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**From:** Mitchell, Kalia@CDFA <Kalia.Mitchell@cdfa.ca.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 19, 2021 3:25 PM  
**To:** Francesconi, Mike@CDFA; Anater, Kenneth@CDFA; Ferrero, Gregory@CDFA; Goss, Sofia@CDFA; Fick, Sue@CDFA; Pelle, Sarah@CDFA; Kume, Joji@CDFA  
**Cc:** jmsalaberry@ucdavis.edu; Jones, Annette@CDFA  
**Subject:** F2021-04 Poultry Health Inspections for 2021 Fair Season  
**Attachments:** F2021-04 Poultry Health Inspections FY 21-22 Fair Season.pdf; Biosecurity Practices Poultry Show Exhibit Organizers.pdf; California Recommended Biosecurity Practices for Poultry show and exhibition\_Exhibitors.pdf; Field Biosecurity Guide From CA State Vet.pdf; Top Tips for Keeping Your Backyard Birds Healthy\_ Poster.pdf; Sample PHI Invoice.xlsx

Good Afternoon Fair Managers and Board Chairs,

Please find the attached Circular Letter F2021-04 that provides information on the USDA-funded FY 2021/22 Poultry Health Inspection program grant. All reimbursable costs for PHI Health Inspections must be incurred between April 1, 2021, and March 31, 2022.

Please note the Biosecurity Practices for Poultry Shows and Exhibitions were updated by CDFA Animal Health Branch in March 2021. Also, CDFA is expecting the CA Department of Public Health to release updated guidance on safely hosting livestock events this year. Please be sure and work with your local county health department for planning your livestock events.

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.

Kind Regards,

**Kalia Mitchell**

Resource Coordinator

Fairs & Expositions Branch

Ph: 916-900-5274

[Kalia.Mitchell@cdfa.ca.gov](mailto:Kalia.Mitchell@cdfa.ca.gov)



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF

FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Karen Ross, Secretary

April 19, 2021

F2021-04

TO: All Fair CEO's

SUBJECT: POULTRY HEALTH INSPECTIONS (PHI) – FY 2021/22 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, 2021 – March 31, 2022. Fairs must receive approval from local health authorities on a site-specific plan for hosting a fair or livestock event that includes poultry. Upon arrival at the fair (and before 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. In the case where the fairgrounds will hold marketing or breeding classes this year, the poultry coming onto the fairgrounds will need to be examined by a Poultry Health Inspector (PHI).

The Poultry Health Check Guidelines and a list of certified PHIs are enclosed for your reference. 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](#) and reference the "[Biosecurity Practices to Minimize Risk of Spreading Avian Diseases for Poultry Show and Exhibition Organizers](#)" factsheet for more information. Refer exhibitors to the "[Biosecurity Practices to Minimize Risk of Spreading Avian Disease for Poultry Exhibitors](#)" factsheet.

California eradicated Virulent Newcastle Disease (vND) from Southern California and the Southern California Regional Quarantine was lifted June 1, 2020. Biosecurity remains an effective and important measure in disease prevention. See the attached [letter](#) from CDFA's State Veterinarian for an update on this year's Biosecurity Guidelines for State/County/City Personnel for on-farm poultry visits and a reminder of the importance of watching out for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI). See the attached [poster](#) to display tips for keeping your birds healthy. Additional resources on biosecurity and bird health can be found on the [CDFA Avian Health Program webpage](#).

A few keynotes 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, 2021, and March 31, 2022, 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, 2022, 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 breakout 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**  
**Amount      Number of Birds**

\$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,

  
Mike Francesconi, 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.



#### **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.

**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) 947-5932  
**USDA-APHIS-VS** (916) 854-3950 or (877) 741-3690

For more information, please click the following:

[Animal Health Branch](#)

[Avian Health Program](#)



*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.**

- 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.

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

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

## 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.



## 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.*

**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) 947-5932  
**USDA-APHIS-VS** (916) 854-3950 or (877) 741-3690

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

For more information, please click the following:  
[Animal Health Branch](#)  
[Avian Health Program](#)



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF

FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Karen Ross, Secretary

February 1, 2021

## **Field Biosecurity Guidelines for State/County/City Personnel Entering Shell Egg Packing Facilities, Poultry Harvest Facilities, and Poultry Farms**

To: All California State/County/City Personnel

The winter migratory bird season is underway and with it comes the possible return of Avian Influenza (AI). Conditions are similar to those in Winter of 2015 when two strains (H5N8 and H5N2) of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) were detected along the Pacific Coast, in wild birds, backyard flocks, and in two separate commercial poultry flocks in California. The 2015 HPAI outbreak in the Midwest resulted in the death of nearly 50 million commercial egg layers and turkeys.

Two key factors make Winter 2021 similar to that of 2015:

- 1) A high number of HPAI outbreaks (H5N8 and other strains) in poultry and wild birds in several Asian countries. This is key as three of the major flyways (East Asia/Australasia, Pacific Americas, Central Americas) mix in Alaska where birds can swap AI viruses. Birds in the Pacific Americas Flyway then migrate through California.
- 2) California is experiencing a late wet season with less standing surface water, forcing birds to closely congregate at stopovers and making it easier for diseases to spread between birds.

Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (LPAI) is endemic in wild waterfowl and the same factors that increase the risk for HPAI transmission are the same for LPAI transmission. This is a continual hazard every winter. The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) asks for your assistance and cooperation in preventing the introduction and spread of this devastating poultry disease by following some simple biosecurity precautions. With your help we can continue to provide a safe and healthy food supply for Californians. State, County, City, and private inspectors and auditors should adhere to the following:

- 1) When possible, conduct remote or virtual audits.
- 2) If in-person inspections or visits to poultry farms must occur:
  - a. Do not enter farms where eggs are hatched or poultry are raised if you have birds or live poultry at home.
  - b. Never visit any poultry farm within 72 hours of visiting another commercial poultry farm, egg or meat processor; after duck hunting or having had other exposure to wild migratory waterfowl; or visiting any backyard, school, feed



store, swap meet, live bird market, pet store, fair, veterinary clinic, zoo, bird hunt club, or other facility which has live poultry or birds.

- c. Always wash your vehicle including undercarriage and wheel wells before entering a farm/egg processing facility. A commercial car wash can be used for this purpose.
  - i. Park your vehicle in a designated area per the company's biosecurity plan or if there is none, try to park on cement or a paved area away from the production houses.
  - ii. Keep the inside of the vehicle clean and free of any organic material.
- d. Use good personal hygiene measures including freshly laundered clothes and showering before visiting a poultry farm or processing facility. Clothing that has been worn to premises with birds or live poultry should *never* be worn to another farm or processing facility without being laundered between visits.
- e. Never enter a poultry farm unless trained to apply and remove (don and doff) biosecurity clothing without spreading disease. If entering live bird areas, use clean, dedicated rubber boots or disposable plastic shoe covers, disposable coveralls, a mask, disposable gloves and a hair net.
- f. **ALWAYS follow all the biosecurity instructions of the commercial poultry farm/egg processing facility which may include: registering in a logbook, answering queries about bird and poultry premises visited previously, using company supplied protective clothing and footwear, footbaths, hand cleaning stations, tire/truck wash stations and other biosecurity measures.**

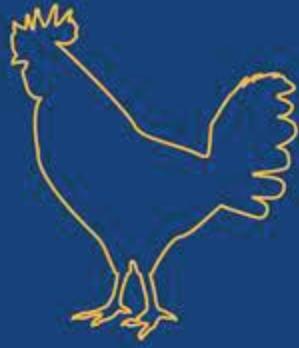
CDFA appreciates your efforts to protect poultry health in California on a daily basis. Remember, people, equipment, and vehicles can easily spread dangerous diseases from one location to another.

*For more information about biosecurity, please visit: [cdfa.ca.gov/go/poultrybiosecurity](http://cdfa.ca.gov/go/poultrybiosecurity)*

Sincerely,

Dr. Annette Jones, D.V.M.  
Director and State Veterinarian

# TIPS FOR KEEPING YOUR BIRDS HEALTHY



**1. Wash hands before and after handling or coming in contact with your birds; have dedicated clothing and boots while tending to your birds; scrub and disinfect boots.**



**2. Avoid sharing equipment with neighbors or other bird owners unless thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before and after each use.**



**3. Do your best to prevent waterfowl and wild birds from coming in contact with your birds.**



**4. Always buy your birds from a National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) Hatchery.**



**5. Report an unusual number of sick or dead birds to: Sick Bird Hotline  
1-866-922-BIRD (2473)**



00 District Agricultural Association

# INVOICE

Street Address  
City, CA Zip

DATE: January 15, 2021  
INVOICE # 1  
FOR: PHI

**Bill To:**

California Department of Food & Agriculture  
Fairs & Expositions Branch  
1200 N Street  
Sacramento, CA 95825

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
<b>2021 Poultry Health Inspection (PHI) Reimbursement</b>	
Inspection # 122 Poultry	\$ 150.00
PHI Travel @ 0.57/ mile (invoice attached)	\$ 108.44
Inspector's Name:	
Date(s) of PHI: February 15, 2021	
Dates of Fair: February 13, 2021	
County: Sacramento	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 258.44</b>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!

