



CDQAP Advisory: USDA Issues order requiring HPAI testing prior to interstate movement.

April 24th 2024

Good afternoon CDQAP partners,

We are forwarding a message from CDFA's Dr. Kokaram which includes the most recent the USDA-APHIS [Federal Order](#). Released today, the order requires testing for and reporting of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI or "Bird Flu") in livestock traveling across state lines. See below and attached.

Highlights include:

- The new Federal Order goes into effect this coming Monday, April 29th, 2024.
- On that date all lactating dairy cattle crossing state lines will have to be tested prior to movement, so called "pre-movement testing".
- Additional non-lactating dairy animals (youngstock & dry cows) may also require testing.
- Which non-lactating dairy animals will be tested will be determined by the state according to USDA guidelines to be released in the near future.
- The order includes dairy cattle crossing state lines for slaughter and dairy animals crossing state lines for fairs and expositions.
- For accuracy and efficiency reasons, milk is the preferred sample for lactating cattle and nasal swabs are preferred sample for youngstock.
- Sampling and testing will likely need to be completed within 7 days of shipping.
- Negative tests will be required before a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI or "health papers") will be issued to the producer.
- Samples must be submitted to a certified and proficiency-tested National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) laboratory.
- Cattle samples originating in California will be tested by the *California Animal Health & Food Safety (CAHFS)* laboratory in Davis. CAHFS is developing its own guidance related to scheduling for testing.
- Cattle samples originating in other states would go to a different NAHLN laboratory, which in most cases would be a state vet diagnostic lab.
- USDA will pay for the cost of running the sample assays. Private veterinarians will likely provide the sampling service at a cost.
- USDA will also pay for the cost of testing for producers interested determining the disease status of asymptomatic animals.



- Importantly, positive samples must now also be reported, making HPAI in cattle a federal “reportable disease”.
- Premises with positive animals would be under a “Notice of Required Action”/”Hold order”. Potentially premises would be under a hold order for 30 days past the last clinical or test positive animal.
- Source herds that shipped positive cows will participate in an epidemiologic investigation, focused on trace-back and trace-forward movement.

Producers and herd veterinarians are strongly encouraged to work with their local CDFA offices well in advance of movement, in order to give adequate time for the samples to be collected and analyzed. See attached. As Dr. Kokaram notes, CDFA realizes that some of the logistics and procedures for this new USDA requirement have yet to be finalized, but CDFA wanted to give producers as much advance notice as possible.

As always we thank CDFA for their continued support of our partnership. Michael.

Michael Payne DVM, PhD
School of Veterinary Medicine
University of California – Davis
<https://cdqap.org>
<https://www.wifss.ucdavis.edu>
530-304-9306
mpayne@ucdavis.edu