



ANIMAL SCIENCE

Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources

UNL POULTRY NEWS

Fall, 2025

Upcoming Activities:

Poultry Growers Workshop—Buffalo Co. Extension Office, Nov. 4th, Kearney, NE.
Nebraska State Poultry Association Show—Sandhills Global Event Center, Lincoln, NE. Nov. 14-16

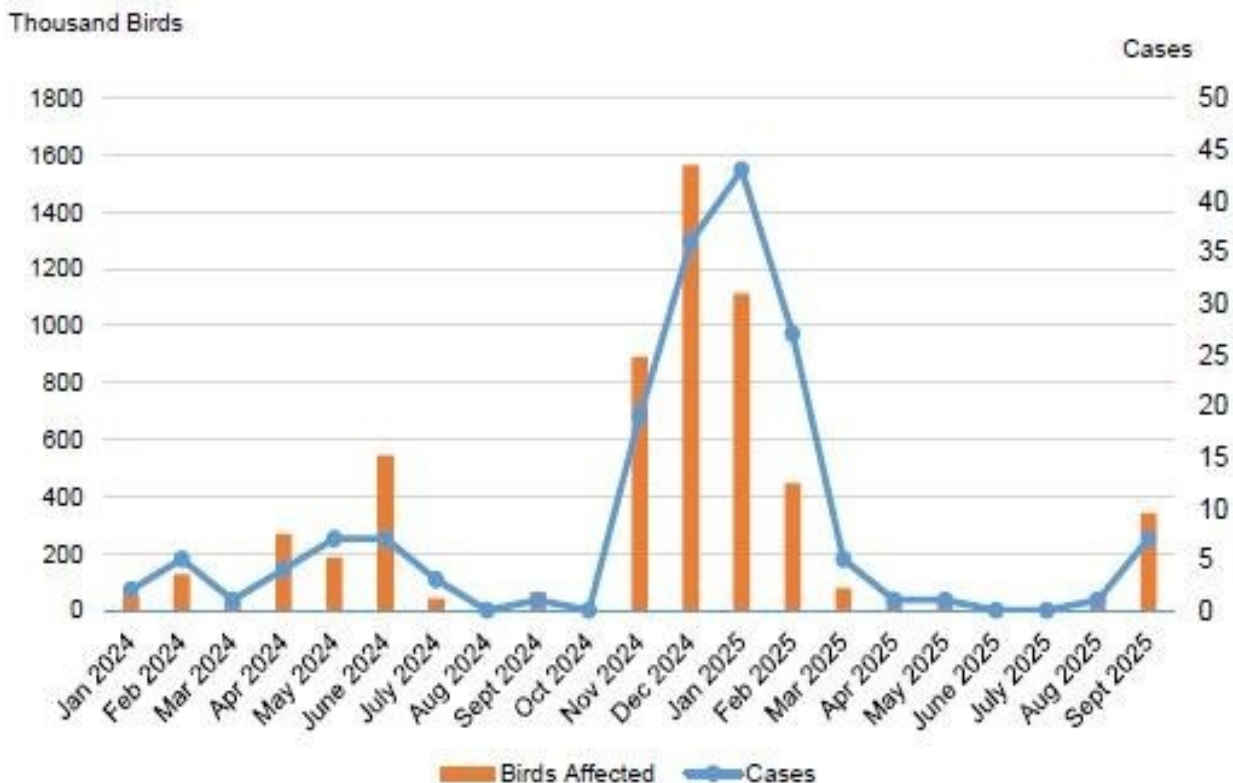
Newsletter Editor:

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Avian Influenza on the rise again, if the current trend continues, AI will peak Dec—Jan. 26 and affect egg prices., AI spreads to both backyard flocks and commercial poultry flocks, be diligent to protect your flocks (see p. 2).

Monthly highly pathogenic avian influenza cases in commercial turkey flocks and number of birds affected, 2024–25



Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from USDA, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. Data as of September 12, 2025.

Biosecurity For Your Flock!

STOP/ Think/Plan

- 1. New Chicks
- 2. Existing Flock
- 3. Show Chickens



Baby chicks should be started separate from older birds and vaccinated at the Hatchery



Your existing flock (mature) should be kept safe from predators and wild migrating birds to protect from disease



Show chickens have a great risk of exposure to viruses and disease while at a show, so Isolate 10-14 days before re-introducing to home flock

Always move from young to old and new birds when doing chores!!

Backyard Poultry Production



Raise a healthy and productive flock

5:30 p.m. Registration
6:00 p.m. Introductory Comments
– Rick Rasby, University of Nebraska
6:05 p.m. Nutrition Management of
the Flock – Dr. Shelia Purdum,
University of Nebraska
6:30 p.m. Understanding a Feed
Tag – Jodi Holmes, Cargill Nutrition
– Minden
7:00 p.m. Housing for the Backyard
Flock – Brett Kreifels, University of
Nebraska Extension
7:30 p.m. Break
7:45 p.m. Biosecurity – Strategies
to Mitigate Diseases – Nebraska
Department of Agriculture
8:15 p.m. Grading and Storing Eggs
– Dr. Shelia Purdum, University
of Nebraska
8:45 p.m. Adjourn

When: 5:30 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.,
Tuesday, November 4

Where: Buffalo County Extension,
1400 E 34th Street, Kearney

Register: Please R.S.V.P. by October 31
by calling 308-236-1235

Cost: \$20 - includes pizza sponsored
by Cargill Animal Nutrition. Pay by
check/cash day of event

Breakout Session:

7:45 - 8:45 p.m. Feeding and caring
for my poultry project – Target 4-H
and FFA youth – Brett Kreifels,
University Nebraska Extension and
Jodi Holmes, Cargill Nutrition, Minden



UNL Poultry Interest Team Contacts

Animal Science Dept:	Sheila Purdum, Ph.D. (Co-Leader) Gary Sullivan, Ph.D. Mary Beck, Ph.D. (Emeriti) Ruth Wiowode, Ph.D. Yijie Xiong, Ph.D.
Veterinary Science:	Don Reynolds, DVM (Co-Leader) Roberto Cortinas, DVM
Food Science:	Kaustav Majumder, Ph.D. Byron Chaves, Ph.D. Bing Wang, Ph.D.
Ag. Engineering:	Rick Stowell, Ph.D. Amy Schmidt, Ph.D. Tami Brown-Brandl, Ph.D.
Extension Educator:	Brett Kreifels, M.S., Douglas/Sarpy Co. Extension Cole Meador, M.S., Saunders Co. Extension

Contact info available at: <https://directory.unl.edu/>



Join us for our 140th Nebraska State Poultry Association annual show on November 14-16, 2025 at the Sandhills Event Center in Lincoln, Nebraska! We will showcase some of the top chickens, ducks, geese, and guineas from the region. There will be many quality birds for sale. <https://www.nestatepoultryshow.com/> for entry forms and additional information