



December 23, 2014

High Path Avian Influenza Alert!!!!

Two strains of High Pathogenic Avian Influenza, H5N8 and H5N2, have been isolated from birds in the Pacific Northwest. H5N8 was found in a backyard flock in Oregon.

No commercial operations are affected, but some migratory birds are carrying these viruses.

There is no known human disease associated with these viruses.

What does High Pathogenic Avian Influenza look like in birds?

- [Disease Images Avian Influenza](http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/DiseaseInfo/disease-images.php?name=avian-influenza&lang=en): Center for Food Security and Public Health (CFSPH)
<http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/DiseaseInfo/disease-images.php?name=avian-influenza&lang=en>
- [Fast Facts: Avian Influenza, Bird Flu](http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/FastFacts/pdfs/avian_influenza_F.pdf) Center for Food Security and Public Health (CFSPH)
http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/FastFacts/pdfs/avian_influenza_F.pdf
- Clinical signs
 - o Sudden death
 - o Systemic disease
 - o Drop in egg production
 - o Neurological signs
 - o Depression
 - o Anorexia (loss of appetite)
 - o Ruffled feathers
 - o Combs swollen
 - o Cyanotic (blue tint to normally pink areas of skin due to lack of oxygen)
 - o Conjunctivitis (red, runny eyes)
 - o Respiratory signs
 - o Most birds in an affected flock die

What steps can you take to reduce the chances of your birds becoming exposed?

- Practice good biosecurity ([Biosecurity for Birds Website: http://healthybirds.aphis.usda.gov/](http://healthybirds.aphis.usda.gov/))
- Posters, slides, visual fact sheets and more, some in Spanish, are available to help you teach yourself and your staff how to reduce the chances that your birds will become sick
- Limit exposure of your birds to migratory wild birds
- Report unusual, or unexpected, sickness or death to the Rhode Island State Veterinarian at the RI Department of Environmental Management/Division of Agriculture.

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