Alert

VIRULENT NEWCASTLE DISEASE

Information for Bird Owners

Virulent Newcastle Disease (VND) has been found in Southern California. It is a contagious disease of birds, including chickens.

What kinds of birds get VND?

All birds can be infected with VND. In most cases the disease will kill chickens. Other birds may not get sick but can still spread the disease to chickens and other pet birds.

Does VND infect people?

Properly cooked meat and eggs from infected birds are safe to eat. In rare cases, people in extremely close contact with infected birds may get a mild fever, and redness and swelling in the area around the eyes. These symptoms usually go away without medical treatment.

What can you do to help

• If you think your birds are sick please immediately call the Sick Bird Hotline at: 866-922-2473.
• Keep your birds away from other birds.
• If you visit family or friends with birds, shower, wash your clothes, and change your shoes before handling your birds.
• Don’t visit them without taking these same steps if you have handled your birds.
• Try to keep people who also own birds from visiting your property
• Share information about VND with family and friends

How to Protect Your Birds

• Wash hands and scrub boots before and after entering an area with birds
• Avoid sharing equipment; clean and disinfect equipment and tires before moving them between properties
• Isolate any bird returning from shows for 30 days before placing them with the rest of the flock
• Do not bring any new birds onto your property as long as the disease is in California.

www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/Newcastle_Disease_Info.html
ALERTA
ENFERMEDAD DE NEWCASTLE VIRULENTA

INFORMACIÓN PARA PROPIETARIOS DE AVES

Se detectó la enfermedad de Newcastle virulenta (Virulent Newcastle Disease, VND) en el Sur de California. Esta es una enfermedad contagiosa que afecta a las aves, incluidos los pollos.

¿QUÉ ESPECIES DE AVES SE CONTAGIAN CON LA VND?

Todas las aves se pueden infectar con la VND. En la mayoría de los casos, la enfermedad mata a los pollos. Es posible que otras aves no se enfermen, pero aun así pueden propagar la enfermedad a pollos y otras aves domésticas.

¿CÓMO SE TRANSMITE LA VND?

La enfermedad se transmite por medio del contacto directo entre las aves, de tos y estornudos y del excremento. Las personas pueden transmitir la VND al trasladar aves, equipos y alimentos y al usar ropa y calzado que estuvieron en contacto con áreas infectadas.

¿CÓMO SE MANIFIESTA LA VND EN LAS AVES INFECTADAS?

Las aves pueden presentar inflamación alrededor de los ojos, inflamación amoratada de la carúncula y la cresta, gran cantidad de secreciones provenientes del pico y la nariz, torsión del cuello y la cabeza, pérdida del apetito, diarrea y, algunas veces, muerte súbita.

¿CÓMO SE MANIFIESTA LA VND EN LAS AVES INFECTADAS?

¿QUÉ PUEDE HACER PARA AYUDAR?

Cómo proteger a sus aves

• Lávese las manos y botas, tanto antes como después de entrar en un área donde haya aves.
• Evite compartir equipos; lávelos y desinfecte los equipos y las llantas antes de moverlos de una propiedad a otra.
• Aísle cualquier ave que venga de exhibiciones por un lapso de 30 días antes de reintegrarla al resto de la parvada.
• No lleve ningún ave nueva a su propiedad mientras la enfermedad siga presente en California.

www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/Newcastle_Disease_Info.html.
Disease Prevention Guide
Backyard and Pet Bird Owners

Your birds depend on you to keep them healthy. Disease prevention means doing everything you can to protect birds against disease. Diseases move when contaminated birds, people, and materials are moved from one location to another. You can greatly decrease the risk of diseases entering your birds by making these basic tips part of your daily routine.

Backyard Biosecurity
- Do not share birds, equipment, or feed with other bird owners.
- Avoid contact with other people’s birds; they make look fine, but carry disease.
- Restrict access to your birds; visitors may carry disease on their clothing or shoes.
- Isolate new birds from your other birds for 30 days and observe them for signs of illness.
- Isolate birds and disinfect your cages and equipment after returning home from events.
- Never obtain birds from unreliable sources.
- Thoroughly wash your hands with soap and water before and after having contact with birds.
- Scrub and remove all debris from your footwear, giving particular attention to the soles, with soap and water and spray with a disinfectant.
- Consider using a disinfectant foot bath with a scrub mat at the entrance to your bird area.
- When buying feed and supplies, clean and disinfect your vehicle before you return to your property.
- Maintain a clean and sanitary environment for your birds; remove feces, feather, and spilled-feed on a daily basis.
- Dedicate a set(s) of easily-cleaned clothing and footwear for bird activities.
- Properly dispose of dead birds. Check on local ordinances for acceptable disposal methods.
- Keep wild birds, insects, and rodents away from your birds as they are also disease vectors.

Disinfectants
- Thoroughly clean and scrub objects before applying disinfectants.
- Prepare disinfectants regularly and change the foot baths when they are dirty.
- Apply disinfectants using brushes, sponges, and spray units or use a foot bath.
- Allow adequate contact time of disinfectants.
- Carefully read and follow the manufacturer’s directions and take all precautions.
- Dispose of soiled disinfectants in accordance with local regulations.

Examples of Disinfectant Products*
- 1-Stroke Environ™ - germicidal detergent
- Tek-trol™ - disinfectant cleaner concentrate
- Nolvasan® S - Chlorhexidine diacetate
- Clorox Regular Bleach - EPA: 5873-50 (sodium hypochlorite 6%)
- Lysol Power & Fresh Multi-purpose cleaner® - EPA: 777-66 spray
- Purell® - hand sanitizer

Making a Foot Bath
- Use a plastic pan wide enough to fit an adult’s foot and shallow enough to step in,
- Add plastic doormat (a “fake grass” mat works well),
- Mix a disinfectant that works well for most situations, such as Tek-trol™ or 1-Stroke Environ™, according to label instructions,
- Add the disinfectant to the pan so that the mat is covered,
- Ask visitors to walk through the foot bath and wipe their feet on the mat, and
- Empty the pan and put in new disinfectant when the liquid starts to get dirty, low in volume, or too diluted due to rain.

To report an unusual number of sick or dead birds, call:
Sick Bird Hotline
(866) 922-2473

*Disclaimer: Trade names used in this publication do not constitute a guarantee, warranty, or endorsement of the products, nor criticize similar products not mentioned. California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) bears no responsibility for liability resulting from the use of these products. These procedures are not guaranteed to prevent highly contagious diseases from affecting your birds; however, they will reduce risks.

CDFA Animal Health Branch
Headquarters - (916) 900-5002
Redding District - (530) 225-2140
Modesto District - (209) 491-9350
Tulare District - (559) 685-3500
Ontario District - (909) 947-4462
USDA-APHIS-VS (916) 854-3950 or (877) 741-3690

For more information, please click the following:
Animal Health Branch
Avian Health Program