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**From:** Francesconi, Mike@CDFA <mike.francesconi@cdfa.ca.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 05, 2020 1:52 PM  
**To:** Anater, Kenneth@CDFA; Ferrero, Gregory@CDFA; Francesconi, Mike@CDFA; Quiroz, John@CDFA; Kume, Joji@CDFA; Mitchell, Kalia@CDFA; Pelle, Sarah@CDFA; Goss, Sofia@CDFA; Fick, Sue@CDFA  
**Subject:** Poultry Health Inspections  
**Attachments:** F2020-05 PHI and vND Letter 2020\_Update\_2\_ADA\_Final.pdf; Biosecurity Practices for Poultry Show Organizers and Managers February 2020\_ADA\_Final.pdf; Biosecurity Practices for Poultry Exhibitors February 2020\_ADA\_Final.pdf

Good Afternoon Fair Managers,

Please find attached, Circular Letter F2019-05, this letter is to announce that there is USDA grant funding for FY 2020/21 Poultry Health Inspection program. All reimbursable cost(s) for PHI Health Inspections need to have incurred between April 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021.

Please note the Biosecurity Practices for Poultry Shows and Exhibitions were updated by CDFA Animal Health Branch in February 2020.

Please ensure that this information is shared with the fair board at the next regularly scheduled board meeting listed as an item of correspondence.

For future reference, you may view and download the F&E Circular Letters at <https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/FairsAndExpositions/> which are located under the "Correspondence" tab.

Sincerely,

Mike

Mike Francesconi  
*Agriculture Program Supervisor II*  
CDFA Fairs and Expositions  
Ph (916) 900-5365  
[mike.francesconi@cdfa.ca.gov](mailto:mike.francesconi@cdfa.ca.gov)





CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF  
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Karen Ross, Secretary

March 5, 2020

F2020-05

TO: All Fair CEO's

SUBJECT: POULTRY HEALTH INSPECTIONS (PHI) – FY 2020/21 Fair Season

This letter is to announce that there is grant funding through the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) for the Poultry Health Inspection (PHI) program which is available from April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021. Upon arrival at the fair (and prior to coop-in), all poultry shall be inspected for symptoms of disease or illness by a certified Poultry Health Inspector(s) (PHI) from the designated CDFA/UC Certification Program. Any suspect animals may be dismissed from the fairgrounds.

If you need assistance hiring or selecting a PHI, please contact **CDFA's Dr. Francine Bradley at (760) 699-5078**. Please visit the [UC Davis PHI program](#) for more information. Please reference the "[Biosecurity Practices for Poultry Show and Exhibition Organizers](#)" factsheet and provide to your exhibitors the "[Biosecurity for Poultry Exhibitors](#)" factsheet.

Due to continued outbreaks of the **Virulent Newcastle Disease (vND)** in Southern California, if your fair is located within the regional quarantine area, any poultry movement without a permit is prohibited. See the attached [letter](#) from CDFA's State Veterinarian for guidance on poultry events at California fairgrounds.

A few key notes for the PHI inspections include:

- 1. The Poultry Health Inspection (PHI) Program is a REQUIREMENT for all fairs and poultry shows.**
- 2. If reimbursable costs are incurred between April 1, 2020, and March 31, 2021, the PHI reimbursement will be processed for payment**
- 3. Each fair will be reimbursed for actual expenses incurred, up to \$300.00 per fiscal year. To be reimbursed, fairs must submit an invoice and backup documentation within sixty (60) days of the end of the fair and no later than March 1, 2021, related inspector(s) signed contract(s), and receipts to F&E at [Kalia.Mitchell@cdfa.ca.gov](mailto:Kalia.Mitchell@cdfa.ca.gov). (Please see the example invoice attached).**



The **invoice must be on Fair letterhead, and include** the following:

- ☐ Date of Invoice
- ☐ Dates of the Fair
- ☐ Date of the PHI
- ☐ Invoice number
- ☐ County with address
- ☐ Description of activity and a break out of the expenses for each activity related to the PHI.

- 4. Fairs with poultry shows will be reimbursed up to a maximum of \$300.00 inclusive for inspection fees, per diem, and materials associated with the PHI inspection. (*please see specifics below*).**

See [CalHR](#) for reimbursable costs/rates. Below is the pay scale for inspection fees, based on the number of birds inspected.

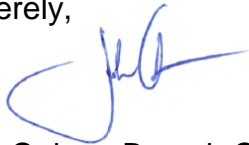
**Pay Scale for PHI Payment**

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number of Birds</u>
\$75	0-24
\$100	25 - 50
\$125	51 - 100
\$150	101-150
\$200	151-200
\$250	201-250
\$300	> 250

\*Over 250 birds will require more than one PHI, but still a maximum of \$300/fair.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Kalia Mitchell at (916) 900-5274 or [Kalia.Mitchell@cdfa.ca.gov](mailto:Kalia.Mitchell@cdfa.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



John Quiroz, Branch Chief  
Fairs & Expositions Branch

Enclosure



# Biosecurity Practices to Minimize Risk of Spreading Avian Diseases

## Poultry Show and Exhibition Organizers

Biosecurity means doing everything you can to protect your birds against disease. Standard biosecurity practices are important for California's poultry community at all times. Here are some recommendations for Exhibition Organizers:

### Before the Exhibition

**Advise exhibitors that if their birds show any sign of illness, they should not bring any birds nor attend the exhibit themselves.**

- Arrange bird display areas to minimize contact between exhibition birds and wild birds/wild waterfowl.
  - House exhibition poultry indoors (or at minimum, within a screened area)
  - Remove food and water sources that attract wild birds
- House different species (e.g. chickens, turkeys, ducks, and geese) separate from each other.
- Minimize the total time birds are on the exhibition grounds - Ideally, exhibition birds should be on exhibition grounds for no more than 72 hours.
- Require that a veterinarian and/or poultry health inspector (PHI) be present during the exhibition to:
  - Monitor birds for clinical signs of disease,
  - Evaluate sick birds, and
  - Take additional steps as warranted to minimize the risk of illness in the birds.
- Designate an isolation pen/area where there is no contact with any other birds, and contact with humans is minimal.
- Establish a system to maintain records of individual bird identification (e.g. leg bands), source farms, and owner contact information to enhance the speed and accuracy of an animal disease investigation associated with the exhibition.
- Host a meeting with exhibitors prior to the start of the exhibition to discuss:
  - Role of designated exhibition veterinarian/PHI
  - How to report bird illnesses
  - Required actions for sick birds at the show
  - Exhibition regulations
  - Disease control measures to be utilized before, during, and after the exhibition
  - Methods of communications of avian health issues including potential enhanced biosecurity measures at the event (e.g. email addresses and/or phone numbers from show entry information, social media channels, etc.)

- Develop a fair biosecurity plan with exhibition staff to minimize contact between flocks, including movement of people from flock to flock.
- Host non-animal-related activities (i.e. dances, pizza parties, etc.) in locations other than animal barns.

### During the Exhibition

- Require check-in of all birds.
- Make sure that your exhibition veterinarian/PHI station are well identified.
- Ensure that all birds are adequately identified and that identification, along with name and on-site contact information for owner(s), is recorded upon arrival at the show or exhibition.
- Require out-of-state exhibitors to provide a certificate of veterinary inspection (CVI) issued by an accredited veterinarian within 30 days for all birds attending the show or exhibition.
- Consider requiring exhibitors to provide a "poultry health declaration" upon arrival at the show or exhibition stating:
  - No known exposure of your flock to sick birds, and no poultry deaths on your premises within the past 10 days and
  - No clinical signs of illness, including respiratory or neurologic disease, within the past 10 days.
- Signs of disease include:
  - Sudden death,
  - Wheezing, coughing, nasal discharge,
  - Green watery diarrhea,
  - Depression,
  - Decreased feed intake,
  - Drop in egg production or egg quality,
  - Swelling and/or discoloration of eyes, head, neck, combs, or wattles, and/or
  - Tremors, circling, drooping wings, twisting of head and neck.

**To report an unusual number of sick or dead birds, call: Sick Bird Hotline (866) 922-2473**



- Record exit/release time of birds.
- Require exhibitors to immediately notify event staff of any bird displaying signs of illness.
- Immediately remove and isolate sick birds.
- Consult with a veterinarian to determine what diagnostic testing should be performed.

#### **For Exhibit Visitors**

- Provide easy access to hand washing/sanitizer stations.
- Post informational signage that includes the following messages:
  - Do not touch birds or cages,
  - No eating or drinking in the animal areas,
  - Wash hands before entering and after exiting exhibit areas, and
  - No pacifiers, sipping cups, or strollers in the animal areas.



#### **CDFA Animal Health Branch**

Headquarters - (916) 900-5002

Redding District - (530) 225-2140

Modesto District - (209) 491-9350

Tulare District - (559) 685-3500

Ontario District - (909) 947-4462

**USDA-APHIS-VS** (916) 854-3950 or (877) 741-3690

For more information, please click the following:

[Animal Health Branch](#)

[Avian Health Program](#)

#### **After the Exhibition**

- Clean and disinfect (C&D) the bird exhibition areas and allow these areas to completely dry before restocking.

#### **For Exhibit Visitors**

- If exhibitors or family members develop influenza-like illness or long-lasting conjunctivitis, consult a health care provider and a county public health official as soon as possible:
  - Inform the health care provider of close contact with birds.
  - Ill people should avoid all contact with birds until they are fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.



*Photos courtesy of: we-english.co.uk (front), Dr. Robert Czarniecki (back left), Tracy O'Brien (back upper-right), and Kecia O'Sullivan (back bottom-right)*



# Biosecurity Practices to Minimize Risk of Spreading Avian Diseases

## Poultry Exhibitors

Biosecurity means doing everything you can to protect your birds against disease. Standard biosecurity practices are important for California's poultry community at all times. Here are some recommendations for poultry exhibitors:

### Before the Exhibition

- House poultry indoors or at minimum, within a screened area.
- Remove food and water sources that attract pests such as wild waterfowl/birds, rodents, and insects.
- House different species (e.g. chickens, turkeys, ducks, and geese) separate from each other.
- Avoid visits to other backyard flocks or poultry operations and restrict visitor access to your birds.
- Avoid direct contact with wildlife, especially wild birds and waterfowl.
- Keep tools and equipment clean and disinfected.
- Clean cages, food, and water containers daily.
- Wash hands and disinfect shoes after working with birds.
- Consider having dedicated boots and clothing for working with your birds.
- Monitor and document the health of your birds daily.

**If your birds show any sign of illness, please do not bring your birds to the exhibition nor attend yourself.**

- Become familiar with the signs of disease in birds:
  - Sudden death,
  - Wheezing, coughing, nasal discharge,
  - Green watery diarrhea,
  - Depression,
  - Decreased feed intake,
  - Drop in egg production or egg quality,
  - Swelling and/or discoloration of eyes, head, neck, combs, or wattles, and/or
  - Tremors, circling, drooping wings, twisting of head and neck.

To report an unusual number of sick or dead birds, call:

**Sick Bird Hotline  
(866) 922-2473**

- Immediately isolate sick birds to a pen or area that is away from all other birds.
- Handle sick birds after tending to healthy birds.
- Ask the exhibition organizer about appropriate disease prevention measures and any specific actions that may be required if a bird becomes sick at the show.



### During the Exhibition

- Clean cages, food, water containers daily.
- Do not share equipment with other exhibitors; if equipment must be shared, make sure it is cleaned and disinfected between uses.
- Avoid contact with other birds during the event.
- Restrict bird contact to essential personnel, and
- Observe birds daily for signs of illness.
  - Report any clinical signs to the designated exhibition veterinarian, poultry health inspector, or appropriate exhibition staff.
  - Immediately remove sick birds from the exhibition area.
  - If your bird(s) show clinical signs of a reportable disease such as avian influenza or virulent Newcastle disease, testing (e.g. blood samples or swab samples) may be required and those results will be shared with the State Veterinarian's Office.

## After the Exhibition

- Refrain from attending another event with your birds for *at least* two weeks after returning from an exhibition,
- Isolate and observe birds for illness after returning home and before allowing contact with other animals,
  - The isolation/observation period for clinical signs of illness should be no fewer than 30 days.
  - Tend to the healthy birds that were kept at home first and then later to the isolated birds that attended the event.
- Clean and disinfect equipment, clothing, shoes, and vehicles/trailers that were at the exhibition,
  - Allow all cleaned and disinfected items to dry completely before re-use or restocking.
- If exhibitors or family members develop influenza-like illness, consult your healthcare provider as soon as possible:
  - Inform your health care provider of close contact with birds.
  - Ill people should avoid all contact with birds until they are fever-free for at least 24-hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.



Photos courtesy of: Dr. Everardo Mendes (front), Pixabay (back left), and Camille Carey (back right)



## Examples of Disinfectant Products\*

- **1-Stroke Environ™** - germicidal detergent
- **Tek-trol™** - Disinfectant cleaner concentrate
- **Nolvasan® S** - Chlorhexidine diacetate
- **Clorox Regular Bleach** - EPA: 5873-50 (sodium hypochlorite 6.0%)
- **Lysol Power & Fresh Multi-purpose cleaner®** - EPA: 777-66 spray
- **Purell®** - hand sanitizer

*\*Disclaimer: Trade names used in this publication do not constitute a guarantee, warranty, or endorsement of the products, nor criticize similar products not mentioned. CDFA bears no responsibility for liability resulting from the use of the products. These procedures are not guaranteed to prevent highly contagious diseases from affecting your birds; however, they will reduce risks.*

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[Avian Health Program](#)