



# Native Agri Update

No. 394 April 2022

[www.indianag.on.ca](http://www.indianag.on.ca)

## HEALTHY LANDS

IAPO is excited to announce that we have launched our Healthy Lands resource webpage! The development of this webpage has been a labour of love and speaks of our commitment to the next seven generations.

The Healthy Lands page was created to provide information, tools and other resources on farming, food production, and stewardship that help maintain and improve the health and wellbeing of our farms and communities. It's hoped Healthy Lands will help create a greater understanding and awareness of how we can farm while protecting and improving our land and resources.

The resources compiled cover a wide range of topics and are broken into three key areas that we have influence over: how we care for the land, animals, and water & natural resources.



How We Care for Land covers various ways to improve soil health such as cover crops, crop rotations, plant diversity, residue

management, addressing compaction and much more!



The Animals page explores introducing livestock and soil amendments by providing tips and information such as grazing, composting

and manure application.



The Water and Natural Resources page includes but is not limited to a broad range of topics that encourage farm health such as

fencing off waterways, protecting ground water/well, planting pollinator crops, protecting species at risk and maintaining riparian zones.

To find the Healthy Lands webpage, search [www.indianag.on.ca](http://www.indianag.on.ca), Healthy Lands can be found under the Resource drop down menu.

## NYA:WEH TO OUR WORKSHOP PRESENTERS!

The IAPO team would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of our workshop presenters that have assisted us throughout this winter season!

Angie Antone  
Mother Earth Farms

Ann van Rozen  
A. G.'s Produce

Brian Lacey  
Blue Shoes Honey

Brian Bainborough  
Maple Ridge Farms

Dean Assinewe  
Dean Assinewe Consulting  
James and Michelle Whetung  
Black Duck Wild Rice

Jeff Jacobs  
Sierra Consulting

John Molenhuis  
OMAFRA

Max Burt  
Burt Farms

Peggy Sheldon  
Sheldon Berries

Wayne Leblanc  
Wiikwemkoong

Without you, our workshops would not be possible. All of our presenters have brought extensive experience and knowledge and have assisted us in our vision of empowered First Nation communities. We are grateful for all that you have done for us, thank you!

*KM*

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# Agribusiness

## 2022 MAPLE SYRUP SEASON UPDATE

source adapted from Jenny Liu OMAFRA – onmaplesyrup.ca

As slowly as it came, the 2022 syrup season is almost behind us. Overall, this year provided much better weather, than in recent years with producers reporting collecting over 3 gallons per tap, per day. Many producers in the south have surpassed last year's yields and are either at or are well on their way to an average crop year. In the north, the season is still going.

The following is an update by region for April 3-9, 2022:

### Southwestern Ontario

This was the last week for most producers in the southwest, and some in Essex finished the week before. Producers on lines have made 100-150% of an average year's crop, with a few outliers making around 200%.

### Eastern Ontario

Sap flow was excellent with brix ranging from 1.6-2.2 and producers made golden, amber, and some dark syrup. Golden is the dominant colour in this region. Producers have made 60-100% of their crop, and many are expecting this to be their last week.

### Northern Ontario

**Algonquin** - Sap flows started slow last week but ramped up over the weekend. Sap Brix ranged from 2.5-3.6, and producers are making golden and amber syrup. Producers are at 40-60% of an average year's crop.

**Algoma** - Reports were that trees were still frozen and producers have only just flushed their lines. Those who have had runs are reporting sap Brix of 2.6-3. The weather going forward looks promising with producers currently at 0-30% of an average year's crop.

## 2021 ONTARIO ORGANIC MARKET

sources: Fruit & Vegetable – April 2022 (fruitandveggy.com)

As reported in Fruit & Vegetable, the Organic Council of Ontario (OCO) recently published their 2021 Ontario Organic Market Report. The report catalogues the strength of Ontario's demand for organic products, the growth of the organic sector and opportunities for new producers. The report is a key resource for producers seeking to better understand the organic market and identify underserved markets. The following recap explores some of the insights of the full report, which can be found on the Council's website at [organiccouncil.ca](http://organiccouncil.ca).

### Sector Growth

Nationwide data shows the demographic of organic food

buyers is continuing to broaden. In 2020, there was an increase in organic purchases across every demographic and income level, demonstrating organic products are shifting from a luxury good more towards an everyday purchase. While the reason for this increased interest likely varies, it is suspected that the pandemic triggered a rise in consumers prioritizing their health, the environment and local food systems.

Although Ontario's organic industry grew in 2020, in most industry sectors this growth has yet to fully recover the ground lost from a dip in 2019. Comparatively, Quebec holds the largest presence in the organic industry among the provinces. The only area in which Ontario outpaces Quebec is organic livestock operators. The continuous growth of Quebec's organic industry is due to the provincial government's commitment to organic agriculture.

### Who is the organic buyer?

Ontario has the highest proportion of organic shoppers in Canada, with 71% of Ontarian respondents saying they have purchased organic products. 22% of Ontarians also identified as heavy buyers of organic products with 25-100% of their groceries being organic.

Ontario's organic products are purchased mainly from grocery stores (81%), online retailers (25%) or from farmers (23%). Top reported motivators for buying organic were to avoid processed and artificial ingredients (60%), avoid pesticides or chemicals (56%) and support environmental health (42%). The main obstacles were high costs (77%) and the claim that locally grown food was as good or better (27%).

### Imports and Exports Represent an Opportunity

Despite Ontario's large consumer market, the majority of organic products are imported while exports of organic products sit at 5.2%. The main organic imports are spinach, strawberries and lettuce, despite that these products can be grown in Ontario. This demonstrates an opportunity to grow the province's organic production sector.

## IAPO IS HIRING!

To support First Nations women entrepreneurs' participation and success starting or growing their businesses, IAPO has created a dedicated position call the First Nations Women Entrepreneurs Business Coach (FNWE Business Coach).

The FNWE Business Coach will assist FN women navigate the entrepreneurial ecosystem. The ideal candidate will have a passion and interest in FN women's entrepreneurship, coaching/business advisory roles as well as, business & economic development.

For a detailed career posting, visit [www.indianag.on.ca](http://www.indianag.on.ca).



Boiling sap in Wiikwenkoong.  
Picture courtesy of Peggy and  
Jerrold Webkamigad



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# Market Information

## BEEF MARKET WATCH

Prices are courtesy of the Beef Farmers of Ontario Weekly Market Information Report for the week ending Thursday, April 7, 2022. Changes in this chart reflect the difference in prices from the week of February 7, 2022 to the week of April 4, 2022. Weekly reports provide prices on a per cwt basis for the week but do not include Friday sale results.

Fed steers ranged from \$166.06-\$177.39 averaging \$172.49 up \$3.41 from last week and \$30.74 above year ago prices.

Fed heifers traded from \$160.53-\$174.05 averaging \$169.73 up \$0.88 from the previous week and \$27.48 stronger than this time last year.

The Ontario railgrade market was fairly quiet this week with just a light test reported and one federal packer not bidding. The few sales reported were at \$290.00 for steers with delivery the week of April 25th, and a couple for \$293.00 for next week delivery. Heifer sales were limited from \$289.00-\$290.00 dressed and not enough sold to establish a price report, however the market tone was steady.

Category	Price Range \$	Ave Price	Top Price	Change
Rail Steers	290			
Fed steers	162-180	171	195	-.5
Fed heifers	163-174	170	191	+3
Cows	80-112	95	148	+28
Bulls	107-137	124	159	+25
Stocker steers				
700 – 799	177-219	199	238	+1.5
600 – 699	185-226	211	253	+1
500 – 599	195-254	224	269	+6
Stocker heifers				
700 – 799	150-189	177	214	+9
600 – 699	150-200	180	224	0
500 – 599	165-211	192	233	+3

All prices are on a hundred pound basis (cwt)

**BB**

## CROP MARKET

Adapted from Market Trends March USDA Report by Phillip Shaw GFO [www.gfo.ca](http://www.gfo.ca)

**Corn** Like many of our commodities corn is in a dynamic situation. For instance, in the second quarter of this crop year the corn usage was actually the greatest that has ever been recorded reflecting such big demand.

March corn has rallied over a dollar on the futures market since the last day of February, which shows us the dynamism within this market. Keep in mind that the March 1st intentions reflected in the March 31 USDA report may change simply because of the price changes over that time. However, it would be highly unusual in this situation for corn acres to overtake soybean acres going into the next big USDA report in June. There is certainly a lot of risk ahead in the corn market aside from the reduced production expected out of Ukraine.

The May 2022 corn futures contract is currently priced \$0.13 above the July contract, which is a bullish indication of demand. Seasonally, corn prices tend to peak in early June and reach bottom in October.

**Soybeans** Soybeans might not be the bullish story they once were but make no mistake they are still bullish. The South American crop continues to get

lower, which is particularly unusual over the last several years. Needless to say, the higher soybean prices had an obvious effect on the USDA estimating soybean acres coming in at the highest ever 91 million acres.

Seasonally, soybean prices tend to peak in early July and reached bottom in early October.

**Wheat** The wheat story continues to surround the problems that we're seeing with the war in Ukraine. Do the fundamentals of grain really need a \$12.50 cash price in Ontario? The point being

is that with war markets violent volatility can be very normal amid the smoke and fog of war. However, it is very difficult to know at this point how it's going to work out.

With cash prices currently in the \$11 area and with marketing orders hitting almost close to \$13 this past few months it's certainly a good time to have wheat in Ontario. However, as all Ontario wheat producers know there is still much risk ahead. As it is now, the wheat needs some warm spring weather to continue on its journey.

### Coming Events

**April 12, 19 & 26:** **Small Flock High Pathogenic Avian Influenza Updates**  
To register: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_5PboflSGSaW\\_34PJ\\_CzUHA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_5PboflSGSaW_34PJ_CzUHA)

**April 19-27:** **Ignatius Farm New Farmer Training Program**  
For more information visit [www.efao.ca](http://www.efao.ca)

**April 23:** **KASSI/Ratinerhayenthos Seed Rematriation- 7 p.m.**  
<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/seed-rematriation-anniversary-tickets315438153007>

**April 27:** **Raising Chicks w. Dr Scott Gillingham- 7 p.m.**  
To register email: [workshops@indianag.on.ca](mailto:workshops@indianag.on.ca)

**April 30:** **AgriStability 2022**– Deadline for payment of fees, new applications or to cancel coverage. Contact Agricorp at 1-888-247-4999

**May 16:** **Crop Insurance**– Deadline for new applications, changes to coverage or cancellations. Contact Agricorp at 1-888-247-4999

# Livestock Information

## CONSIDERATIONS BEFORE TURNING LIVESTOCK OUT ON PASTURE

Pasture turn-out will be occurring soon so now is the time to plan for this event. After long winter months in housing, livestock will be placed on lush pasture and away from stored feed. You want to maintain livestock productivity on your farm pastures this spring so there are some main factors to consider: preparing the ground for grazing, preparing the animals for turnout and cleaning up after the winter.

When to begin pasturing will vary from farm to farm, depending on your location, grass and plant mix, pasture conditions including prior grazing management, weather, soil fertility and how much feed you have on hand.



*Medium Pugging Damage*

<https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/>

Livestock may damage pastures when the soil is waterlogged as wet soils are less able to carry weight than dry soils and hoofprints that cut into the sod, make mud, and/or fill with water are called “pugmarks”, which is where the name “pugging” for this type of damage comes from. Pugging can reduce pasture yields between 16% and 80% in the following 12 months, depending on the soil type, how wet it is, the stocking density, and how long livestock are in the paddock. Pastures that were overgrazed the previous season will be slower to recover in the spring and may require additional growing time prior to grazing. If you must begin pasturing earlier than desired, don’t overload those pastures.

In order to maintain good livestock gains and production, make the transition from stored feed to the new pasture growth gradually. Making an immediate switch from dry hay to the early spring growth can sometimes negatively affect livestock performance. New pasture growth is highly digestible and has lower fiber content than later pasture growth and dry hay. Consuming this highly digestible feed can cause diarrhea, especially when livestock are quickly switched from a dry hay diet. Supplementing with a higher fiber feed such as dry hay as a portion of the diet can reduce this issue. Mixing dry hay into the diet when shifting to early spring pastures can allow livestock to become accustomed to the change in diet and can benefit livestock health. Hay can then be gradually removed from the diet.

Plan your herd level vaccination strategy and deworming pro-

grams before turnout and in consultation with your Veterinarian. For example, black leg vaccination. A herd health plan will lay out your vaccination program, and other herd health considerations. Stick to your herd health plan -- if you don't have one, then spring is a good time to prepare one.

Mineral feeding on pasture is important. Salt can be mixed in with loose mineral supplements to increase or limit the amount of intake. Because cattle crave salt, it can be a useful additive to encourage cattle to consume the required amount of mineral, however there are limits to how much salt they will eat, which also prevents overconsumption. Don't offer both loose mineral and salt separately and side by side, as there is a higher risk of reducing mineral intake if the salt is provided separately. Don't forget to clean and prepare your mineral feeders for pasture.

Mineral placement in pastures is key. You want to have your mineral supplementation in close proximity to where livestock are gathering. Water is a good place to offer mineral supplementation. You also want to put your mineral in a feeder so that it is protected from the elements. Depending on the design of the mineral feeder, a general rule of thumb is having one mineral feeder placed for every 30 to 40 head.. Typically, cattle will consume about 2-3 ounces of mineral/salt mix per head per day on pasture.

Take a good walk around your pastures to check on fencing and water sources and make sure your perimeter fencing is secure. Watch for: broken or weakened fence posts, slack wire fencing in need of tightening or refastening, any loose or projecting nails, sagging gates, frayed, broken or inoperable electric fences. (Use a fence tester) .

What are you going to plant this spring for your pasture program? The first thing to plant is fence posts! By far the biggest gains in pasture management come from a rotational grazing system if practicable and fences allows you to do that effectively and conveniently. Livestock should be trained to an electric fence and once trained they will respect it and allow you to conveniently manage your pastures. A one or two (or 4 for sheep) wire electric fence should reliably contain livestock provided they have enough forage to meet their needs.

Managed pastures will provide significantly more forage for your livestock over the grazing season and will allow you to minimize the impact of a dry summer on pasture growth. Once you have a rotational grazing system in place which benefits your livestock by increasing the forage productivity there are other steps that you can implement to enhance your grazing program. In a rotational pasture system, ideally animals are grazed on one paddock for one day — and for no more than three. The animals are then moved to the next paddock to allow for sufficient regrowth. The rest period before a pasture is grazed again depends on temperature and moisture conditions. Rest periods may range from approximately 25 days in the spring/early summer to 45 or more days in the mid to late summer. 6-10 paddocks would be minimum per group of animals.

**BB**

# Crop Information

## COVER CROPS

sources: [http://www.omafr.gov.on.ca/english/crops/facts/cover\\_crops01/cover.htm](http://www.omafr.gov.on.ca/english/crops/facts/cover_crops01/cover.htm) OMAFRA, 2016. <https://thamesriver.on.ca/landowner-grants-stewardship/farmland-bmps/farmland-bmp-cover-crops/> GLASI. <http://www.omafr.gov.on.ca/english/environment/bmp/AF169.pdf> OMAFRA.

Cover crops are plants that are grown with the primary goal of protecting and improving the soil. Cover crops can be used seasonally or year-round to increase soil health and prevent soil erosion and may be planted in a monocrop (only one plant species at a time) or as a mixture of more than one species.

Plants that are commonly used in cover cropping systems:

- 1. Legumes:** Plants that fix nitrogen and make it available for the next crop. These plants can reduce fertilizer use and are regularly used in organic production to add nutrients to the soil. *Ex. Clover, alfalfa, hairy vetch*
- 2. Grasses:** Non-legume plants that are excellent at finding and using nutrients in the soil (scavenging). They produce a high amount of plant material quickly, which is good for soil carbon building and soil erosion protection. *Ex. Rye, oats, annual ryegrass*
- 3. Brassicas:** Brassicas are broadleaved, fast growing, non-legume scavengers. They make great cover crops as they release chemicals that can help control certain nematodes, insects, weeds, and diseases. *Ex. Mustard, oilseed radish, rapeseed/canola*
- 4. Other Broadleaf Crops:** Other broadleaved cover crops can be used to protect the soil, reduce pest populations, extract nutrients from the soil, provide pollen for beneficial pollinators, etc. *Ex. Buckwheat, Sunflowers, Safflower*
- 5. Plant Mixtures:** Planting two more plant species in the same field at the same time can maximize the benefits of the cover crop and may provide superior soil protection.



Multi-Species Cover Crop Mixture Source: <https://www.covercropstrategies.com/articles/1134-exchanging-cover-cropping-ideas-outcomes-experimentsrops/>

### BENEFITS OF COVER CROPS

- Reduced Soil Erosion:** Cover crops help reduce or eliminate wind and water erosion in two ways; the plant cover acts as a physical barrier and the plant roots bind the soil in place.
- More Soil Organic Matter/Carbon:** Cover crops increase soil organic matter and soil organic carbon by adding additional plant material to the soil; this increases soil structure, water holding capacity, infiltration, and nutrient availability and reduces soil nutrient loss.
- Reduced Compaction:** Deep rooted cover crops, such as oilseed radish, can break through compacted soil layers and create channels or pores in the soil that help water and

air penetrate deep into the soil, while also providing pathways for cash crop roots to grow.

- Improved Soil Fertility:** Legume cover crops, such as clover and peas, fix nitrogen (an essential plant nutrient) that can be used by the next crop or plant. Additionally, certain deep rooted cover crops such as cereal rye or alfalfa can bring up other nutrients from deep in the soil layers to be used by the following crop.
- Reduced Nutrient Loss:** Certain cover crops, such as rye for example, act as nitrogen “catch crops”. Catch crops are good at finding and using excess nitrogen and other nutrients left in the soil after the harvest of a cash crop, which reduces nutrient leaching/loss. They also protect perennial plants (plants grown for more than one year) from winter injury by stopping late season plant growth.
- Pest Control:** Many cover crops are excellent at reducing weed, insect, nematode, and disease populations. For example, cereal rye releases a chemical that suppresses weed populations; pearl millet can reduce nematode populations; mustard can prevent soilborne diseases such as fusarium.



Cover crops take up nutrients that remain in the soil, hold them in the plant tissues and release them in the next spring for the following crop.

Source: <https://www.croplife.com/crop-inputs/nutrient-management-among-key-benefits->

However, these benefits may not always be seen when using cover crops, as the success of a cover crop can vary due to many different factors. Therefore, it’s important to ask yourself the following questions before choosing a cover crop:

- What are my goals? Reduce erosion? Add nitrogen to the soil? Suppress pests/weeds? Etc.
- What are the growing conditions? What type of soil do you have? Has it been a wet year/season or a dry year/season?
- What is my crop rotation? Where in your rotation will you use cover crops? What crop comes before/after the cover crop?
- How will I plant and establish my cover crop? Will you be placing the cover crop seeds in the soil or broadcasting it? When will you seed?
- How will I terminate the cover crop? Will you be spraying, mowing, letting the cover crop die over winter, etc.? Could the cover crop become a weed for the next crop?

For additional help choosing a cover crop, check out IPAO’s Healthy Lands page on our website, [www.indianag.on.ca](http://www.indianag.on.ca).

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# Other News

## GROWING TRANSPLANTS

Many vegetables such as corn, beans and squash will do best by seeding them directly into the garden. However other vegetables such as tomatoes and peppers require a longer growing season and will need to be planted into the garden as transplants. Depending on what you are seeding, typically transplants need to be started anywhere between 4 to 10 weeks prior to planting.

### Ontario Frost Dates

Location	Last Frost	First Frost
Hamilton	May 1-10	October 11-20
Kingston	April 21-30	October 1-10
London	May 1-10	October 1-10
Parry Sound	May 21-31	September 11-20
Peterborough	May 1-10	September 21-30
Sudbury	May 11-20	September 21-30
Thunder Bay	June 21-31	September 11-20
Timmins	June 1-10	September 11-15
Windsor	April 11-20	October 21-31

Catalogs are an excellent source of information for the vegetable gardener providing information on the plant growth habit (height and area requirements), ideal garden location (sun, partial sun, shade and moisture requirements), and the average number of days to maturity. All seed companies provide guidelines regarding the number of weeks prior to the last frost date to start transplants. Many gardeners will target a transplanting date one week after the average last frost date for their area to allow for those years with a later spring frost.



Once you've decided what to grow, you'll need to set up the area for starting the transplants. Containers can be anything from a Styrofoam cup to a purchased starting kit or recycled old planting trays. No matter what you choose, the containers must have holes for drainage and trays to catch the excess water. Growing seeds in individual cells helps to reduce root disturbances at

transplanting time. If reusing old seed trays make sure to sterilize them by washing with a solution of 1 part chlorine bleach to 10 parts water and thoroughly dry them before filling with growing medium. It is best to purchase a commercial growing mix for starting transplants.

**Damping off** is the most common disease known and can attack a seed before it germinates however is best recognized as rot at the base of the plant causing irreparable wilt. Sterile containers, proper drainage, watering plants from the bottom, good air circulation and not overwatering all help to prevent this disease from attacking transplants.

### Step-by-step procedure for growing transplants

(adapted from: Penn State Extension – Starting Seeds Demystified)

- Fill containers to within ¾ inch from the top. Level and firm growing mix, moisten. Note: do not press the mix

into the container too hard.

- Sow the seeds to a depth of about two times their diameter, leaving very fine seeds uncovered, label your containers as you plant. Moisten the surface with a fine mist. Place the tray in a warm place, not in direct sunlight, most seeds germinate at soil temperatures of 18 to 22°C.
- Once seedlings emerge, place the container in a bright south-facing window, or under a fixture equipped with florescent growing lights. Leave the seedlings under the lights for 14-16 hours each day. Do not overwater: allow drying between watering, being careful the seedlings don't wilt. If growing in a window be sure to turn your containers to help your transplants to grow straight.
- Fertilize young seedlings every week. Dilute fertilizer to half strength for the first few weeks and gradually work up to full strength. Most growers use 10-52-10 for transplants.
- If you need to thin your seedlings, nip some off at the soil line with scissors. If necessary, transplant overcrowded seedlings to individual pots after they have at least one set of true leaves. Grasp the seedlings by the leaf to avoid damage to the stem.

## PLANTING GUIDE

source: Basic Gardening Manual for Northern Manitoba

Kinds	Distance between rows (ft.)	Distance within rows(in.)	Amount of seed, or # of plants per 50-ft. row	Depth to cover (in.)
Bean (Bush)	2	2-3	4 oz.	1 1/2- 2
(Pole)	2	8-12	4 oz.	1 1/2- 2
Beet	1 1/2	1-3	1/2 oz.	1/2
Broccoli/Cabbage Early	2 1/2	18	1 packet	transplants
Late	2 1/2	18	1 packet	1/2
Cabbage Early	2 1/2	18	1 packet	transplants
Late				1/2
Carrot	1 1/2- 2	1-2	1/4 oz.	1/2
Cauliflower	2 1/2	18	1 packet	transplants
Chard, Swiss	2	8-12	1/2 oz.	1/2
Corn	2 1/2- 3	12-18	2 oz.	1-2
Cucumber	4	12-24	1/8 oz.	1/2-1
lettuce (Leaf)	1 1/2	6	1 packet	1/4
(Head)	1 1/2	12	1 packet	1/4
Onion	1 1/2	3	1 packet	transplants
Transplants	1 1/2	2-3	of seed	seed 1/2
Seeds or sets			1/2 lb sets	Sets 1
Parsnips	1 1/2-2	2-4	1/4 oz.	1/2
Pea	1 1/2-3	2	4 oz.	1 1/2-2
Potatoes	2-3	12	5lbs	4
Pumpkin/squash	6-8	36-48	1 oz.	1
Radish	1	1	1/2 oz.	1/4
Rutabaga	2	6	1/2 oz.	1/4
Spinach	1 1/2	4-6	1/2 oz.	1/2
Tomato Staked	2	18-24	25-33	transplants
Not staked	3	36	17 plants	

# Avian Influenza



## Background:

Highly Pathogenic Avian influenza (HPAI) H5N1 is a form of Bird Flu which is a highly contagious viral disease which occurs primarily in poultry and wild birds and shore birds.

## Recognizing HPAI

No specific signs– pay attention to **CONTEXT!**



## Assessing the Risk of infection:

- Are migratory waterfowl present?
- Is there a flock confirmed with HPAI near by?
- How close is the nearest poultry farm?
- Do farm employees have contact with other poultry?
- Do birds from this flock have access to outdoors?
- How close is the nearest pond to the barn?
- Does anyone on the farm have contact with wild waterfowl?
- Do wild birds enter the barn and eat from feeders?
- Who has access to the farm?
- What pest control measures are in place?
- Are bedding materials stored in a way that prevents contamination?

## Why HPAI is a risk:

### Economic:

- High death rate especially turkeys and chickens.
- Rapid spread between farms/ flocks if strict biosecurity is not in place.
- Serious production loss, loss of income

### Food:

- Not a food safety risk

### Human:

- Low risk to general public but can spread to humans in direct contact with live birds.

### Other:

- Migratory birds increase risk during spring/fall global migrations.
- Pigs are susceptible to AI viruses.



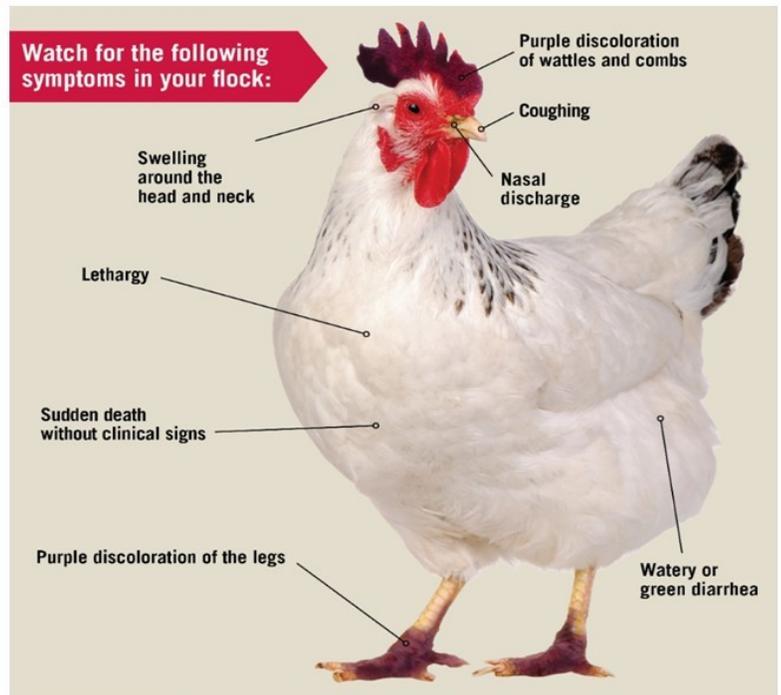
# IAPO

First Nations Farm & Business Financing

## Clinical Signs of HPAI

Some or all of the following clinical signs are evident in infected birds:

- high and sudden death rate
- quietness and extreme depression
- a drop in production of eggs, many of which are soft-shelled or shell-less
- diarrhea
- haemorrhages on the hock
- swelling of the skin under the eyes
- wattles and combs become swollen and congested



## What can you do?

- Keep poultry away from areas frequented by wild birds.
- Make sure equipment is cleaned and disinfected before taking it into poultry houses.
- Do not keep bird feeders or create duck ponds close to poultry barns.
- Maintain the highest sanitation standards.
- Change footwear when entering the Restricted Area and prevent wearing contaminated clothing and equipment in production areas.
- Keep mortalities in secure, covered containers until they are moved to the disposal area or transported off-farm.
- Place waste entering the public collection system in a sealed, waterproof bag with the exterior disinfected.
- Wash and disinfect vehicles at entry and at exit, paying special attention to wheels and wheel wells.
- IMPORTANT: Limit access to your farm to essential visitors only. Avoid going to other chicken farms.**

## If you suspect HPAI, from clinical signs and/or the high risk context:

Contact your local Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) or call the CFIA 24/7 hotline:

**1(877) 814 - 2342**

If you spot a sick or dead wild bird is contact the Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative (CWHC # 1-866-673- 4781)

→ **DO NOT TOUCH**

### Sources:

<https://www.poultryindustrycouncil.ca/downloads/avian-influenza-cfia-dr-cynthia-philippe.pdf>

[https://www.ontariochicken.ca/getattachment/1a50cc54-4ba5-4c87-8abf-713cd2c2b2c4/attachment.aspx?fbclid=IwAR1SVIlgYNEcBv-AozzcbH5k\\_fbkGjJ5U3R0GAUccGtwJ\\_\\_tV1khC53OUg](https://www.ontariochicken.ca/getattachment/1a50cc54-4ba5-4c87-8abf-713cd2c2b2c4/attachment.aspx?fbclid=IwAR1SVIlgYNEcBv-AozzcbH5k_fbkGjJ5U3R0GAUccGtwJ__tV1khC53OUg)

<https://extension.uga.edu/topic-areas/animal-production/poultry-eggs/avian-flu.html>