

No sick animals or humans. But now Massachusetts is demanding to test all dairy herds in the state. Did USDA provide a big enough bribe?



merylnass.substack.com/p/no-sick-animals-or-humans-but-now

Meryl Nass

The feds do not have the right to go test healthy herds. But the states do, if sufficiently encouraged. Today Massachusetts brought down the hammer.

You can find ANYTHING with a properly chosen PCR test and enough iterations (cycles). Massachusetts admits it in today's letter: there are NO sick cows. NO sick humans. But we need the damn virus! We can't play the Biosecurity game or give out the vaccines without a virus!

The MDAR claims it will provide results quickly when it receives them from "the lab." Did no one tell MDAR that any results at the state level will need to be verified by a federal USDA lab, so there are two labs that may be involved, and everyone will just have to live with USDA's results? No private labs are allowed to perform a verification.

Again, no cows are sick. No humans are sick. No one has caught bird flu from food, ever.

There is NO evidence farm workers wearing PPE or keeping flocks indoors protects farmers or birds from anything.

If there was no PCR test we would not know this disease exists. There have been **9** confirmed human cases in the US in the last 2.5 years and before that, **none**. There are **5** other possible cases that probably tested negative, which is why CDC has not confirmed them. In the entire USA. None went to the hospital and none died.



Farmers and citizens need to get on the phone and start calling all our elected officials, as we did with the WHO, and say no more!

The excuse that avian flu viruses could recombine with human flu viruses is a pathetic joke—there is virtually no human influenza till January each year. If that was the real fear, you might start these efforts in winter.

But it is a mild disease, with mostly just pink eye. Why do we even care if a mild pink eye transmits between humans? ? Well, maybe there is a plan to make it BOTH transmissible between humans AND make it dangerous:



But in order for bird flu to become dangerous to humans, it would have to acquire **two different sets of mutations** simultaneously:

- the ability to spread human to human, and
- the ability to cause severe disease in humans

That would only happen in a laboratory doing GOF research

How much did USDA give Massachusetts to start the pandemic ball rolling in New England?

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Department of Agricultural Resources

100 Cambridge Street, 9th Floor, Boston, MA 02114
www.mass.gov/agr



Maura T. Healey
GOVERNOR

Kimberley Driscoll
LIEUTENANT
GOVERNOR

Rebecca L. Tepper
SECRETARY

Ashley E. Randle
COMMISSIONER

August 6, 2024

To: All Cattle Farms in Massachusetts

Re: Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza outbreak affecting lactating dairy cattle

Dear Massachusetts Dairy Farmer,

Thank you to the farms who have participated in the voluntary testing protocols regarding HPAI. However, the number of participants was not high enough and the state wants to verify that the virus is not present in Massachusetts herds. Inspectors will begin reaching out to you shortly to schedule a time to collect a sample from your bulk tank to test for the presence of HPAI.

In late March 2024, federal officials at USDA, FDA and the CDC announced the detection of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in dairy herds in Texas and other states. While HPAI is a constant concern for poultry farmers, this outbreak has caused significant problems for dairy herds. In the last five months affected dairy cattle have been detected in 13 different states. During that same time, the virus has been transmitted to several poultry flocks that shared equipment or personnel with infected dairy farms. Although no reports of sick cows or affected herds have been reported in Massachusetts or the other New England States, it has become essential that we confirm that the virus is not present in any dairy herds in Massachusetts.

To establish reasonable controls to prevent the spread of this disease, it is essential to have accurate information on where the virus exists. Stringent biosecurity standards are needed to prevent disease spread. Continued presence of the H5N1 virus in mammalian species increases the risk of mutations of the influenza virus, mutations could produce a virus that could more easily spread within and among mammal populations, including humans. Knowing where the disease is present and practicing good biosecurity as a matter of habit is the best way to protect both our poultry and dairy industries.

For these reasons, the Department is invoking the authority in 330 CMR 27.03(3) and will begin testing all bulk milk tanks for the presence of HPAI. The Department will start taking samples this week, and results will be shared with producers as they are received from the lab. We intend to have results for all 95 licensed cattle dairies within three weeks. The Commonwealth will cover all costs associated with completing this testing.

Thank you for your cooperation and your patience as we seek to mitigate this threat.

Michael Cahill, Director
Division of Animal Health



<https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2024/05/30/usda-announces-824-million-new-funding-protect-livestock-health>

That "voluntary" program didn't last long, did it?



USDA Announces \$824 Million in New Funding to Protect Livestock Health; Launches Voluntary H5N1 Dairy Herd Status Pilot Program

Press Release

Release No. 0103.24

Contact: USDA Press

Email: press@usda.gov

WASHINGTON, May 30, 2024 -- The U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced it is taking several additional actions to ensure the health and viability of the nation's livestock and poultry. In the two months since the initial detection of H5N1 in dairy cattle, USDA has worked quickly and in concert with its federal and state partners to better understand the virus and contain the disease and remains committed to seeking additional ways to collect the data needed to better understand and mitigate the risk created by this outbreak. USDA is adding an additional \$824 million in emergency funding from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) to bolster these efforts and is launching a new **Voluntary** H5N1 Dairy Herd Status Pilot Program to give dairy producers more options to monitor the health of their herds and move cows more quickly while providing **on-going testing** and expanding USDA's understanding of the disease.

Emergency Funding to Build on Response Efforts

To help ensure the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) can continue to provide critical rapid response activities, Secretary Vilsack approved the transfer of \$824 million from the CCC to APHIS to directly support the response efforts. This funding allows APHIS to continue its critical work with state and local partners to quickly identify and address cases of HPAI/H5N1 in poultry and livestock. **The funding will support anticipated diagnostics, field response activities, pre-movement testing requirements, other necessary surveillance and control activities, surveillance in wildlife for APHIS, the Agricultural Research Service's (ARS) work in developing vaccines for HPAI in cattle, turkeys, pigs, and goats**, and ARS and the Food Safety and Inspection Service's food safety studies.

The Secretary is authorized to transfer funding from available resources including the CCC to address emergency outbreaks of animal and plant pests and diseases. **USDA previously approved the use of \$1.3 billion in emergency funding to address nationwide HPAI detections in wild birds and commercial poultry operations**. These additional funds will ensure our continued robust and rapid response to this outbreak.

Voluntary Dairy Herd Status Pilot Program

Continuing to build on the efforts to contain H5N1, APHIS is standing up a **Voluntary** H5N1 Dairy Herd Status Pilot Program, which provides alternative testing and movement options to the [Federal Order](#) to increase USDA's monitoring capabilities to mitigate the spread of H5N1. The Voluntary H5N1 Dairy Herd Status Pilot Program aims to create additional testing options for producers with herds that have tested negative for three weeks in a row, further reduce H5N1 virus dissemination, provide for further opportunities to test herds that are not known to be affected with H5N1, increase surveillance and expand our knowledge of the disease, and support an overall national program to reduce the risk of H5N1 in dairy herds.

The main benefit for farmers who choose to enroll in the Voluntary H5N1 Dairy Herd Status Pilot Program is that once they can demonstrate their herds are free of H5N1 with **results from a National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN)** facility, they will then need to

conduct weekly tests on bulk milk from that herd to confirm that status and will be able to ship their cows at the time they prefer and without testing individual animals.

Dairy producers from States enrolled in the first phase of this program who choose to enroll their herds and who test negative for H5N1 for three consecutive weeks using on-farm bulk tank milk samples or similar representative milk samples tested at a NAHLN laboratory will be able to move animals without additional pre-movement testing currently required under the Federal Order. Producers must also comply with continued regular weekly monitoring and testing of the herd for H5N1.

APHIS is currently working with state animal health officials to identify **states to participate in a pilot phase of the program**. Producers from states participating in this pilot can start enrolling in the Voluntary H5N1 Dairy Herd Status Pilot Program on the week of June 3, 2024, by contacting their [APHIS Area Veterinarian in Charge](#) or State Veterinarian and signing a Herd Monitoring Plan agreement. USDA strongly encourages dairy producers to enroll in this new program. Beyond the benefits for their own operations, increased producer participation may help USDA to establish state and/or regional disease-free statuses that could further ease compliance with the current Federal Order. Those herds not enrolled in the pilot program will continue to follow the interstate testing and movement requirements published in the Federal Order. More specific guidance on the new program, including how to enroll and how to obtain and maintain a herd status, will be made available on the [APHIS website](#) in the coming days.

As additional testing measures take place, USDA anticipates that it will see an increase in testing and positive test results, which will add to our knowledge of the disease and how it may spread between herds. At the same time, this pilot program will help to gather additional information on how producers with affected herds can document elimination of the virus on their operations and steps they can take to maintain an H5N1 virus-free herd.

This new investment in risk mitigation augments the previously announced Federal Order on pre-movement testing of lactating dairy cattle, announced on [April 24](#), as well as the tools to support biosecurity activities, announced on [May 10](#), and the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-raised Fish Program funding availability, announced on [May 23](#).

As USDA continues to take steps to protect the health of livestock, the Department continues to work closely with federal partners at the CDC on protecting the health of people and FDA on protecting the safety of the food supply. The U.S. government remains committed to addressing this situation with urgency.

To learn more about USDA's response to H5N1 in dairy cattle, visit www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/avian/avian-influenza/hpai-detections/livestock.

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