



State of Utah

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Governor

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Department of Agriculture and Food

CRAIG W. BUTTARS
Commissioner

KELLY PEHRSON
Deputy Commissioner

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Contact: Bailee Woolstenhulme
baileewoolstenhulme@utah.gov
(385)320-2140

September 30, 2022

Avian Influenza Weekly Case Update September 25- October 1

Taylorsville, UT - The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) has confirmed an additional three cases of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) on turkey farms in Sanpete County this week, totaling eleven farms impacted by the disease. All turkeys on these premises have been depopulated to prevent further spread of the disease. Total number of turkeys that have been euthanized or died from the disease is over 400,000.

While the loss is significant for these farms, at this time, food shortages are not expected with current numbers. The situation is still ongoing and is being closely monitored by UDAF and USDA officials in efforts to contain the disease and prevent further impact. Members of the public should stay away from premises with known cases and locations where officials are working to contain the disease to avoid coming in contact with HPAI.

UDAF is asking for the public's help to prepare for this expected increase of HPAI cases. All domestic bird owners, including backyard chicken flocks, ducks, geese, turkeys, gamebirds, etc., should strengthen their biosecurity practices. If possible, birds should be kept locked inside enclosures to avoid contact with migratory birds. Flocks should not have shared water, feed, or grazing sources with wild bird habitats.

Anyone involved with poultry production from the small backyard to the large commercial producer should review their biosecurity activities to assure the health of their birds. USDA APHIS has materials about biosecurity, including videos, checklists, and a toolkit available at: <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-information/avian/defend-the-flock-program/df-resources/df-resources>.

Indicators of HPAI in avian flocks are high death loss, nasal discharge, decreased appetite or water consumption, and lack of coordination in birds. If birds are experiencing any of these symptoms, it should be reported to the state veterinarian immediately at statevet@utah.gov.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the recent HPAI detections [do not present an immediate public health concern](#). One case of this strain of HPAI has been detected in the United States.

For more information and guidance on how to protect animal and human health in Utah, visit <https://aq.utah.gov/hpai/>.

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