



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

DR. TIM BORING
DIRECTOR

NOTICE OF MEETING

**MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

January 22, 2025

The regular meeting of the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development will be held on Wednesday, January 22, 2025. The business session is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. The meeting is open to the public and this notice is provided under the Open Meetings Act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275. The Commissioners will be meeting at Constitution Hall – Atrium Level, Con-Con Conference Room, 525 West Allegan Street, Lansing, Michigan. This meeting is also being conducted electronically to allow for greater remote public attendance and participation. To join the meeting via Microsoft Teams: by telephone dial: **1-248-509-0316** and enter the **Conference ID 878 418 624#** or by video conference visit www.michigan.gov/mdard/about/boards/agcommission to join the day of the meeting.

In accordance with the Commission's Public Appearance Guidelines, individuals wishing to address the Commission may pre-register to do so during the Public Comment period as noted below and will be allowed up to three minutes for their presentation. Documents distributed in conjunction with the meeting will be considered public documents and are subject to provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. The public comment time provides the public an opportunity to speak; the Commission will not necessarily respond to the public comment.

To pre-register to speak virtually during this meeting, individuals should contact the Commission Assistant **no later than Fri. January 17th, 2025**, via email at MDA-Ag-Commission@michigan.gov and provide their name, organization they represent, address, and telephone number, as well as indicate if they wish to speak to an agenda item. You may also contact the Commission Assistant at that email address to provide input or ask questions on any business that will come before the Commission at the meeting. The Commission Chair will call upon each person by name and telephone number when it is time for them to speak and there will be a meeting moderator facilitating participation. All others wishing to speak will be provided two minutes to do so. Instructions on how to be recognized will be provided at the beginning of the meeting.

Those needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Commission Assistant at 800-292-3939 one week in advance or may use the Michigan Relay Center by calling 711 for deaf, hard of hearing, or speech-impaired persons.


Tim Boring
Director

MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Constitution Hall – Atrium Level
Con-Con Conference Room
525 West Allegan Street
Lansing, Michigan

Option to Join via Remote Technology
Dial: 1-248-509-0316; Conf. ID: 878 418 624#

January 22, 2025 TENTATIVE AGENDA

- 9:00 a.m.
1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
 2. **Approval of Agenda (action item)**
 3. **Approval of Minutes** from the November 5, 2024, Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development Meeting **(action item)**
 4. **Next Scheduled Meeting:**
 - March 12, 2024
 5. **Commissioner Comments and Travel (action item)**
 6. **Commissioner Issues**
 - Election of New Officers **(action item)**
 - Retirement Resolution – Michael Gregg **(action item)**
 7. **Director's Report**
 8. **Public Comment on Agenda Items**

In accordance with the Public Appearance Guidelines in the Commission Policy Manual, individuals wishing to address the Commission must complete a Public Appearance Card and will be allowed up to three minutes for their presentation. Documents distributed at the meeting will be considered public documents and are subject to provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. The public comment time provides the public an opportunity to speak; the Commission will not necessarily respond to the public comment.
 9. **Update from the State Veterinarian:** Dr. Nora Wineland, State Veterinarian
 10. **Legislative Update:** Mikaylah Heffernan, Legislative Liaison
 11. **Public Comment**

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provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. The public comment time provides the public an opportunity to speak; the Commission will not necessarily respond to the public comment.

12. **Adjourn (action item)**

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Constitution Hall – Atrium Level
Con-Con Conference Room
525 West Allegan Street
Lansing, Michigan

Option to Join via Remote Technology
Dial: 1-248-509-0316; Conf. ID: 172 999 0#

MEETING MINUTES November 6, 2024

PRESENT:

Monica Wyant, Chair, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development
Dr. Felicia Wu, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development
Kathrine Garthe, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development
Andy Chae, Vice Chair, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development.
David Williams, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development.
Dr. Tim Boring, Director, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Wyant called the meeting of the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development to order at 9:00 a.m. on November 6, 2024. Chair Wyant called the roll with Commissioners Wyant, Chae, Wu, Williams, Garthe, and Director Boring present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

COMMISSIONER GARTHE MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR NOVEMBER 6, 2024. COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2024, MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: COMMISSIONER WU MOVED TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2024, MEETING MINUTES. COMMISSIONER CHAE SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND TRAVEL

Commissioner Garthe finished apples and pears on her farm in northern Michigan. She expressed concern for the disastrous sweet cherry season with the extreme rainy weather, which caused fungus.

Commissioner Chae is wrapping up his CSA distribution season at his farm in the city of Detroit. He is now working on projects before winter. He expressed how great of a season it was for his farm.

Chair Wyant had no update-for the commission.

Commissioner Wu recently traveled to Ethiopia related to her project on milk consumption that affects children's health. She will be leaving for Portugal in the coming days to serve on

the World Health Organization Dietary Guidelines Committee, where they plan to set dietary guidelines that are sustainable, achievable and reasonable.

Commission Williams attended Soy Connect, an international marketing conference in San Francisco by the US Soybean Export Council. He also attended the MDARD All Staff Meeting and Awards program the week prior.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER WU MOVED TO APPROVE THE COMMISSIONERS' TRAVEL. COMMISSIONER CHAE SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Boring highlighted the All Staff Meeting at the Lansing Center. This was the first event in almost a decade that brought all employees of MDARD together to highlight professional development and enrichment activities for the staff. The next day, MDARD hosted the Annual Employee Awards Event, recognizing employees with time of service and individuals who go above and beyond to make MDARD a great place to work.

The Director and the department have done a lot of traveling in the last few weeks. The director had been in Sparta to discuss labor issues and then in Traverse City talking about the Sweet Cherry Disaster response. Michigan also welcomed Undersecretary of Agriculture, Alexis Taylor, on exports and Women in Agriculture. In the recent weeks, USDA announced HPAI was found in a pig in Oregon. This raises concerns for the disease due to the human health risk.

Most recently, the department has welcomed Dr. Laura Johnson, as the Chief Science Officer for MDARD. She was the former director of the National Water Quality Research Center, at Heidelberg University. Dr. Johnson introduced herself to the commission and expressed excitement to be part of the department. The director also gave the commission an update on the Farm to Family program, which will show the importance of specialty crops and how food moves from farm to Michigan tables.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Bee Friedlander, representing the Animal Law Section of the State Bar, testified before the commission.

PROPOSED 2025 MEETING SCHEDULE:

MOTION: COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2025 MEETING SCHEDULE, AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER GARTHE SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

INTERTRIBAL AGRICULTURE COUNCIL PRESENTATION:

Abby Buraglio, Great Lakes Region Technical Assistance Specialist, for the Intertribal Agriculture Council (IAC), gave a presentation on the tribal and sovereignty work being done in the state of Michigan. She explained the programs the IAC provides, including American Indian Foods which helps with exports, making a connection and trademarks products that are made/produced, as well as programs to support the youth in livestock and home gardening.

Ms. Buraglio explained upcoming initiatives IAC is working on, including the Meat and Poultry Processing Technical Assistance that will help support applicants expand into processing facilities. Another initiative is the National Intertribal Food Business Centers

which will lend assistance for Tribal Food Businesses. Currently, Michigan State University is leading the initiative in Michigan.

Director Boring asked where IAC is seeing opportunities for more capacity in meat processing for different species, beef, poultry or venison. Ms. Buraglio said IAC is seeing interest in mobile processing especially in the poultry space and bison, which will become a multi species facility, including venison.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE INVESTMENT FUND REQUEST:

Jamie Zmitko-Somers, Agriculture Development Bureau Director, introduced Richard Raffaelli from Peterson Brands, LLC. Peterson Farms was founded in 1984 processing tart cherries. Today, they are the leading marketer of frozen fruits in the United States and specializing in fresh-cut apples. In 2024, they purchased King Brands, which supplies shelf-stable juices. The grant request is to relocate the juice production from Florida to Michigan, which will produce 430 million juice cups and 101 million juice pouches. The Investment fund request is for \$250,000.

Mr. Raffaelli informed the commission they are the largest apple slicer in the United State, primarily to schools. This new investment would help them be the top producer of apple juice cups to the school market. The new production will reduce water usage by 336% and reduce energy by 112%, and all cups are 100% recyclable. Mr. Raffaelli also stated that they purchase 97% of their product from Michigan family farms.

Commissioner Williams asked why the focus is on the Honeycrisp market. Mr. Raffaelli said Honeycrisp apples give multiple picks throughout the season, and their facility has a need for those later picks throughout the season. Commissioner Garthe asked why only 97% of the apples come from Michigan. Mr. Raffaelli said they are committed to Michigan product but do purchase 3% to stay in the outside market, in case there were a disastrous year, similar to 2012.

Commissioner Garthe recused herself from the vote, due to conflict of interest.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS MOVED TO APPROVE A FOOD AND AGRICULTURE INVESTMENT FUND REQUEST FOR PETERSON BRANDS FOR \$250,000. COMMISSIONER CHAE SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

GENERALLY ACCEPTED AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (GAAMPS) – PROCESS AND INTRODUCTION OF DRAFT 2025 GAAMPS:

Michael Philip, Bureau of Environment and Sustainability Director and Kyle McCarty, Right to Farm, Conservation Stewardship Division, came forward to review the statutory authority of the commission. Mr. McCarty also reviewed the timeline of the draft 2025 GAAMPS for approval.

Mr. McCarty invited Ryan Coffey Hoag to come forward and introduce himself as the Farm Market GAAMP chair. The commission had no questions for Mr. Coffey Hoag.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER GARTHE MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2025 GAAMP FOR FARM MARKETS, AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER WU SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. McCarty invited Mr. Gerry May to come forward and introduce himself as the Site Selection GAAMP chair. Mr. May informed the commission that the Site Selection GAAMP went through extensive changes from prior versions. Commissioner Garthe thanked Mr. McCarty for providing all the revisions with plenty of time to review.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2025 GAAMP FOR SITE SELECTION, AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER CHAE SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. McCarty introduced Dr. Madonna Benjamin, who was joining the commission virtually, as the Care of Farm Animals GAAMP Chair. Dr. Benjamin highlighted revisions on honeybees and addressed concerns about HPAI and COVID. Commissioner Garthe asked Dr. Benjamin why there was no clear care of sick animals in the GAAMP. Commissioner Garthe expressed concerns after HPAI in our state. Dr. Benjamin said the task force can review that concern. The current standards were suggested by organizations specialized for the species.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER GARTHE MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2025 GAAMP FOR CARE OF FARM ANIMALS, AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER WU SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. McCarty informed the commission that the Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control GAAMP, Nutrient Utilization GAAMP, Manure Management and Utilization GAAMP, Irrigation Water Use GAAMP, and the Cranberry Production GAAMP had no changes in the 2025 draft.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2025 GAAMPS FOR PESTICIDE UTILIZATION AND PEST CONTROL, NUTRIENT UTILIZATION, MANURE MANAGEMENT AND UTILIZATION, IRRIGATION WATER USE, AND CRANBERRY PRODUCTION, AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER GARTHE SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

MDARD REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE PROGRAM:

Michael Philip, Bureau of Environment and Sustainability Director, introduced Megan DeLeeuw, Soil, Water, and Climate Section Manager, who gave an overview of the Regenerative Agriculture Program. This program will follow the core principles of understanding the context of the farm operation, minimizing soil disturbance, maximizing diversity, keeping soil covered, maintain living roots year-round and integrating livestock and increasing biodiversity.

Ms. DeLeeuw reviewed the FY 2024-2027 Strategic Plan for the program, which includes educational and training opportunities for farmers. This will include technical assistance to farmers through soil health test, soil health assessments and surveys. Ms. DeLeeuw also highlighted a grant the department received that will create a regenerative agriculture demonstration farm at the VFW National Home in Eaton Rapids.

Chair Wyant asked if there were any other key metrics other than acres under regenerative management that would be used. Ms. DeLeeuw said once the soil health and assessments are completed, they will have a better understanding of the data. Commissioner Williams ask if all the programs will be done at the VFW National Home, only. Ms. DeLeeuw explained that is just a part of the program, and the program will be

delivered through a variety of means including through conservation technicians and others.

NURSERY AND RELATED INSPECTION FEES:

Michael Philip, Bureau of Environment and Sustainability Director, introduced Molly Mott, Plant Health Section Manager. Ms. Mott explained how the fee structure works, the basis for the request of a fee increase, including the statutory requirement of the commission.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER CHAE MOVED TO APPROVE THE NURSERY AND RELATED INSPECTION FEES. COMMISSIONER WU SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURN

MOTION: COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER WU SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:29 A.M.

Attachments:

- A) Agenda
- B) Agriculture and Rural Development Commission Meeting Minutes September 11, 2024
- C) 2025 Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development Meeting Schedule
- D) Intertribal Agriculture Council Presentation
- E) Food and Agriculture Investment Fund Request – Peterson Brand LLC.
- F) Generally Accepted Agricultural Management Practices (GAAMPS) 2025 Drafts and Public Comment
- G) Regenerative Agriculture Presentation
- H) Nursery and Related Inspection Fee Increase Request



MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
RESOLUTION COMMENDING

Michael R. Gregg

WHEREAS, the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development is pleased to honor Michael R. Gregg upon his retirement from the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development on January 3, 2025; and,

WHEREAS, Michael received his bachelor and master's degrees from Michigan State University, where he majored in Resource Development with a minor in Agricultural Economics; and,

WHEREAS, Michael began his career with the Michigan Department of Agriculture in 1979, after serving 4.5 years with the Ingham County Drain Commissioner's Office. He has been the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's Intercounty Drain Program Manager since 1985. Michael and his team have administered hundreds of drainage infrastructure projects of all sizes and types possible under the Drain Code; and,

WHEREAS, Michael has served on a variety of interagency policy committees, is an active Life Member of the Michigan Association of County Drain Commissioners and represented the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development on the Executive and Legislative Committees; and,

WHEREAS, Michael's contributions to the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development went above and beyond the scope of his leadership, education, skills, and performing his job-related duties. He will always be remembered for his kindness, professionalism, trustworthiness, attention to detail, calm demeanor, loyalty, and absolute commitment to the residence of the State of Michigan; and,

WHEREAS, Michael looks forward to many retirement years, enjoying time with his family, hunting, and fishing.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development thanks Michael R. Gregg for his more than 45 years of dedicated and loyal service to the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, the agriculture industry, the drain industry, and to the people of the State of Michigan. The Commission joins Michael's friends and colleagues in wishing him a long and happy retirement and great success with future endeavors.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Monica Wyant".

Monica Wyant
Chair



Updates for the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development

Nora Wineland, DVM, MS, DACVPM

State Veterinarian

Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural
Development

WinelandN@Michigan.gov

January 22, 2025



Role of the State Veterinarian & Animal Industry Division

My Role

Protect,
regulate, and
promote
animal health

1.15M Cattle
1.24M Swine
26.3M Poultry
89,000 Sheep
29,000 Goats
64,000 Horses
1.8M Cats
2.4M Dogs



Core Functions

**REPORTABLE
DISEASES**

**ANIMAL
TRACEABILITY**

LICENSING

What the Law Says

Pursuant to Act 466 of 1988, MCL 287.709, a person who **discovers or suspects** or has reason to believe that an animal is either affected by a reportable disease or contaminated with a toxic substance shall immediately report this to the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Reportable Animal Disease Categories

Lab Report Only

This section is found at the end of the reportable disease list. Diseases in this section only require lab report submissions and are collected for the purpose of international reporting. For these diseases, county-level information is not collected.

Monitored Diseases

Monitored diseases should be reported to MDARD within seven days. Monitored disease numbers are tracked and primarily used for outreach to veterinarians and animal owners.

Regulated Diseases

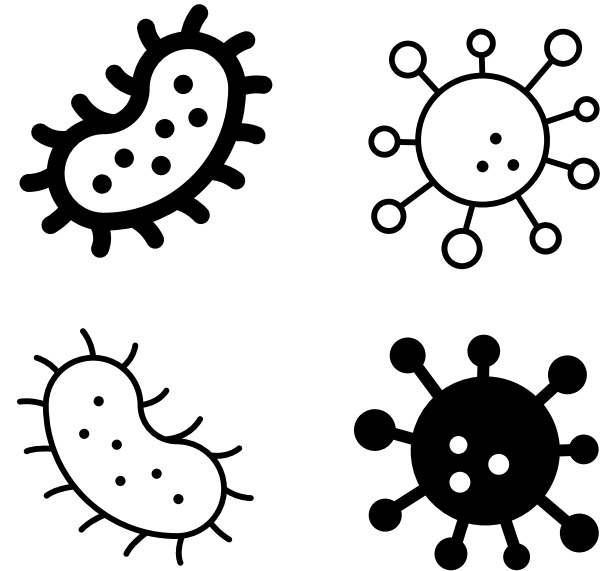
Regulated diseases should be reported to MDARD within 24 hours. Regulated diseases generate a range of responses, which may include working with a veterinarian to ensure appropriate measures are taken, an on-farm visit, or possibly a quarantine.

Emergency Diseases

Emergency diseases should be reported to MDARD immediately upon suspicion. When reporting, always speak with a staff member. Expect a quarantine and an on-farm investigation when one of these diseases are suspected.

Purpose of Having Reportable Diseases

- Monitor for new/foreign conditions
- Protect public health
- Support eradication
- Enable control, if eradication is not feasible
- Encourage preventive measures
 - Vaccination
 - Biosecurity and other preventive measures
- Assist in safe trade
- Monitor for changes in agent





MDARD Works Closely with Many Partners

- Federal agencies
- State agencies
- Universities
- Industry
- Veterinary community

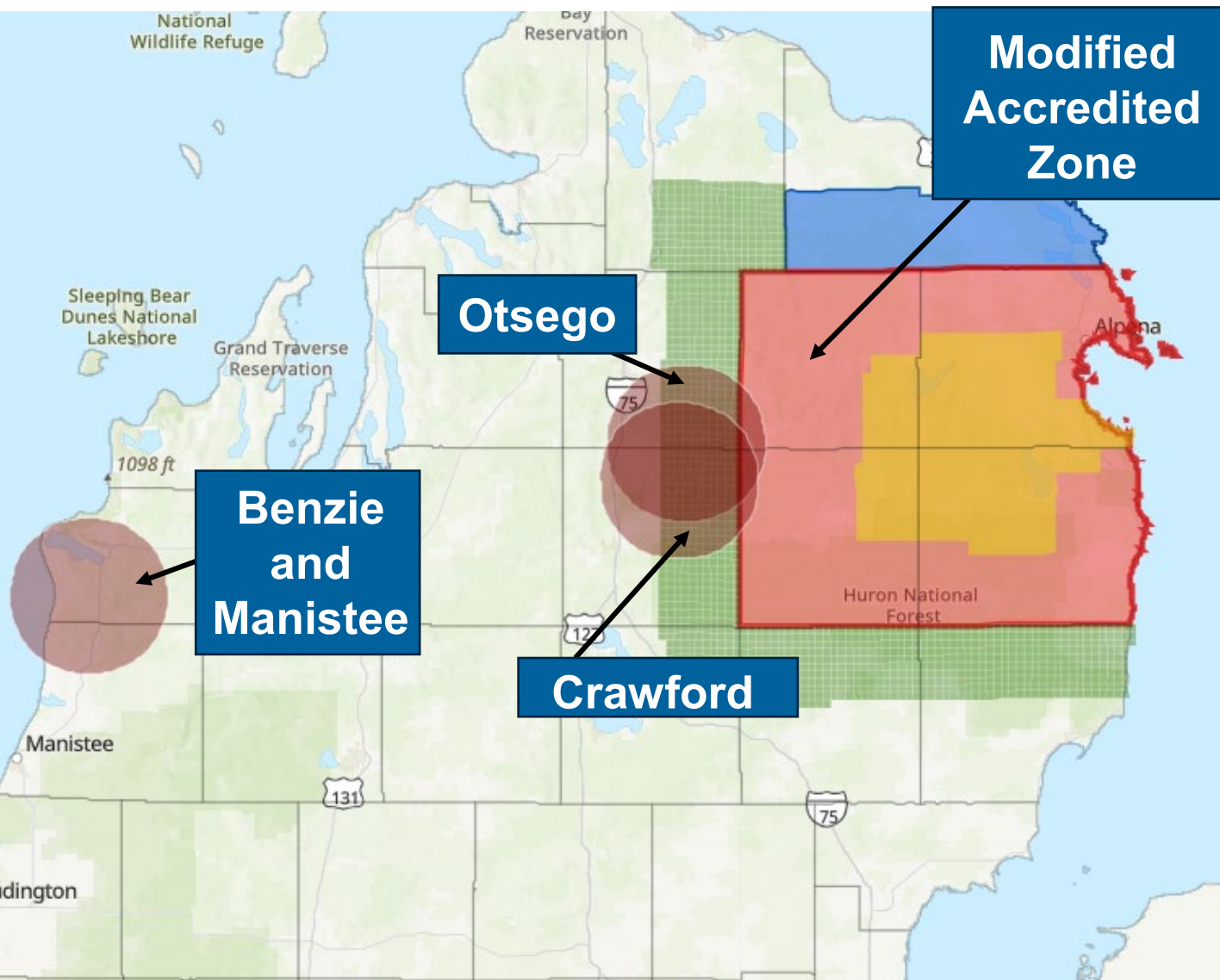
For many purposes

Secure Food Supply Plans





Bovine Tuberculosis (TB)



TB Area Activities

- Surveillance testing is required to maintain Michigan's split-state status
- Requirements are outlined by a Memorandum of Understanding
- Herds must be Wildlife Risk Mitigation/Enhanced Wildlife Biosecurity verified
- Ten-mile surveillance circle around positive wild deer
- Annual testing in Modified Accredited Zone (MAZ)
- Premovement testing from MAZ
- Movement permits required



TB-Infected Herds

- TB-infected animal identified in an Alcona County beef herd through annual whole herd surveillance testing
 - This herd is Michigan's 83rd cattle herd to be identified with bovine TB since 1998
 - Still waiting on whole genome sequencing
- Last TB-infected herd was detected in January 2022



Chronic Wasting Disease



CWD Surveillance

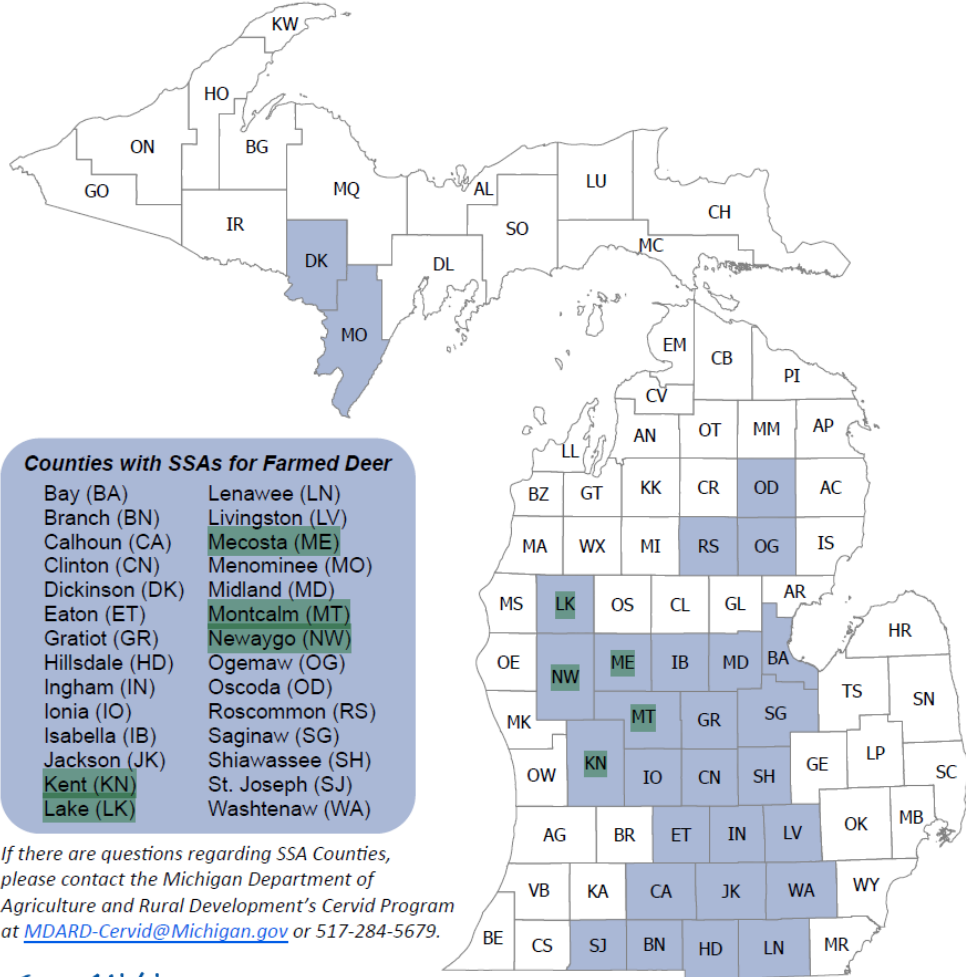
Control of CWD is challenging

- Long incubation period
- Persistence in the environment
- Potential for spread by scavengers
- No reliable live animal 'one and done' test
- CWD in both free-ranging and privately-owned cervids

Surveillance and control requires coordination between MDARD, MDNR, cervid producers, veterinarians, hunters, and other stakeholders.

Special Surveillance Area (SSA) Counties for Farmed Deer

SSAs are established when a free-ranging or farmed deer is identified with chronic wasting disease.



If there are questions regarding SSA Counties, please contact the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's Cervid Program at MDARD-Cervid@Michigan.gov or 517-284-5679.

Special Surveillance Area

Any county within or touching:

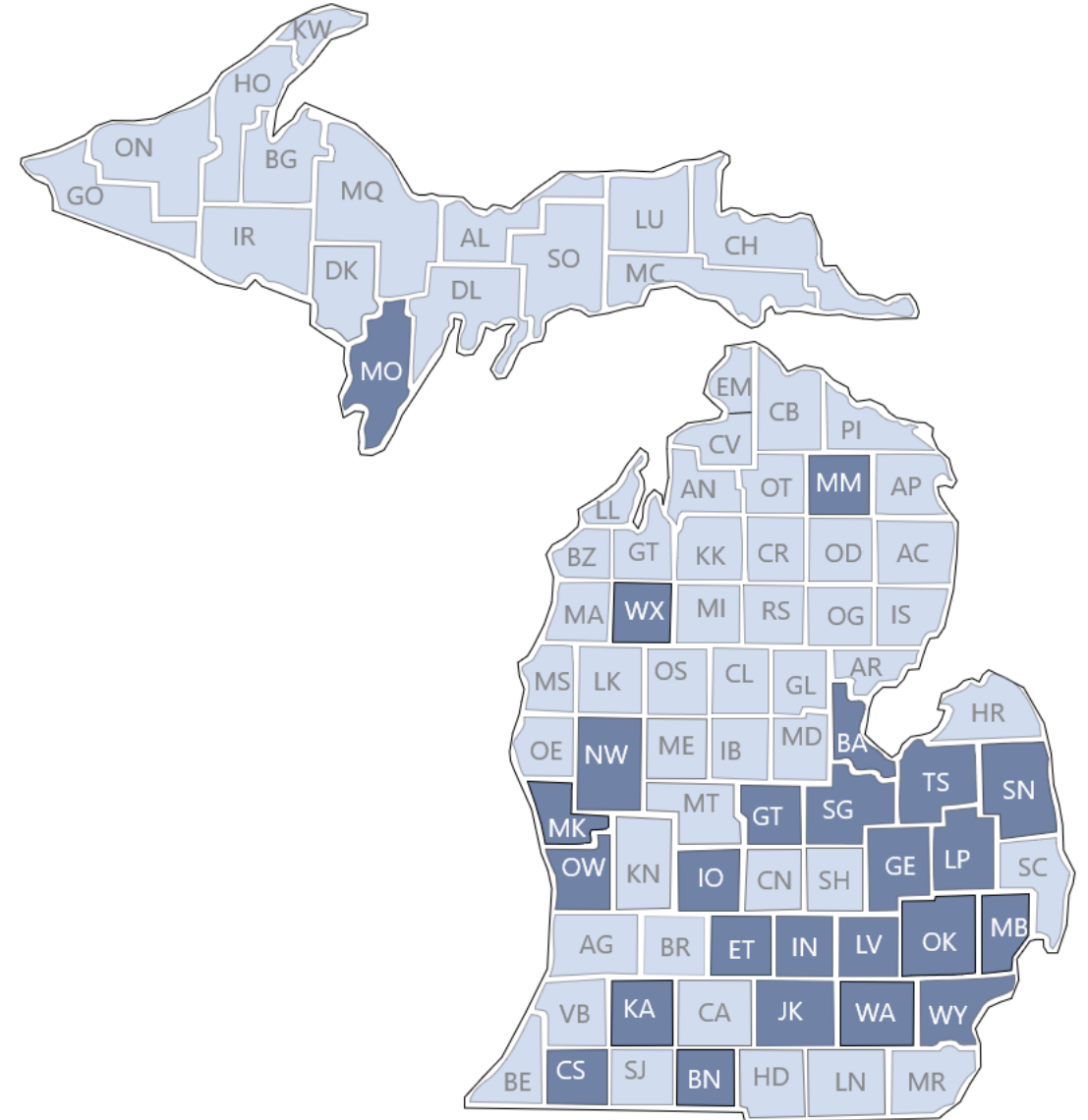
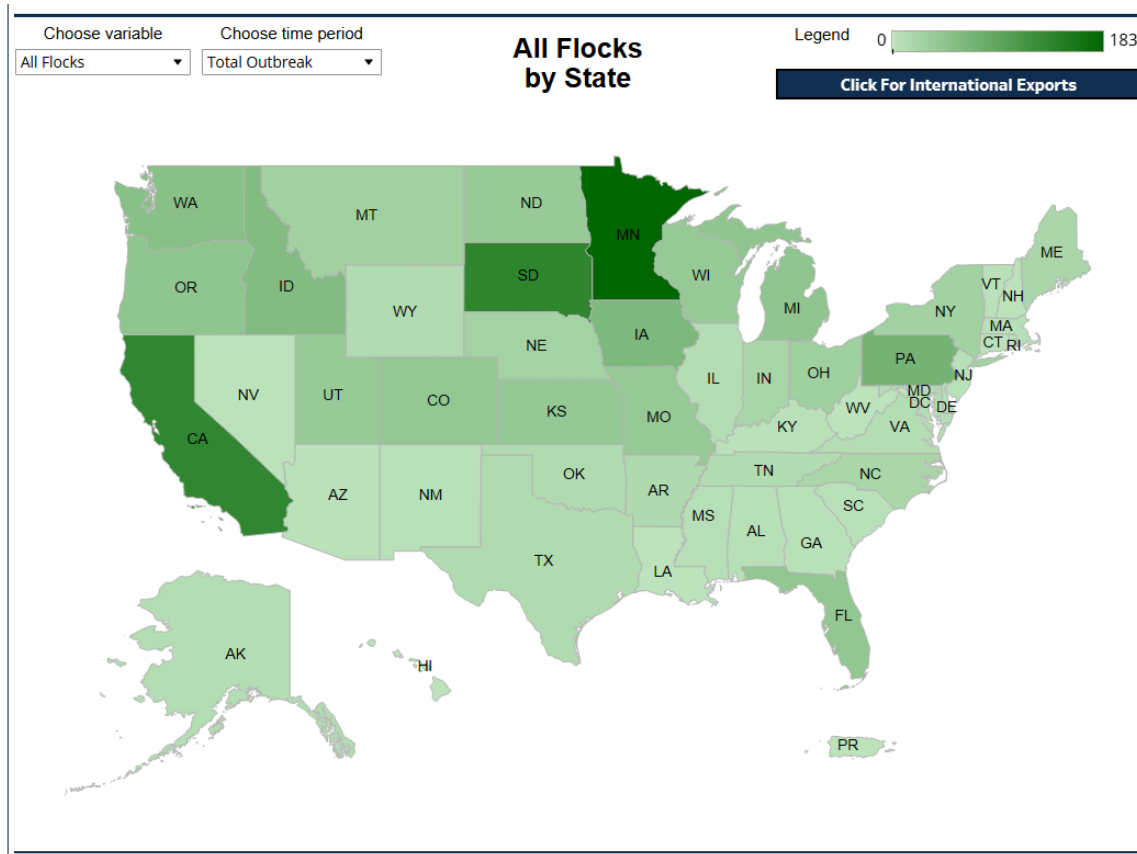
5-mile radius around
positive POC

15-mile radius
around free-ranging



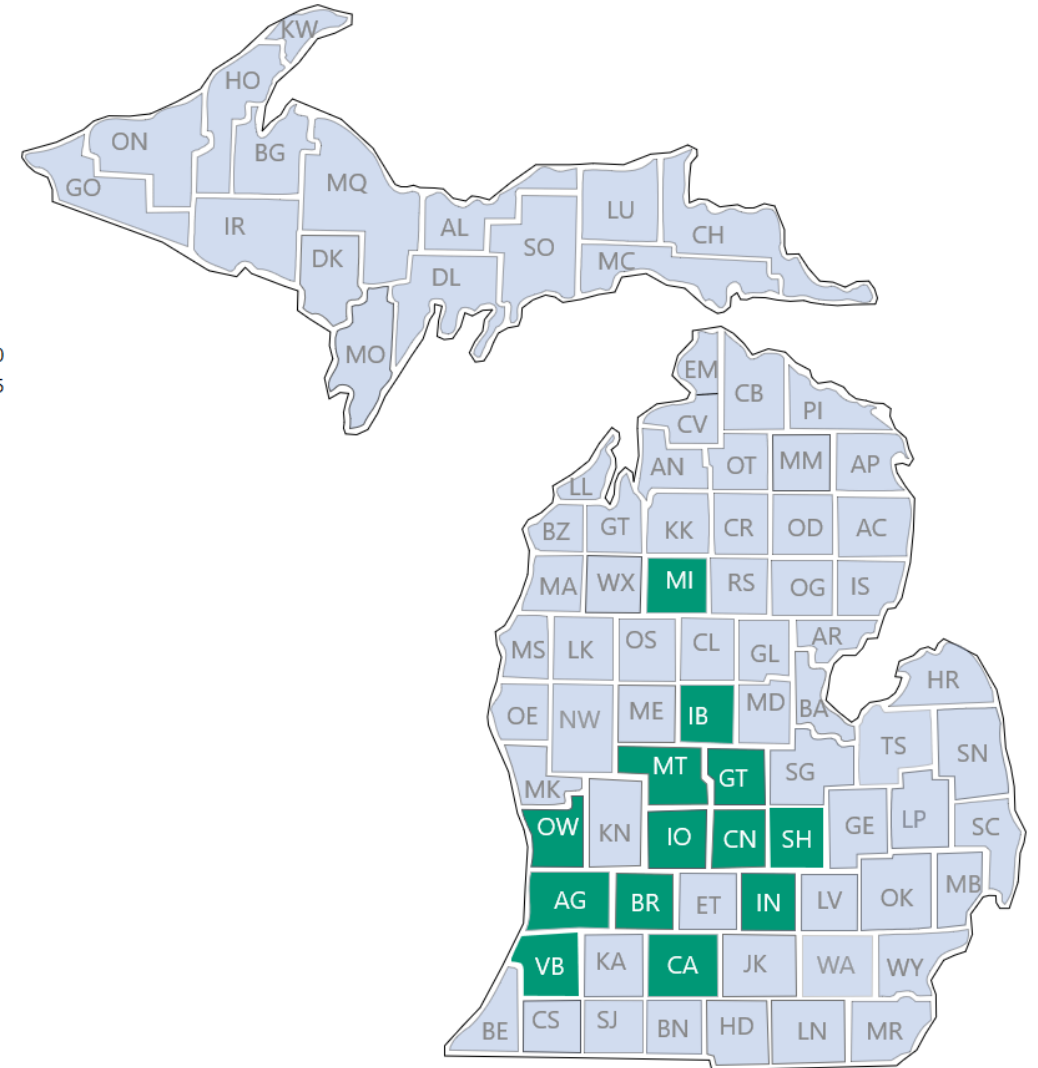
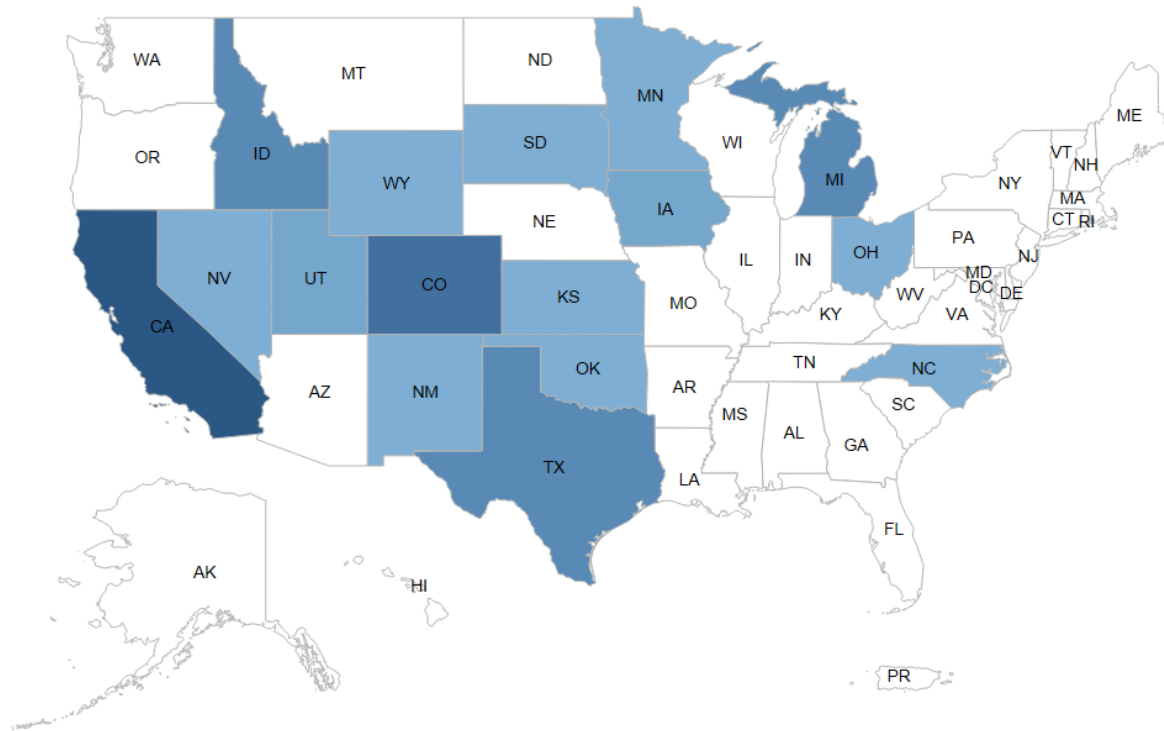
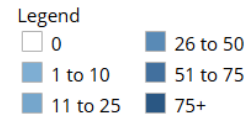
Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza

HPAI Poultry Detections



HPAI Dairy Cattle Detections

Number of Confirmed Cases in Cattle by State,
Total Outbreak



National Milk Testing Strategy

- Michigan is participating in this federal program
- Working with the state's dairy industry milk laboratories to get the necessary monthly samples
- Samples go to the Michigan State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, and if confirmation is needed, samples go to the National Veterinary Services Laboratories
- Stage 4 (state freedom) requires three consecutive negative monthly tests
- Table of response actions on web for four possible categories: Negative, Recovered, Recovering, and Affected



Surveillance of H5 Avian Influenza in Dairy Cattle

State Statuses based on Testing/Surveillance Activities, as part of the National Milk Testing Strategy (NMTS)

Report Date: January 17, 2025

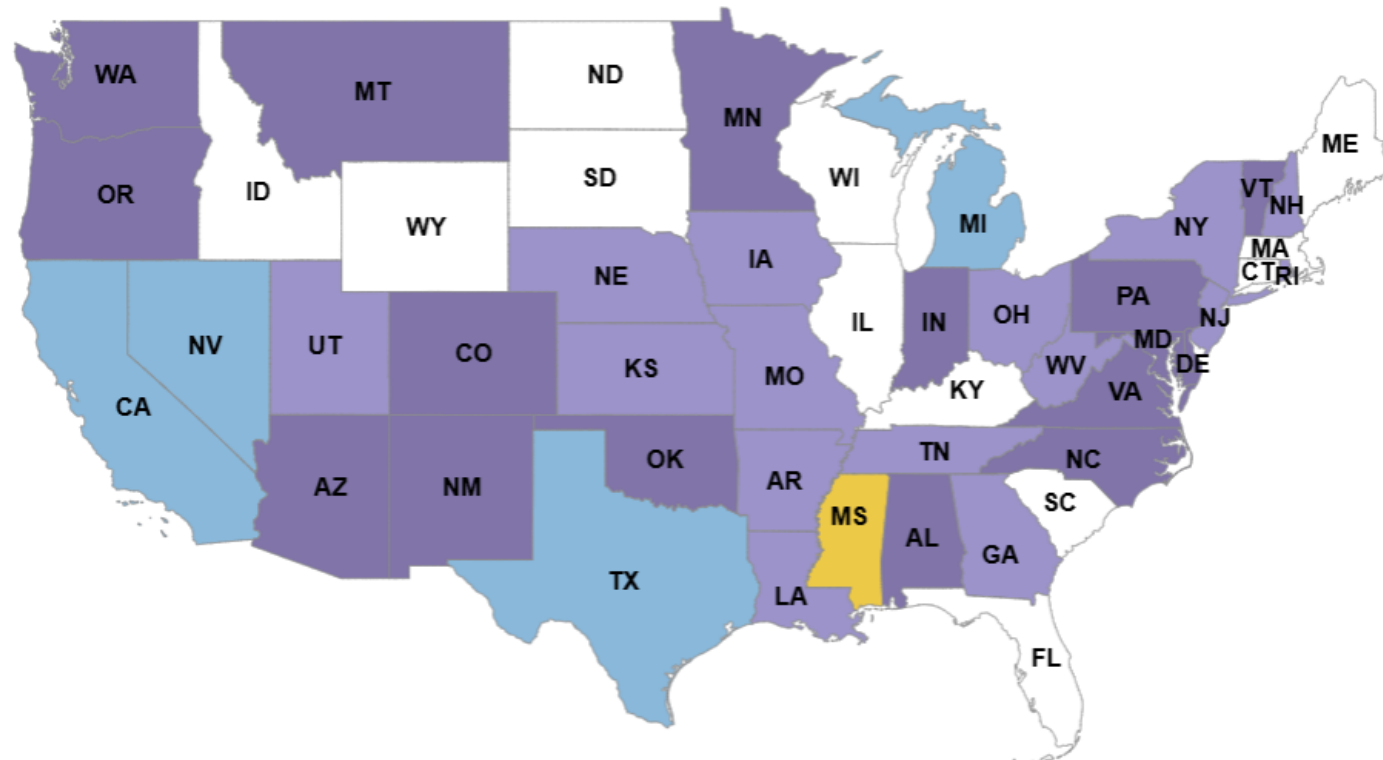
Data updated every Friday by 5 pm Eastern

State Counts: 43 Provisional Unaffected / 4 Affected / 1 Unaffected

State Statuses - Map

Hover over States for information on previous status and activities

- Not Enrolled in NMTS (other testing may be taking place)
- Enrolled in NMTS, Stage 1 (National Plant Silo Monitoring)
- Enrolled in NMTS, Stage 2 (State-level bulk tank testing)
- HPAI Detected, Stage 3
- Unaffected, Stage 4





Thank you!



Nora Wineland, DVM, MS, DACVPM

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800-292-3939