Bird flu

Bird flu has been reported in some parts of our country. Stop the spread of bird flu

Farm care

- Place foot baths with disinfectants at the entrances of the farm and each poultry house. Seek the advice of a veterinary officer on how to mix the disinfectant.
- Wear protective clothing when working with poultry.
- Limit the number of visitors to your farm.
- Avoid sharing farm equipment, such as feeders and drinkers with other farms.

Poultry movement

- Avoid moving poultry to or from outbreak areas.
- Transport poultry in its own transport. If you have to use public transport, carry poultry outside the passenger cabin.
- After the day’s work, clean the vehicle, bicycle and cages used to transport poultry. Use water and soap to clean.

Personal hygiene

- Wash hands with water and soap after:
  - Handling, slaughtering and preparing poultry or wild birds for cooking
- Cleaning the poultry house and cages or touching poultry droppings
- Handling eggs and other poultry products

Report sick and dead poultry

- Report to a veterinary officer if an unusually high number of poultry get sick and die within a short period.
Safe disposal of poultry waste

- Put poultry droppings in a hole and cover with soil at least 2 feet deep. Leave for 6 months to compost before using as manure. This will kill the viruses that may be in the droppings. Selling or throwing raw droppings in the garden can spread diseases.

Follow government advice

- Follow the measures recommended by the government to control the spread of bird flu. The measures are usually announced in the media. These may include:
  - Banning the movement of poultry and poultry products to and from the areas of the outbreak.
  - Banning the export and import of poultry and poultry products.
  - Destroying all the imports brought into the country during the import ban.
  - Closing poultry markets.
  - Tracing where the disease originated and destroying all the poultry along the route. This helps to stamp out the disease.
  - Immunizing poultry to provide protection against other poultry diseases such as the Newcastle Disease, which may make entry of bird flu easier.
  - Culling (killing) all poultry in and round the farms which have been affected.

Seek medical care

- Seek medical care immediately if you get a fever after contact with sick or dead poultry or wild birds.

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