



Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza H5N1 in Livestock

Questions and Answers

1. **What are the California dairy cattle movement restrictions?**

All Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) and test forms require a validated and accurate National Premises Identification Number (NPIN). If you do not know your NPIN please reach out to your State Animal Health Official's office to request the NPIN.

 - a. **Lactating dairy cattle moving interstate** require a matrix-A negative HPAI test and a CVI with individual official identification (ID) listed on CVI within 7 days of movement.
 - b. **Dairy cattle moving direct to slaughter** (lactating or non-lactating) via interstate movement require CVI or [owner hauler statement](#) within 7 days of movement. Currently USDA backtags can be used as identification for dairy cattle moving direct to slaughter. For dairy cattle that already have official identification (ID), the official IDs must be listed on the CVI or owner hauler statement.
 - c. **Exhibition/Show Dairy Cattle moving Interstate** require a matrix-A negative HPAI test and a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) with individual official identification listed on CVI within 7 days of movement. These animals can travel back to home herd using the same test and CVI provided the event does not exceed 10 days of length.
2. **What are the clinical signs that suggest possible HPAI H5N1 infection?**
 - Decrease in feed consumption with a simultaneous decrease in rumination and rumen motility
 - Respiratory signs including clear nasal discharge
 - Acute drop in milk production. Severely affected cattle may have thicker, concentrated, colostrum-like milk or produce no milk at all.
 - Abnormal tacky or loose feces
 - Lethargy
- Dehydration
- Fever
3. **What is the testing protocol for dairy cattle with clinical signs?**

Contact your Animal Health Branch District office and they will advise on how to take an official sample.
4. **What is the testing protocol for lactating dairy cattle moving interstate?**

Collect samples from all lactating dairy cattle if shipping less than 30 cows or 30 cows if shipping more than 30 cows within 7 days of interstate movement. Refer to the CDFA [Surveillance Testing of Dairy Cattle Protocol - FOR PRODUCERS](#)

 - Wash and disinfect the teats.
 - Sample each functional quarter and pool 3-10mls total in same tube (can use 15 ml sterile conical tubes, 10 ml red top tube)
 - Select "Pre-Movement" on [CAHFs submission form](#).
5. **Can I test my dairy cattle even if there are no clinical signs? Are raw milk dairies required to test cattle?**

Yes, the CAHFS laboratory will test animals to provide a herd health status. Raw milk dairies will be required to test cattle at regular intervals. Follow the testing protocol located [here](#). CDFA is working on a HPAI Monitored Herd program that raw milk dairies can voluntarily participate in to provide disease status assurances to customers.



6. Who can collect samples?

Samples may be collected by a category II accredited veterinarian, a sample collector approved by the state animal health official, or a designated individual at a farm that was trained to collect samples.

7. Where do I send samples?

CAHF, Davis
University of California, Davis
620 W. Health Sciences Dr.
Davis, CA 95616

8. How long does it take the laboratory to complete testing?

It takes three (3) days from the date the samples arrived at the laboratory for CAHFS to run the test and provide results.

9. What days are samples being tested at the CAHFS laboratory?

Currently tests are being run Monday through Friday. It is recommended that you not ship samples over the weekend unless shipping on Sunday for Monday arrival.

10. Who pays for the testing?

USDA APHIS will cover the cost of testing animals at the CAHFS laboratory. At this time USDA APHIS will not cover the costs of collecting or shipping samples unless the samples come from a known positive herd or a producer enrolls in the USDA monitored unaffected herd program.

11. What happens if a dairy cow is matrix-A HPAI test positive?

A Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostician will be dispatched to the premises to investigate the herd and conduct additional sampling and complete an epidemiology investigation survey (unless the sample was already collected by regulatory personnel). The herd will be under quarantine for 30 days with restricted movements requiring a permit.

- Separate cows with clinical signs.
- Heat treat milk going to calves or prior to disposal.
- Request blanket permit to move milk and cattle off premises.
- CDFA works with dairy to support use of biosecurity best practices that

protect other herds, flocks, and the food supply.

- Raw to consumer milk must be pasteurized if from a test positive herd.

12. How long am I required to discard milk from a positive herd?

At this time milk from clinically affected or known positive dairy cattle must be discarded for the minimum 30-day quarantine.



13. What support is available to dairies with detections of HPAI H5N1?

Financial support for:

- Personal protective equipment (PPE) up to \$2,000/month until quarantine release.
- Development of enhanced biosecurity plans up to \$1500 per affected premises.
- Producers who purchase and install an in-line sampler at a flat rate of \$100.
- Heat treatment to dispose of milk from sick or known positive dairy cows in a biosecure fashion up to \$2,000/month not to exceed \$8,000 per affected premises.
- Veterinarian costs incurred for treating affected cattle or to collect samples for testing up to \$10,000 per affected premises.
- Sample shipping costs not to exceed \$50 per shipment for up to 2 shipments per month per affected premises.

For further information please visit: [USDA Support for Producers with Affected Dairy Premises](https://www.usda.gov/press-releases/2024/05/01/USDA-Support-for-Producers-with-Affected-Dairy-Premises)

14. How long is the testing requirement from the federal order going to be in place?

Currently the federal order does not specify an expiration date.

15. How do I get assistance with developing/implementing a biosecurity plan?

CDFA recommends working with your herd veterinarian and has the following dairy biosecurity plan templates and manuals available online:

[CA Dairy Premises Enhanced Biosecurity Plan Template](#)

[California Dairy Farm Premises](#)

[Amendment to Farm 5.0 Enhanced Biosecurity Plans](#)

[CA Dairy Farm Enhanced Biosecurity Plan Manual](#)

Additional biosecurity resources:

[Biosecurity Resources - NMPF](#)

[Secure Milk Supply Plan](#)

16. What are the penalties for not following the testing and CVI requirements?

Failure to comply with California entry requirements is a violation of both California and Federal laws, which may result in an issue of a Notice of Violation and assessment of fines.

If you are transporting livestock into California with an electronic CVI, please have the information readily available on your device or print and present a hard copy to the Inspector at the Border Protection Station.

**Animal Health and Food Safety Services
Animal Health Branch**

Headquarters - (916) 900-5002

Redding District - (530) 225-2140

Modesto District - (209) 491-9350

Tulare District - (559) 685-3500

Ontario District - (909) 947-5932

For California entry requirements of other live- stock and animals, please visit the following: [Information About Livestock and Pet Movement](#) or [Animal Health Entry Requirement Interactive Website](#)