

Epi Update for Friday, July 5, 2024

CENTER FOR ACUTE DISEASE EPIDEMIOLOGY (CADE)

Iowa Department of Health and Human Services

Items for this week's Epi Update include

- Disease prevention tips for agricultural fair organizers, exhibitors
- CDC Coops educational video series
- Recent increase in reports of tick-borne diseases
- Updated Zika virus travel and testing recommendations
- Infographic: H5N1 bird flu outbreak in dairy cows – How is it spreading?

Disease prevention tips for agricultural fair organizers, exhibitors

Livestock fairs and shows are a great opportunity for people to learn more about farm animals. However, some animals commonly exhibited at agricultural events (including pigs, poultry, waterfowl, and cattle) may carry diseases that can make people sick.

Every year, CDC and other human and animal health organizations work with fair organizers and exhibitors on prevention and disease mitigation efforts to reduce the risk of disease spread from animals to humans. One important example is influenza A, which can infect both animals and humans. Many of the steps taken to prevent influenza transmission also reduce the risk of other animal-related diseases.

Actions to consider for fair organizers:

- Have appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for staff and exhibitors.
- Locate food service and eating areas away from animal areas.
- Inform and educate exhibitors and visitors on how to reduce the risk of diseases spread from animals.
- Clean and disinfect animal areas daily, if possible, and at least in between groups of animals.
- Follow all Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) [Livestock Exhibition Requirements](#).

For more information for fair organizers visit, www.cdc.gov/flu/other/fair-organizers-information.html.

Actions for fair exhibitors:

- Humans and animals should both stay home if they are sick.
- Don't mix food or drink and animal areas.
- Wash hands often with soap and water after touching animals or their environments.
- Clean and disinfect animal supplies before and after showing animals.
- Follow all Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) [2024 Health Requirements for the Exhibition of Livestock, Poultry and Birds at State Fair, District Shows and Exhibitions](#).

For more information for fair exhibitors, visit www.cdc.gov/flu/other/fair-exhibitors-information.html.

CDC Coops educational video series

A new CDC video series features tours of unique backyard coops, including interviews with poultry owners to understand how they stay healthy around their birds.

To watch the series, *Coops*, visit www.cdc.gov/healthy-pets/educational-materials/videos.html.

Recent increase in reports of tick-borne diseases

In recent weeks, Iowa HHS has seen an increase in reports of tick-borne diseases. In addition to Lyme disease, the most prevalent tick-borne disease in Iowa, reports of babesiosis, anaplasmosis, ehrlichiosis, spotted fever rickettsiosis, and tularemia cases have also been received.

To protect yourself from tickborne illnesses:

- Use Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered insect repellents containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, oil of lemon eucalyptus, para-menthane-diol, or 2-undecanone. Always follow product instructions.
- Wear clothing treated with permethrin.
- Shower as soon as possible after spending time outdoors.
- Check for ticks daily. Ticks can hide under the armpits, behind the knees, in the hair, and in the groin.
- Tumble clothes in a dryer on high heat for 10 minutes to kill ticks on dry clothing after you come indoors. If the clothes are damp, additional time may be needed.

For more information on tickborne diseases in Iowa, visit

hhs.iowa.gov/public-health/center-acute-disease-epidemiology/tick-borne-and-mosquito-borne-disease.

Updated Zika virus travel and testing recommendations

CDC recently updated its Zika virus travel and testing recommendations.

Updated Traveler Recommendations

- Recommendations to prevent Zika virus infections in travelers and people living abroad have been revised to allow for more personal choice and shared patient-provider decision making.
- Traveler recommendations are listed by a location's geographic risk classification and can be found at www.cdc.gov/zika/travel/index.html.
- Timeframes for preventing sexual transmission after travel are:
 - Males should use condoms or not have sex for at least three months.
 - Females should use condoms or not have sex for at least two months.
 - CDC no longer recommends that pregnant women and their partner use condoms or not have sex for the entire pregnancy following travel.

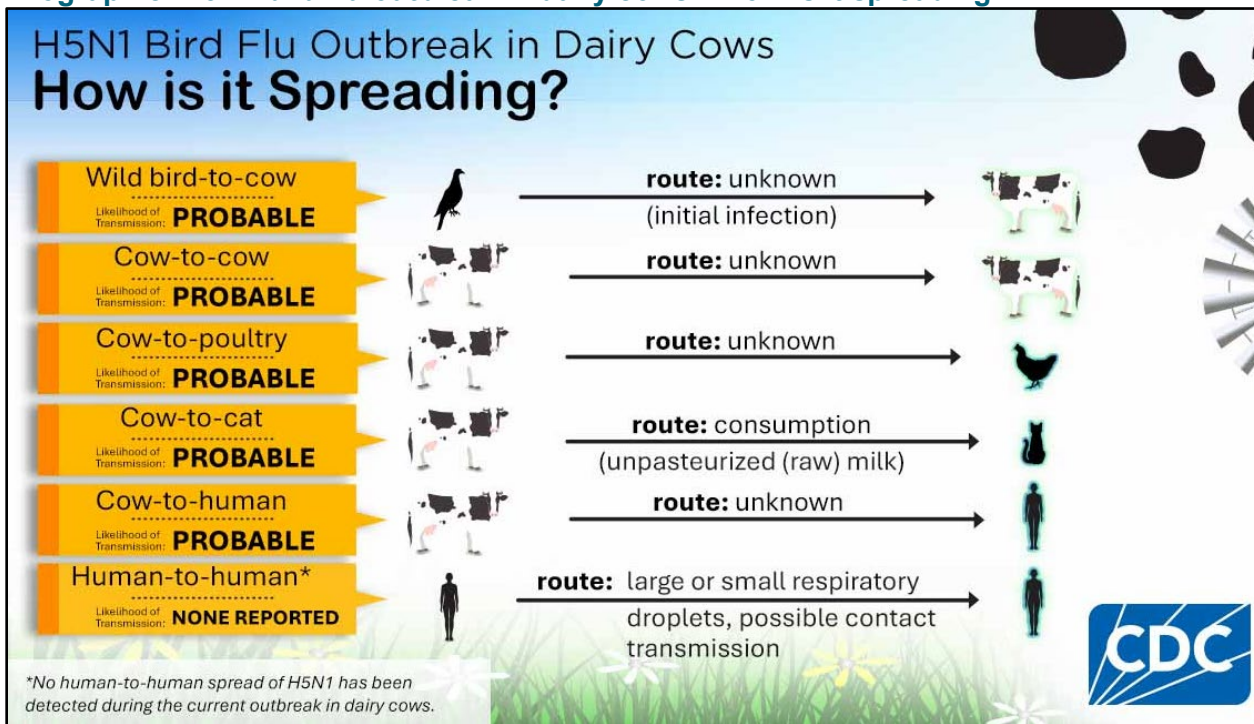
Updated Testing Recommendations

- Both molecular and serologic testing are now recommended up to 12 weeks after symptom onset for symptomatic pregnant women who lived in or traveled to an area with an active CDC Zika Travel Health Notice during pregnancy OR had sex during pregnancy with someone living in or with recent travel to an area with an active CDC Zika Travel Health Notice.
- Molecular testing is recommended on specimens collected ≤ 7 days after symptom onset and serology on specimens collected >7 days after symptom onset for symptomatic non-pregnant women living in or with recent travel to an area with an active CDC Zika Travel Health Notice OR to an area with current or past Zika virus transmission outside the US and its territories.

For more information on Zika virus testing recommendations, visit

www.cdc.gov/zika/hcp/diagnosis-testing/index.html.

Infographic: H5N1 bird flu outbreak in dairy cows – How is it spreading?



To view in full size, visit www.cdc.gov/bird-flu/communication-resources/.

Have a healthy and happy week!
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