



# VIRULENT NEWCASTLE DISEASE

## Protect Your Farm Using Biosecurity

*Virulent Newcastle disease (vND) is a fatal viral disease affecting the respiratory, nervous, and digestive systems of birds and poultry. The disease spreads so quickly that many birds and poultry die without showing any signs.*

*vND is not a food safety concern. No human cases of Newcastle disease have ever occurred from eating poultry products. Properly cooked poultry products are safe to eat.*

*In very rare instances, vaccination crews and people working directly with sick birds can become infected with mild symptoms, such as conjunctivitis (pinkeye). This is easily prevented by using personal protective equipment.*

**It's easy to spread vND—without even knowing it.**

**The virus can stay on clothing and equipment. Be aware of these potential pathways and consider them when creating or updating biosecurity plans.**



### WHAT'S BIOSECURITY?

*Biosecurity refers to all measures taken to keep diseases and the pathogens that carry them—viruses, bacteria, fungi, parasites and other microorganisms—away from poultry, property, and people.*

**Birds can become sick or die from exposure to just a few unseen viral particles. In a single day, the virus can multiply and infect every bird on your premises. The best way to keep your poultry healthy is to practice biosecurity—every day, every time.**

- Restrict traffic onto and off of your property.
- Disinfect shoes, clothes, hands, egg trays or flats, crates, vehicles, and tires.
- Avoid visits to other poultry farms or bird owners. If you do visit, be sure to change clothes and clean your hands and shoes before entering your own bird area.
- Wash hands and scrub boots before and after entering a poultry area.
- Isolate/quarantine any birds returning from shows for 30 days to look for any signs of disease before placing them with the rest of the flock.



**Help keep this disease from spreading to new flocks!**

**Need more info? [www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth/vnd](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth/vnd)**