

BIOSECURITY TIPS FOR THE FAIR

Avian Influenza can be a devastating disease for all poultry owners. Below are biosecurity steps to implement on your farm and while attending shows.

Prevent Contact with wild birds and waterfowl. Keep birds indoors when possible. Adding simple wildlife management practices around your farm will help prevent HPAI in your flock.

New birds or those who have been to a show need to be kept separate from the rest of the flock for 30 days to minimize disease.

Wash your hands before and after coming in contact with live poultry.

Always purchase poultry from NPIP-participating breeders, hatcheries, or dealers.

Establish a rodent and pest control program. Deliver, store and maintain feed, bedding and litter in a manner that limits exposure to and contamination from wild birds, rodents, insects and other animals.

Use drinking water sourced from a contained supply (such as a well or municipal system). Do not use surface water for drinking or cleaning.

Don't haul disease home. Clean and disinfect all tools and equipment prior to leaving and reentering the property. Do not move or reuse anything that cannot be cleaned.

When attending a fair or show, wear clean clothes and shoes to prevent bringing in potential disease from outside in with the exhibitors.

Look for signs of illness. Monitor egg production and death loss, discoloration and/or swelling of legs, wattles and combs, labored breathing, reduced feed or water consumption. Immediate quarantine any sick birds and call ODA to report. Do not attend shows or other events where poultry or poultry owners may be present until Avian Influenza or other reportable disease is ruled out.

Report sick birds: Report unusual signs of disease or unexpected deaths to OPA (614) 882-6111) or the Ohio Department of Agriculture (614) 728-6220 or after-hours line at (888-456-3405).

