

AMERICAN RACING PIGEON UNION, INC.

P.O. BOX 18465 OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73154-0465 PH: 405-848-5801 FAX: 405-848-5888



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Avian Influenza & Outbreak Update ***Most recent news . . .***

Many of the State Veterinarians have lifted the ban on poultry and bird exhibits, swap meets and shows as no additional positive cases (in the last 30 days) have been detected in their states.

Iowa and Michigan have recently posted that they have let the bans in their states expire.

As of June 2, all but one of the quarantines on the first nine commercial farms in Indiana that tested positive have been lifted.

Minnesota has noted that they have extended their restrictions until July 1. Those restrictions include banning all gatherings of birds and poultry.

State Veterinarians are still working with federal USDA officials as they surveil areas where positive cases have been detected.

Members are encouraged to monitor their State Veterinarian and Department of Agriculture websites. This is where you will find any restrictions state officials may be imposing at this time in your state. ***Each State Veterinarian may implement the restrictions they feel are necessary to protect their poultry industry. Those restrictions vary from state to state and change frequently.***

A list of the State Veterinarians is found at
https://www.usaha.org/upload/Federal%20and%20State%20Health/STATE_ANIMAL_HEALTH_OFFICIALS_3M.pdf

AU Bio-Security Recommendations

Basic bio-security measures should always be used. It is more important than ever to make sure you are cleaning your loft regularly, washing hands going in and out of the

loft, monitoring or perhaps restricting others from going in and out of your loft and placing new birds in a quarantine section before integrating them with your other birds.

AU Bio-Security Recommendations are found at:

<http://www.pigeon.org/loftcertificationpolicy.htm>

Other Ways You Can Help

The AU also developed the Loft Certification Program many years ago. We have encouraged members to participate in this self-regulating program to illustrate optimum care is provided the birds. It is achieved through a point system and is based on practicing basic bio-security. The [AU Loft Certification Program](#) doesn't cost anything. For more information, please feel free to call the national office (800-755-2778).