



# Arizona Department of Agriculture

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Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza A (HPAI) H5N1 virus is an emerging disease in cattle. Federal and state agencies are moving quickly to conduct additional testing so that we can better understand the situation. USDA and other Federal and State partners will continue to share additional updates as soon as information becomes available. Our goal is to safeguard the health of the herd and protect the industry; keep our milk and beef supply safe; and protect public health and human safety based on the most up-to-date information we have in a collaborative One-Health response.

## **Dairy Worker Safety or Exposed Persons**

CDC's current recommendations are as follows:

- Persons working with or around cattle, including those working with or disposing of milk waste, that are suspected or confirmed with HPAI (H5N1) virus infection should wear personal protective equipment (PPE) when in direct or close contact (within about 6 feet) with sick or dead animals, animal feces, litter, milk, or materials known to be or potentially contaminated with HPAI (H5N1) viruses.
- Recommended PPE includes properly fitted unvented or indirectly vented safety goggles or a face shield (if there is risk of liquid splash onto the respirator), disposable gloves, boots or boot covers, a NIOSH Approved® particulate respirator (e.g., N95® filtering facepiece respirator)\*, disposable fluid-resistant coveralls, and disposable head cover or hair cover. Perform thorough hand washing before putting on and taking off PPE. **\*\*\*For younger children, please avoid having them in close proximity to exposed or suspect cattle as it is difficult to find appropriately fitted respiratory PPE for them that is effective.\*\*\***
- Persons working with or around cattle, even if not in close contact, should avoid eating, drinking, smoking, chewing gum, and other such activities in potentially contaminated areas; avoid rubbing or touching the eyes, as it can result in conjunctivitis (pink eye); and perform thorough handwashing regularly, especially before eating, smoking, touching your face, and leaving work (including breaks), and before and after wearing PPE or going to the bathroom.
- People exposed to HPAI (H5N1) virus-infected cattle (including people wearing recommended PPE) should be monitored for signs and symptoms of acute respiratory illness beginning after their first exposure and for 10 days after their last exposure.
- If any person exposed to HPAI (H5N1) virus infected cattle develops acute respiratory illness symptoms during the monitoring period, the State health department should be notified.
- Guidance and details are available on the CDC webpages at:
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/avianflu/hpai/hpai-interim-recommendations.html>
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/avianflu/index.htm>