NVSL has confirmed the detection of H5 avian influenza virus with PCR tests. Preliminary testing indicates this virus is a North American H5N2 Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (LPAI) virus.

The Board of Animal Health will begin implementing their Initial State Containment and Response Plan (the Minnesota Plan). Additional information will be released as deemed necessary.

Information below this point is from the Suspect Disease Alert sent yesterday, October 30, 2018.

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**Influenza Suspect Disease Alert**

Testing conducted on samples from a Minnesota poultry flock indicate exposure to influenza virus. These results are based on screening tests as part of the State's continued surveillance efforts to detect poultry diseases. The Minnesota Board of Animal Health will release more information after the National Veterinary Service Laboratory finishes confirmatory testing.

**Alert Level:** Critical

**MNAIW04-18 – STEARNS COUNTY**

- Flock is located in Stearns County, MAPP Code = 73MELR33B
- 13 week old commercial turkey hens (flock size 34,450)
- Flock is experiencing respiratory signs.
• Routine, pre-market samples were submitted to the MPTL on October 29, 2018. Antibodies were detected in 4 of the 20 serum samples submitted and tested (see explanation of serologic testing below).

• Trachael swab samples were collected from 3 barns (2 pooled samples per barn) on October 30, 2018 and submitted to the MPTL. 6 of the 6 samples were AI Matrix positive (CT ranged from 16.92 to 37.46) and H5 positive (CT ranged from 16.31 to 34.75) (see explanation of molecular testing below).

• Samples are being couriered to the National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL) in Ames, IA for confirmation. Results expected in 1-2 days.

• Please remember to be vigilant with your biosecurity and help keep Minnesota’s poultry healthy. Contact your veterinarian if you suspect any diseases or illnesses in your flock.

### ALERT LEVEL DESIGNATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alert Level</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Watch</td>
<td>Serology positive flock, no clinical signs consistent with HPAI.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warning</td>
<td>Virus detected, no clinical signs consistent with HPAI.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical</td>
<td>Virus detected, clinical signs consistent with HPAI, or H5 or H7 positive test results.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Testing information:

• Serologic testing (AGID or ELISA) is a diagnostic tool that looks for the presence of antibodies in the blood. The detection of antibodies are an indication that the bird has been exposed to a disease agent and its body produced antibodies in response to a virus/bacteria. It does not indicate whether or not the disease causing agent is still present within the flock.

• Molecular testing (PCR) is a diagnostic tool that looks for the presence of the disease agent (virus or bacteria) in the bird. Positive influenza results indicate that the bird is infected and shedding virus.

• Testing at the MPTL or Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (VDL) are to be interpreted as preliminary results and require confirmation at the National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL).
If there are any questions or concerns please contact your veterinarian or the MPTL at 320-231-5170.

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