

ATTENTION: HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA

Avian influenza (AI) is caused by an influenza type A virus which can infect poultry (such as chickens, turkeys, pheasants, quail, domestic ducks, geese, and guinea fowl) and wild birds (especially waterfowl). Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) virus strains are extremely infectious, often fatal to chickens and turkeys, and can spread rapidly from flock-to-flock.

With the recent detections (since February 2022) of the Eurasian H5 strain of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in wild birds and domestic poultry in the United States, bird owners should review their biosecurity practices and stay vigilant to protect poultry and pet birds from this disease.

How is the disease transmitted?

- Foot traffic • Secretions from the bird • Contact with infected droppings • Movement of sick birds • Contaminated clothing and equipment

Poultry with HPAI do not survive the illness. Vaccines for HPAI are not readily available.

Signs of Avian Influenza

- Extreme depression
- Difficulty breathing
- Decrease in feed or water intake
- Swelling or purple discoloration of head, eyelids, comb, wattle, and hocks
- Decrease in egg production
- Sudden unexplained death

Protect your small flock from Avian Influenza

The United States Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has expanded its **Defend the Flock** program to educate all poultry growers about best practices in biosecurity. Please visit for more information on how to protect your flock and for the latest information on HPAI in the US.



Biosecurity is the key to preventing the spread of disease!



Call your veterinarian if your flock shows signs of influenza or you suspect exposure. No Vet? You can also call the CSU Avian Health Hotline 970-297-4008; CO State Vet Office 303-869-9130; USDA Bird Hotline 1-866-536-7593