



California Department of
Food and Agriculture



United States Department
Of Agriculture

Animal and Plant Health
Inspection Service

Exotic Newcastle
Disease Taskforce
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Recommended Actions for Managers of Bird Events Held Outside the Exotic Newcastle Disease Quarantined Area – November 13, 2002

INTRODUCTION

Exotic Newcastle Disease (END) was diagnosed in backyard poultry flocks in Southern California on October 1, 2002. END is a very serious contagious and often fatal viral disease that affects most species of birds. Many birds die without showing any signs, but some bird species can be infected without showing signs of disease and spread the disease to other birds with fatal consequences.

END can only be eradicated by rapidly identifying and humanely destroying all infected and exposed birds. Affected facilities require extensive cleaning and disinfection to get rid of the disease and prevent reinfection. The cooperation of all bird owners in California is necessary to control and eradicate END.

Food and Agricultural Code, section 9562 gives CDFA the authority to order the movement, segregation, isolation, or destruction of animals or food products during a quarantine. On November 13, 2002, CDFA published a regional quarantine notice affecting Los Angeles County and areas as noted of San Bernardino and Riverside counties (click on link to view: [Exotic Newcastle Disease Regional Quarantine Map](#)) A **compliance agreement** with CDFA is required for the exhibition of poultry and for the movement of poultry and eggs out of the quarantine area. In addition, all owners of commercial poultry are required to immediately report any clinical signs suggestive of END, and any unexpected decreases in egg production or increases in mortality. If all parameters are normal, owners are required to report this each week by fax or email on a form provided by CDFA. Bird species affected by this quarantine include chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, partridges, pheasants, quail, guinea fowl, peafowl, doves, pigeons, grouse, swans, and ratites. Food and Agricultural Code, section 9574 provides that any person who negligently or intentionally violates a quarantine shall be civilly liable in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.

Birds events such as bird marts, poultry swap meets, and exhibitions of poultry and caged birds held **outside** the regional quarantine area, and gatherings of birds within the quarantine area that exclude the species listed in the quarantine notice, may continue. **However, all gatherings of birds in California are at increased risk of getting this devastating disease.** CDFA will immediately quarantine birds and hold them in accordance with prescribed biosecure measures if END is suspected at any bird event. Bird owners and event staff will be responsible for segregating and caring for birds under quarantine guidelines until the quarantine is lifted. The quarantine will be lifted if END is not confirmed. Costs associated with caring for birds and moving them to other destinations is not the responsibility of CDFA. CDFA will serve individual notices for the destruction of infected and exposed birds and bird products if END is confirmed. CDFA will compensate owners at "fair market value" for birds that are destroyed. All cages, materials and equipment associated with infected birds must be cleaned and disinfected or destroyed. CDFA may determine that all birds, products and equipment at the event must be destroyed.

All decisions on the need to quarantine birds and products at the event for hold, segregation and destruction, as well as to clean, disinfect, and, if necessary, destroy any cages, materials and equipment associated with their display, lies within the sole discretion of CDFA.

**BIRD MARTS
RECOMMENDED ACTIONS FOR MANAGERS OPERATING OUTSIDE
THE EXOTIC NEWCASTLE DISEASE QUARANTINED AREA**

1. Require by written contract that vendors only sell and exhibit healthy birds from healthy flocks, that have been legally imported or have been raised in the United States, and have been in the possession of the owner or agent for the past 30 days.
2. Do not allow chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, partridges, pheasants, quail, guinea fowl, peafowl, doves, pigeons, grouse, swans, and ratites at the bird mart. If these birds are at the mart, ensure that they did not originate from the END quarantined area.
3. Use only cleaned and disinfected metal cages.
4. Employ an animal health professional to monitor the health of birds.
5. Cooperate with END Task Force representatives that may be present to monitor the health of birds.
6. Distribute information about END to agents, vendors, sellers and purchasers.
7. Call the END task force at 1-800-491-1899 to report unusual bird disease, suspect illegal birds, and if you have any questions.
8. Immediately submit dead birds to the California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratories (CAHFS) at:
 - a. *San Bernardino*: 105 West Central Ave, San Bernardino, CA 92408; Tel: 909-383-4287; Fax: 909-884-5980.
 - b. *Fresno*: 2789 South Orange Ave, Fresno, CA 93725; Tel: 559-498-7740; Fax: 559-485-8097
 - c. *Turlock*: 1550 N. Soderquist, Turlock, CA 95381; Tel: 209-634-5837; Fax: 209-667-4261
 - d. *Davis*: West Health Science Drive, UC Davis, CA 95616; Tel: 530-752-8700; Fax: 530-752-5680

There is no charge for END testing at CAHFS laboratories. Use a courier service if samples cannot be delivered. Bird samples must arrive at the lab within 24 hours of death.

**POULTRY SWAP MEETS AND PUBLIC BIRD SALES
RECOMMENDED ACTIONS FOR MANAGERS OPERATING OUTSIDE
THE EXOTIC NEWCASTLE DISEASE QUARANTINED AREA**

1. Require by written contract that vendors:
 - a. Only sell and exhibit healthy birds from healthy flocks, that have been legally imported or have been raised in the United States and have been in the possession of the owner or agent for the past 30 days
 - b. Agree to have their bird's health monitored
 - c. Have not moved restricted birds out of an END quarantined area in the absence of a compliance agreement with the Department.
2. Provide a schedule of operations and a contact person to the END task force at: Exotic Newcastle 2002 Task Force, P.O. Box 40, Los Alamitos, CA 90720.
3. Provide END task force representatives with a list of vendors that sell birds upon request. The list should include the name, address, and phone number of the vendor or agent, and the address of the source of the birds.
4. Keep chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, and pigeons separate from other species of birds.
5. Develop and use sanitation procedures for grounds and cages.
6. Cooperate with END task force representatives that may be present to monitor the health of birds.
7. Distribute information about END to agents, vendors, purchasers, and the public at the event.
8. Call the END task force at 1-800-491-1899 to report unusual bird disease, suspect illegal birds, and if you have questions.
9. Immediately submit dead birds to the California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratories (CAHFS) at:
 - a. *San Bernardino* at 105 West Central Ave, San Bernardino, CA 92408; Tel: 909-383-4287; Fax: 909-884-5980.
 - b. *Fresno*: 2789 South Orange Ave, Fresno, CA 93725; Tel: 559-498-7740; Fax: 559-485-8097
 - c. *Turlock*: 1550 N. Soderquist, Turlock, CA 95381; Tel: 209-634-5837; Fax: 209-667-4261
 - d. *Davis*: West Health Science Drive, UC Davis, CA 95616; Tel: 530-752-8700; Fax: 530-752-5680

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11. Develop plans for a 3 to 15 day quarantine ordering birds held and segregated.

**POULTRY SHOWS AND EXHIBITIONS
RECOMMENDED ACTIONS FOR MANAGERS OPERATING OUTSIDE
THE EXOTIC NEWCASTLE DISEASE QUARANTINED AREA**

Poultry includes chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, partridges, pheasants, quail, guinea fowl, peafowl, doves, pigeons, grouse, swans and ratites.

1. Consider postponing the exhibition until END has been eradicated from California.
 2. Require a written agreement that exhibitors:
 - a. Show only healthy birds from healthy flocks that have been legally imported or have been raised in the United States and have been in the possession of the owner or agent for the past 30 days.
 - b. Allow monitoring of their bird's health.
 - c. Have not moved birds out of an END quarantined area in the absence of a compliance agreement with the Department.
 3. Employ an animal health professional to monitor the health of birds. This may take the form of individual bird examination at coop-in or visual examination of the birds after they are cooped-in.
 4. Use a bird check-in procedure with a plan for immediately isolating sick birds *before* other birds are exposed. Include procedures for cleaning and disinfecting potentially contaminated check-in site and exposed personnel.
 5. Cooperate with END task force representatives that may be present to monitor the health of birds.
 6. Use only cleaned and disinfected metal cages.
 7. Distribute information handouts on END to all exhibitors, judges, show staff, and vendors.
 8. Call the END task force at 1-800-491-1899 to report unusual bird disease, suspect illegal birds, and if you have any questions.
 9. Immediately submit dead birds to the California Animal Health and Food Safety (CAHFS) Laboratories at:
 - a. *San Bernardino* 105 West Central Ave, San Bernardino, CA 92408; Tel: 909-383-4287; Fax: 909-884-5980.
 - b. *Fresno* 2789 South Orange Ave, Fresno, CA 93725; Tel: 559-498-7740; Fax: 559-485-8097
 - c. *Turlock* 1550 N. Soderquist, Turlock, CA 95381; Tel: 209-634-5837; Fax: 209-667-4261
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10. Thoroughly clean and disinfect all cages and equipment after birds have been removed. Preferably, clean with hot water and soap or with a steam cleaner, to remove all fecal material and organic material. Once clean, disinfect all cages and equipment with an agent known to kill the Newcastle Disease virus.

**CAGED BIRD SHOWS AND EXHIBITIONS
RECOMMENDED ACTIONS FOR MANAGERS OPERATING OUTSIDE
THE EXOTIC NEWCASTLE DISEASE QUARANTINED AREA**

1. Do not allow chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, partridges, pheasants, quail, guinea fowl, peafowl, doves, pigeons, grouse, swans, and ratites at caged bird shows.
3. Require a written agreement that exhibitors only show:
 - a. Healthy birds from healthy flocks.
 - b. Birds that have been legally imported or have been raised in the United States and have been in the possession of the owner or agent for the past 30 days.
2. Use cleaned and disinfected metal cages.
3. Distribute information handouts on END to agents, vendors, sellers, and purchasers.
4. Cooperate with END Task Force representatives that may be present to monitor the health of birds.
5. Call the END task force at 1-800-491-1899 to report unusual bird disease, suspect illegal birds, and if you have any questions.
6. Immediately submit dead birds to the California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratories (CAHFS) at:
 - a. *San Bernardino* at 105 West Central Ave, San Bernardino, CA 92408; Tel: 909-383-4287; Fax: 909-884-5980.
 - b. *Fresno*: 2789 South Orange Ave, Fresno, CA 93725; Tel: 559-498-7740; Fax: 559-485-8097
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There is no charge for END testing at CAHFS laboratories. Use a courier service if samples cannot be delivered. Bird samples must arrive at the laboratory within 24 hours of death.