

# AMERICAN RACING PIGEON UNION, INC.

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## ***Virulent Newcastle Disease Outbreak***

As of May 25, 2018, virulent Newcastle Disease (vND) has been confirmed on six premises in Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties.

vND was originally detected in a small flock of backyard exhibition chickens in Los Angeles County on May 16, 2018, by the California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory System (CAHFS). Testing was confirmed by the USDA APHIS on May 17, 2018.

Please view the link below for more information:

[http://ucanr.edu/sites/poultry/Virulent Newcastle Disease Outbreak Information and Resources/](http://ucanr.edu/sites/poultry/Virulent_Newcastle_Disease_Outbreak_Information_and_Resources/)

It is important that members not allow comingling of pigeons and poultry. We also encourage members to follow recommended bio-security measures.

## ***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).