



Biosecurity Guidance and Requirements

FOR ORGANIZERS OF FAIRS AND EXHIBITIONS

Fairs and exhibitions provide an opportunity for learning and to showcase the hard work invested in agricultural animals. Unfortunately, these exhibitions also provide an opportunity for illness to spread among animals from multiple herds. Appropriate measures should be taken to minimize the potential for spread of influenza. It may not be possible to prevent all transmission of influenza viruses at livestock exhibitions. The measures described here are offered for careful consideration depending on the needs of the specific exhibition.

Prior to the Exhibition

- Identify a veterinarian being available for activities to assist the organizers with the show, including animal check-in, daily health evaluation during the show or exhibit, determining actions for sick animals including: removal from exhibit, isolation, and/or treatment.
 - **Requirement:** Each exhibition where influenza susceptible animals are present shall ensure that at least one designated veterinarian is involved in the planning of the exhibition, and available to provide veterinary care if needed, during each day in which animals are present at the exhibition.
- Develop a plan to address potential animal health issues with the veterinarian and exhibit staff to coordinate all efforts including sample collection if needed.
- Ensure that all exhibition staff assisting with the event become familiar with the clinical signs of a sick animal (such as fever, off-feed, lethargy, nasal discharge, cough, and diarrhea) and will relay that information to the veterinarian or primary organizer contact.
- Understand the risks to both humans and animals of having a sick animal at the exhibition.
- Locate an isolation area away from the main exhibit to be used in the event sick animals are identified. An off-site location is preferable but if not possible, utilize an area blocked off from public and animal traffic. Utilize staff personnel that do not have any contact with other animals on the fairgrounds.
 - The isolation area should be away from general exhibit traffic and other animals. A small room or an area of the barn where no other animals are housed.
 - A hand-wash station or hand sanitizer should be available at the entrance of the isolation area.
 - A trash can should be placed in a convenient location for use in isolation only.
 - **Requirement:** Each exhibition where influenza susceptible animals are present shall provide a designated isolation area, ensuring:
 - A written protocol is maintained and communicated to all exhibitors for the immediate isolation of influenza susceptible animals showing signs or symptoms of potential infectious, contagious, or communicable disease.
 - Isolation areas shall be located away from all other animals, and may not share confined air space, panels/fence lines, feeding, or watering space with other animals not in the isolation area.
 - Access to the isolation area shall be limited to the owner(s) of isolated animals, or their designated caretaker, designated show staff, and the veterinarian of record or other veterinarian(s) directly involved in the care of isolated animals.

- Collect sufficient contact information (i.e., email addresses and cell phone numbers) from all exhibitors to be able to rapidly communicate procedural changes, requests for information, or incidents associated with the exhibition. Ensure that a process is in place to document farms of origin of cattle as well as individual identification of cows.
 - **Requirement:** The following records are required to be collected at the time of entry into the exhibition and maintained by the designated contact for a minimum of 90 days after the completion of the exhibition. Records must be provided to the Department upon request.
 - A record of each influenza susceptible animal to include: official identification (if present), other individual animal identification present (herd tag, registration number, etc), exhibitor contact information (name, address, phone number, email address), negative test results for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (if required), and the physical address of the premises of origin
 - For any influenza susceptible animal coming from a Premises of Origin outside the State of Oregon, a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection, showing: the physical address of the premises of Origin, the physical address of the exhibition, the individual official identification of each animal present at the exhibition negative test results for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (if required) within 7 days prior to entry into Oregon.
- Limit co-mingling of animals from different herds to the extent possible. Exhibition spaces should be designed to limit nose to nose contact between animals with physical separation (such as tarps) provided to the extent possible.
 - **Requirement:** Influenza susceptible animals must be housed separately from other species of influenza susceptible animals, and may not share confined air space, panels/fence lines, feeding, or watering space with other species of influenza susceptible species.
- Communicate expectations for milking of healthy cows while at the exhibition such as requiring that all milk be disposed of, not sold or fed to other livestock, prohibit dumping milk anywhere on the grounds outside of designated event tanks, and provide pasteurization or acidification before disposal.
 - **Requirement:** Lactating dairy cattle may not be milked in areas that are directly accessible to the general public. If animals are milked in a stall or other animal area accessible to the public, a barrier must be placed to keep the public at least 10 feet away from the cow being milked.
- Communicate expectations for housing and handling waterfowl while at the exhibition to minimize the risk of disease such as limiting direct contact with waterfowl, disposing of waste from waterfowl separately from other animals to prevent cross-contamination, and ensuring separation between waterfowl and other influenza susceptible species such as poultry and waterfowl.
 - **Requirement:** Waterfowl may not be provided open containers of water except to drink from. Any open container of water provided to waterfowl must be sized sufficiently small to prevent animals from entering the water.
- Ensure handwashing stations with running water, soap, and paper towels will be available near the exit of the exhibition area.
 - **Requirement:** Exhibitions which are open to the general public, or which allow attendance by individuals that are not exhibiting animals or their immediate family members shall at a minimum:
 - Provide an accessible hand-washing station or alternative hand sanitizing method approved by the local health officer near each area where influenza susceptible animals are housed;
 - Post a prominent sign in a simple and easy to understand format for visitors to see before they enter areas where influenza susceptible animals are housed which warns that: Animals can carry germs that can make people sick, even animals that appear healthy; Eating, drinking, or putting things in a person's mouth in animal areas could cause illness; Older adults, pregnant women, immunocompromised people, and young children are more likely to become ill from contact with

animals; Young children and individuals with intellectual disabilities should be supervised in animal exhibit areas; and Strollers, baby bottles, pacifiers, and children's toys are not recommended in animal exhibit areas.

- Post a prominent sign at each exit from areas where influenza susceptible animals are housed reminding visitors to wash their hands

During the Exhibition

- During check-in, each animal should be evaluated by a veterinarian. Any sick animals should not be unloaded but sent immediately home or to a designated isolation area. To prevent the potential spread of disease, exhibit officials should avoid entry into trailers during check-in evaluations. If exhibit officials have to enter the trailer to examine an animal, use disposable coveralls and boots and dispose of after single use. Use a hand-washing station between loads or have hand sanitizers or wipes available.
 - **Requirement:** No animals of any species showing signs or symptoms of potential infectious, contagious, or communicable disease shall be allowed entry to any exhibition.
 - **Requirement:** The following animals must test negative for H5N1 influenza by PCR test, using the sample types designated below within 10 days prior to entry into the exhibition.
 - Waterfowl – Cloacal swab; up to 5 animals from the same pen or group may be pooled by the sample collector into a single sample.
 - Lactating dairy cattle – Milk sample; pooling milk from all four quarters; Up to 5 animals from the same pen or group may be pooled by the laboratory into a single test.
- Communicate with exhibitors and their family members at the start of the exhibition to:
 - Review animal disease control measures to be utilized during the exhibition, including the daily monitoring of the animals during the show and biosecurity measures.
 - Provide specific actions that may be required if an animal becomes sick at the exhibition.
- Observe animals daily for signs of illness, which may include fever, lethargy, lack of appetite, nasal discharge, cough or diarrhea. Report any illness to the primary veterinarian or the appropriate exhibition staff (i.e. species superintendent) so the animal can be evaluated. Animals deemed to be ill should be removed from the exhibition immediately.
 - **Requirement:** Any influenza susceptible animals showing signs or symptoms of potential infectious, contagious, or communicable disease shall be immediately removed to the designated isolation area until examined by the veterinarian of record.
- Use precautions when caring for sick animals to minimize the opportunity for disease transmission to other animals or people:
 - Do not replace the sick animals with other animals
 - Only the individuals who care for the animal and the attending veterinarian should enter the isolation area.
 - Disposable coveralls and plastic boots should be worn when entering the isolation area and removed and thrown away when leaving.
 - Supplies such as buckets and feed pans should not be shared between animals in isolation and other animals.
 - All equipment should be thoroughly cleaned, disinfected, and allowed to dry after use in isolation.
- Clean and disinfect equipment and exhibition areas frequently.
 - Use approved disinfectants that are safe for human and animal contact: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-m-registered-antimicrobial-products-label-claims-avian-influenza>