

# USDA-BFRDP Workshop Introduction



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# UCCE Poultry Website

<http://ucanr.edu/sites/poultry/>



Home About Us Events Newsletter Find an Expert UC Davis Pastured Poultry Farm CA Backyard Poultry Census CA Waterfowl Tracker

## Resources

Virulent Newcastle Disease  
Outbreak Information and  
Resources

Citizen Science in Backyard  
Poultry Study

Backyard Chicken Egg Study

CA Waterfowl Tracker

Beginning Farmer & Rancher  
Development Program

Husbandry

Production Type

Common Avian Diseases

Disease Prevention

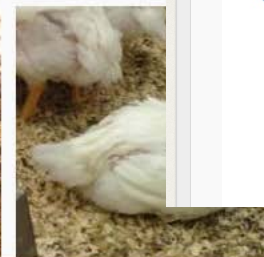
Food Safety

## UC Cooperative Extension Poultry

### Welcome, poultry enthusiasts!

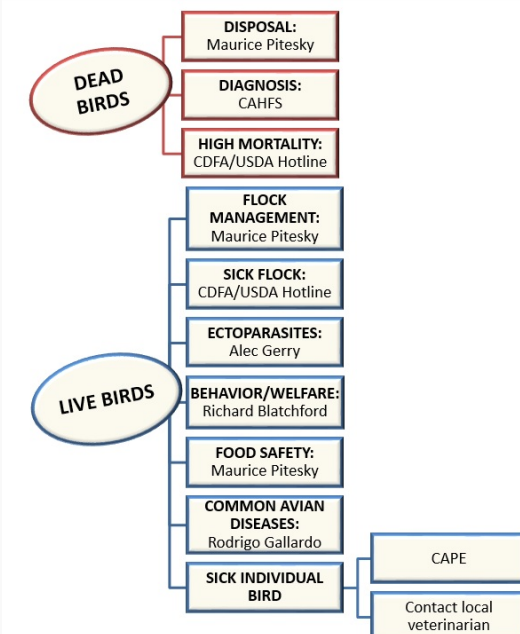
This website is designed to help you find information and resources for all of y

Here you can find information about:



## Who to Contact in Case of Poultry Issues:

(See below flowchart for contact information.)





# Quarterly Newsletter



## Poultry Ponderings

UC DAVIS  
VETERINARY MEDICINE

Edition 14 • Spring 2018

A quarterly newsletter detailing poultry related work at the UC system

### Keeping Your Birds Safe from Virulent Newcastle Disease

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) has identified several cases of **virulent Newcastle disease** in small flocks of backyard birds in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties. The initial case was detected at the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine's California Animal Health & Food Safety Laboratory (CAHFS) when a private practitioner submitted a sick bird for testing. All detections are confirmed at the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services (APHIS) National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL) in Ames, Iowa. This was the first case of virulent Newcastle disease, previously referred to as exotic Newcastle disease, in the U.S. since 2003. CDFA is working with federal and local partners as well as poultry owners to respond to the incident. State officials have quarantined potentially exposed birds and are testing for the disease.

**Virulent Newcastle disease is a highly contagious and deadly virus in birds;** the virus is found in respiratory discharges and feces. Clinical signs in birds include: sneezing, coughing, nasal discharge, green watery diarrhea, depression, neck twisting, circling, muscle tremors, paralysis, decreased egg production, swelling around eyes and neck, and sudden death.

It is essential that all poultry owners follow good biosecurity practices to help protect their birds from infectious diseases such as virulent Newcastle. These include simple steps like washing hands and scrubbing boots before and after entering a poultry area; cleaning and disinfecting tires and equipment before and after moving them on/off the property; and isolating any sick birds. New or returning birds from shows

should be isolated for 30 days before placing them with the rest of the flock. For backyard flock owners, biosecurity measures also include using dedicated shoes and clothes when caring for birds and not wearing those clothes/shoes in other areas.

In addition to practicing good biosecurity, all bird owners should report sick birds or unusual bird deaths through California's Sick Bird Hotline at 866-922-BIRD (2473). Additional information on VND and biosecurity for backyard flocks can be found at [www.cdffa.ca.gov/ahfss/AnimalHealth/Newcastle\\_Disease\\_Info.html](http://www.cdffa.ca.gov/ahfss/AnimalHealth/Newcastle_Disease_Info.html)

Sick or dead backyard birds can be submitted to CAHFS laboratories for post-mortem examination (\$20 plus shipping and handling). Information on this program can be found at: [cdffa.ca.gov/ahfss/AnimalHealth/pdfs/CAHFS\\_NecropsyFactsheet.pdf](http://cdffa.ca.gov/ahfss/AnimalHealth/pdfs/CAHFS_NecropsyFactsheet.pdf)

For additional information on who to contact for issues regarding backyard poultry, see: [ucanr.edu/sites/poultry/contact](http://ucanr.edu/sites/poultry/contact)

Virulent Newcastle disease is NOT a food safety concern. No human cases of Newcastle disease have ever occurred from eating poultry products. Properly cooked poultry products are safe to eat. In very rare instances people working directly with sick birds can become infected. Symptoms are usually very mild, and limited to conjunctivitis and/or influenza-like symptoms. Infection is easily prevented by using standard personal protective equipment.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the Animal Health Branch Tulare District Office at 559-685-3500.

—Jennifer McDougale, MVB

**Questions or Comments?**  
Contact Maurice Pitesky at:  
[mepitesky@ucdavis.edu](mailto:mepitesky@ucdavis.edu)  
or 530-752-3215

Editor: Anny Huang





## Poultry Ponderings

UC DAVIS  
VETERINARY MEDICINE

Edition 15 • Fall 2018

A quarterly newsletter detailing poultry related work at the UC system

### New Mobile Coop for the UC Davis Pastured Poultry Farm



#### Inside this issue:

- Live Bird Movement in CA 2
- Urban Fires and Backyard Poultry 3
- Dr. Cluck's Trivia 4
- Beginning Poultry Farmer Workshops 4

#### Questions or Comments?

Contact Maurice Pitesky at:  
[mepitesky@ucdavis.edu](mailto:mepitesky@ucdavis.edu)  
or 530-752-3215

Editor: Anny Huang



The new mobile coop designed by Ruby Chen

Meet Ruby Chen, a recent graduate of the UC Davis' civil and environmental engineering program. Ruby is now working for the Fundamentals of Engineering exam. Good luck Ruby! During her last two years of school, Ruby served as the 'lead engineer' at the UC Davis Pasture Poultry Farm where she fixed electric fences, installed solar panels, repaired a mobile coop and dozens of other assorted hands-on engineering duties. But where Ruby really excelled was her design and construction of the Farm's newest mobile coop.

In the continuing quest for the best possible mobile coop – that is, one that is strong, lightweight, inexpensive, and sustainable –



Accessible nest boxes speed up egg collection

Ruby and her civil engineering team members, Lj Tullo and Tornyne Dillon, designed a new mobile coop as part of their senior year design experience. Ruby then went on to actually build the coop over the summer. And what a coop it turned out to be!

Strong, lightweight enough that it can be moved by two people, and roomy enough to hold 50 hens. And it is just beautiful to look at. The coop is roughly 12 by 8 feet. It's made of wood, with wire mesh floors to protect the hens from predators while also allowing easy cleaning. The eggs can be quickly harvested using the outer access to the nest boxes and there are enough nest boxes that every hen can be accommodated during the day.

The plans and pictures of critical design features will be available in early fall.

—Deb Niemeier



The newest mobile coop design includes a hybrid floor and removable perches for

University of California

Winter, 2016

Edition 7

## POULTRY PONDERINGS

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER SUMMARIZING POULTRY RELATED WORK AT UC

### Backyard Chicken Ecotoparasite Study

Amy Murillo and Brad Mullens  
UC Riverside, Department of Entomology

We examined 100 backyard birds throughout southern California between June and August 2015 for parasites living on or near the birds. Four of 20 premises were ectoparasite free. Lice were the most common parasites found, with 6 different species detected: *Menacanthus stramineus* (chicken body louse), *Goniocotes gallinae* (fluff louse), *Lipeurus caponis* (wing louse), *Menopon gallinae* (shaft louse), *Menacanthus cornutus*, and *Cuclotogaster heterographus* (head louse). One flea species, the sticktight flea (*Echidnophaga gallinacea*) was found. Three parasitic mite species were recovered: *Ornithonyssus sylviae* (northern fowl mite), *Knemidocoptes mutans* (scaly leg mite), and *Dermanyssus gallinae* (chicken red mite). The parasite diversity found on backyard chickens was greater than what is commonly found on commercial chicken flocks in the US. This study is published in the Journal of Medical Entomology, 2016.



Photo of Dr. Mullens and PhD student Amy Murillo washing parasites off of a bird (photo by A. Yzaguirre)

### Newsletter

Our quarterly newsletter summarizes poultry related work at the University of California. Enter your email below to subscribe!



Over 350+ backyards are affected in Southern California

New case in Alameda Co.

Previously also spread to Utah

In BY, fighting and commercial poultry

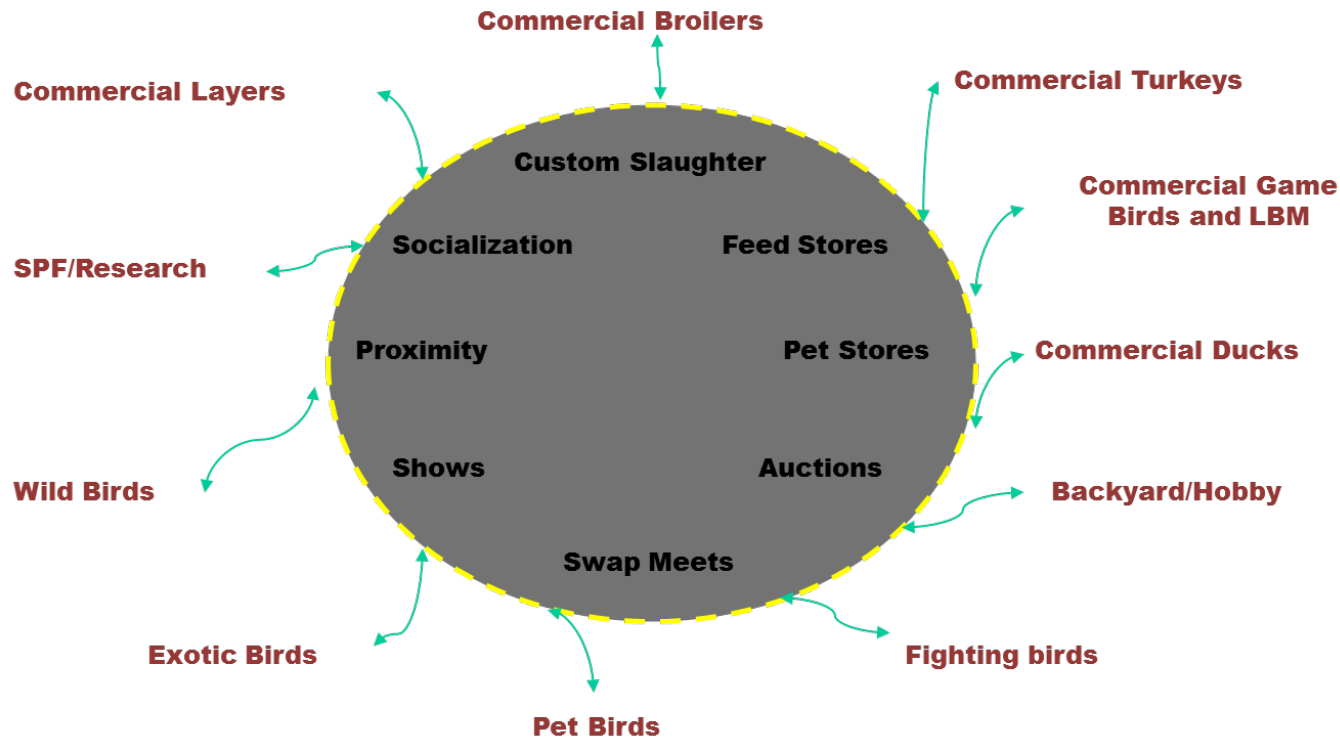
Encourage clients to call:

- California Sick Bird Hotline at 866-922-BIRD (2473)
- CAHFS Diagnostic Lab (\$20 for up to 2 birds full necropsy)
- Cooperative Extension





# Routes of Disease Transmission



Slide adapted from Dave Castellano

## Attention: Residents in Areas of Active vND Virus Spread

### Message from State Veterinarian, Dr. Annette Jones

Due to progression and duration of a virulent Newcastle Disease (vND) outbreak in parts of Southern California, the State Veterinarian has ordered mandatory euthanasia of birds in some neighborhoods within or near:

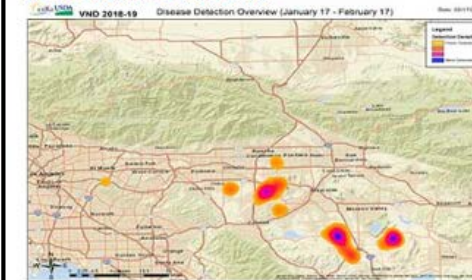
Compton and Whittier (Los Angeles County)  
Menifee, Mira Loma/Jurupa Valley, Norco, Nuevo, Perris, and Riverside City (Riverside County)  
Hesperia, Muscoy, and Ontario (San Bernardino County)

Unfortunately, even birds and flocks that previously tested negative, but now fall within a designated mandatory euthanasia area, must be euthanized. USDA/CDFA staff will contact affected bird owners with orders specific to their property.

While this action is difficult for all involved, it **MUST** be done to eradicate vND. Otherwise, the disease will continue to spread and kill additional flocks.

For more information please refer to: [Virulent Newcastle Disease FAQs](#) or call the Sick Bird Hotline at 866-922-2473

### Most Recent Detections



### Overall Detections

