



**CDQAP ADVISORY: Free PPE Available for Dairy Employees:
Application Deadline June 9, 2024
Thursday, May 30, 2024**

Good Morning Industry Colleagues,

Summary

CDFA is working with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) for a one-time distribution of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for dairy farmworkers and others handling raw milk, as well as slaughterhouse and poultry workers. Because “Bird Flu” in dairy cattle has not yet been recognized in California, there are currently no requirements for use of additional PPE for the State’s dairy employees.

This PPE distribution is intended to allow for 30 days of PPE stored on the farm, ready for use in the event that a California dairy tests positive. The distribution also demonstrates to public health regulators and the public that industry values preparedness and prioritizes protecting employees.

The distribution is free and is coming from existing public health stockpiles, however **the deadline for ordering is June 9th.** More detailed information is provided by Dr. Jones in her email below and in the attachments.

How Much PPE to Ask For?

The intention is to store 30 days of PPE for employees who handle raw milk. In our case this could be milkers, certainly hospital pen workers and potentially calf feeders. Which employees are relevant and which PPE to request could be discussed with your herd veterinarian.

One example for a dairy with 10 relevant workers could be:

- 300 disposable N95 masks. (30 days x 10 employees X 1mask/day)
- 600 disposable nitrile gloves (30 x 2/pair x 10 employees)
- 10 goggles (one personal set of goggles for every employee potential with exposure. Not to be shared.
 - Given that the only two cases of HPAI in dairy workers have been eye infection, (potentially from splashes or touching the eyes with hands contaminated with milk) goggles or face shields may be the most protective of the requested PPE items.

The above is only an example. Each farm’s PPE needs may be different, and may vary from [CDC’s farm worker recommendations](#). There are other options available, including face shields and disposable bouffant caps. Unless human risk profiles in this disease change, producers will probably want to avoid



Power Air Purifying Respirators (PAPRs) which require batteries and fit testing. Producers with questions can consult their herd veterinarian, their local CDFA veterinary medical officer or CDQAP.

How to Request Free PPE

The 2-page PPE **Ordering Instructions PDF** is attached to this email. To place your PPE order, have one representative from your farm reach out to your local Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC). A list of local contacts for MHOAC program is [here](#). The MHOAC representative will want a shipping address for the dairy, the number of employees in need of PPE and the total amount of PPE being requested.

If you have additional questions you can contact your local CDFA representative or Dr. Payne. Michael.

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