



ANIMAL HEALTH UPDATE

Summer 2026 Newsletter

WILDFIRES

Utah has been the site of some of the largest wildfires in the country so far this summer. Unfortunately, a number of livestock on range have been caught in these blazes. Several UDAF programs, including the [Animal Health Program](#), have been working with producers to provide information and resources. A [handout](#) is available to assist producers in making treatment, slaughter, and euthanasia decisions for their animals. UDAF has also been conducting producer meetings around the state and [providing resources](#) for affected producers.



OTHER UPDATES

- **New World Screwworm (NWS)** - The first case of [NWS](#) in the United States was detected on June 3 in Zavala County, Texas. As of July 15, there have been 37 confirmed cases in [Texas](#) and [New Mexico](#). An Infested Zone has been created or expanded around each detection, and no animals may leave an Infested Zone without meeting movement requirements including inspection and treatment. The [UDAF NWS website](#) has information about the fly and infestations as well as a form to report domestic suspects.
- **Dairy Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza** - The first Utah case of [highly pathogenic avian influenza](#) in [dairy cattle](#) since 2024 was detected on June 1 in Cache County. Additional dairies (22 dairies as of July 14) have been detected in Cache, [Box Elder](#), and Weber Counties. This disease causes milk loss, decreased feed consumption, increased culling, and death loss. UDAF has quarantined all infected dairies and is working with these dairies to provide resources and information. Weekly surveillance testing has been implemented for all dairies in the affected counties. Dairy HPAI is killed by pasteurization, so dairy products are safe to consume.
- **Leishmaniasis** - A severe case of [canine leishmaniasis](#) was diagnosed in a dog in Salt Lake County that was recently imported from Europe. This zoonotic disease is spread by sand flies, which do not exist in Utah. Not all infections result in clinical disease, but those that do can range from mild signs to multiorgan failure. Treatment is expensive and often ineffective. This disease can be found in the Mediterranean, Asia, Africa, and Central and South America.
- **Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease (RHDV2)** - RHDV2 was detected in wild rabbits in [Tooele](#) and [Summit](#) counties in late May and early June. This disease is easily spread on shoes, clothing, and other materials, and is extremely deadly for all rabbits. [Vaccines](#) are available.
- **Equine Aging Survey** - A researcher at Long Island University is developing the [Equine Cognitive Aging Questionnaire \(ECAQ\)](#), a research tool designed to assess changes in attention, learning, awareness, social interaction, and daily function in senior horses. Owners, trainers, and veterinarians are encouraged to participate.
- **Reportable Disease List** - The State Veterinarian's Office maintains a [list of diseases and conditions](#) that must be reported by animal owners, veterinarians, and laboratories. These can be reported through our [reportable disease form](#). While older lists can be found on a Google Search, the December 2024 list is the most current list available.

REPORTABLE DISEASES APR-JUN 2026



- Box Elder - Dairy HPAI, Brucella ovis
- Cache - Dairy HPAI
- Davis - BVD
- Salt Lake - Leishmaniasis, Lyme, John's disease
- Sanpete and Sevier - Brucella ovis
- Summit - RHDV2, Lyme Disease
- Tooele - RHDV2
- Utah - John's disease, Lyme

These diseases may not
be active cases.

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