



EXTENSION

Dairy Cattle H5N1 Influenza Update

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The information provided below is intended to provide Nebraska dairy producers and farm workers with a brief overall summary of current information regarding the emerging H5N1 disease in dairy cattle in the United States. All information is current to the author's knowledge at the time of writing .

This is an emerging disease and any new available information pertinent to Nebraska dairy producers will be posted as an update to the Nebraska Dairy Extension [website](#).

New Information:

- The number of affected premises currently stands at 69. The number of states with positive cases remains at 9. The number and location of positive premises is updated frequently by USDA APHIS and that information can be found [here](#).
- On May 30th, the CDC confirmed a 3rd human case of dairy associated H5N1. This was the second human case identified in Michigan. The person was a dairy farm worker with exposure to infected cows, similar to the previously identified cases in Texas and Michigan. This 3rd case was the first human case to report acute respiratory illness whereas the first two cases were associated only with conjunctivitis (infection of the eye). The official CDC press release regarding this case can be found at this [link](#).
- Also on May 30th, the USDA APHIS released additional results for their ongoing H5N1 research. When beef muscle sampling was performed on cull dairy cows that were condemned at slaughter facilities, 108 out of 109 samples were negative for viral particles via PCR testing. No meat from any of the animals tested entered the food supply chain. The animal that had virus detected in muscle samples was identified at slaughter as having signs of illness, and thus was condemned preventing it from entering the food supply. These results, along with the results of their ground beef cooking study highlight the effectiveness of standard protocols in place regarding meat inspection, meat handling, and proper cooking technique. More detailed information on this ongoing research can be found [here](#).

Reminder:

- A variety of personal protective equipment (PPE) is currently available at the Nebraska Extension offices in Madison, Gage, and Hall counties. There is no cost to obtain the supplies, they are available for free to

dairy workers. The supplies have been provided by the Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (CS-CASH) and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.