



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES

COMMISSIONER WILTON SIMPSON

BIOSECURITY MEASURES FOR POULTRY EXHIBITORS

CRITICAL ADVICE FOR POULTRY EXHIBITORS

- Only take healthy animals to shows or fairs.
- Quarantine new or returning birds from home flock for 30 days and monitor for signs of illness.
- Perform home flock chores first. Use separate equipment, footwear, and clothing for quarantined birds.
- Provide disinfectant footbaths and disposable boot covers for anyone having contact with your flock.
- Wash hands before and after coming into contact with poultry.
- Isolate sick birds and contact a veterinarian about them.
- Clean and disinfect equipment regularly.
- Vaccinate for relevant diseases.
- Minimize stress for birds at home or away.
- Provide excellent nutrition and clean water at all times.
- Emphasize sanitation and keep premises clean.
- Monitor all flocks for increased mortality or clinical signs consistent with Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) and report any concerns immediately.

Additional Biosecurity Recommendations

- **Checklist after a Fair**
 - o Take fair clothing and footwear home in a plastic bag; launder and disinfect promptly.
 - o Keep show birds separate from their home flock for 30 days after returning from a fair.
 - o Do home flock chores first or designate one person to do the chores for returning birds and another person for the home flock.
 - o Use separate footwear, clothing, and equipment for the home flock and returning birds. Wash hands between both groups.
 - o Do not allow exhibitors to handle another exhibitor's birds without permission and without washing hands or changing gloves before and after.
 - o Do not allow exhibitors to share equipment.
 - o Watch returning birds closely for signs of illness; call a veterinarian to discuss any concerns that arise.
- **General Biosecurity**
 - o Thoroughly clean and disinfect equipment often.
 - o Do not visit other poultry farms.
 - o Do not wear farm clothing or footwear off the farm.

- **Cleaning and Disinfection**

o Thorough cleaning and disinfecting are important aspects of biosecurity. A veterinarian or Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services representative can recommend the most appropriate disinfectant to use. Follow these steps for effective disinfection:

- Thoroughly clean and disinfect cages, feed and water bowls, and any other equipment used during the fair.
- Cleaning means removing all visible debris (manure, bedding, dirt, feathers, feed, etc.).
- Thoroughly clean all surfaces with soap and water.
- Rinse well and let dry.
- Apply an appropriate disinfectant at the proper concentration for the recommended contact time.
- Rinse and let dry before using equipment or restocking premises with birds.
- Store equipment where it cannot become contaminated with bird or rodent feces.
- If you have questions regarding avian health, please contact your local veterinarian.

Additional Resources

- If you have any other questions, please contact the FDACS, Division of Animal Industry, at (850) 410-0900. Please visit our website for additional information regarding Avian Influenza and the requirements for moving poultry into the state at www.FDACS.gov/AvianInfluenza
- USDA Avian Health resources <https://tinyurl.com/y8cegflb>
- Center for Food Safety and Public Health Poultry Diseases, Resources, and Biosecurity <http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/Species/poultry.php> <http://poultrybiosecurity.org/>
- For more information regarding reporting sick domestic birds, please visit: Report Sick Birds.
- To report sick or dead wild birds, please visit: www.MyFWC.com/bird