April 24, 2015

Please note: As part of control and eradication efforts, movement into and out of control areas is restricted. Please call the MN Poultry Hotline number at 651-201-6817 for permits.

APRIL 2015 AVIAN INFLUENZA SUSPECT DISEASE ALERT

As a result of continued influenza surveillance in Minnesota, the following poultry flocks have presumptive positive avian influenza test results:

MNAIU59-15 – breeder turkeys (Stearns #11)
   a) 60 week breeder turkey hens with no clinical signs
   b) Surveillance samples collected April 23, 2015
   c) Flock is located in Stearns County, MAPP Code = 73CROL24A
   d) 1/2 tracheal swab samples were PCR Matrix positive at the University of Minnesota Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. CT value ~36. Sample subtyped for H5/H7 PCR was H5 NEGATIVE. Sample was submitted to the National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL) for confirmation.

MNAIU60-15 – breeder candidate turkeys (Steele #1)
   a) 13 week breeder candidate turkey toms with clinical signs
   b) Diagnostic samples collected April 23, 2015
   c) Flock is located in Steele County, MAPP Code = 74MERT18A
   d) 1/1 tracheal swab samples were PCR Matrix positive at the University of Minnesota Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. CT value ~19. Sample subtyped for H5/H7 PCR was H5 POSITIVE. CT value ~24. Sample was submitted to the National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL) for confirmation.

MNAIU61-15 – commercial turkeys (Kandiyohi #20)
   a) ?? week commercial turkeys (sex?) with no clinical signs
   b) Surveillance samples (collection date unknown)
   c) Flock is located in Kandiyohi County, MAPP Code = 34BURB03A
   d) 2/2 tracheal swab samples were PCR Matrix positive at the University of Minnesota Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. CT values ~25-34. Samples subtyped for H5/H7 PCR – 1/2 were H5 POSITIVE. CT value ~30. Samples were submitted to the National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL) for confirmation.

MNAIU62-15 – commercial turkeys (Kandiyohi #21)
   a) 16 week commercial turkey toms with no clinical signs
   b) Surveillance samples collected April 23, 2015
   c) Flock is located in Kandiyohi County, MAPP Code = 34FAHL07A
d) 1/4 tracheal swab samples were PCR Matrix positive at the University of Minnesota Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. CT value ~17. Sample subtyped for H5/H7 PCR was **H5 POSITIVE**. CT value ~22. Sample was submitted to the National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL) for confirmation.

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**BIOSECURITY** – now is the time for you and your employees to implement your critical level biosecurity programs. Some important biosecurity practices to consider as part of your programs are:

1. **Poultry should be kept away from areas in which they’d have access to or potentially share an environment with wild birds, especially waterfowl or shorebirds.** Ideally they should be housed indoors.

2. **Barn doors need to be closed at all times.**
   a. Consider delaying total cleans of finishing farms during our high risk time period (now-May 15 or ice out). This is to protect you from accidentally dragging something onto your farm/into your barns as well as avoiding damaging thawing driveways which can create watering holes for migrating birds.
   b. Equipment (tillers, mortality carts, etc.) need to be inside barns now and not moved outside until May 15 or until ice out. Avoid moving equipment between barns as tires can’t be cleaned well, especially when it’s muddy outside.

3. **Nothing can enter the barn unless it’s been properly cleaned and disinfected.** Equipment (spare parts, loading panels, etc.) need to be stored inside so that wild birds can’t get to it. Trucks (poult trucks, shavings trucks, etc.) are not to driven into the barn.

4. **Use barn specific coveralls and boots.** These should be kept in the barn’s entryway and changed into prior to entering the flock. Coveralls and boots should be removed and left in the entry. Do not wear them outside.

5. **Eliminate standing water** to prevent wild waterfowl from gathering on the farm property.

6. **Address feed spills immediately** to avoid attracting wild birds.

7. **Eliminate unnecessary farm visits** from anyone not essential.

You can stay current with all of the HPAI activities by visiting the Minnesota Board of Animal Health website [https://www.bah.state.mn.us/avian-influenza](https://www.bah.state.mn.us/avian-influenza) It has been revamped and upgraded to provide the most up-to-date and pertinent information.