



Arizona Department of Agriculture

1802 W Jackson St #78, Phoenix, Arizona 85007
(602) 542-4293 FAX (602) 542-4290

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.

Safety of UNPASTEURIZED Milk and Dairy Products for Human Consumption from Exposed, Asymptomatic Cows (Contributed by FDA)

FDA recognizes this is an evolving situation and we still have limited data on asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic shedding in cattle. FDA's current best recommendations are as follows:

- Raw milk, raw milk cheese, and other raw dairy products should not be manufactured from asymptomatic cattle that have been exposed.
- Exposed cattle generally means cattle located on a premises with cattle with suspected or confirmed H5N1. Given the variety of premises sizes and the potential for state requirements, FDA recommends producers consult with State regulatory officials and their veterinarian for further guidance.
- As guidance and recommendations on milk safety and HPAI may change as more is learned, please visit FDA's question and answer page here for the latest: <https://www.fda.gov/food/milk-guidance-documents-regulatory-information/questions-and-answers-regarding-milk-safety-during-highly-pathogenic-avian-influenza-hpai-outbreaks>

Safety of Feeding Waste or Discarded Milk to Animals (Contributed by FDA)

- Young calves are susceptible to disease and disease-causing pathogens that can be transmitted through raw milk.
- FDA recommends that on a farm with exposed cattle, all milk intended to be fed to calves and other animals (i.e., cats fed on the farm), including milk from cattle which are asymptomatic, should be pasteurized or heat treated-similar to times and temperatures commonly found in commercial milk pasteurization processing.
- Any other dairy products, such as raw milk cheeses or byproducts from exposed cattle, intended to be fed on the farm should be heat treated or pasteurized, as well.
- Any raw milk or raw milk products from exposed cattle that cannot be heat treated or pasteurized should be discarded.
- Many state Cooperative Extension Service programs have published detailed information on how to pasteurize or otherwise effectively treat waste milk before using it to feed calves (Penn State - [Pasteurization of Non-Saleable Milk](#)).
- Producers should also consult with their State regulatory authorities for state-specific recommendations or requirements.
- As guidance and recommendations on milk safety and HPAI may change as more is learned, please visit FDA's question and answer page here for the latest: <https://www.fda.gov/food/milk-guidance-documents-regulatory-information/questions-and-answers-regarding-milk-safety-during-highly-pathogenic-avian-influenza-hpai-outbreaks>

Disposal of Discarded Milk (Contributed by FDA)

- FDA recommends that producers take precautions when discarding milk from affected cows so that the discarded milk does not become a source of further spread.
- Such precautions include considering heat-treatment or pasteurization of discarded milk prior to dumping in lagoons or application of waste solids and ensuring biosecurity around lagoons (e.g., ensuring that animals and birds do not have access to lagoons).
- FDA also recommends producers consult their State regulatory officials on any state requirements.