

National Association of State Departments of Agriculture



Subject of Action Item B:

APHIS and Avian Influenza Response

Submitted by:

Secretary Michael Scuse (DE), Secretary Joseph Bartenfelder (MD), and Commissioner Steve Troxler (NC)

Text of Action Item:

In light of the outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in states throughout the country, NASDA urges USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) to be more inclusive of state officials in the decision-making process during an outbreak. APHIS should coordinate with state officials when determining the type of allowable depopulation method and when determining appropriate instances to use its existing authority to leverage indemnity payments.

NASDA also urges APHIS to continue to look into science-based depopulation methods including advanced system foaming, carbon dioxide gassing, and Ventilation Shutdown Plus (VSD+). While NASDA understands that VSD+ is permitted in constrained circumstances, NASDA encourages APHIS to conduct scientific review on VSD+ as one of the preferred depopulation methods to rapidly eradicate highly contagious diseases.

Adopted: September 29, 2022