NOTICE OF QUARANTINE

By authority conferred upon the Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development by the Animal Industry Act, Public Act 466 of 1988, as amended, MCL 287.712, a quarantine is hereby issued to cover the entirety of the State of Michigan to prevent the potential spread of avian influenza.

This quarantine supersedes previous quarantines on avian influenza. The quarantine effective June 1, 2015 is rescinded.

Effective today, September 8, 2015, all exhibitions or expositions of poultry are prohibited until further notice. As defined in the Animal Industry Act, "poultry" means, but is not limited to, chickens, guinea fowl, turkeys, waterfowl, pigeons, doves, peafowl, and game birds that are propagated and maintained under the husbandry of humans (MCL 287.706(9)).

This quarantine does not extend to permanent poultry exhibits in venues such as zoos.

This quarantine does not extend to racing pigeons if the following criteria are met:
1. Only lofts certified by the American Racing Pigeon Union may race.
2. Each certified loft must have a premises identification number.
3. For each event - a list of participants will be provided to State Veterinarian within 72 hours after the event.
4. The American Racing Pigeon Union must provide a current list of Michigan certified lofts to the State Veterinarian and as changes are made.
5. Crates used for transporting pigeons can only have pigeons from one loft within a crate.
6. Vehicle and crates used to transport pigeons must be clean and disinfected after transporting the birds.
7. If highly pathogenic avian influenza is found in Michigan or a bordering state for remainder of this year in either wildlife or domestic birds, all racing will cease.

In addition, it is recommended racing pigeons do not fly over the counties of Ionia, Lenawee, Muskegon, Newaygo, Ottawa, St. Joseph, and Tuscola.

Jamie Clover Adams
Director