Poultry Owners: Report Sick Birds!

Highly pathogenic avian influenza is a deadly poultry disease that spreads quickly. It can strike your flock with little to no warning—sudden death, decreased food and water consumption, and lethargy are common signs. If you see any sign of illness in your birds, immediately report it to your State veterinarian or the U.S. Department of Agriculture (1-866-536-7593).



Protect Your Birds With Biosecurity

- ▲ Keep wild birds away from your farm! They can spread disease to your poultry.
- Secure feed bins and water sources to prevent wildlife contamination.
- ▲ Limit access to your property and your birds. Disinfect any vehicles that enter your farm.
- Avoid visits to other poultry farms, and don't lend or borrow equipment. Bring only cleaned and disinfected items into your bird area.
- Wash hands and scrub boots before and after entering a poultry area. Wear disposable boot covers and coveralls, if possible.
- Buy birds only from National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP)-participating breeders, hatcheries, or dealers.
- Isolate new birds and those returning from shows for 30 days before placing them with your flock.



To learn more about avian influenza and biosecurity, contact your industry association or visit aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth/defendtheflock (click on "Biosecurity 101").

For information about avian influenza and human health, visit cdc.gov/flu/avianflu.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender. This publication supersedes Program Aid No. 2162, "Attention Poultry Owners: Biosecurity Is Important," which was last published in April 2016. VS-22-001 | Issued March 2022