Biosecurity for the Birds

You are the best protection your birds have.

Step–by–Step Approach to Biosecurity

USDA
United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

What Does Biosecurity for the Birds Protect Against?

- Bacteria
- Viruses
- Parasites
- Diseases

exotic Newcastle disease (END)

avian influenza (AI)

Warning Signs

- Sudden increase in bird deaths in a flock
- Sneezing, gasping for air, coughing, and nasal discharge
- Watery and green diarrhea
- Lack of energy and poor appetite
- Drop in egg production or soft- or thin-shelled, misshapen eggs

Warning Signs

- Swelling around the eyes, neck, head. Purple discoloration of the wattles, combs, and legs (AI)

- Tremors, drooping wings, circling, twisting of the head and neck, or lack of movement (END)

What Can *You* Do?

6 Ways To Keep Your Birds Safe

1. Keep Your Distance
2. Keep It Clean
3. Don’t Haul Disease Home
4. Don’t Borrow Disease From Your Neighbor
5. Know the Signs
6. Report Sick Birds

1 Keep Your Distance

- ***Restrict access*** **to your birds.**
- ***Fence off*** **your birds.**
- ***Make a barrier area*** **if possible.**
- ***Keep people away*** **from your birds.**

1 Keep Your Distance

- ***Don't let visitors have access*** **to your birds.**
- ***Keep your birds separated*** **from wild game birds or migratory waterfowl.**

2 Keep It Clean

- Wear clean clothes.
- Scrub your shoes with disinfectant.
- Wash your hands thoroughly before entering your bird area.
- Clean cages.
- Change food and water daily.

2 Keep It Clean

- Clean and disinfect equipment.
- Clean cages and tools.
- Remove manure before disinfecting.
- Properly dispose of dead birds.

3 Don’t Haul Disease Home

- Don’t bring disease home from:
  - other birds or bird owners
  - feed store
- Don’t borrow or lend equipment.

3 Don’t Haul Disease Home

- **Been to a fair or exhibition? Keep birds away from the rest of your flock for at least *2 weeks* after the event.**
- **New birds should be kept separate from your flock for at least *30 days*.**
- **Don’t mix birds and cages.**

4 Don’t Borrow Disease From Your Neighbor

- *Do not share* lawn and garden equipment, tools, or poultry supplies.
- If you bring items home, clean and disinfect them before they reach your property and before returning them.
- Don’t share wood or paper products.

5 Know the Warning Signs of Infectious Bird Diseases

- Sudden increase in bird deaths in your flock.
- Sneezing, gasping for air, coughing, and nasal discharge.
- Watery and green diarrhea.
- Lack of energy and poor appetite.

5 Know the Warning Signs of Infectious Bird Diseases

- Drop in egg production or soft- or thin-shelled, misshapen eggs
- Swelling around the eyes, neck, and head
- Purple discoloration of the wattles, combs, and legs (AI)

5 Know the Warning Signs of Infectious Bird Diseases

- Tremors, drooping wings, circling, twisting of the head and neck, or lack of movement (END)

Early detection is important to prevent the spread of disease.

6 Report Sick Birds To:

- Your local cooperative extension office, or
- Local veterinarian, or
- The State Veterinarian, or
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Veterinary Services office:
  - Toll-free hotline (1–866–536–7593)

Recap

Practice Biosecurity

1. Keep your distance
2. Keep it clean
3. Don’t haul disease home
4. Don’t borrow disease from your neighbor

Recap

Look for Signs

- **Watch for signs of disease and unexpected deaths**

Recap

Report Sick Birds

- **Don’t wait**
- **Call your veterinarian, cooperative extension office, the State Veterinarian or USDA at its toll-free number: 1–866–536–7593**

More Information?
www.aphis.usda.gov

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