

UNIVERSITY OF  
MARYLAND  
EXTENSION



# Commercial Poultry News

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## HPAI Prevention and Control



On December 9 in Denton, Dr. Nathaniel Tablante, through his USDA-NIFA grant and Zoetis sponsorship, offered a day of talks with plenty of interaction with growers. The full video and each presenters' presentation are linked here with great back-and-forth information to listen for!

Video Recording: [HPAI Prevention and Control Video](#)

Individual Presentation Slides:

- [Dr. Mostafa Ghanem: Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza \(HPAI\)](#)
- [Jennifer Rhodes: Biosecurity for Commercial Poultry](#)
- [Dr. Leanna Koval: Biosecurity Audits - What to Expect and How to Prepare](#)
- [Dr. Janine Davenport: Permit Guidance for Broilers \(Permitting for Poultry\)](#)

Of course you can always find more this and more information on our UMD Poultry website:

<https://extension.umd.edu/programs/agriculture-food-systems/program-areas/animal-science/poultry>

KEEP OUR CHICKENS  
HEALTHY



NO ADMITTANCE  
WITHOUT OWNER  
PERMISSION

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

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Need Biosecurity Signs?  
Call 410-742-1178

PREVENTING OUTBREAKS  
OF AVIAN INFLUENZA THROUGH  
SCIENCE-BASED EDUCATION OF:

COMMERCIAL POULTRY FARMERS

Right click to see video!

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## *Can Hemp Products be Used in Broiler Diets?*

*Jennifer Timmons, Associate Professor, University of Maryland Eastern Shore*



As directed by the 2018 Farm Bill, the United States Department of Agriculture issued regulations and guidelines for the commercial production of industrial hemp in the United States. In Canada, the commercial production of industrial hemp was permitted in 1998. Hemp is an annual herbaceous plant traditionally grown for fiber and seed production. As a result of this increased production, the availability of hemp seed and hemp seed products has created opportunities to use these products in poultry and livestock rations. However, the Food and Drug Administration has not approved industrial hemp for use in animal feeds.

Hemp products such as whole hemp seed, hemp seed oil and hemp seed meal/cake may be a potential feed ingredient for livestock and poultry if approved in the future. It has been reported that hemp seed contains about 25% protein, 33-35% oil, and 34% carbohydrates. Hemp seed oil contains 75-80% polyunsaturated fatty acids which include omega-3 and omega-6 fatty acids. These fatty acids have health-promoting effects in humans. Some of these include reducing the risk of cardiovascular disease, diabetes inflammation and autoimmune diseases. When the oil is extracted from the seed, hemp seed cake/meal is what remains and may be used as a protein feed ingredient. One study reported that hemp seed protein is highly digestible, and has an amino acid profile similar to soy protein isolate. Therefore, the nutrient composition of hemp products suggests that these products may be a valuable animal feed ingredient.

There are few published studies on the supplementation of hemp products to broiler chicken diets. A study in 2017, fed diets containing 0%, 3% and 6% hemp seed oil to broiler chickens from 0-21 days of age. The performance of the broilers fed the 3% and 6% hemp seed oil diets was similar to the performance of broilers fed the 0% hemp seed oil diets. In addition, the birds fed the 3% and 6% hemp seed oil diets had greater total omega-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids in their breast meat compared to the fatty acid content of breast meat from broilers fed 0% hemp seed oil.

Another study fed diets containing 5% and 15% hemp seed cakes to broiler chickens from 12-37 days of age. This trial reported that the hemp seed diets had a negative effect on broiler performance compared to the performance of the broilers fed the control diet.

The different results in these two studies may be due to the level and type of hemp product included in the diet. Three and 6% hemp seed oil did not have an adverse effect of broiler performance. Additionally the hemp seed oil diet modified the fatty acid profile of broiler breast meat.

The inclusion of hempseed products in broiler chicken diets may be a viable alternative ingredient if approval for their use is granted in the future. However, additional research is needed in this area to evaluate different levels and different kinds of hemp seed productions. As industrial hemp production increases in the U.S., studies evaluating hemp products and by-products as an animal feed ingredient would provide beneficial information needed to determine efficacy and safety of these products in animal food production systems.

## ***Biosecurity Reminders! It Doesn't Hurt To Refresh!***

### Key biosecurity practices:

- Clean and disinfect vehicles. Don't walk through or drive trucks, tractors, or equipment in areas where waterfowl or other wildlife feces may be. If you can't avoid this, clean your shoes, vehicle, and equipment thoroughly to prevent bringing disease agents back to your flock. This is especially important when visiting with farmers or those who hunt wildfowl, such as when gathering at a local coffee shop, restaurant, or gas station.
- Remove loose feed. Don't give wild birds, rodents, and insects a free lunch! Remove spilled or uneaten feed immediately and ensure feed storage units are secure and free of holes. Wild birds can carry HPAI.
- Keep visitors to a minimum. Only allow those who take care of your poultry to come in contact with your birds, including family and friends. Make sure everyone who has contact with your flock follows biosecurity principles.
- Hygiene: Wash your hands before and after coming in contact with live poultry. Wash with soap and water (always your first choice). If using hand sanitizer, remove manure, feathers, and other materials from your hands because disinfectants will not penetrate organic matter or caked-on dirt.
- Provide disposable boot covers (preferred) or disinfectant footbaths for anyone having contact with your flock. If using a footbath, remove all droppings, mud, or debris from boots and shoes using a long-handled scrub brush BEFORE stepping into the disinfectant footbath, and always keep it clean.
- Change clothes before entering poultry areas and before exiting the property. Visitors should wear protective outer garments or disposable coveralls, boots, and headgear when handling birds. Shower out and change clothes when leaving the facility.
- Clean and disinfect tools or equipment before moving them to a new poultry facility. Before allowing vehicles, trucks, tractors, or tools and equipment (e.g., egg flats and cases) that have come in contact with birds or their droppings to exit the property, ensure they are cleaned and disinfected to prevent contaminated equipment from transporting disease. Do not move or reuse items that cannot be cleaned and disinfected, such as cardboard egg flats.
- Look for signs of illness. Know the warning signs of infectious bird diseases. If You Have Sick Poultry or Experience Increased Mortality in Your Flock:
  - ◆ Commercial poultry producers should follow the procedures of contacting the company they grow for when they notice signs of disease.

### **PREVENTING OUTBREAKS OF AVIAN INFLUENZA THROUGH SCIENCE-BASED EDUCATION OF:**

Preventing Outbreaks of Avian Influenza Through  
Science-Based Education: Commercial Poultry  
Farmers **Video links:**

[English](https://youtu.be/ZrzwyMS-tME) <https://youtu.be/ZrzwyMS-tME> [Korean](https://youtu.be/T4umMC1F9wl) <https://youtu.be/T4umMC1F9wl> [Spanish](https://youtu.be/zVzj13Y5ad4) <https://youtu.be/zVzj13Y5ad4>

[Chinese](https://youtu.be/n052hM3CLFk) <https://youtu.be/n052hM3CLFk> [Vietnamese](https://youtu.be/n-NxAJwc7BI) <https://youtu.be/n-NxAJwc7BI>

*Biosecurity Reminders.....continued*

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**What to do if you see signs of disease in your flock**

Commercial poultry producers should follow the procedures of contacting the company they grow for when they notice [signs of disease](#). This can include decreased water or feed consumption, increased mortality, swelling around the head or legs, nasal discharge, or lack of energy.

In **Delaware**, email the Delaware Poultry Health Hotline at [poultry.health@delaware.gov](mailto:poultry.health@delaware.gov) or call 302-698-4507 and provide your contact information, size of flock, location, and concerns.

In **Maryland**, report any unusual or sudden increases in sick birds to the MDA Animal Health Program at 410-841-5810. Commercial chicken growers and backyard flock owners can email questions about the outbreak to [MD.Birdflu@maryland.gov](mailto:MD.Birdflu@maryland.gov).

In **Virginia**, report sick birds or unusual bird deaths to the State Veterinarian's Office at 804-692-0601 or [vastatevet@vdacs.virginia.gov](mailto:vastatevet@vdacs.virginia.gov) or through the USDA's toll-free number, 866-536-7593.





## *Federal Estate Tax and Gift Tax Limits Announced For 2023*

*By Paul Goeringer, Extension Legal Specialist, UMD*

In October 2022, the [IRS](#) announced **the revised federal estate tax and gift tax limits for 2023**. The federal estate tax limit will rise from \$12.06 million in 2022 to \$12.92 million in 2023. The federal gift tax limit will jump from \$16,000 in 2022, to \$17,000 in 2023. In Maryland, state estate tax limits will stay at \$5 million.

### **Federal Estate Taxes**

For 2023, the federal estate tax limit increases to \$12.92 million for an individual and \$25.84 million for a couple. A deceased person owes federal estate taxes on a taxable estate. The taxable estate is the gross estate minus allowable expenses and deductions. See Lynch, Goeringer, and Musser, [Estate Planning for Maryland Farm Families: Updated for 2014](#) (FS-972, 2014).

For example, a farm couple with a taxable estate of \$26 million passes away in 2023. The couple's heirs may be exempt up to \$25.84 million from federal estate taxes and only owe federal estate taxes on \$160,000. Since the federal estate tax rate is 40 percent, the heirs would owe \$64,000 in federal estate taxes.

One last note on federal estate taxes: a surviving spouse has an unlimited marital deduction. The surviving spouse can include the predeceasing spouse's unused federal estate tax limit in their federal estate tax limit. This concept is known as portability, and more on it is [here](#).

### **Federal Gift Tax Limit**

Federal tax law allows each taxpayer to gift up to \$17,000 per year to one individual without incurring federal gift taxes. The federal gift tax limit goes up to \$17,000 in 2023. This exemption is tied to inflation but can only increase to the nearest \$1,000 amount.

### **Maryland Estate Tax Limit**

In 2018, Maryland's state estate tax exemption was set at \$5 million and will remain at \$5 million until changed by the General Assembly. The state estate tax exemption for a couple in Maryland is \$10 million. In 2018, the General Assembly allowed unused Maryland estate tax exemption portability, similar to federal portability. The maximum tax rate is 16 percent, and the Maryland inheritance tax remains unchanged.

In 2012, Maryland created a unique program exempting up to the first \$5 million of qualified agricultural property from Maryland estate taxes. To be eligible, the agricultural property must remain in agriculture for the next ten years. See [Lynch, Goeringer, and Musser](#) to learn more about this program.

### **How Does This Impact You?**

Benjamin Franklin once wrote, "In this world, nothing can be said to be certain except death and taxes." With that in mind, farm families concerned about hitting the top federal or state estate tax exemption need to begin working on farm succession, and estate plans to limit potential estate taxes down the road. Working with a tax advisor early on can help determine your taxes and devise a tax plan to keep the farm in operation for future generations. Failure to plan appropriately can force surviving family members to sell family assets to pay taxes on the inheritance. Along with a tax advisor, consider working with additional team members, such as an attorney and financial planner, to begin developing the family's farm succession plan.

For those who need to develop estate tax plans, you should discuss with your farm succession team members if the increases in the estate tax limits impact your plan. Although this change may not affect your succession plan, it allows you to discuss other changes in the farming operation over the past year.

## Coming Events 2023!

### *Delaware Ag Week is in Person in 2023!*

- **January 9 - 12 with Commercial Poultry Day on Monday, January 9**
- Maryland and Delaware Nutrient Management and CCA Credits Available

### *Tentative Topics for (In-Person) 2023 Grower Lunch Breaks:*

- February 1, 2023: Dr. Simon Zebelo, Asst. Prof, UMES - Talks About Pests (MDA in Salisbury)
- March 1, 2023: Drones and Trespassing (Denton - Caroline Co. 4H & Youth Park)
- March 8, 2023: Gut Health: What do all the products do? (MDA)
- April 5, 2023: Litter - Kimber Ward of Jones-Hamilton Co. (MDA)
- April 6, 2023: Litter - Kimber Ward of Jones-Hamilton Co. (Dover, DE)
- May 3, 2023: Energy and Cost Share (Denton)
- June 7, 2023: Pollinator Field Day (LESREC)
- September 6, 2023: Taxes (Denton)
- November 1, 2023: Insurance (Denton)
- December 6, 2023: Insurance (Salisbury)

**So You Want to Own Rural Land in Maryland:  
Basic Legal Issues for All Landowners**

## WORKSHOPS

<b>January 26th from 9:30AM to 3:30PM</b>	<b>January 31st from 9:30AM to 3:30PM</b>
Washington County UME Office (7303 Sharpsburg Pike, Boonsboro, MD 21713)	Chesapeake College 110 Higher Education Center (1000 College Cir, Wye Mills, MD 21679)



**Topics covered:**

- Right-to-farm law
- Leasing
- Estate planning
- Fencing law
- Livestock liability
- Issues related to solar leasing

**Registration is free and lunch is provided.**  
**Register here:**  
**[agrisk.umd.edu/events](http://agrisk.umd.edu/events)**

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