

June 9, 2022

TO: Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs

FROM: Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

SUBJECT: Continuation of General Quarantine Order; Cancellation of Exhibitions of Poultry and Their Hatching Eggs Due to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza

On April 16, 2022, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA) issued a quarantine order banning exhibitions of poultry and poultry products, including eggs, feathers and other items at county and local fairs in Pennsylvania. This order was enacted to reduce the spread of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza and protect poultry throughout Pennsylvania.

Recent detections of HPAI in both wild birds and in commercial poultry indicate that HPAI remains a threat to poultry throughout the state. Accordingly, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has elected to maintain the quarantine order and exhibitions of poultry and poultry products will continue to be prohibited throughout the 2022 fair season.

PDA understands the hardship this order places on our poultry exhibitors, most particularly our youth. HPAI, however, is an extremely devastating disease. Maintaining this order not only helps protect our agricultural livelihoods and local economies, but it is also protects your show stock.

PDA will continue to monitor and assess the situation both within the state and nationally and we would like to thank you for your support as it is integral to our response efforts.

Sincerely,



Kevin D. Brightbill, DVM
State Veterinarian, Director
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Animal Health and Diagnostic Services