



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Karen Ross, Secretary

CDFA Lifts Statewide Ban on California Poultry and Dairy Cattle Exhibitions at Fairs and Shows

Dear Poultry and Dairy Cattle Exhibition Organizers and Managers:

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) has closely monitored the status of H5N1 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in both poultry and dairy cattle throughout California. Since the implementation of the statewide exhibition ban, CDFA has conducted ongoing surveillance, reviewed viral trend data, and consulted with epidemiologists and animal health partners at both the state and federal levels.

Based on a comprehensive review of current H5N1 infection trends, improved understanding of transmission dynamics, and enhanced mitigation measures now in place, CDFA has determined that the risk associated with poultry and dairy cattle exhibitions has sufficiently decreased. **Effective immediately, the statewide ban on poultry and dairy cattle exhibitions at fairs and shows is hereby lifted.**

This decision was not made lightly. CDFA recognizes the importance of protecting animal health, public health, and California's agricultural industries while also supporting youth programs, educational opportunities, and agricultural traditions across the state.

While exhibitions may resume, CDFA strongly encourages all fairgrounds, exhibition organizers, and exhibitors to continue implementing enhanced biosecurity practices and disease-prevention measures. Animals exhibiting signs of illness should not be transported or exhibited, and veterinarians should be contacted promptly if disease is suspected.

If H5N1 is suspected in either poultry or cattle, contact **CDFA Sick Bird Hotline at: 866-922-2473**

CDFA will continue close monitoring of H5N1 activity statewide and will work collaboratively with fair organizers and animal owners to ensure appropriate safeguards remain in place. Additional guidance and recommendations for exhibitions will be available on the CDFA website.

If you have questions regarding this action, please contact CDFA's H5N1 Public Information Officer at cdfa.HPAIinfo@cdfa.ca.gov.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to protecting California's animals and agricultural communities.

Sincerely,

Dr. Annette Jones
State Veterinarian

