



CDQAP Advisory: Guidance Document on Worker Safety, Mortality Pick-up & Animal Movement Permitting.

Good Afternoon CDQAP Partners,

Several important guidance documents related to HPAI were recently released or re-released. Find descriptions and links to them below as well as attached to this email.

Joint Guidance on Worker Safety Related to HPAI

In order to clarify requirements related to protecting dairy workers during HPAI outbreaks on dairies, CDFA, CDPH and Cal/OSHA (with others) jointly issued ["State of California Guidance on Bird Flu for Workers and Employers"](#). Highlights of the guidance include:

- The State and Federal governments maintain the risk to the general public is low. No person-to-person spread had been demonstrated in California or the U.S. All persons in California who have become infected had direct contact with infected cows. The [small number](#) of human cases in the state have reported mild symptoms, primarily eye infections ("Pink-Eye") or mild flu-like symptoms. All human cases have responded well to treatment and none have been hospitalized.
- Guidance for worker PPE has been established. The document [links](#) to specific guidance for worker PPE. Importantly producers must [provide](#) respiratory protection, such as an [N95 mask](#), and eye protection such as [goggles](#) or [face shield](#). Additional requirements may be implemented depending on how an "enclosed area" is defined on a dairy. CDQAP and your trade organizations will provide additional information as it becomes available. For farms with confirmed HPAI cases, producers can request [direct shipments](#) of PPE, at least until December 1st 2024. .
- Workers who become infected have assistance. A worker who suspects he has become infected can obtain free testing and treatment through their local county [public health department](#). Local health departments do not require or collect Social Security numbers or residency status information. Employees who become infected are also eligible for workers' compensation benefits.



CDFA Guidance on Mortality Management

In an effort to mitigate some issues related to animal mortality, CDFA has developed ["Best Practices During HPAI Livestock: Mortality Management"](#). Besides providing explicit guidance on where and how mortalities should be stored, the infographic can be useful in explaining to neighbors and reporters why roadside pick-ups may be necessary. Lastly, the flyer also provides 24/7 emergency contact information to use in the event that a mortality collection disruption occurs on a dairy.

There have been earlier reports of delays in animal mortality collection, but currently all three livestock rendering facilities in the state are reporting regular pick-ups. Should delays become an issue again, there are plans in place to allow for temporary on-site storage until they can be picked up or taken to the renderer. This process will be coordinated with the county local enforcement agency (LEA) and considered on a case-by-case basis. Should rendering facilities become completely overwhelmed additional emergency plans can be implemented.

CDFA Flow Chart for Movement Permitting

In order to clarify requirements related to what animal movement require permits, CDFA has created ["California Dairy Producer Guide to Intrastate HPAI Cattle Movements"](#). This flowchart graphically explains answers to some frequent questions for producers regarding issues such as "direct-to-slaughter", permitting cull cow movement and heifer movement to calf ranches.

As always we are grateful for the continued support from our regulatory, industry and academic partners.

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