

# AMERICAN RACING PIGEON UNION, INC.

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## ***Virulent Newcastle Disease (VND) Update***

Most of you are likely monitoring the California State Department of Food & Agriculture (CDFA) website for updates on the Virulent Newcastle Disease outbreak. They have reported two new cases detected in the Bloomington area, which is a disappointment.

The AU will continue dialog with the state veterinarian's office, however, at this time, have no new information to report other than what they posted regarding these new cases.

They are continuing their surveillance and the quarantines remain in place.

For additional information or to view a map of the quarantine area, go to:  
[https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/animal\\_health/newcastle\\_disease\\_info.html](https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/animal_health/newcastle_disease_info.html)

The California Department of Food & Agriculture is still recommending that gatherings where birds (including but not limited to poultry) are brought together for shows, auctions, swap meets, pet marts, fair exhibits, pigeon races, and petting zoos be suspended.

We encourage members to adhere to the recommendations to avoid potentially spreading the virus or putting your birds in jeopardy.

*Please do not attempt to ship birds from within quarantine areas.*

## ***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>