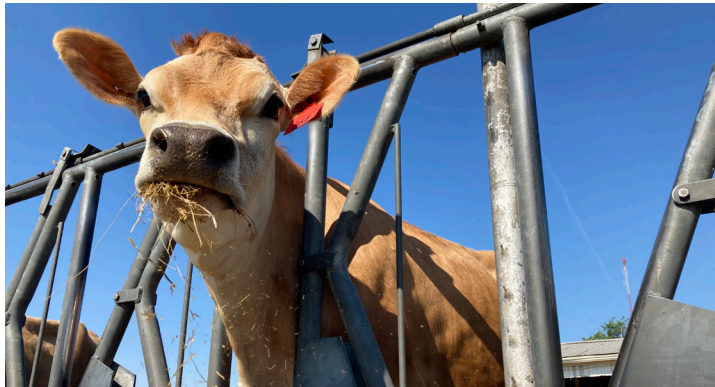


Avian Influenza in Dairy Cattle

Industry Guidance



Department of
Agriculture



Guidance

The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) is working to implement the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's Federal Order regarding the emerging Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza A (HPAI) H5N1 virus in dairy cattle.

Ohio requirements to comply with the order are being developed and will be posted on our website and distributed to stakeholders. Please follow normal procedures until that time.

The Federal Order, effective April 29, 2024, requires mandatory testing and reporting of all lactating dairy cattle for HPAI prior to interstate movement. Should dairy cattle test positive, a 30-day quarantine period is required, along with retesting. Any positive results must be reported to USDA-APHIS.

Ohio dairy cattle producers will work with their accredited veterinarian or a state licensed veterinarian to collect and submit milk samples. ODA's Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (ADDL) will perform the milk testing.

ODA is encouraging dairy farmers to obtain a Premise ID for submitting samples and ease of traceability. RFID tags will also be necessary for interstate movements of Ohio dairy cattle and can be obtained through ODA, at no cost. To request a free RFID tag, contact ODA's Division of Animal Health at 614-728-6220 or animal@agri.ohio.gov.

If dairy producers in Ohio should see unusual clinical symptoms similar to those in affected states, they are to contact their herd veterinarians.

Producers and food animal veterinarians should always maintain good biosecurity practices. Consult your herd veterinarian for recommendations on biosecurity. Secure Food Supply and the National Dairy FARM Program have biosecurity resources for producers. It is advisable that farms review their biosecurity plan with employees and other relevant personnel and work closely with their herd veterinarian to help mitigate disease risk.

The herd veterinarians should contact the State Veterinarian office at 614-728-6220 for further guidance.

Signs and Symptoms

- **Decreased ruminations, feed intake, and milk production in second lactation and older cows typically over 150 days in milk. Milk from affected animals has a thick, yellow, colostrum-like appearance.**
- **Manure is typically firm/tacky.**
- **A fever may or may not be present.**
- **Typically, 10% of animals in the herd are affected with a peak incidence at 3-4 days and the outbreak lasting approximately 10-14 days.**
- **Few if any cows die from the disease with many recovering, although many cows end up being culled due to low production or mastitis.**

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