free from, and have not been exposed to, a known contagious and infectious disease.

Exhibition/Show Dairy Cattle

Requirements above for premovement testing and CVIs apply to dairy cattle moving interstate to exhibitions/shows. Animals moving interstate to an exhibition, show, or sale must have a negative test result from samples collected within 7 days of movement. These animals may travel to their home herd using the same negative test result provided the exhibition, show, or sale does not exceed 10 days of length. See also Recommendations to Minimize Influenza Transmission at Dairy Cattle Livestock Exhibitions.

APHIS Recommendations

Additional detailed actions are provided later in this document, subject to updates as information is gathered.

Cattle Movement Recommendations. In addition to the interstate movement requirements above, APHIS provides the following recommendations.

- APHIS strongly recommends minimizing movement of cattle as much as possible, with special

attention to evaluating risk and factoring that risk into movement decisions.

- If you have any animals with clinical signs on the premises, do not move animals off the premises.
- All animals that move on/off a premises should be isolated for 30 days to prevent the spread of disease.
- If cattle must be moved, we strongly encourage extreme diligence by producers, veterinarians, and States to ensure only healthy cattle are moving and to ensure the validity of interstate health certificates. APHIS stands ready to assist SAHOs with developing language for interstate certificates of veterinary inspection, as needed.
- APHIS recommends premovement testing of non-lactating cattle as well. This testing at NAHLN laboratories will be completed at no cost to the producer. Additional recommendations for testing can be found here.
- State-specific guidance for moving cattle will also need to be followed.
- APHIS scientists are working to establish testing protocols, rapidly assessing currently available tests and test performance including sample types to better understand the characteristics; based on this analysis, we may recommend testing for other classes of cattle beyond lactating dairy cows in the future.
- SAHOs should consider adopting the federal testing and movement requirements described above for intrastate movements of lactating dairy cattle to exhibitions or shows.

Biosecurity. Producers should implement enhanced biosecurity practices for keeping disease off farms and controlling disease spread on the farm. The Secure Milk Supply Plan is a collaborative initiative among the dairy industry, USDA, State officials and three universities. The Secure Milk Supply website offers comprehensive materials on dairy biosecurity practices, including posters and information sheets in English and Spanish. Additional biosecurity resources can be found at the following links below:

- Biosecurity - National Dairy FARM Program
- Biosecurity for dairy operations | TAMU
- Biosecurity for cattle operations | UMN Extension
- Farm Biosecurity - CFSPH (iastate.edu)

APHIS Recommendations for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) H5N1 Virus in Livestock for State Animal Health Officials, Accredited Veterinarians and Producers:

- **Monitoring for Sick Animals**. Producers should monitor herds closely for cattle with clinical signs of disease.
- **Movement of Cattle**. Movement of cattle should be minimized; movement of cattle should be focused on preventing movement of disease.
- **Vehicles, Equipment, and People on the Farm.** Producers should limit the movement of vehicles and visitors on and off livestock and poultry premises and establish dedicated routes for vehicles that do come onto the premises.
- **Wildlife Management**. Producers should monitor and report any odd behaviors and die offs in domestic and wild animals immediately.
- **Dairy Cattle Shows**. Organizers and exhibitors should practice strict biosecurity practices for animals and equipment to include frequent cleaning and disinfecting all equipment, avoiding contact with other animals, isolating animals and observing for illness upon return from shows.

Disposal of Deceased Birds, Cats, and Other Small Animals

- Producers should wear disposable gloves when handling any carcasses of birds or animals found on the farm.
- If there has been any potential human or animal exposure to rabies, contact your local health department for instructions; any cats that demonstrate neurologic signs should be submitted to the local public health laboratory for rabies testing.
- Producers should work with their veterinarian to submit dead birds and cats to a NAHLN laboratory for influenza testing.
- If dead cats cannot be submitted for rabies or influenza testing, thoroughly spray carcass with Virkon or equivalent disinfectant, double-bag and dispose in accordance with local and State laws. See AVMA guidelines or consult a veterinarian for animal carcass disposal practices.

Milk Safety. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recommends special attention to raw milk safety and handling practices for discarded milk. Additional resources available at Questions and Answers Regarding Milk Safety During Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) Outbreaks | FDA.

- **Safety of Feeding Waste or Discarded Milk to Animals.** The FDA recommends producers discard milk from symptomatic cows. Young calves are susceptible to disease and disease-causing pathogens can be transmitted through raw milk. If milk from cows showing symptoms of illness, including those infected with HPAI A (H5N1), cannot be discarded and is intended to be used to feed calves (or other animals, such as farm cats), the FDA strongly encourages that it be heat treated to kill harmful bacteria or viruses, such as influenza, before calf feeding. This heat treatment should be similar to times and temperatures commonly found in commercial milk pasteurization processing.
- **Safety of Unpasteurized Milk and Dairy Products for Human Consumption.** Raw milk and raw milk dairy products should not be sold or distributed for human consumption.
- **Disposal of Discarded Milk.** Disposal of milk should be handled in such a way as to prevent exposure to other animals. The FDA recommends producers take precautions when discarding milk from affected cows so that the discarded milk does not become a source of further spread. Producers should consult with their state regulatory authorities for specific recommendations or requirements, however, such precautions could include heat-treatment or pasteurization of discarded milk prior to dumping in lagoons or application of waste solids and ensuring biosecurity around lagoons (e.g., ensuring that animals and birds do not have access to lagoons).
- **Segregation of Milk from Infected Lactating Cows**: Maximal care should be taken to segregate lactating cows known to be actively infected with H5N1 so their milk does not enter the food supply, consistent with the *Pasteurized Milk Ordinance*.

One Health: Agriculture and Public Health Collaboration. Monitoring farmers and farm workers with exposure to infected cattle is important to human and animal health. APHIS will continue to share information from their investigations as they coordinate with CDC, as has been standard procedure with influenza in poultry and swine. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is working with state and local health departments to continue to monitor workers who may have been in contact with infected or potentially infected animals and test those people who develop symptoms.

People exposed to HPAI A (H5N1)-infected cattle, birds, or other animals (including people wearing recommended PPE) should be monitored daily for signs and symptoms of acute respiratory illness

beginning after their first exposure and for 10 days after their last exposure. Farms with HPAI-positive herds should implement farm-administered daily active monitoring using a simple symptom survey, that CDC provides to state and local public health agencies and that can also be made available directly to farmers.

On a daily basis, farms should share the aggregate number of staff who may have been exposed to infected cattle or other animals and are now being monitored for symptoms to a local public health department to a local public health department to maintain awareness of possible spillover infection.

Symptomatic persons should be referred to local public health for prompt medical evaluation, testing, and treatment, such as initiation of antiviral treatment with oseltamivir (Tamiflu) as soon as possible. Additional information related to public health monitoring and preventing exposures to H5N1 are available on CDC's website.

People should take steps to reduce the risk of infection with avian influenza A viruses associated with working with animals or materials like raw milk. Farms should follow CDC's guidance for workers, including the use of personal protective equipment to minimize the risk of on farm HPAI transmission. These recommendations and additional information can be found at the links below:

- Recommendations for Worker Protection and Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to Reduce Exposure to Novel Influenza A Viruses Associated with Severe Disease in Humans | Avian Influenza (Flu) (cdc.gov)
- Prevention and Antiviral Treatment of Bird Flu Viruses in People | Avian Influenza (Flu) (cdc.gov)

Producers with positive herds are encouraged to collaborate with local and state public health agencies, for example, permitting public health access conduct on-farm activities. Human and animal health experts have a pressing need to better understand the spread of H5N1 and how the virus manifests and might impact both animal and human health. There is no substitute for capturing real-time information from farmers and farmworkers who are or have experienced symptoms through surveys and monitoring of key health indicators. Willing producers and farmworkers should contact their local public health agency.

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

DR. TIM BORING
DIRECTOR

Determination of Extraordinary Emergency
HPAI Risk Reduction & Response
May 1, 2024

The Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD), pursuant to authority under Section 3a of the Animal Industry Act, Public Act 466 of 1988, as amended, MCL 287.703a, hereby determines that a delayed response to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in cattle and poultry, a reportable animal disease and condition in animals, will cause a significant impact on animals, Michigan's animal industry, and potentially the public health.

Since MDARD detected HPAI in dairy cattle in Michigan on March 29, 2024, MDARD has identified additional dairy herds as well as commercial poultry flocks that have tested positive for the disease in 7 counties. HPAI is highly transmissible between birds. Spread among dairy operations is not fully understood.

To control and prevent the continued spread of HPAI in Michigan, effective Wednesday, May 8, 2024, the following requirements are in place through this scientifically based extraordinary emergency order:

- All Michigan dairy farms, as well as poultry operations considered commercial by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) must develop and implement biosecurity practices that include:
    - Designation of a biosecurity manager.
    - Designation of a line of separation to represent the perimeter of a secure area, limiting access points.
    - Establishment of cleaning and disinfection practices and procedures at those access points for both vehicles and individuals. This must include deliveries of feed and other supplies, and training for employees.
    - Establishment of a log book maintaining a record of all vehicles and of individuals who have gotten out of vehicles and crossed those access points, to be retained and made available for examination upon request by MDARD.
- All lactating dairy cattle, and those in the last two months of pregnancy, are prohibited from being exhibited until there are no new cases of HPAI in dairy

cattle in the State of Michigan for at least 60 consecutive days. No dairy cattle of any age from an infected premises may be exhibited until further notice.

- All exhibitions or expositions of poultry are prohibited until such time that there are no new cases of HPAI in domestic poultry in the State of Michigan for at least 30 consecutive days. As defined in the Animal Industry Act, "poultry" means, but is not limited to, chickens, guinea fowl, turkeys, waterfowl, pigeons, doves, peafowl, and game birds that are propagated and maintained under the husbandry of humans (MCL 287.703(iii)).

For purposes of this order, poultry flocks considered "commercial" by APHIS:

- ≥ 75,000 table egg layers
- ≥ 100,000 broilers raised annually
- ≥ 5,000 breeder poultry
- ≥ 30,000 turkeys raised annually
- ≥ 50,000 gamebirds or waterfowl raised annually for meat or eggs.

This order does not extend to permanent poultry exhibits in venues such as zoos.

This order does not extend to racing pigeons if the following criteria are met:

1. Only lofts certified by the American Racing Pigeon Union may race.
2. Each certified loft must have a premises identification number.
3. For each event - a list of participants will be provided to the State Veterinarian within 72 hours after the event.
4. The American Racing Pigeon Union must provide a current list of Michigan certified lofts to the State Veterinarian and as changes are made.
5. Crates used for transporting pigeons can only have pigeons from one loft within a crate.
6. Vehicle and crates used to transport pigeons must be clean and disinfected after transporting the birds.

It is recommended racing pigeons do not fly over the counties of Allegan, Barry, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Gratiot, Huron, Ingham, Ionia, Kent, Lenawee, Muskegon, Newaygo, Ottawa, St. Joseph, and Tuscola.

Tim Boring
Director

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

DR. TIM BORING
DIRECTOR

MDARD Requirements and Recommendations for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in Dairy and Poultry for Animal Health Officials, Veterinarians, and Producers

May 3, 2024

This document outlines further information on required enhanced biosecurity requirements for both dairy and poultry operations in Michigan in response to this HPAI outbreak.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) issued the "HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order" Determination of Extraordinary Emergency on May 1, 2024, to control and prevent the continued spread of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI). HPAI is a contagious viral disease of domestic poultry and wild birds and is deadly to domestic poultry and can wipe out entire flocks within a matter of days. HPAI is a threat to the poultry industry, animal health, human health, trade, and the economy worldwide. In the United States, including in Michigan, HPAI has now been detected in dairy cattle.
Since MDARD detected HPAI in dairy cattle in Michigan on March 29, 2024, MDARD has identified additional dairy herds, as well as commercial poultry flocks that have tested positive for the disease in multiple counties.

Federal and state agencies are moving quickly to conduct additional testing for HPAI virus, including viral genome sequencing to provide a better understanding of the situation to characterize the HPAI virus strain or strains associated with these detections as well as other components of this disease event at the connection between animals, people, and the environment. The genetic and epidemiological data indicate spillover of the virus from wild birds to dairy cows and some instances of spread from dairy to dairy and from dairy premises to poultry premises. Based on analysis at the time of this guidance, the whole genome sequence for virus found in positive herds in nine states and on two recent commercial poultry premises in two different states indicates it is the same strain affecting both dairy cattle and poultry. While it is still unclear exactly how the virus is spreading, the virus is shed in milk at high concentrations; therefore, anything that comes in contact with unpasteurized raw milk, spilled milk, etc., may spread the virus including other animals, vehicles, and other objects or materials. Therefore, both dairy and poultry producers should redouble biosecurity efforts and be vigilant about monitoring for and controlling disease in their herds and flocks.

To continue monitoring and understanding the extent of this virus and reduce the risk of further spread of HPAI, APHIS issued a Federal Order on April 24, 2024 that requires pre-movement testing for lactating dairy cattle moving interstate and reporting of positive test results from all laboratories and State Animal Health Officials (SAHO). Further guidance and recommendations from APHIS on that order can be found here.

Definitions of terms used in this document:

Visitor: Any individual, who in this context, arrives at a dairy or poultry operation with the intention of entering the operation facilities. This includes but is not limited to employees, owners and family members, delivery personnel, and any guests.

Personal protective equipment (PPE): equipment worn to minimize exposure to a variety of hazards. Examples of PPE include gloves, face masks, rubber boots, shoe covers, eye protection, and full-body coverall suits. PPE can be either disposable or reusable. In this context, PPE is necessary to help reduce the possibility of transferring infectious disease between facilities, or from vehicles into an operation.

Dairy: lactating cattle breeds raised for the primary purpose of milk production.

Lactating: dairy cows currently in one of the lactation phases (i.e., early, mid, and late) of their current production cycle.

Vehicle: any motor-operated mode of transport. This could include personal vehicles, farm trucks, farm equipment and tractors, veterinary trucks, milk haulers, service and delivery trucks such as feed, propane, etc.

Determination of Extraordinary Emergency Order on May 1, 2024

To control and prevent the continued spread of HPAI in Michigan, effective Wednesday, May 8, 2024, the following requirements are in place through this scientifically based extraordinary emergency order:

- All Michigan dairy farms, as well as poultry operations considered commercial by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service must develop and implement biosecurity plans that include:
    - Designation of a biosecurity manager
    - Designation of a line of separation to represent the perimeter of a secure area, limiting access points.
    - Establishment of cleaning and disinfection practices and procedures at those access points for both vehicles and individuals. This must include deliveries of feed and other supplies, and training for employees.
    - Establishment of a logbook maintaining a record of all vehicles and of individuals who have gotten out of vehicles and crossed those access points, to be retained and made available for examination upon request by MDARD.

- All lactating dairy cattle, and those in the last two months of pregnancy, are prohibited from being exhibited until there are no new cases of HPAI in dairy cattle in the State of Michigan for at least 60 consecutive days. No dairy cattle of any age from an infected premises may be exhibited until further notice.

- All exhibitions or expositions of poultry are prohibited until such time that there are no new cases of HPAI in domestic poultry in the State of Michigan for at least 30 consecutive days. As defined in the Animal Industry Act, "poultry" means, but is not limited to, chickens, guinea fowl, turkeys, waterfowl, pigeons, doves, peafowl, and game birds that are propagated and maintained under the husbandry of humans (MCL 287.703(iii)).

Designation of a Biosecurity Manager

A biosecurity manager is an on-site individual familiar with the operation that can be responsible for the implementation of biosecurity practices, training of personnel and visitors, and someone to serve as a point of contact for biosecurity matters for outside agencies. Contact information will be made readily available to MDARD upon request and in this context includes full name, best phone number, email address, employer, and employer address. This designated person will oversee all biosecurity measures for their operation and be involved in implementing the requirements in the HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order.

Designation of a Line of Separation, Limiting Access Points

A line of separation (LOS) creates a functional zone with a distinguishable perimeter that includes business critical areas of the dairy or poultry operation within it. This will look different for every operation but for some operations the LOS perimeter may extend all the way to the property line depending on the facility layout. Some operations with more open space or areas not considered business critical such as housing, other businesses, long-term equipment storage, non-utilized space, fields, etc., may choose to shrink the LOS to a smaller more manageable area. The LOS separates the business-critical areas from areas unrelated to dairy or poultry production on that site or adjoining properties.

The LOS interior is comprised of all essential operation structures and high traffic areas involved in the daily function of the dairy or poultry operation. This would usually include, but may not be limited to, animal housing areas, animal movement pathways, traffic pathways, milking barn/parlor, manure storage, feed storage, calf housing, equipment storage, medical supplies, generators, pump rooms, etc. The LOS interior, from a viral and biosecurity standpoint, is considered the cleanest location on the premises and should be protected from the areas outside the LOS considered "dirty."

The LOS perimeter should be visibly marked with proper signage and could consist of a physical barrier to prevent access, except through designated LOS access points. At a minimum, the LOS should be documented and visibly clear in biosecurity plans and visibly clear to those crossing it. All access points into or out of the interior area should be secured.

Once the LOS is established, movement into and out of the secure area should be limited to only necessary movement. Necessary employees, vendors, and visitors must be trained on and follow procedures for entering the LOS. People, vehicles, and items moving through LOS access points must follow specific biosecurity steps (see *Cleaning and Disinfecting Practices and Procedures*

below). Non-essential deliveries or pick-ups that do not need to cross the LOS should leave or pick up their delivery outside of the LOS in a designated area/designated parking area.

Cleaning and Disinfecting Practices and Procedures

Cleaning and disinfection (C&D) are physical or chemical processes to kill or remove microorganisms and are vital for disease eradication efforts. This is generally a two-step process involving cleaning to remove debris, followed by the use of a disinfectant to kill remaining microorganisms. Note: when using any C&D product, follow directions and safety precautions on the label.

The LOS access point must contain a C&D station with the means to remove visible debris and then disinfect vehicles, equipment, and items needing to cross the LOS, using any disinfectant that is commercially available, site-relevant, and rated to address influenza A viruses. The C&D station can also include a personal protective equipment (PPE) area, trash bin for PPE disposal, footwear disinfection station, hand sanitization station, and visitor logbook (see below for specific guidance on logbooks). Crossing the LOS requires at a minimum a change of PPE, use of footbath/spray down, and use of hand sanitizer or hand washing. The C&D station should be operated and maintained by individuals (i.e. the biosecurity manager) who have received training in the proper use of PPE and the principles of C&D.

Vehicles: Vehicles should be cleaned between visits to animal production facilities. It is best to clean the vehicle upon leaving one operation and if possible, prior to entering the next. Cleaning should include the tires and interior cab floor mats if the vehicle crosses the LOS and the occupant(s) exited the vehicle. Commercial car washes with wheel well washing provide adequate exterior cleaning. In some situations, tire sprays may be needed.

Equipment: Keep all equipment clean. If at all possible, use disposable equipment or disinfect all equipment prior to entering and leaving the operation property. Even if equipment did not appear to come into contact with animals or their secretions, disease agents may still be present on equipment that crossed the LOS through environmental contamination. Clean and disinfect all equipment before taking it off the premises. Limit movement and sharing of equipment and people between any other dairy, livestock, or poultry operations.

People, Hands: Provide hand-washing stations and encourage use; provide disposable gloves and encourage use. Thoroughly wash hands with antibacterial soap when entering and leaving LOS access points. Wearing disposable gloves is not always a substitute for hand washing; best practices suggest hands should be washed even if gloves are worn.

General: It is recommended to use trailers to transport only your own livestock; disinfect trailer interiors that were used to haul cattle, especially if the cattle were from other operations with unknown health status. Do not allow visitors or drivers access to animal housing, animals, or raw milk products to be fed to calves due to high viral load. Avoid walking through known

contaminated areas; avoid direct contact with contaminated animals, items, surfaces and vehicles; and do not carry personal items (e.g., cigarettes, gum, food, drink, etc.) into any known contaminated areas.

Establishment of a Logbook

Every person crossing the LOS on foot or exiting their vehicle inside the LOS must complete an entry in the logbook. The logbook should be monitored and maintained by the biosecurity manager to ensure accurate completion. Information recorded for each entry should include:

- Date, and entry and departure times.
- Names and contact information of people crossing the LOS (if they exit their vehicle or are on foot).
- The general purpose for crossing.
- Additional information recorded for each entry could include any materials, products, or equipment that accompanied the entry.
- If certain farm services already maintain a logbook at the operation (i.e. milk haulers), they do not have to create duplicative logbook entries. However, that record must be available to MDARD upon request.

For more information on biosecurity:

The Secure Milk Supply Plan is a collaborative initiative among the dairy industry, USDA, State officials and three universities. The Secure Milk Supply website offers comprehensive materials on dairy biosecurity practices, including posters and information sheets in English and Spanish.

Additional biosecurity resources can be found at the following links:

- For detailed examples of biosecurity checklists, logbook examples and templates, and information on how to establish and operate a C&D station:
  - Biosecurity Forms - CFSPH (iastate.edu)
- For useful photo examples for establishing the LOS:
  - CA Dairy Farm Enhanced Biosecurity Plan Manual
  - Enhanced-Biosecurity-Prep-Guide-1.pdf (nationaldairyfarm.com)
- Biosecurity - National Dairy FARM Program
- Biosecurity for cattle operations | UMN Extension
- Defend the Flock – USDA Biosecurity for Poultry
- A list of EPA-registered disinfectants can be found here.

Additional information can also be found at Michigan.gov/BirdFlu. For additional questions, please contact the MDARD Customer Service Center at 1-800-292-3939 (Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm (EST) or email at MDA-info@michigan.gov.

GRETCHEN WHITMER
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STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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DR. TIM BORING
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MDARD Requirements and Recommendations for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in Dairy and Poultry for Animal Health Officials, Veterinarians, and Producers

May 10, 2024

This document contains frequently asked questions for required enhanced biosecurity in Michigan as part of the HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) issued the "HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order" Determination of Extraordinary Emergency on May 1, 2024, to control and prevent the spread of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), effective Wednesday, May 8, 2024. MDARD released further guidance on the order on May 3, 2024. Below are some frequently asked questions (FAQs) related to the order and guidance document. Additional information can also be found at Michigan.gov/BirdFlu. For further questions, please contact the MDARD Customer Service Center at 1-800-292-3939 (Monday through Friday from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., EST) or email at MDA-info@michigan.gov.

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. **When does the order go into effect and when does it end?**

   The HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order went into effect May 8, 2024. Pursuant to provisions in the Animal Industry Act, Declarations of Extraordinary Emergencies may stand in place for a maximum of six months. This disease outbreak continues to be an evolving situation and MDARD intends to revise guidance using the best available science as warranted, including rescinding portions or the entity of the Order, or implementing additional protective measures through other provisions in the Animal Industry Act. All exhibitions or expositions of poultry are prohibited until such time that there are no new cases of HPAI in domestic poultry in the State of Michigan for at least 30 consecutive days. All lactating dairy cattle, and those in the last two months of pregnancy, are prohibited from being exhibited until there are no new cases of HPAI in dairy cattle in the State of Michigan for at least 60 consecutive days.

2. **Does this order apply to the whole state or only affected counties?**

   The HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order applies to the entire state of Michigan.

3. **What is a Line of Separation (LOS) and does it need to include my whole property?**
   The LOS is a functional perimeter separating animals and critical operation areas on the inside from potential outside disease exposure. The LOS should isolate essential operation structures, such as livestock barns and milking parlors, from high traffic areas involved in the

daily function of the operation. The LOS should be designed to limit as much personal and vehicle crossing as possible, but where that traffic must occur, funnel crossing through controlled access points where cleaning and disinfecting can occur. This will look different for every farm. The LOS could be as close as a few feet surrounding the production facilities, rather than the entire operation perimeter. As part of each farm's analysis, think about the LOS as the line of defense to keep the disease out.

4. **Do I need to wash my entire vehicle, inside and out, every time I drive across the line of separation (LOS)?**

   No. If a vehicle crosses the LOS, cleaning should primarily include the tires, as well as the interior cab floor mats if the occupant(s) exited the vehicle. Proper cleaning of tires can include spraying with water to remove debris, and then spraying with commercially available, site-specific, and safe disinfectant. Vehicle cleaning should take place between visits to animal production facilities; it is best to disinfect or sanitize the vehicle prior to entering an operation's LOS and, if possible, disinfect or sanitize upon leaving the LOS.

5. **Do I need to clean my equipment every time if I am going back and forth from my farm?**

   It depends where the line of separation (LOS) is located and if the repeat trips are crossing the line. If the repeat trips are crossing the LOS, the destination of the trips becomes important; if the destination is another operation with susceptible species, then equipment and vehicles must follow the cleaning and disinfecting procedures outlined in the HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order and ensuing guidance.

6. **Do delivery drivers need to disinfect or spray their tires and enter their trip in the logbook?**

   Any vehicle crossing the line of separation (LOS) is subject to the order regardless of the purpose of their visit. If delivery vehicles cross the LOS, they need to follow the same protocols as outlined in the order. Non-essential deliveries or pick-ups which do not need to cross the LOS should leave or pick up their delivery outside of the LOS in a designated area/designated parking area.

7. **Do I need to have someone present at my cleaning and disinfecting (C&D) station at all times?**

   No. Anyone using the station should be trained or informed on the proper C&D techniques, but there does not need to be someone supervising the station. Instructional signage may be helpful and appropriate in some situations.

8. **What disinfectants should I use?**

   Any disinfectant that is commercially available, site-relevant, safe, and rated to address influenza A viruses should work. Refer to the disinfectant label for specific product use. A list of EPA-registered disinfectants can be found here.

9. Is there a specific logbook template I must use?

No, but the logbook should contain information on date and time of entry/exit, names and contact information, and the general purpose for crossing. Operations can use any template that makes sense for them.

10. The order specifically says it applies to dairy operations, but what about beef cattle operations?

Neither the MDARD order nor the United States Department of Agriculture federal order apply to beef cattle, including lactating beef cattle, at this time.

11. Do the same biosecurity guidelines apply if my herd or flock tests positive for HPAI?

Biosecurity measures outlined in the HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order apply to all poultry and dairy operations in Michigan regardless of testing status. Biosecurity measures are always important but especially during an infectious disease event. While the interior of the LOS is considered "clean" prior to an infection, a positive case would change the interior to be considered "dirty" (or HPAI infected) and should be treated as such. Additionally, any sick or ill animals should be kept away from animals not showing symptoms. Please contact your veterinarian and MDARD for more information on additional biosecurity best practices and reporting requirements in the event of a positive case.

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

DR. TIM BORING
DIRECTOR

MDARD Requirements and Recommendations for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in Dairy and Poultry for Fair Organizers, Supervisors, Managers, and Exhibitors.

May 10, 2024

This document contains frequently asked questions for Michigan fairs and exhibitions in response to the HPAI outbreak.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) issued the "HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order" Determination of Extraordinary Emergency on May 1, 2024, to control and prevent the spread of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), effective Wednesday, May 8, 2024. MDARD released further guidance regarding the order on May 3, 2024. Below are frequently asked questions (FAQs) related to the order and guidance document.

Additional information can also be found at Michigan.gov/BirdFlu. For further questions, please contact the MDARD Customer Service Center at 1-800-292-3939 (Monday through Friday from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., EST) or email at MDA-info@michigan.gov.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Can people/kids get sick from avian influenza? What about our food?**

   According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Food and Drug Administration, the public health risk associated with these avian influenza detections remains low. There are procedures in place to keep animals or animal products infected with HPAI out of the commercial food chain; the U.S. food supply remains safe and stable. As a reminder, people are encouraged to properly handle and cook all poultry, eggs, and raw meat and to consume only pasteurized milk.

2. **What types of poultry and waterfowl exhibitions are included as part of the newly enacted order?**

   The HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order includes (but is not limited to) shows, exhibitions, swap meets, petting zoos at fairs, and game bird/waterfowl fair displays. This order does *NOT* include or affect egg hatching exhibits, pigeon races (if they meet certain criteria, outlined below), or permanent poultry exhibits at zoos.

3. **As part of this order, under what criteria can pigeon races be held?**

   The HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order does not extend to racing pigeons if the following criteria are met:

1. Only lofts certified by the American Racing Pigeon Union may race.
2. Each certified loft must have a premises identification number.
3. For each event - a list of participants will be provided to the State Veterinarian within 72 hours after the event.
4. The American Racing Pigeon Union must provide a current list of Michigan certified lofts to the State Veterinarian and as changes are made.
5. Crates used for transporting pigeons can only have pigeons from one loft within a crate.
6. Vehicle and crates used to transport pigeons must be clean and disinfected after transporting the birds.

It is recommended racing pigeons do not fly over the poultry-dense counties of Allegan, Barry, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Gratiot, Huron, Ingham, Ionia, Kent, Lenawee, Muskegon, Newaygo, Ottawa, St. Joseph, and Tuscola.

4. Will this order impact hatching eggs at the fair?

No. Hatching National Poultry Improvement Program (NPIP) certified eggs using an incubator would pose a minimal risk as NPIP hatcheries are routinely tested for avian influenza.

5. During the order, are eggs able to be exhibited?

Yes, eggs can be exhibited. MDARD recommends eggs are washed, sanitized, and placed in new egg crate and all material be disposed of at the end of the fair/show.

6. Will the order impact exotic and/or display birds at fairs—such as peafowl, quail, parrots, parakeets, emus, and ostriches?

Yes. Even though some of the species listed above are not considered poultry, all birds would not be exhibited at fairs until the HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order ends.

7. Will the order include market birds at the fair?

While chickens and turkeys could still be raised and processed, they may not be exhibited live.

8. Can chicks, eggs, or other poultry still be sold through private sale?

The HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order will **NOT** affect sales and commerce. This includes movement to processors.

9. Are birds able to be sold at livestock markets and/or live bird markets?

Yes. Livestock auction markets licensed with MDARD are exempt. "Live bird markets" means a market that receives live birds and that are slaughtered and processed for the buyer. Anyone who visits these kinds of markets and has poultry or cattle at home must take necessary precautions to avoid bringing the disease either to or from the market.

10. What about on-farm and off-farm (traveling) petting zoos?

All poultry and dairy operations should practice enhanced biosecurity and limit or restrict visitors; operations with no poultry and no lactating dairy cattle are not part of this order. Currently, as the only restrictions for exhibition or exposition are for lactating dairy cattle and dairy cattle in the last two months of pregnancy, as well as all poultry, petting zoos must abide by these restrictions until such time the HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order is lifted.

11. How long will the order last? And, can the order be reinstated?

For poultry, the HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order will remain in place until the state of Michigan goes **30 days** without a new detection of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in domestic poultry.

For lactating cows, the HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order will remain in place until the state of Michigan goes **60 days** without a new detection of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in domestic cattle.

If the order is lifted and a new detection is subsequently found, the order could be reinstated. The circumstances surrounding each new detection would be analyzed to determine the appropriate level of response needed.

12. How can domestic animals best be protected from HPAI?

It is important to take every step possible to keep wild birds and their germs away from domestic animals. More information on these preventative measures can be found at michigan.gov/birdflu and on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's website. Strong biosecurity measures are the best defense against HPAI at this time.