



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE
Karen Ross, Secretary

Event Name: Western Dairy Showcase

Dates of Event: October 9 – 12, 2025

Location of Event: Stanislaus County Fairgrounds 900 N Broadway, Turlock, CA 95380

Summary of Proposed Event: The following proposal was submitted by Western Dairy Showcase President (Aaron Matheron), Vice President (Boby Rosa), and Secretary (Lori Marchy) to host a dairy cattle show. The proposal has been approved by the current incident commanders of the H5N1 Bird Flu outbreak in California. The specific biosecurity measures outlined below will be implemented to qualify for the one-time event exemption. These measures will assist in protecting participants, poultry, livestock, surrounding poultry communities, and the public from exposure to the H5N1 virus.

Kavishti Kokaram
DVM, DACVPM

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Kokaram, DVM, DACVPM
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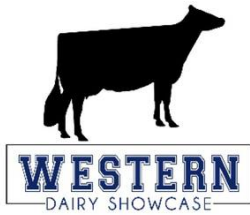
State IC Approval Signature

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Event Name: Western Dairy Showcase

Event Dates: October 9-12, 2025

Event setup and clean up dates: October 6-13, 2025

Event Location: Stanislaus County Fairgrounds – Turlock, CA

Proposal of Event: The Western Dairy Showcase is a strong tradition in the Purebred and grade dairy cattle industry. The Western Dairy Showcase committee hosts the show annually and comprises 10 families in the Central Valley. As a key piece of the vibrant and rich dairy industry history, this junior show allows young dairy enthusiasts to exhibit and market their genetics. This event celebrates and recognizes breeding, sustainability, and animal husbandry excellence. We wish to have a whole show with non-lactating and lactating dairy cattle. Show management and potential exhibitors are prepared to implement strategies to mitigate health risks as outlined below-

Traceability considerations: ALL cattle will be required to have an USDA 840 tag (RFID) placed in their ear, and the NPIN (National Premise ID Numbers) for the farm of origin will be required for each animal/group.

Classes of dairy cattle allowed and pre-show testing protocol:

- Show management will require a copy of each animal's 840 tag number before entry on to fairgrounds.
- Only dairy cattle from non-quarantined premises are allowed entry into the show.
- No out of state dairy cattle
- Entries limited to only Cattle from/ within the Central Valley Region as described within CDFA's H5N1 Regional Strategy
- Cattle may not be from a premises currently under State Quarantine due to active HPAI infection
- Non-lactating dairy cattle
 - All non-lactating dairy cattle must have an individual negative Influenza A nasal swab test within 7 days of arriving at the Western Dairy Showcase.
 - A test must be conducted by an approved [NAHLN](#) laboratory and occur within 7 days of arriving at the Western Dairy Showcase.
- Lactating dairy cattle
 - All lactating dairy cattle will be required to have an individual negative Influenza A PCR milk sample test. Must be a negative individual cow test from all four quarters.
 - A test must be conducted by an approved [NAHLN](#) laboratory and occur within 7 days of arriving at the Western Dairy Showcase.

5049 Morgan Rd. Ceres, CA. 95307

- Exhibition of these classes of animals will meet the testing requirements outlined in the [California Regional Strategy](#).

We welcome CDFA's direct involvement in approving individual exhibitors or counties based on local risk levels, and we are willing to pilot this with a small group or limited number of animals as proof of concept.

We are committed to working alongside CDFA to ensure that the event remains safe and responsible and we sincerely thank you for your continued leadership and collaboration in navigating the challenges.

Biosecurity Requirements for Cattle and Exhibitors on site:

The biosecurity manager for the event will be Mike Ralls and he will be assisted by Dr. Amanda Wright DVM. These people will be responsible for ensuring the minimum biosecurity requirements and any associated event specific biosecurity are met. The biosecurity manager will be required to complete biosecurity training conducted by CDFA.

- ALL animals will be examined upon arrival by a licensed veterinarian and evaluated to be free of any signs of H5N1 Bird Flu (normal rectal temperature $\leq 103^{\circ}\text{F}$, no nasal discharge, lethargy, off feed, etc.).
- Exhibitors will provide their own individual feed/bedding and water buckets that will not be shared between participants (unless from the same household/farm).
- There WILL NOT be any other animals on the grounds other than Dairy Cattle.
- Place foot baths with a disinfectant labeled for "Avian Influenza A Virus" at all entrances to the barn. Foot bath disinfectants will be changed as often as needed to maintain effectiveness in accordance with manufacturer guidance and not less than once every 12 hours.
- Hand washing/hand sanitizing stations will be placed at all entry and exit points of dairy barns/show rings.
- The event will have designated entry and exit points for livestock transport vehicles. All livestock transport vehicles will be Cleaned and Disinfected (C&D) upon entry and exiting. This will consist of disinfecting tires and wheel wells of transport vehicles and trailers upon entry and exit to the event premises to load and unload livestock.
- The public will not have any direct contact with exhibited dairy cattle.
- Additional requirements for lactating dairy cattle
 - Lactating dairy cattle must be milked at least twice per day to avoid leaking of milk and potential contamination of environment.
 - Will use a unit milker for animals that will not be shared unless from the same herd/premises.
 - Use of the onsite milking parlor will be prohibited
 - Milk will be treated with citric acid or heat treated or mixed with an appropriate disinfectant prior to discard.

California Department of Food and Agriculture H5N1 Regional Strategy

North Coast

Prevent introduction

- **Dairy & Poultry Biosecurity:** Technical assistance and proactive biosecurity support.
- **Dairy Movement & Practices:** Source replacements from known disease-free regions.
- **Communication:** Foster increased information exchange between dairies and poultry farms.
- **Testing & Monitoring:** Weekly dairy milk testing and active disease surveillance.
- **Event Restrictions:** Postpone fairs and shows involving poultry or dairy
- **See Page 3 for more information**

Reduce virus; Recover

Central Valley

- **Dairy & Poultry Biosecurity:** Enhanced traffic control, visitor restrictions, and equipment sanitation.
- **Research:** Promote H5N1 studies related to cattle, including vaccine trials.
- **Reduce Viral Load:** Rapidly eliminate disease from commercial poultry; maintain proactive testing and quarantine of infected dairies.
- **Movement Control:** Manage cattle movements to prevent virus spread out of region.
- **Event Restrictions:** Postpone fairs and shows involving poultry or dairy.
- **Recovery:** Weekly testing and structured quarantine release protocols.
- **See Page 4 for more information**
- **See Page 7 for movement guidelines**

Southern California

Limit Spread

- **Dairy & Poultry Biosecurity:** Technical assistance and proactive biosecurity support.
- **Reduce Viral Load:** Build disease buffers around dense dairy regions and maintain proactive testing of dairies and poultry.
- **Movement Control:** Reduce risk of moving virus within and out of the region.
- **Event Restrictions:** Postpone fairs and shows involving poultry or dairy.
- **See Page 9 for more information**



Last Updated: February 10, 2025
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