UKAg Specialists Comment On Midwest Bird Flu Outbreak



Eric Baker Estill County Extension Agent for Agriculture & Natural Resources

A highly pathogenic strain of avian influenza, HPAI H5N2, is spreading through Midwestern poultry flocks by way of migratory ducks and geese. Currently no birds in Kentucky are infected, however, University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment specialists urged all poultry producers premises. Keep a log of visito take precautions and to stay aware.

aware of the situation and to birds or their droppings such take measures to protect their as hunting lands, ponds, pet birds," said Lynne Cassone, pathologist at the UK Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. "Hopefully, we'll avoid it altogether, but if not, we are idea to have visitors and prepared to handle an outbreak."

Cassone stressed that the current strain present in eight Midwestern states is highly contagious to poultry. It is not a threat to humans or pets, but is obviously concerning to the poultry producers in the affected states.

Avian influenza, also known as bird flu, is a group of viruses that can infect domestic and wild birds. The viruses are classified by their ability to cause illness and death into either a low pathogenic avian influenza or a highly pathogenic avian house. Growers should isoinfluenza. The current outbreak is the only occurrence from the rest of the flock for in more than 30 years, except for a small 2004 HPAI event 7,000 birds.

while the millions of sick discharge; coughing, sneez- the National Animal Health birds mentioned in the media ing or breathing difficulty; may sound astounding, they swelling around the head, represent only about 1 per- neck and eyes; purple discent of the total poultry pop- coloration; loss of muscle ulation in the United States.

mize it," he said. "This is neck; inability to move and a big deal, and it's hitting diarrhea. Birds may have some commercial growers the disease for three to sevvery hard. We have a lot of en days before they show poultry growers in Kentucky with very large flocks, quite between 24 and 48 hours afa few small flocks and backyard flock owners who are concerned as well."

ers to follow some simple common poultry ailments," FLU biosecurity and prevention guidelines.

spread of disease. Growers need to observe flocks daily and note changes in appearance, behavior and drinking ian or the UK VDL." and eating habits.

L-Limit traffic as contaminated clothing and equipment can spread avian influenza between poultry tors and vehicles on the farm. Be aware of places visitors We want everyone to be may have had contact with stores, zoos and parks. Visitors can accidently bring disease to the farm.

"At minimum, it's a good workers put on clean boots to help stop disease from spreading," Pescatore said. "I can't stress how important cleanliness is where HPAI is concerned."

U—Unwanted critters can spread avian influenza through the feces and bodily fluids of infected birds, so keep poultry from coming into contact with wild birds. Pescatore said it's a good idea to keep areas mowed around poultry houses and coops to control wild birds and rodents. Keep all other animals out of the chicken late new or returning birds at least 30 days.

Signs of avian influenza in Texas that affected about include sudden death; little to no appetite or energy; UK poultry specialist little to no egg production; Tony Pescatore said that soft or deformed eggs; nasal

control; drooping wings; "I'm not trying to mini- twisting of the head and signs, and death can occur ter the first sign.

"It's important to note that many of the symptoms can Pescatore urged all grow- also be related to other more Pescatore said. "Unfortunately with HPAI, infected F—Flock observation is birds don't survive. If you very important to stop the observe unusual symptoms or a large number of deaths in your flock, you need to contact your local veterinar-

The UK VDL will test up to three birds for a \$40 fee. The UK VDL and the the Cooperative Extension Ser-Murray State University Breathitt Veterinary Lab less of race, color, sex, religion, are both certified through disability or national origin.

Laboratory Network to handle HPAI cases. "Our two Kentucky labs are certified, fully trained, supplied and ready to respond should an outbreak occur in our state," said Craig Carter, UK VDL director. "The Kentucky Poultry Federation, the office of the Kentucky State Veterinarian and the Kentucky poultry industry are on very high alert, and we are all working closely together."

The UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environmenthasseveral publications about avian influenza and poultry production available at http://afspoultry.ca.uky. edu/poultrypubs#Influenza. For home poultry flock information, contact the Estill County Cooperative Extension Service at 723-4557.

Educational programs of vice serve all people regard-

Conservation District Promotes Soil & Water Stewartship Week

As a part of Estill County for 68 years, the Estill County Conservation District wants to remind you that each of us has a connection to natural resources. The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) is celebrating the 60th year of Stewardship week April 26 - May 3, 2015. The 2015 Stewardship Week is themed, "Local Heroes - Your Hardworking Pollinators".

The Conservation District was formed to assist people to conserve and develop all renewable natural resources within Estill County.

"The world is all abuzz about pollinators! Pollinators play a critical role in our everyday lives, and it's important that we work to protect their habitat," says NACD President Earl Garber. "While many pollinators may seem like just annoying insects, they are actually a very important part of the web of life upon which we all depend. Pollinators form the underpinning of a healthy and sustainable future for food and the environment, but they have shown disturbing signs of decline in recent years. When pollinators shrink in number, many plants either produce less seed or no seed at all. The bottom line is, when pollinators start disappearing, plants start disappearing. Most plants depend upon pollinators to reproduce. While animals can travel and move around to find mates and reproduce, plants are rooted to one spot. Therefore, plants depend on pollinators to move pollen from their anthers to their stigma. On planet Earth there are more than 100,000 species of insects, including bees, flies, moths, butterflies and beetles that work hard as pollinators. There are also over 1,000 species of other animals such as birds, reptiles and mammals, including bats that pollinate plants. Your local conservation district can assist you in maintaining or developing habitat for pollinators." For more information about Stewardship Week and conservation, contact Estill County Conservation District at 723-5104 or find us on Facebook at: www. facebook.com/ECCD.

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HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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CryptoQuote AXYDLBAAXR is **LONGFELLOW** One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different. UZMX SHVYMO'K QX SZM SCFBM CXL JQQL SZTXJK T WCO KNCX, T'W SZCXYIHB SZCS T UCKX'S WCLM GMJMSCVTCX. С

MLJCV JHMKS

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: H equals E

CQH OHRPGUCUPF BPLWHLM

RTMC IH Z IUD QUC BUCQ

PFGPPWHLM. CQHJ'LH ZGBZJM

ILUFDUFD CQH QPTMH OPBF.

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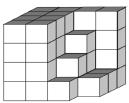
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Old gardening books are great sources for beautiful vintage illustrations of birds, insects, leaves, seeds, lants, flowers, trees, landscapes and other outdoor favorites. They make wonderful gifts when framed. Use them in scrapbooking or to make cards. Decoupage them onto clay pots, glass jars, old holiday ornaments, wooden plaques, metal surfaces or stretched canvases.

Stickeler's Puzzle

STICKELERS

In the stack of cubes below, imagine that it once was composed of 64 small cubes (4x4x4). Can you tell how many cubes are missing from the original 64 cubes?





April 29, 2015 Puzzles4Kids EAR®A Answer KNQT answer CHUM TRUM DRY U MB U E GU B 0 A TIARA CRUMB LYMPH S A Y TR JMA BYE FUMED ТИМР ANEMIA U D R Letter Box THESE Y Solution **Even Exchange** H A X R E C V P T TCVXHPEAR answers R E P T A V X H C 1. Warden, Warren 6. Clark. Clerk P R H E V T A C X 2. Fargo, Cargo 7. Rhine, Shine E X C A P R T V H A V T H C X P R E 3. Paint, Point 8. Burner, Burger C H A P T E R X V 4. Brandy, Brando Scare, Scarf X P E V R H C T A 5. Puppy, Peppy 10. Summer, Simmer V T R C X A H E P Weekly SUDOKU ____ TRAIN -Answer 1 8 9 2 4 5 6 7 6 2 1 5 3 7 9 8 9 5 8 4 7 6 1 2 3 3 6 7 1 5 8 4 9 4 7 3 8 9 6 1 2 8 1 9 6 2 4 3 7 5 1 9 4 5 3 8 2 6 7 6 2 3 9 4 7 5 8 1 7 8 5 2 6 1 9 3 4 King Crossword — Answers Solution time: 21 mins. =lmlu N A P S L C YAM HEFTS 4) Abigail; 5) Esau; 6 2) Gourd; 3) Long hair; ANSWERS 1) Neither;

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