Department of Agriculture and Food

HPAI-POSITIVE DAIRY HERD MANAGEMENT PLAN

I. State Authority to Quarantine and Require a Herd Plan

Under Utah Code 4-31-115, the State Veterinarian has the authority to quarantine a herd that is positive for *highly pathogenic avian influenza* (HPAI) and require that the owner follow a herd plan to be released from quarantine. While under quarantine, no cattle can enter or leave the herd and animals cannot move to another location without the approval of the State Veterinarian. This applies to all cattle within the herd regardless of age or sex. All movements must be permitted by the State Veterinarian.

A herd plan describes the actions to be taken by UDAF, the dairy owner, and others such as the herd veterinarian, auctions, or feedlots while the farm remains under quarantine. The goals of the herd plan are to:

- Protect the health of your cattle
- Protect the health of cattle and poultry on neighboring farms
- Allow you to continue normal business, and
- Release your herd from quarantine as soon as possible.

II. Testing and Surveillance

After official diagnosis, a positive herd must submit a bulk tank sample representative of all lactating cattle once per week to the Utah Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. If the dairy has more than one bulk tank, a sample from each bulk tank needs to be submitted. The bulk tank sample should be taken at the end of milking to ensure all lactating cattle are represented.

Milk is tested with a PCR test, and the results are reported with a Ct value or as non-detected. The lower the Ct value, the more virus is in the milk. The quarantine will be released after two consecutive weeks of results that are “non-detected” or have Ct values greater than 38. A positive herd must also report any cattle showing signs of disease to the State Veterinarian on a weekly basis.

III. Movement of Animals, Milk, Feed, Vehicles, Equipment, and Personnel

Live animals and raw hospital milk may only be moved with a permit issued by the State Veterinarian. If animals or milk are moving across state lines, the permit must also be approved by the State Animal Health Official in the state of destination. Lactating animals may only leave the dairy to go directly to slaughter. Dry cows that are no longer leaking milk are not considered lactating animals.

Hospital milk may be fed to calves. Only pasteurized milk may be spread on fields or dumped into a lagoon. Movement of raw hospital milk off-site requires a permit and can only go to a site that will pasteurize the milk before use.

Any positive dairy that sells raw milk for retail must provide a flyer to their customers during each sale that outlines the symptoms of avian influenza infection in people. This flyer is available from the State Veterinarian.

IV. Biosecurity

Each dairy is strongly encouraged to create a biosecurity plan. UDAF veterinarians are available to help create a biosecurity plan. Funding is also available from USDA for a herd veterinarian to help create the plan. The dairy owner or biosecurity manager should explain to all personnel the risk of spreading the disease off-site and what they can do to minimize the risk.

Employees should be offered personal protective equipment such as coveralls, gloves, mask, and eyewear. Employees should also be provided with resources from the Utah Department of Health and Human Services on signs of avian influenza in people.

V. Financial Support

Dairy producers with premises that have been confirmed positive for HPAI are eligible for USDA support for a period of up to 120 days from the date of confirmation. Producers will work with USDA personnel to draft a detailed financial plan. Financial support is available for the following actions:

- Providing PPE to employees or laundering of coveralls/outerwear – if the workers participate in the USDA/CDC workplace and farmworker study – Up to $2,000 per month.
- Develop biosecurity plans based on the secure milk supply plan – up to $1,500.
- Purchase and install an in-line sampler – up to $100.
- Purchase a system to pasteurize waste milk – up to $8,000.
- Veterinary costs for treatment of infected animals and sample collection – up to $10,000.
- Shipping costs for sample collection – up to $50 shipment for up to two shipments per month.

OWNER STATEMENT	
I hereby agree to the terms above. OWNER SIGNATURE: DATE:	
OWNER/RANCH NAME:	PHONE NUMBER(S):

STATE VETERINARIAN APPROVAL	
SIGNATURE: DATE:	
NAME:	TITLE: