

HEALTH BULLETIN BOARD 6/13/24

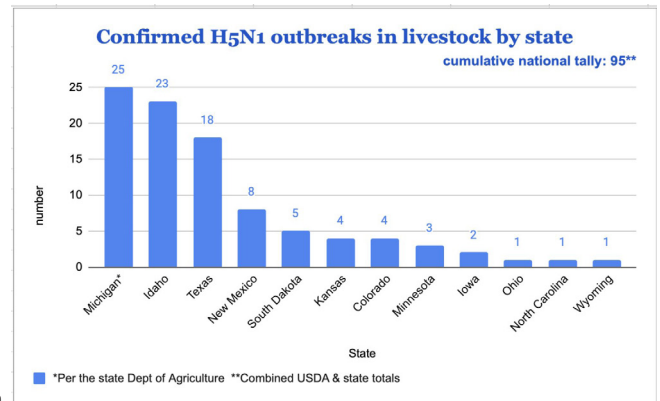
NH DHHS UPDATE ON THE H5N1 AVIAN INFLUENZA -- CDC/NHDHHS have determined the risk to public health is low. They continue to monitor test and tracking results. Dr. Crawford, DVM NH State Vet said, "This is an animal health issue."

[CDC's current A\(H5N1\) bird flu human health risk assessment](#) for the US general public has not changed, although bird flu has now infected 90 herds in 12 states. **Just 3 people in the US have contracted the virus**, one in Texas and two in Michigan -- all had direct contact with infected cows. The risk to members of the general public who do not have exposure to infected animals remains low.

However, the latest development underscores the importance of recommended precautions in people with exposure to infected or potentially infected animals. People with close or prolonged, unprotected exposures to infected birds or other animals (including livestock), or to environments contaminated by infected birds or other infected animals, are at greater risk of infection and should take precautions.

- **Pasteurization kills any virus in cow's milk. Public Health recommends against human consumption of raw milk to avoid the risk and avoid other infectious diseases including listeria, e coli, salmonella.**

- No infection is being found in beef.
- There is also a potential risk to cats who drink raw milk from infected cows. On one TX dairy farm with H5N1 where 24 cats drank milk from an infected cow, 50% became ill and died within a few days. The virus affects the milk and mammary glands in cows. It affects brain and lung tissue in cats.
- USDA protocols for dairy herds and movement of lactating cows across state lines currently require source farm ID, vet certification and a negative H5N1 test within 7 days of transport. (Animals can return home from a fair/exhibition within 10 days without another test.) May 7, 2024 Federal order still being amended. The USDA is also developing a bulk milk test and manufacturers are developing a vaccine for cows.
- IF human infection is suspected: health care providers should isolate the patient in their healthcare setting (staff should wear PPP), swabs, report to NHDHHS, test, begin oseltamivir and isolate from household while awaiting test results.



MOSQUITO CONTROL MONITORING IN PORTSMOUTH

The City of Portsmouth's Mosquito Control Program began monitoring in April. Crews from Dragon Mosquito Control, Inc., the City's contracted service, are checking swamps, salt marshes, woodland pools, ditches, catch basins and other shallow, stagnant water for mosquito larvae. When mosquito larvae are found, treatment may occur but citywide night-time road spraying for adult mosquitoes is not planned. Residents who do not want their property treated can sign up with the No-Spray Registry at www.DragonMosquito.com/No-Spray-Registry or write to Dragon Mosquito Control, Inc., PO Box 46, Stratham, NH 03885. When writing, residents should be sure to include name, physical address, phone number, the color of the house and acreage or road frontage. For more information call 603.734.4144 or email Help@DragonMosquito.com.

TICK SEASON IS ALSO UNDERWAY -- The CDC currently tracks five tick-borne diseases. The most prevalent in NH is Lyme Disease. But CDC is concerned about a new parasitic disease carried by deer ticks. In addition to Lyme Disease with symptoms including chills, fever and muscle aches, this disease, babesiosis presents symptoms including nausea, fatigue, fever and loss of appetite. The best protection, is similar to guarding against mosquito bites: wear long sleeves and pants and use bug spray. Also avoid habitats with dry leaves and long grass where ticks are active.

PREVENT MOSQUITO BITES

REMOVE STANDING WATER
Mosquitoes require water to lay their eggs. Dump out water from tires, flower pots, and chairs to stop new mosquitoes from living in your yard.

DON'T LET MOSQUITOES INSIDE
Use screens on doors and windows to keep mosquitoes from sneaking into your home.

USE REPELLENT AND AT HOME MISTING SYSTEMS
Make sure your personal insect repellents include DEET. Consider installing a misting system if you spend a lot of time outside your home.

COVER UP
When in mosquito territory, wear long pants, long sleeves, socks and closed toed shoes.

fullscopepestcontrol.com