



Agriculture Commissioner  
Doug Goehring

# Dairy Cattle Testing for Avian Influenza



## Cattle Classes Affected by the Federal Order

Class of Cattle	Test?	<b>NDSU Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory</b> 4035 19th Ave. N. Fargo, ND 58102  701-231-8307 www.vdl.ndsu.edu
Bull or heifer calves	No	
Breeding heifers	No	
Dry cows	No	
Bulls	No	
Lactating cows going to slaughter (direct or through in-state auction)	No	
Lactating cows going to an out-of-state auction or buying station	Yes	
Lactating cows going to a dairy in another state	Yes	
Lactating cows going to a show in another state	Yes	

### Sampling Guidelines

- Cows must be tested within 7 days prior to movement.
- If fewer than 30 cattle are moving, all cattle must be tested. If more than 30 are moving, then only 30 animals must be tested.
- Samples must be collected by a licensed veterinarian or an approved sample collector.
- Samples must be from individual cows. DO NOT POOL SAMPLES from different cows.
- All four quarters must be sampled per cow and placed in one tube.
- Submit 3-10ml per cow in a sterile, sealed container (e.g., 15/50mL conical tube or plastic red top tube). Glass tubes may break and cause delays.
- Keep samples cool prior to submission. If shipping samples, use insulated containers with an ice pack.
- Send samples to the NDSU VDL in Fargo (see address top right) via OVERNIGHT shipping or drop-off samples at the NDSU VDL after hours depository.
- Samples must be at the NDSU VDL no later than four days after collection due to testing and resulting regulations.
- Samples must be received at the NDSU VDL by 9 am for same day testing.
- USDA will cover the cost of the test, but not the cost of sample collection or shipping.

**Lactating cows moving to slaughter must have a health certificate or other documentation acceptable to the state of destination. Contact the North Dakota State Board of Animal Health with any questions.**

### Positive Herds

- No movement of lactating cattle for at least 30 days. Cows must have a negative re-test before movement is allowed.
- Farm must provide records of all cattle movements and complete a questionnaire.