

# AMERICAN RACING PIGEON UNION, INC.

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

As of May 17, 2018, 62 cases of virulent Newcastle Disease (VND) have been confirmed in Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

The California Department of Food and Agriculture has posted information regarding restriction of movement and quarantines now imposed in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties at

[https://www.cdffa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal\\_Health/pdfs/V\\_N\\_D\\_SB\\_Riverside\\_Area\\_Quarantine.pdf](https://www.cdffa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/pdfs/V_N_D_SB_Riverside_Area_Quarantine.pdf)

[https://www.cdffa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal\\_Health/Newcastle\\_Disease\\_Info.html](https://www.cdffa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/Newcastle_Disease_Info.html)

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

Though we know from previous Newcastle outbreaks that pigeons have not been problematic, this is a new strain and officials need scientific data to determine susceptibility. The AU is in contact with USDA officials and will continue to monitor the situation and advocate for pigeon fanciers.

## ***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>