



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
HEALTH / AGRICULTURE BUILDING  
PO BOX 330  
TRENTON NJ 08625-0330

PHILIP D. MURPHY  
*Governor*  
SHEILA Y. OLIVER  
*Lt. Governor*

DOUGLAS H. FISHER  
*Secretary*

February 25, 2022

Dear Live Bird Market Owner/Manager:

As highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) continues to spread across the United States, all poultry producers, including live bird markets, are urged to review their biosecurity practices. All poultry deliveries should be inspected before the live poultry enters the live bird market. If you or your employees observe an unusual amount of sick or dead poultry, please contact the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Health immediately. An abnormal amount consists of anything higher than 3% of the total amount delivered.

Additionally, please remember the following:

- Do not return sick or dead poultry to the distributor if it has entered the market.
- Isolate poultry showing early signs of illness as far away from healthy poultry as possible.
- Humanely euthanized/slaughter and remove sick or injured poultry from the market within 24 hours.
- Remove mortalities immediately from pens/cages.
- Store dead poultry in a sealed container or double bag until they can be disposed in a manner consistent with federal, state, and local regulations.
- Do not expose dead poultry to the environment, other poultry, or to wildlife/wild birds.
- Wash your hands after handling sick or dead birds.

State and/or federal inspectors will continue to perform routine inspections and sampling for Avian Influenza in your market. If you have any questions, please contact the Division of Animal Health at (609)-671-6400.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Manoel Tamassia".

Manoel Tamassia, DVM, MS, PhD, Dipl. ACT  
Division Director and State Veterinarian

For the latest update on the national outbreak visit:

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-information/avian/avian-influenza/ai>

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