



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

DR. TIM BORING
DIRECTOR

MDARD Requirements and Recommendations for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in Dairy and Poultry for Animal Health Officials, Veterinarians, and Producers

May 10, 2024

This document contains frequently asked questions for required enhanced biosecurity in Michigan as part of the HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) issued the “[HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order](#)” Determination of Extraordinary Emergency on May 1, 2024, to control and prevent the spread of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), effective Wednesday, May 8, 2024. MDARD released further [guidance](#) on the order on May 3, 2024. Below are some frequently asked questions (FAQs) related to the order and guidance document. Additional information can also be found at [Michigan.gov/BirdFlu](#). For further questions, please contact the MDARD Customer Service Center at 1-800-292-3939 (Monday through Friday from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., EST) or email at MDA-info@michigan.gov.

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. When does the order go into effect and when does it end?

The HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order went into effect May 8, 2024. Pursuant to provisions in the Animal Industry Act, Declarations of Extraordinary Emergencies may stand in place for a maximum of six months. This disease outbreak continues to be an evolving situation and MDARD intends to revise guidance using the best available science as warranted, including rescinding portions or the entity of the Order, or implementing additional protective measures through other provisions in the Animal Industry Act. All exhibitions or expositions of poultry are prohibited until such time that there are no new cases of HPAI in domestic poultry in the State of Michigan for at least 30 consecutive days. All lactating dairy cattle, and those in the last two months of pregnancy, are prohibited from being exhibited until there are no new cases of HPAI in dairy cattle in the State of Michigan for at least 60 consecutive days.

2. Does this order apply to the whole state or only affected counties?

The HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order applies to the entire state of Michigan.

3. What is a Line of Separation (LOS) and does it need to include my whole property?

The LOS is a functional perimeter separating animals and critical operation areas on the inside from potential outside disease exposure. The LOS should isolate essential operation structures, such as livestock barns and milking parlors, from high traffic areas involved in the

daily function of the operation. The LOS should be designed to limit as much personal and vehicle crossing as possible, but where that traffic must occur, funnel crossing through controlled access points where cleaning and disinfecting can occur. This will look different for every farm. The LOS could be as close as a few feet surrounding the production facilities, rather than the entire operation perimeter. As part of each farm's analysis, think about the LOS as the line of defense to keep the disease out.

4. Do I need to wash my entire vehicle, inside and out, every time I drive across the line of separation (LOS)?

No. If a vehicle crosses the LOS, cleaning should primarily include the tires, as well as the interior cab floor mats if the occupant(s) exited the vehicle. Proper cleaning of tires can include spraying with water to remove debris, and then spraying with commercially available, site-specific, and safe disinfectant. Vehicle cleaning should take place between visits to animal production facilities; it is best to disinfect or sanitize the vehicle prior to entering an operation's LOS and, if possible, disinfect or sanitize upon leaving the LOS.

5. Do I need to clean my equipment every time if I am going back and forth from my farm?

It depends where the line of separation (LOS) is located and if the repeat trips are crossing the line. If the repeat trips are crossing the LOS, the destination of the trips becomes important; if the destination is another operation with susceptible species, then equipment and vehicles must follow the cleaning and disinfecting procedures outlined in the HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order and ensuing guidance.

6. Do delivery drivers need to disinfect or spray their tires and enter their trip in the logbook?

Any vehicle crossing the line of separation (LOS) is subject to the order regardless of the purpose of their visit. If delivery vehicles cross the LOS, they need to follow the same protocols as outlined in the order. Non-essential deliveries or pick-ups which do not need to cross the LOS should leave or pick up their delivery outside of the LOS in a designated area/designated parking area.

7. Do I need to have someone present at my cleaning and disinfecting (C&D) station at all times?

No. Anyone using the station should be trained or informed on the proper C&D techniques, but there does not need to be someone supervising the station. Instructional signage may be helpful and appropriate in some situations.

8. What disinfectants should I use?

Any disinfectant that is commercially available, site-relevant, safe, and rated to address influenza A viruses should work. Refer to the disinfectant label for specific product use. A list of EPA-registered disinfectants can be found [here](#).

9. Is there a specific logbook template I must use?

No, but the logbook should contain information on date and time of entry/exit, names and contact information, and the general purpose for crossing. Operations can use any template that makes sense for them.

10. The order specifically says it applies to dairy operations, but what about beef cattle operations?

Neither the MDARD order nor the United States Department of Agriculture [federal order](#) apply to beef cattle, including lactating beef cattle, at this time.

11. Do the same biosecurity guidelines apply if my herd or flock tests positive for HPAI?

Biosecurity measures outlined in the HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order apply to all poultry and dairy operations in Michigan regardless of testing status. Biosecurity measures are always important but especially during an infectious disease event. While the interior of the LOS is considered “clean” prior to an infection, a positive case would change the interior to be considered “dirty” (or HPAI infected) and should be treated as such. Additionally, any sick or ill animals should be kept away from animals not showing symptoms. Please contact your veterinarian and MDARD for more information on additional biosecurity best practices and reporting requirements in the event of a positive case.