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Commissioner

STATE OF ALABAMA
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Avian Influenza Fact Sheet

- The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) confirmed highly pathogenic H7 influenza (HPAI) in a commercial chicken breeder flock in south central Tennessee. Virus isolation is ongoing and a control zone has been established.
- USDA now confirms a low pathogenic commercial breeder flock in Giles County, Tennessee as well.
- Portions of three north Alabama counties that border Tennessee fall within the incident control zones. Poultry located within the 1st zone included one commercial Tyson farm and 16 backyard flocks which have all tested negative for avian influenza at this time. Poultry located in the 2nd zone includes one commercial Aviagen farm and two backyard flocks that are being tested.
- Both facilities in Tennessee along with all poultry farms within a 10 kilometer radius (6.2 miles) have been placed under quarantine. The affected flocks have been depopulated to stop potential spread of the illness and officials are testing and monitoring all flocks within the control zone. The first round of testing has all been negative for avian influenza.
- HPAI **DOES NOT** pose a risk to the food supply. No affected animals entered the food chain. The risk of human infection with avian influenza during poultry outbreaks is very low.
- During this time, backyard flock owners in those Alabama counties bordering Tennessee should refrain from moving birds offsite or introducing new birds.
- Both commercial poultry producers and backyard flock owners should observe their birds closely and practice strict biosecurity measures. These include:
 - Isolating birds from other animals
 - Wearing clothing designated for use only at the poultry house
 - Minimizing access to people and unsanitized equipment
 - Keeping the area around the poultry buildings clean and uninviting to wild birds and animals
 - Sanitizing the facility between flocks
 - Cleaning equipment entering and leaving the farm
 - Having an all in, all out policy regarding the placement and removal of the poultry
 - Properly disposing of bedding material and mortalities
 - Avoiding contact with migratory waterfowl
- The Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries Poultry Division is available to answer any questions and should be notified at 334-240-6584 if birds show unusual signs of disease or flocks experience unexplained mortalities. The Alabama Cooperative Extension System has created a website to assist backyard flock owners and provide answers for Avian Influenza control. It can be found at www.AlabamaAvianInfluenza.com