



Biosecurity Tips

FOR PET BIRD OWNERS

Biosecurity does not apply only to backyard chickens. It's important to practice biosecurity when you have pet birds, too.

Here are some basic tips you can follow to help protect your pet birds' health:

- When buying a pet bird, request certification from the seller that the bird was legally imported or came from U.S. stock and was healthy before shipment.
- Separate new birds from your other birds for at least 30 days.
- Restrict access to your birds, especially from people who own birds that are housed outside.
- Keep your birds away from other birds.
- Clean and disinfect your clothing and shoes if you have been near other birds, such as at a bird club meeting, bird fair, or other venue with live poultry.
- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap, water, and a disinfectant before handling your birds.
- Keep cages clean and change food and water daily.
- Remove feed from bags; place it in a clean, sealed container; and throw bags away.
- Do not borrow or share bird supplies. If you must do so, clean and disinfect the items before bringing them home.
- Know the warning signs of infectious bird diseases.

Report Sick Birds at 1-866-536-7593.

If your birds are sick or dying, call your agricultural extension agent, local veterinarian, or the State veterinarian. Or, call the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) toll-free at **1-866-536-7593**, and we'll put you in touch with a local contact.

Media representatives may contact:

Public Affairs

USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)
(301) 851-4100



United States Department of Agriculture

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Program Aid No. 2140-5

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