

Dept. of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection: Highly pathogenic avian influenza identified in Barron County flock

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MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) has identified highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in a commercial poultry flock in Barron County.

DATCP and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) are working with animal health officials on a joint incident response. Birds on the property will be depopulated to prevent spread of the disease.

This is Wisconsin's fourth detection of HPAI among domestic flocks. In an effort to prevent spread of the disease, DATCP [issued an order](#) on April 7 immediately suspending poultry shows and exhibits through May 31, 2022. Poultry owners are asked to continue using strong biosecurity practices and, when possible, move their birds indoors.

To report increased mortality or signs of illness among domestic birds, contact DATCP at (608) 224-4872 (business hours) or (800) 943-0003 (after hours and weekends). Signs of HPAI in infected birds include:

- Sudden death without clinical signs
- Lack of energy or appetite
- Decrease in egg production; soft, misshapen eggs
- Purple discoloration of wattles, comb, and legs
- Difficulty breathing

- Runny nose, coughing, sneezing
- Stumbling or falling down
- Diarrhea

Additional resources

- [DATCP: HPAI in Wisconsin domestic birds](#)
- [Wisconsin Department of Health Services: Avian influenza and humans](#)
- [Wisconsin DNR: Avian influenza and wild birds](#)