



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF  
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Karen Ross, Secretary

December 17, 2024

## Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) Update and Biosecurity Advisory

To: California Poultry Producers

Detections of HPAI continue to be found in both domestic and wild birds nationally. In November 2024, there were 27 domestic flocks (23 commercial, 4 backyard) that were affected in California. Dairies, wild waterfowl, and raptors remain the largest threats of H5N1 introduction to domestic poultry in California. The risk of disease entering domestic poultry flocks is always present. Enhanced biosecurity is critical in the face of ongoing disease outbreaks and wild bird carrier exposure.

*To protect your flocks, we request that you continue to separate poultry from wild birds and dairy cows if you can. This action is particularly important if there is ANY water in the vicinity that may attract and congregate wild waterfowl or if you have dairy cows on your farm or share a fence line with a dairy. We recommend housing poultry inside and discouraging any interaction with wild birds, particularly migrating or resident waterfowl and raptors, and dairy cows.*

Recent cases in California poultry production show epidemiologic evidence that two strains (one introduced by wild birds and the other by dairy cows) are currently circulating, **so we ask that California producers continue to keep their birds indoors through June 2025.**

The risk to each farm may be different, so it is important to consider your situation when complying with this request. If you are certified organic and want to make changes to housing, you should contact your certifier *before* altering confinement and meet their requirements to remain certified. Thank you for your cooperation.

For more information about Avian Influenza, please visit:

[www.cdfa.ca.gov/go/avianinfluenza](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/go/avianinfluenza)

Sincerely,

Dr. Annette Jones  
State Veterinarian  
California Department of Food and Agriculture

