



COMMERCIAL FEED
REGULATORY PROGRAM

California Department of Food and Agriculture
Feed, Fertilizer, and Livestock Drugs Regulatory Services Branch

QUARTERLY FEED UPDATE

Issue 12 | Fall 2022

In This Issue

Field Biosecurity
Guidelines for HPAI

HPAI Detection in Wild
Birds in Los Angeles
and Orange Counties

FDA Food Facility
Registration Due

2021 Crop Year
Mycotoxin Report

FSMA Incorporation
Regulations Approved

PCQI Training

CGFA Hosts Grants
Workshop

New CalRecycle
Edible Food Recovery
Requirements

Upcoming Public
Meetings

Calendar

October 31, 2022
Quarter 3 Tonnage Tax
Due

November 11, 2022
Veterans Day

November 24, 2022
Thanksgiving Day

November 25, 2022
Day after Thanksgiving

December 26, 2022
Christmas Day
(Observed)

Please see below for a letter from State Veterinarian Dr. Annette Jones regarding biosecurity guidelines for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI).

September 14, 2022

Field Biosecurity Guidelines for State/County/City Personnel Entering Shell Egg Packing Facilities, Poultry Harvest Facilities, and Poultry Farms

To: All California State/County/City Personnel

The risk of disease entering domestic poultry flocks is always present but can be mitigated through actions that interrupt disease transmission (biosecurity). Enhanced biosecurity is critical in the face of ongoing disease outbreaks and wild bird carrier exposure. While we were hoping to see reduced risk to California poultry relative to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) this summer, in the past month we detected our first cases of HPAI in both wild and domestic birds. As of September 14, 2022, there have been 14 detections of HPAI in domestic flocks of birds and 45 detections in wild birds in 16 counties in California. Wild birds in or passing through California are facing the additional stressor of drought which is forcing unusual congregation and movement. Based on current disease surveillance and epidemiology, wild waterfowl and raptors remain the largest threat of Eurasian H5N1 introduction to domestic poultry in California. Continued reports of the current HPAI strain findings are particularly concerning because of the similarities to the spread of HPAI H5N1 in Europe where the virus continued to spill over into domestic poultry beyond a single migration period.

While Avian Influenza is endemic in wild waterfowl, there are factors that increase the risk for HPAI transmission in poultry. The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) asks for your assistance and cooperation in preventing the introduction and spread of poultry disease by following some simple biosecurity precautions. With your help we can continue to provide a safe and healthy food supply for Californians. State, County, City, and private inspectors and auditors should adhere to the following:

- 1) When possible, conduct remote or virtual audits.
- 2) If in-person inspections or visits to poultry farms must occur:

See **HPAI** on page 2

QUARTERLY FEED UPDATE

Issue 12 | Fall 2022

HPAI, from page 1

- a) Do not enter farms where eggs are hatched or poultry are raised if you have birds or live poultry at home.
- b) Never visit any poultry farm within 72 hours of visiting another commercial poultry farm, egg or meat processor; after duck hunting or having had other exposure to wild migratory waterfowl; or visiting any backyard, school, feed store, swap meet, live bird market, pet store, fair, veterinary clinic, zoo, bird hunt club, or other facility which has live poultry or birds.
- c) Always wash your vehicle including undercarriage and wheel wells before entering a farm/egg processing facility. A commercial car wash can be used for this purpose.
 - i) Park your vehicle in a designated area per the company's biosecurity plan or if there is none, try to park on cement or a paved area away from the production houses.
 - ii) Keep the inside of the vehicle clean and free of any organic material.
- d) Use good personal hygiene measures including freshly laundered clothes and showering before visiting a poultry farm or processing facility. Clothing that has been worn to premises with birds or live poultry should never be worn to another farm or processing facility without being laundered between visits.
- e) Never enter a poultry farm unless trained to apply and remove (don and doff) biosecurity clothing without spreading disease. If entering live bird areas, use

clean, dedicated rubber boots or disposable plastic shoe covers, disposable coveralls, a mask, disposable gloves and a hair net.

- f) **ALWAYS follow all the biosecurity instructions of the commercial poultry farm/egg processing facility which may include: registering in a logbook, answering queries about bird and poultry premises visited previously, using company supplied protective clothing and footwear, footbaths, hand cleaning stations, tire/truck wash stations and other biosecurity measures.**

CDFA appreciates your efforts to protect poultry health in California on a daily basis. Remember, people, equipment, and vehicles can easily spread dangerous diseases from one location to another. For more information about biosecurity, please visit: cdfa.ca.gov/go/poultrybiosecurity

Sincerely,
Dr. Annette Jones, D.V.M.
Director and State Veterinarian

For help writing or updating your feed mill's biosecurity templates and plans, please contact CDFA's Secure Food Supply Program at sfspermits@cdfa.ca.gov or visit their website for more information.

QUARTERLY FEED UPDATE

Issue 12 | Fall 2022

The following letter was issued October 12, 2022.

HPAI Detection in Wild Birds in Los Angeles and Orange Counties

Dear Poultry Producers and Zoo/Wildlife Rehabilitation Colleagues,

This is to notify you that the Eurasian strain H5N1 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) has been detected in wild birds in Los Angeles County and Orange County, CA.

As of today, HPAI has previously been detected in domestic flocks in the following 10 (ten) California Counties: Butte, Calaveras, Contra Costa, Del Norte, El Dorado, Fresno, Monterey, Sacramento, Stanislaus, and Tuolumne. In addition to domestic flocks, HPAI has been previously detected in wild birds in the following 22 counties: Alameda, Butte, Colusa, El Dorado, Fresno, Glenn, Mendocino, Monterey, Napa, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Siskiyou, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Trinity, Yolo.

It is important to note that HPAI is widespread in California and may also be present in other counties that are not listed (due to having no lab submissions from those counties). Enhanced biosecurity is critical in the face of ongoing disease outbreaks. Please continue to practice good avian biosecurity protocols according to your plans.

Report any unusual or suspicious sick or dead domestic, pet, or collection birds immediately via the CDFA Sick Bird Hotline at (866) 922-2473.

Report any unusual or suspicious wild bird deaths to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) online at www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Laboratories/Wildlife-Health/Monitoring/Mortality-Report. If you have questions about wildlife rehabilitation, please contact the CDFW directly.

Join Our Email Lists

Join the Commercial Feed Regulatory Program and Safe Animal Feed Education Program email lists to receive the Quarterly Feed Update and other industry updates delivered to your inbox. Sign up at cdfa.ca.gov/subscriptions/ or email feed_lvstk@cdfa.ca.gov or safe@cdfa.ca.gov

FDA Food Facility Registration Renewal Due

The Food Safety Modernization Act requires any domestic or foreign facility that manufactures, processes, packs, or holds food, as defined in the regulation, for human or animal consumption in the U.S. to register as a food facility with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). All food facility registrations must be renewed biennially in even numbered years. The current renewal period is between October 1 and December 31, 2022.

For step-by-step instructions and more information, please read FDA's food facility registration user guide: <https://www.fda.gov/food/online-registration-food-facilities/food-facility-registration-user-guide-biennial-registration-renewal>.

To renew your food facility registration, log in to the FDA Industry Systems website: <https://www.fda.gov/food/registration-food-facilities-and-other-submissions/online-registration-food-facilities>.

2021 Crop Year Mycotoxin Report

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Commercial Feed Regulatory Program (CFRP) surveys each year's corn and cottonseed crops received at feed mills in California for the presence of mycotoxins. This year, the scope of sampling was broadened to include other commodities and mixed feed.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has established tolerance levels for aflatoxin, fumonisin and vomitoxin by species and class of livestock¹. The tolerance level for aflatoxins varies by species from 300 parts per billion (ppb) for finishing beef cattle to 20 ppb in dairy cattle. Due to California's prominent dairy industry, CFRP requires that all commercial feed in California not exceed 20 ppb total aflatoxin, since it can be transferred into milk and poses a human health concern. Tolerance levels for fumonisins range from 5

parts per million (ppm) for equids and rabbits to 100 ppm for poultry raised for slaughter. Vomitoxin tolerance levels in feed ingredients range from 5 ppm for swine to 30 ppm for beef cattle. FDA has not established guidance for the other mycotoxins tested.

Between July 2021 and August 2022, CFRP obtained 105 samples for mycotoxin analyses; 50 corn, 15 cottonseed, 23 mixed feed, 14 oilseed meal, and 3 corn by-products (Figure 1). Whole corn samples originated from Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, Nebraska, South Dakota, Vermont, and California. Cottonseed samples originated from Arizona, California, Georgia, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Texas.

The University of California, Davis, California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory conducted 10 mycotoxin analyses on each of the 105 samples, for a total of 1,050 analyses. Of the 105 samples analyzed, over 92.4% resulted in no detectable levels of mycotoxins (Figure 2). There were eight samples of feed with detectable levels of either aflatoxin B1, aflatoxin B2, zearalenone, fumonisin B1, or vomitoxin, which were all under 2 ppm. No samples contained any detectable levels of aflatoxin G1, T-2 toxin, H-T2, or ochratoxin.

Only one of the eight samples had a mycotoxin level considered to be a safety concern. A sample of Pima Cottonseed originating from Arizona contained 65 ppb aflatoxin B1 and 5.4 ppb aflatoxin B2, which is over the California requirement of 20 ppb total aflatoxin. As soon as results were received,

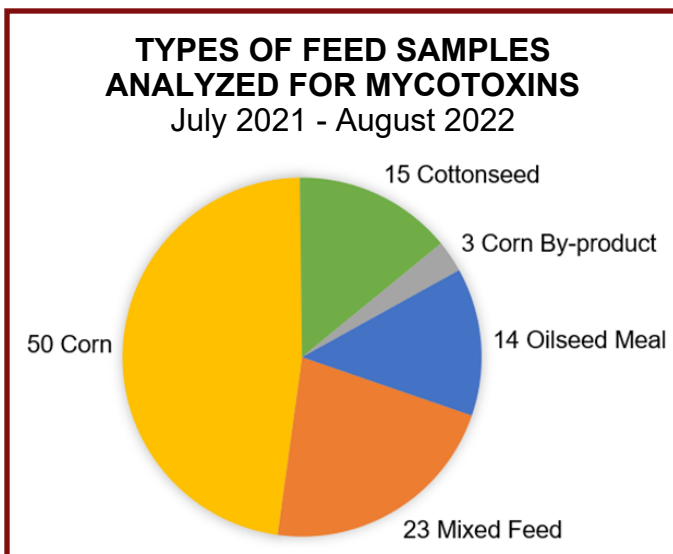


Figure 1. Breakdown of types of feed samples analyzed for mycotoxins from July 2021 through August 2022.

See **Mycotoxins** on page 5

QUARTERLY FEED UPDATE

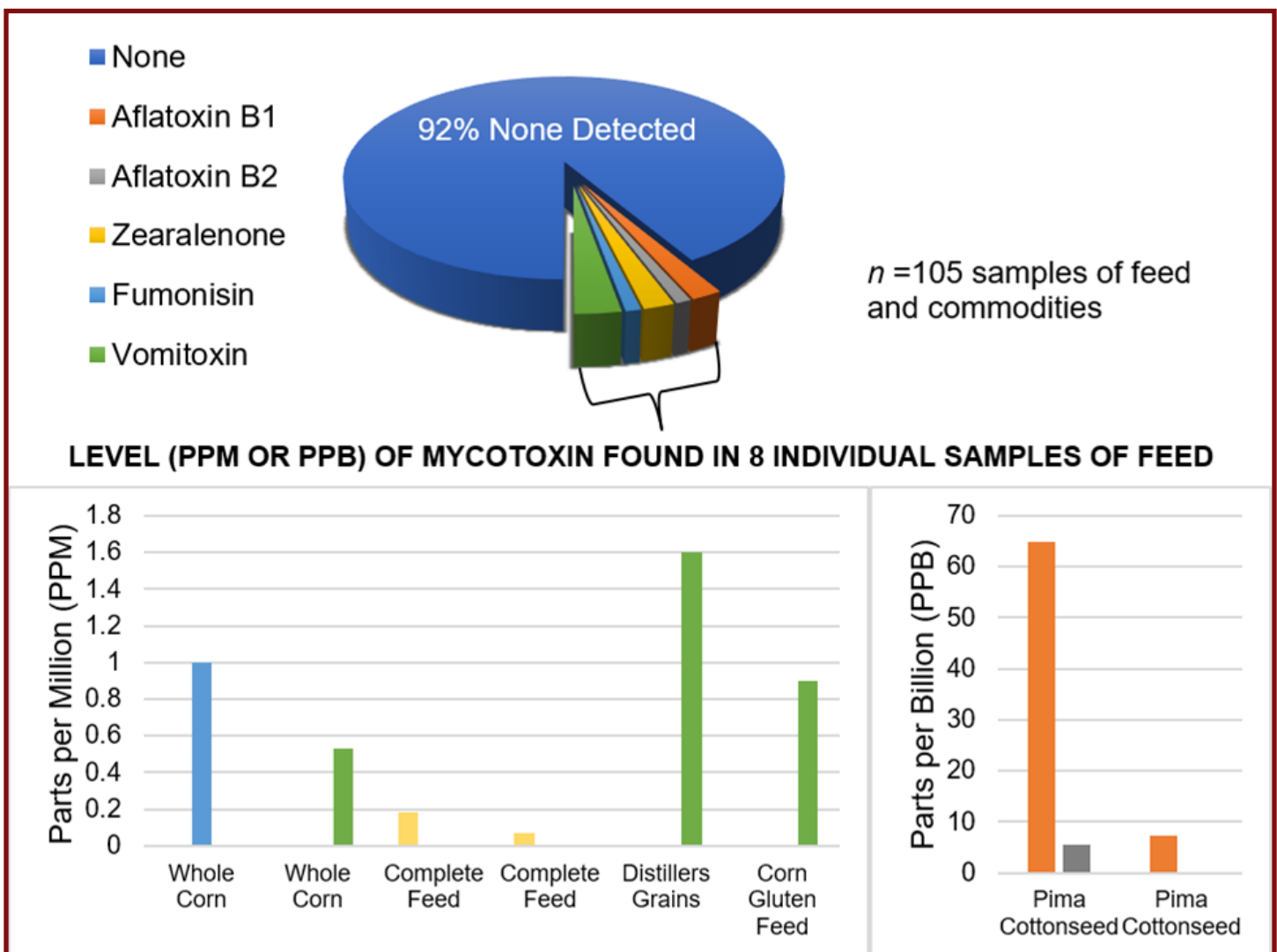
Issue 12 | Fall 2022

Mycotoxins, from page 4

three follow up samples of the most recent shipments from the same origin were obtained and the purchasers were informed to place the product on hold pending results. The follow-up samples resulted in under 20 ppb aflatoxin, with one containing 7.2 ppb aflatoxin B1, and no detectable levels of aflatoxin in the other two samples. The product was considered safe for animal consumption and no further action was necessary.

¹ FDA Center for Veterinary Medicine (2016). CVM Annual Report on Mycotoxins in Animal Food Report for Fiscal Year 2016. <https://www.fda.gov/media/130526/download>

Figure 2. Mycotoxins detected in 8 of 105 samples of various feeds from the 2021 crop year and level detected. Fumonisin, vomitoxin, and zearalenone are reported in PPM; aflatoxin B1 and B2 are reported in PPB. FDA tolerances vary by species, with a minimum tolerance of 20 ppb for aflatoxin and 5 ppm for fumonisin and vomitoxin; please reference the second paragraph on page 4 for additional information.



QUARTERLY FEED UPDATE

Issue 12 | Fall 2022

FSMA Incorporation Regulations Approved

Upon recommendation of the Feed Inspection Advisory Board, the Commercial Feed Regulatory Program (CFRP) drafted regulations to incorporate provisions of the Food Safety Modernization Act from Code of Federal Regulations Title 21, Part 507, Subparts A, B, C, E, and F, and Part 589.2001 by reference, as well as require batch or production run identification to be listed on formula feed labels.

A 45-day public comment period began July 1, 2022, and ended August 15, 2022; no comments were received. The proposed regulations were approved by the Office of Administrative Law and filed with the Secretary of State on October 14, 2022, and will become effective January 1, 2023.

To read the final statement of reasons and regulation text, visit the Inspection Services Division's regulations webpage:

<http://www.cdffa.ca.gov/is/regulations.html>.

PCQI Training

The Safe Animal Feed Education Program will be hosting a preventive controls qualified individual (PCQI) training on December 12-13, 2022. The training will be in a blended format, with part one completed online and part two completed in-person during an instructor-led course in Sacramento. Both parts must be completed to obtain the certificate of training.

To request a seat in the course, please email safe@cdffa.ca.gov by November 4, 2022.

Further details for course registration will be provided after your seat is confirmed. Please note that the course will be capped at 20 participants with priority given to firms that do not currently have a PCQI.



CGFA Hosts Grants Workshop

The California Grain and Feed Association (CGFA) hosted a complimentary workshop at the Imperial Western Products (IWP) office in Coachella, CA, on October 6 for all members interested in learning more about grant opportunities and related topics.

Speakers from CGFA, IWP, the California Department of Food and Agriculture, the California Energy Commission, and California Advocates discussed current and future opportunities, how to apply, previously awarded grants, strategies for success, and more.

A recording of the workshop is available on [CGFA's website](#) under Past PowerPoint Presentations and Resources.

QUARTERLY FEED UPDATE

Issue 12 | Fall 2022

New CalRecycle Edible Food Recovery Requirements

Senate Bill 1383 set statewide goals to increase the amount of edible food recovered to feed people in need and reduce the amount of edible food discarded in landfills. Certain types of food businesses, known as commercial edible food generators, are now required to donate any excess, unsold edible food if it meets the food safety requirements of the California Retail Food Code. Please visit CalRecycle's Food Donors webpage to learn more about edible food recovery and which types of businesses qualify: calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/slcp/foodrecovery/donors/.

If you are a commercial feed licensee that qualifies as a commercial edible food generator, you are still allowed to sell excess edible food as commercial feed. However, you are now required to donate any excess, unsold edible food you would otherwise dispose. All commercial edible food generators will be

subject to inspection by local jurisdictions to verify compliance and may be asked to provide proof of sale. For more information and additional requirements, please visit: <https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/ffldrs/pdfs/CommercialEdibleFoodGenerators.pdf>



"Edible food" means food intended for people to consume, including food not sold because of appearance, age, freshness, grade, surplus, etc. Edible food includes, but is not limited to, prepared foods, packaged foods and produce.

Upcoming Public Meetings

The Feed Inspection Advisory Board (FIAB) meets several times each year to make recommendations on all matters pertaining to the Commercial Feed Regulatory Program (CFRP), including inspection, enforcement, budget, fees, and regulations. The Technical Advisory Subcommittee (TASC) advises the FIAB on feed/food safety issues and research projects funded by the Safe Animal Feed Education (SAFE) Program. All FIAB and TASC meetings are public meetings; upcoming meeting dates are listed below. An agenda and meeting materials will be posted to the Inspection Services Division's [meetings webpage](#) 10 days prior to the scheduled meeting date.

Technical Advisory Subcommittee

Thursday, November 3, 2022
9 AM - 12 PM
2399 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95833

Feed Inspection Advisory Board

Thursday, November 10, 2022
9 AM - 12 PM
4145 Branch Center Road
Sacramento, CA 95827

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[VIEW FIELD STAFF TERRITORY MAP](#)

For VFD submission questions, please email
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