

AMERICAN RACING PIGEON UNION, INC.

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

The Centers for Disease Control has released an update (as of November 28, 2022) pertaining to the Avian Influenza situation. To date, there have been cases detected in 47 states. By viewing the map contained within the link below, you will see affected areas/counties within your state.

<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/avianflu/data-map-wild-birds.html>

The USDA is still suggesting flocks be brought in (when possible) to protect them from wild birds. Alternatively, secure your lofts to prevent wild birds from gaining access to your birds.

We want to thank AU members for monitoring the situation in their states and providing updates to the national office.

Our communication with the USDA has been consistent in that they advise, each State Veterinarian has the control to take measures within their state to protect their poultry industry. As strains may mutate and vary, the officials have not been willing to simply provide a variance for homing pigeons.

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).