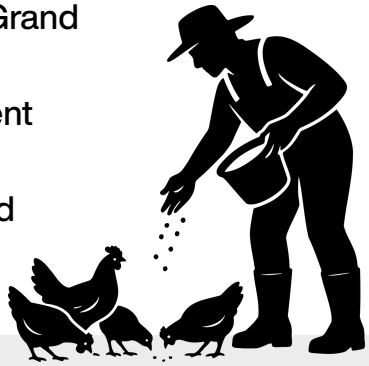
01 Dec 2025

Cayman Islands Government

Advisory for Farmers / Poultry Owners
Prevent the Transmission of H5N1 Avian Flu

H5N1 Avian Flu has been detected among a select number of birds on Grand Cayman. Public Health and the Department of Agriculture are actively monitoring the situation, surveying the area and carrying out containment activities. Farmers and poultry owners are asked to take the following precautions to prevent further transmission among bird populations and reduce personal exposure risk.



Biosecurity Measures – Mandatory Actions

These mandatory restrictions apply only if a designated biosecurity zone is activated.

- **Farms outside the biosecurity zone (including both NEST and non-NEST farmers) may continue selling eggs as normal.**
- **The following mandatory restrictions apply only to farms located inside the declared biosecurity zone.**

Mandatory restrictions for farms within the biosecurity zone:

- NEST-certified farmers within the biosecurity zone may continue to supply and sell eggs.
- Non-NEST farmers within the zone will be temporarily restricted from supplying or selling eggs or poultry meat.
- No sale of eggs or poultry meat from affected or nearby areas.
- No movement or sale of livestock (goats, cattle, pigs, sheep, poultry) within the zone.
- No farm visits or cross-farm visitation within the zone.
- Increase biosecurity at all farm entrances.
- Install foot baths and ensure proper closed-toe footwear (water boots, etc.) is used on entry and exit.
- Foot baths must contain bleach, Virkon, Enviro Care (neutral disinfectant), or another approved disinfectant at a 1:10 ratio.
- Prevent contact between your birds and wild birds, feral chickens, livestock, cats, and dogs.
- Limit all visitors to poultry areas, livestock pens, and indoor pet areas.
- Disinfect clothing, footwear, tools, and equipment before entering bird spaces, livestock pens, and indoor areas.
- Do not feed wild animals, especially feral birds or chickens.

General Guidance

All farmers are strongly encouraged to continuously review, update, and implement their farm's biosecurity measures to reduce the risk of disease introduction and spread.

What to Do

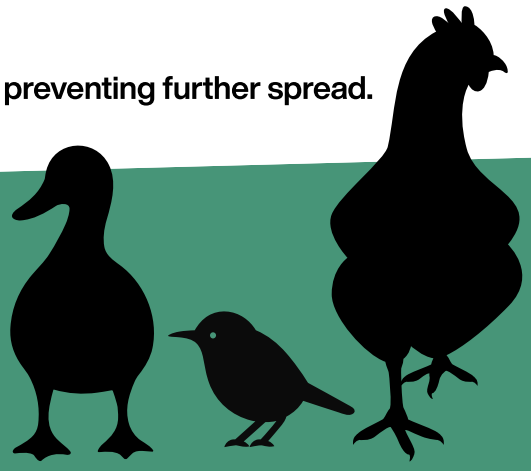
- Monitor your birds daily for signs of illness (sudden deaths, runny eyes/nose, lethargy, neurological signs, bluish combs/wattles, swollen legs, diarrhoea).
- Maintain strict biosecurity protocols at all times.
- Restrict farm visitors and maintain hygiene protocols for anyone entering.
- Disinfect boots, tools, cages, and equipment regularly.
- Keep feed and water sources protected from wild birds.
- Wear full Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when handling birds or potentially contaminated materials.
- Follow proper PPE removal procedures after exposure.
- Report any unusual bird deaths immediately to DoA: 916-7146.
- Follow DoA guidance for approved control activities.
- Submit activity logs to DoA as required.
- Obtain proper authorisation before participating in feral chicken control.
- Provide advance notification to DoA for scheduled culling activities.
- Maintain awareness of nearby homes, roads, and public spaces during control activities.
- Follow all instructions from DoA regarding control, disposal, and movement restrictions.
- If your pets (cats/dogs) become ill after potential exposure, isolate them and contact your veterinarian.

What Not to Do

To protect your flock and reduce spread, avoid:

- Allowing contact between your birds and wild birds or feral chickens
- Allowing unnecessary visitors onto your farm
- Using contaminated equipment between different bird areas
- Ignoring signs of illness in your flock
- Improperly disposing of dead birds
- Removing PPE without following proper removal procedures
- Using firearms or carrying out feral chicken control without a valid DoA permit
- Conducting culling activities that may cause public alarm
- Operating outside approved times or zones.

Your cooperation is essential for protecting local agriculture and preventing further spread.



Contact Information:

Department of Agriculture: **916-7146** or **947-3090**
Email: **agriculture@gov.ky**
Public Health: **244-2889** | **244-2621** | **244-2561**