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# State of Nebraska

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**May 15, 2015**

**TO:** County Extension Agents, FFA Advisors, Swap Meet Operators, Exotic Sale Operators, Live Bird Auction Operators

**FROM:** Dr. Dennis Hughes, State Veterinarian, Nebraska Department of Agriculture

**RE:** Avian Influenza Situation in Northeast Nebraska

The Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) in conjunction with the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has confirmed the presence of highly pathogenic H5N2 avian influenza (HPAI) in two commercial layer flocks in Dixon County, Nebraska.

Both farms are under quarantine, and the birds on both properties will be depopulated. NDA is working with the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality to ensure proper disposal of dead birds. A perimeter has been established around both operations and NDA will be visiting all locations that have poultry and are within a 6.2 mile radius of the impacted farms to conduct testing.

NDA is attempting to control and contain the virus as quickly as possible and is seeking your assistance in that effort.

As part of those efforts, our staff has made the determination that swap meets, exotic sales and live bird auctions east of Highway 281 will **not be permitted** to sell poultry until further notice. In addition, poultry from east of Highway 281 will **not be permitted** to be sold at swap meets, exotic sales and live bird auctions anywhere in Nebraska until further notice. Questions on this topic may be directed to Dr. Tom Schomer at (402) 471-2351.

For those that are coordinating an upcoming poultry show we would appreciate you informing us. While we have not enacted a ban on poultry shows at present time, we would like to process the risk associated with each show on a case by case basis and help you determine the best course of action for your event.

We ask that you please report a contact name, phone number/email address, the name of your event, date and location via email to Jeanne Egger at NDA via email at [jeanne.egger@nebraska.gov](mailto:jeanne.egger@nebraska.gov) or by calling (402) 471-6880.

NDA would also greatly appreciate if you could share this information with anyone else you know that might be coordinating such an event in Nebraska.

We greatly appreciate your assistance in helping us control and contain this virus. You can find additional information including printable fact sheets on avian influenza on our website at:  
<http://www.nda.nebraska.gov/animal/avian/index.html>.