



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Karen Ross, Secretary

January 8, 2025

F2025-01

TO: All Fairground Managers and Board Chairs

SUBJECT: CA H5N1 Avian Influenza – Ban on California Poultry and Dairy Exhibitions at Fairs and Shows

This letter is to inform you that the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) State Veterinarian Dr. Annette Jones has implemented a ban on all California Poultry and Dairy Exhibitions at Fairs and Shows, effective immediately until further notice. This action is required to minimize the danger of exposing people and non-infected birds and cows to the H5N1 Avian Influenza (Bird Flu).

The H5N1 Bird Flu is a highly contagious and often fatal disease in birds and has become widespread among dairy cows and domestic poultry (commercial and backyard flocks) in California. Since August 2024, there have been over 700 dairy herds and 60 poultry flocks affecting over 15 million birds with new dairies and flocks being detected.

Please read the enclosed letter from Dr. Annette Jones for more information on H5N1 and the ban. You can also visit the [CDFA HPAI H5N1 in Poultry webpage](#). For up-to-date information about the HPAI outbreak, please visit the [USDA APHIS Detections of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza webpage](#).

If you have any questions or concerns about your 2025 fair events, please feel free to contact me at (916) 900-5365 or at mike.francesconi@cdfa.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Michael Francesconi
Branch Chief

Enclosure

