

AMERICAN RACING PIGEON UNION, INC.

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October 14, 2022

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

The USDA has confirmed the presence of Avian Influenza (HPAI) in Boulder County (Colorado) in a backyard poultry facility, resulting in a quarantine order to limit the movement of birds in and out of the area. This covers much of the rural areas south of Longmont circling from Niwot to Superior and Boulder to Erie.

HPAI has also recently been detected in a commercial broiler facility in Madison County, Arkansas

As of October 14, 2022, 42 states have been affected by Avian Influenza. The USDA continues to update at:

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-information/avian/avian-influenza/hpai-2022/2022-hpai-commercial-backyard-flocks>

The USDA is recommending 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.

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).