



## 2022 Legislative Update

Dr. Beth Thompson | State Veterinarian

# The Very Brief Overview of the Board of Animal Health

- Six-member Board. Two current vacancies.
- Oversee livestock and companion animal diseases.
- Work within the One Health approach.
- Permit exhibitions.
- Partner with farmers, industry, veterinarians and academia.
- Plan/prepare, conduct disease surveillance, respond to disease detections.
- More details on what we're up to are in the attached handout.

# Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Virus Type 2

- Since 2019 there have been multiple outbreaks of Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Type 2 in the U.S.
- Spring 2020 RHDV-2 diagnosed in domestic and wild rabbits in the Southwest U.S.
- Reported in AZ, CA, CO, NV, NM, TX, OR, UT, ID, MT and WY.
- Reported in domestic rabbits in SD, FL, GA, MS and now Minnesota.



# Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Virus Type 2

- In Minnesota the infected premise was quarantined, depopulated, cleaned and disinfected. Not allowed to have rabbits until quarantine released after 60 days. Quarantine released on November 24, 2021.
- DNR was notified and prepared to investigate any wild rabbit mortality concerns.
- General public, veterinarians, rabbit owners and interest groups were notified.
- The Board will continue foreign animal disease investigations on suspicious cases.
- Produced new biosecurity outreach for rabbit owners.

# Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Virus Type 2

- Medgene Laboratory vaccine approved for emergency use.
- Only Minnesota licensed veterinarians may administer it.
- Two doses given three weeks apart.
- Veterinarians partnered with rabbit rescue groups and associations.
- Many vaccination clinics were successfully run statewide.

# African Swine Fever

## Poland

- Wild boar February 2014
- Domestic swine July 2014
- Commercial operation April 2020

## Germany

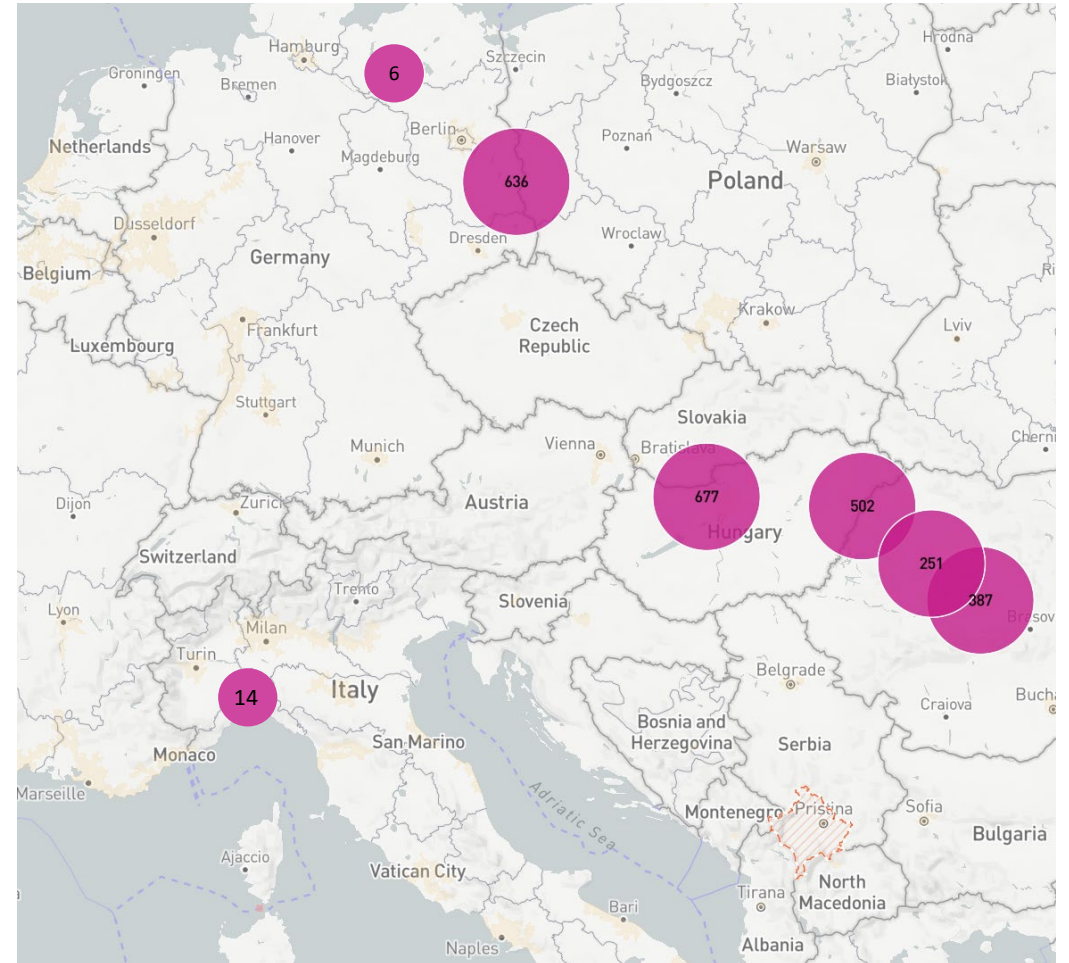
- Wild boar September 2020
- Domestic swine July 2021
- Commercial operation Nov. 2021

## Italy

- Wild boar January 2022

## Macedonia

- Wild boar January 2022



# African Swine Fever

## Caribbean

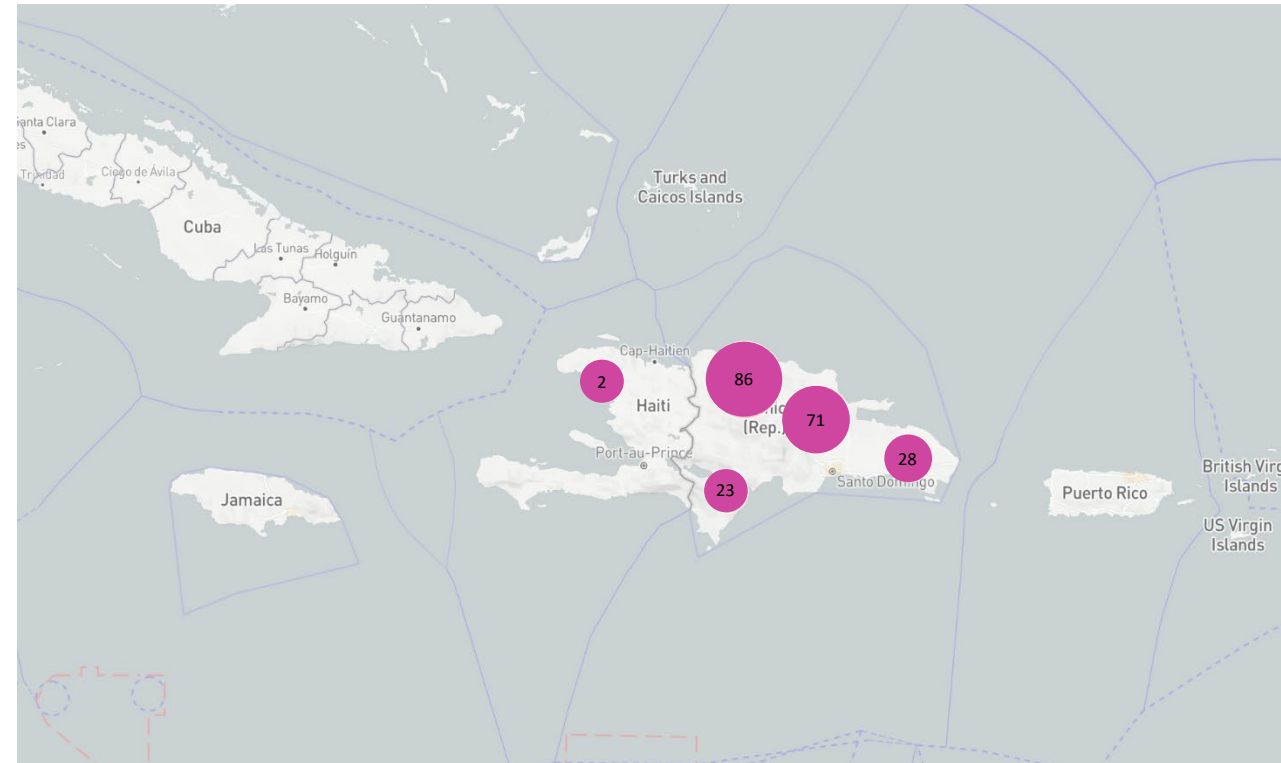
First reported in Dominican Republic  
7/28/21

- Subsequently reported in Haiti  
9/22/21
- USDA assisting with lab resources

Increased surveillance in Puerto Rico  
and U.S. Virgin Islands

- Refuse from ships
- Illegal landings
- Feral swine

Compartmentalization established



## Illegal imports

- National ports of entry
- MSP airport
  - All food waste is incinerated
  - Extra detection dogs
  - Leading port for detections



### More than 100 pounds of bushmeat seized at MSP



Photo: U.S. Customs and Border Protection. CBP officers in Minnesota say they've seen an uptick in travelers arriving with bushmeat, which can carry disease causing sickness or even death.

### APHIS Seizes Nearly a Ton of Illegal Animal Products from China Found in New York City

Published: Jan 13, 2022





## Minnesota ASF preparedness

- Emergency Disease Management Committee for Swine subcommittees
  - Communications
  - Surveillance and Diagnostics
  - Information Management
  - Health, Safety, and Welfare
  - Biosecurity and Quarantine/Cleaning and Disinfecting
  - Depopulation and Disposal
  - Wildlife and Vector Control
  - Regionalization
- Minnesota ASF Response Plan
  - Control areas
  - Permitted movement
- Surveillance
  - Cooperative Agreements
  - Certified Swine Sampler Collectors
- U.S. Swine Health Improvement Plan



# Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza

## H6N1 LPAI (Oct 2020 – June 2021)

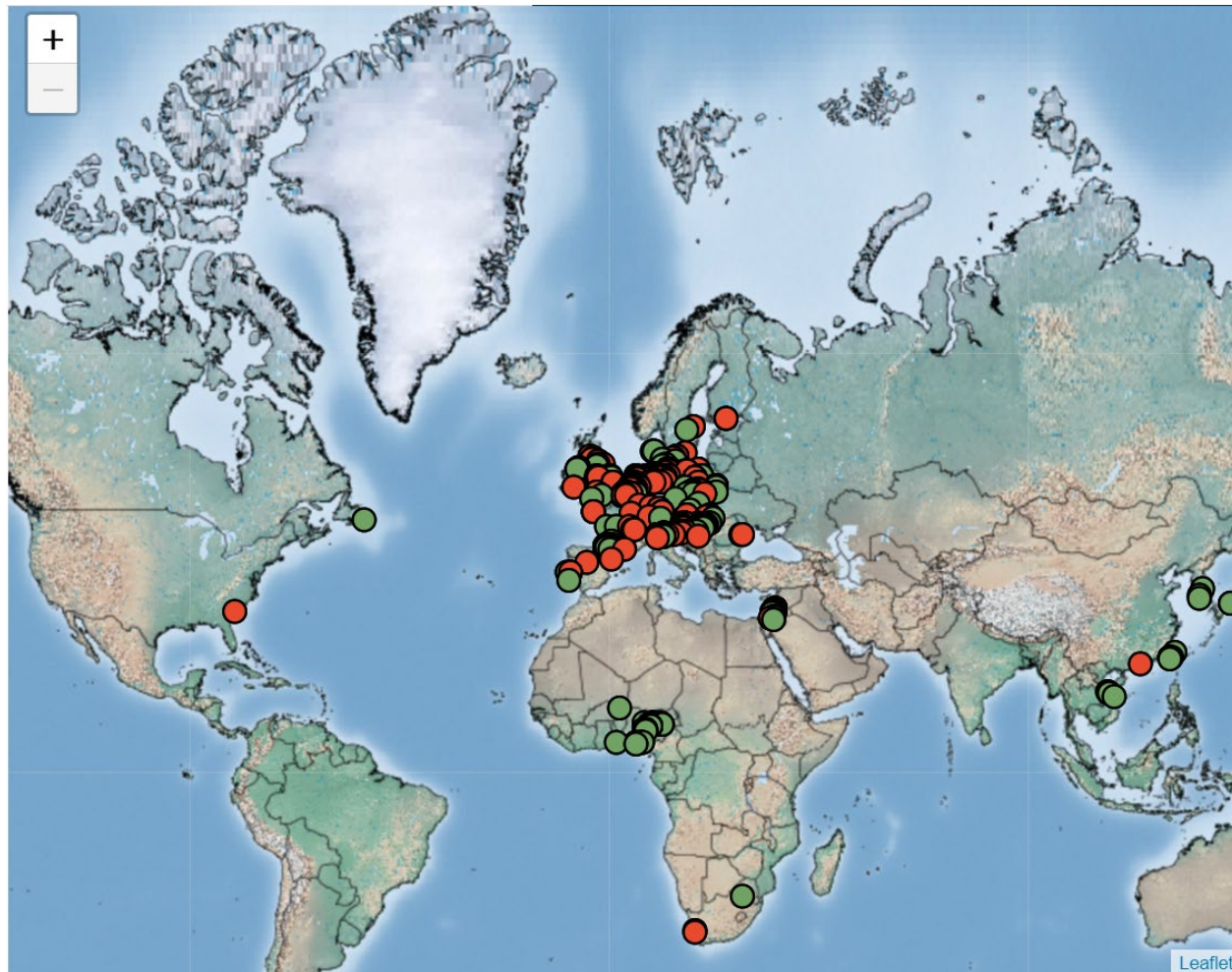
- Industry Response
- 93 commercial turkey flocks on 70 premises in nine MN counties

## H5N3 LPAI (Nov 2021 – Dec 2022)

- Board Response
- Two commercial turkey flocks required USDA-funded regulatory action to eradicate and prevent spread of the virus



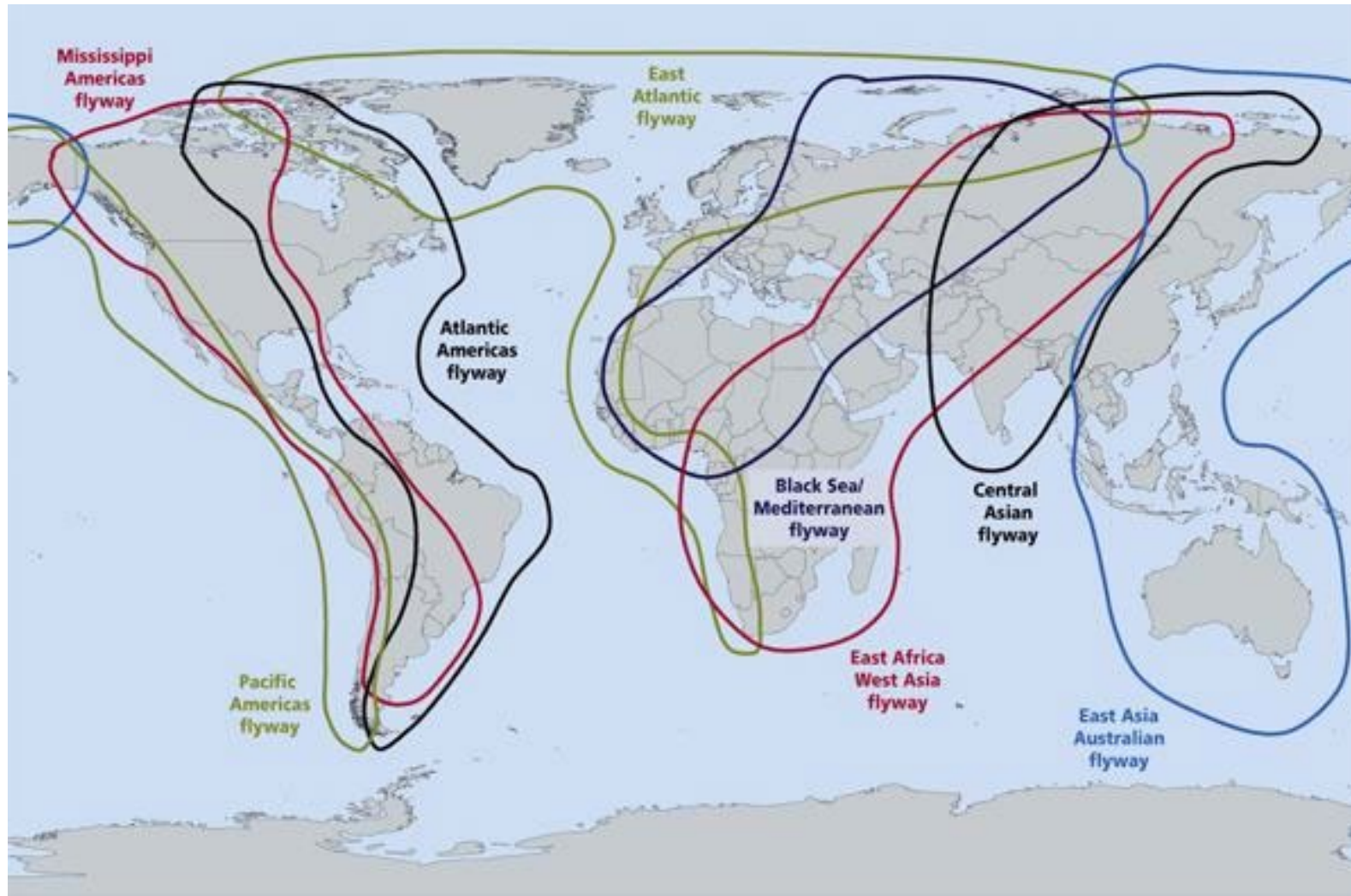
# Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza



HPAI Globally  
(Jan 2021 – Jan 2022)

■ Domestic   ■ Wild   ■ Captive   ■ Mixed  
Showing 500 out of 3,198 events [Load more](#)

# Global Wild Bird Flyways



# HPAI in North America



December 20, 2021:

- The Canadian Food Inspection Agency announced a detection of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) H5N1 in the Avalon Peninsula of Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada.
- Multi-bird species exhibition farm of approximately 400 birds.

## BIRD FLU CASE CONFIRMED IN SOUTH CAROLINA

“We’re asking that anyone involved with poultry or egg production, from large farms all the way down to backyard flocks, review their biosecurity practices to assure the health of their birds. So far we have no indication that HPAI has jumped from wild migratory birds to poultry and we’d very much like to keep it that way.”

**MICHAEL J. NEAULT**

SC STATE VETERINARIAN & DIRECTOR OF CLEMSON LIVESTOCK-POULTRY HEALTH



American Wigeon  
Colleton County, SC



Northern Shoveler  
Hyde County, NC

# HPAI in North America

- First poultry flock: February 8, 2022. Highly Pathogenic H5N1 Avian Influenza diagnosed in Indiana poultry flock in Dubois County, Indiana.
- Avian influenza does not present a food safety risk; poultry and eggs are safe to eat when handled and cooked.

The screenshot shows the website for the Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH). The navigation bar includes the IN.gov logo, the BOAH logo, and links for 'About BOAH', 'Contact BOAH', 'BOAH Forms', and 'Cur'. A sidebar menu on the left contains links for 'Consumer Information: Dairy Meat and Poultry', 'Dairy Inspection', 'Meat & Poultry Inspection', 'Disaster Preparedness' (highlighted), 'Disaster Preparedness Overview', and 'Animal Health Emergencies'. The main content area features a section titled 'Affected Counties 2022' with a table listing the following information:

County & Flock #	Date Confirmed Positive	Number of Poultry	Type of Operation	Status	Type
Dubois 1	02/08/22	29,000	Commercial Turkey	Depopulated	H5N1 HPAI

# HPAI in North America

- HPAI in poultry flocks as of Monday, February 14, 2022. USDA website:

## HPAI in Commercial and Backyard Flocks

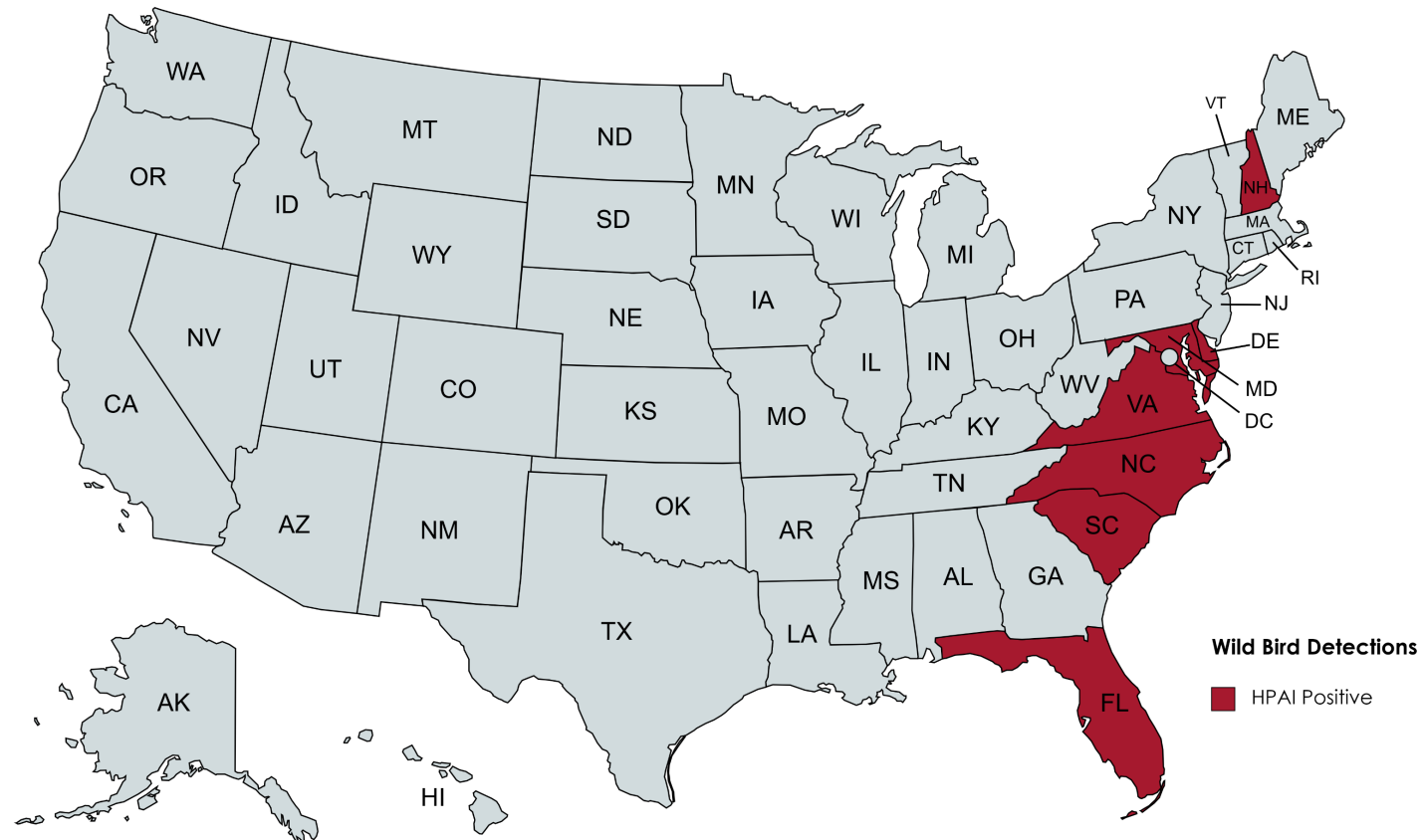
County, State	Date Confirmed	Flock Type
Dubois County, Indiana	2/8/2022	Commercial Turkeys
Fauquier County, Virginia	2/12/2022	Backyard Mixed Species Birds
Fulton County, Kentucky	2/12/2022	Commercial Broiler Chickens



# HPAI in North America

- HPAI wild bird surveillance detections as of Monday, February 14, 2022.

- South Carolina
- North Carolina
- Virginia
- Florida
- Maryland
- Delaware
- New Hampshire



# Importance of Biosecurity

- Previous outbreaks reveal vulnerabilities.
- Strict enforcement:
  - Perimeter Buffer Area
  - Line of Separation
  - Visitor restrictions
  - Shared equipment restrictions



# Attention

## DO NOT ENTER

This is a controlled-access disease prevention area.

Contact:

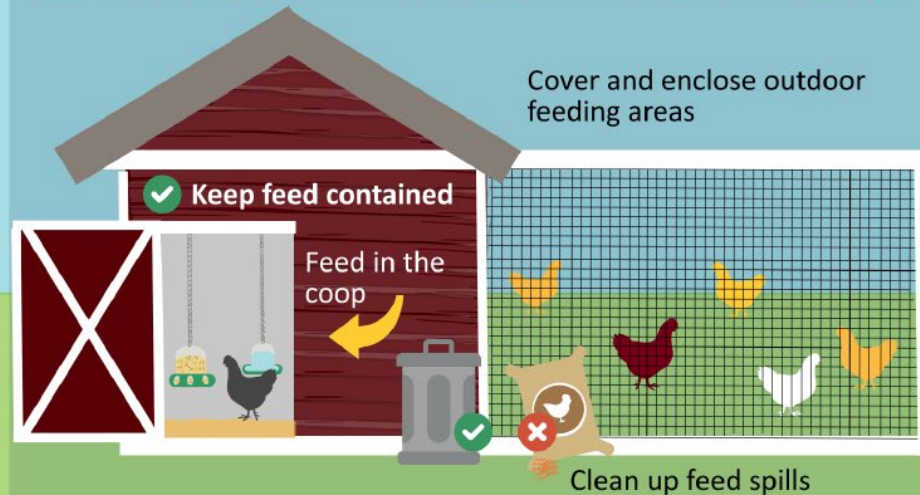
In cooperation with:

**m** MINNESOTA  
BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH

# Importance of Biosecurity

## Protect Your Small Flock from Avian Influenza

**1** **Avoid** attracting wild birds and waterfowl to your home. Song birds, sparrows, starlings, etc. are **low risk**.



**Reduce** puddles and standing water.

**Avoid** visiting ponds and streams, especially with pets.

**2** **Limit or halt** travel with your birds to sales, shows, and swaps.

Ensure you have clean hands, clothes, and footwear before handling your birds if you attend events. **Do not** allow others to handle your birds.



**3** **Limit your birds' visitors.**

If someone must visit your birds:

- Discuss where they have been.
- Have them wash their hands and wear clean clothes and footwear.



**Call your veterinarian if your flock shows signs of influenza or you suspect exposure.**

No veterinarian? Call Minnesota Poultry Testing Laboratory at **320-231-5170**.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
EXTENSION

MINNESOTA  
BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH

# Thank You!

**Beth Thompson, JD, DVM**

State Veterinarian and Executive Director