



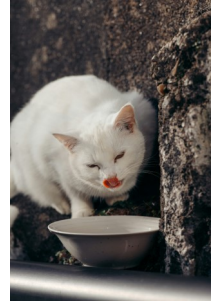
Animal Health Update

UTAH DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

Winter 2025

ag.utah.gov

HPAI Response—As of January 13, 2025 all commercial [poultry](#) and [dairy](#) operations have been released from quarantine for highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI). Cases continue to be seen on dairies and in both domestic and wild birds [throughout the United States](#).



- Both wild and domestic cats, as well as other mammals, have been dying from HPAI due to exposure through milk, pet food, and scavenging wild birds. Veterinarians should be aware of the [signs of HPAI in pets](#) and [notify UDAF](#) if the disease is suspected.
- The Animal Health Program is no longer conducting individual dairy sampling in Cache, Weber, and Box Elder Counties and is working with UDAF [Regulatory Services](#) to [monitor silos](#) at Grade A processing facilities.

News Briefs:

- **New State Veterinarian**—Dr. Amanda Price has been [appointed as the Utah state veterinarian](#). Dr. Price joined UDAF in August 2019 and has served as the assistant state veterinarian since December 2019. Prior to joining UDAF, she was a dairy veterinarian in California. Dr. Price looks forward to continuing to work with producers and veterinarians on disease preparedness and response as well as outreach and education.
- **New World Screwworm in Mexico**—In November 2024 Mexico notified USDA of a detection of [New World screwworm](#) (NWS). In response, USDA has temporarily suspended the importation of ruminants from Mexico. This fly, which burrows into living tissue, is endemic in Cuba, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and South America. USDA eradicated NWS from the United States in 1966 and has worked diligently to eradicate the pest in North and Central America.
- **Foot and Mouth Disease in Germany**—[Germany reported](#) a detection of [Foot and Mouth Disease \(FMD\)](#) in three water buffalo in early January. FMD causes vesicles (or blisters) on the mouth, teats, and legs of cloven hoofed animals, including cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, cervids, and camelids. FMD can be found in South America, Africa, and Asia. Germany has also been affected with [African Swine Fever](#) since 2020.
- **Horse Protection Act Expansion**—The [Horse Protection Act](#) prohibits soring (intentionally causing pain to give horses a high-stepping gait) in horses entered in competitions or being sold. Effective February 1, 2025, the Horse Protection Act expands to cover all horses, and changes reporting and monitoring requirements.
- **Brand Renewals**—All [registered brands](#) in Utah must be renewed by the end of 2025. However, no action is needed until you receive the brand renewal notice in March. Brand holders may choose to register their brand for either a five or ten-year term.
- **Horse Racing**—Horse races sanctioned by the Utah Horse Racing Commission will be held in [April and May](#) at Weber Downs in Ogden.

| 2024 Animal Imports | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Species | Number imported |
| Birds | 13,127,634 |
| Cattle | 64,893 |
| Pigs | 6,945 |
| Horses | 7,819 |
| Sheep and Goats | 4,066 |
| Other species | 12,460 |

