

SALEM COUNTY

SCOOP

April 2025

Molly English D'Onofrio

Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Salem County welcomes Ramandeep Kumar Sharma

Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Salem County
welcomes

Ramandeep Kumar Sharma

in his new role as

Agricultural Extension Agent for Salem County

In his role as County Extension Agent in Commercial Agricultural Production for Salem County, Raman will provide leadership in assessing local agricultural needs and implementing relevant educational programming and research in commercial agronomic crop production.

Raman comes to us from USDA–Agricultural Research Service in Mississippi. He holds a Ph.D. in Plant and Soil Sciences with a specialization in Agronomy, an M.S. in Agribusiness Management, and a B.Tech. in Agricultural Engineering.

He worked for six years as an Agriculture Extension Officer in India and as a Research/Teaching Assistant at Mississippi State University. He has several published research articles on topics such as the production of corn, soybeans, oats, sorghum, wheat, the role of sulfur in crop production, climatic impacts on cropping systems, fertilizer rate optimization, applicability of artificial intelligence in agriculture, and economics in commercial crop production.



**We welcome Raman on
April 1, 2025
to Salem County Cooperative Extension**

NJ 2025 Pesticide Container

Receive 1
CORE Point

Recycling Dates



RECYCLING STEP BY STEP

NOT ACCEPTABLE

1



TRIPLE RINSE



2



REMOVE BOOKLET



3



Image credit: @reallygreatsite



Dried residue in container



Dried residue on container

ACCEPTABLE



Clean container



Stained yet clean container

DROP OFF TIME 9 AM-12 PM AT EACH LOCATION

SALEM COUNTY
HELENA CHEMICAL
440 N. MAIN ST.,
WOODSTOWN, NJ

4/18/25

5/23/25

6/20/25

ATLANTIC COUNTY
HELENA CHEMICAL
66 ROUTE 206 (NORTH OF
THE ROUTE 30/206
INTERSECTION)
HAMMONTON, NJ

4/11/25

5/16/25

6/13/25

MONMOUTH COUNTY
RUTGERS FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL
RESEARCH EXTENSION CENTER
283 ROUTE 539
CREAM RIDGE, NJ

4/25/25

5/30/25

6/27/25

REDUCE.
REUSE.
RECYCLE.

Notify Rachel DeFlumeri with the location, date, and
time you will drop off if possible or to ask questions:
Rachel.DeFlumeri@ag.nj.gov

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT PESTICIDE CONTAINER RECYCLING

<https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/anr/nrc/processingsteps.html>





State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PO Box 400
TRENTON NJ 08625-0330

EDWARD D. WENGRY
Secretary

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor
TAHESHA L. WAY
Lt. Governor

March 25, 2025

Dear Backyard Flock Poultry Owner:

On February 21, 2025, the New Jersey Department of Agriculture (NJDA) reported its first case of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in domestic poultry since 2023. Since then, there have been five additional detections of the disease in domestic poultry throughout the state. Of these six cases, four were in live bird markets in Union, Hudson, and Mercer Counties. The remaining two cases were in backyard flocks, one in Salem County and one in Atlantic County. The HPAI virus has been found in wild birds within New Jersey, particularly since the end of December 2024. According to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), suspect and confirmed avian influenza infections have caused localized deaths of multiple wild birds this winter, with reports of sick and dying wild birds continuing into the present.

HPAI is highly contagious and often fatal in domestic poultry species. Signs of HPAI in poultry can include:

- Sudden death
- Decrease in feed or water consumption
- Respiratory signs such as coughing, sneezing, nasal discharge
- Swelling around the eyes
- Open-mouth breathing
- Darkening of the comb/wattles
- Reddening of the shanks or feet
- Decreased egg production
- Lethargy

As HPAI continues to spread across the United States, poultry owners are urged to review their biosecurity practices and remain on alert for clinical signs of HPAI in their flock. Multi-species operations, particularly those with both poultry and ruminants on-site, are encouraged to mitigate areas in which the spread of disease between species may be at risk.

Online resources, such as [Secure Milk Supply- Biosecurity](https://securemilksupply.org/milk-producers/biosecurity/) - <https://securemilksupply.org/milk-producers/biosecurity/>, [CFSPH - Biosecurity](https://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/biosecurity/) - <https://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/biosecurity/> and [USDA Defend the Flock](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/avian/defend-the-flock) - <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/avian/defend-the-flock> can be utilized to tailor a farm-specific biosecurity plan. It is recommended that producers focus on-farm biosecurity practices to prevent wild bird contact with their poultry and livestock. USDA Wildlife Services (908-735-5654) can assist with wild bird mitigation plans on agricultural premises.

HPAI spreads through contact with bodily secretions, including feces, ocular, nasal, or oral secretions from infected birds. The virus can spread on vehicles, equipment, shoes, etc. Biosecurity is particularly important for those residents of New Jersey who keep backyard poultry flocks, which are typically smaller flocks and can include mixed bird types. Backyard flocks often have constant or frequent access to the outdoor environment by nature of

their housing style, which increases the likelihood of direct encounters with wild birds or their feces. Wild birds can enter backyard flock enclosures, increasing risk of direct contact. Potential exposure to wild birds via sharing waterers, feeders, or swimming areas is another source of disease risk to domestic poultry. Practicing good biosecurity can help prevent the spread of HPAI onto a farm.

Those biosecurity practices include:

- Eliminating exposure of domestic birds to wild birds. Minimizing standing water and extra feed in the environment that might attract wild birds.
- Avoiding contact with other poultry.
- Keeping a specific set of shoes and clothing for tending to poultry. Disposable boot covers or a foot bath that is changed regularly are other measures that can be used.
- Minimizing the number of people who visit the birds.
- Avoiding sharing equipment with other flocks and using appropriate disinfectants for equipment that must come onto a farm.

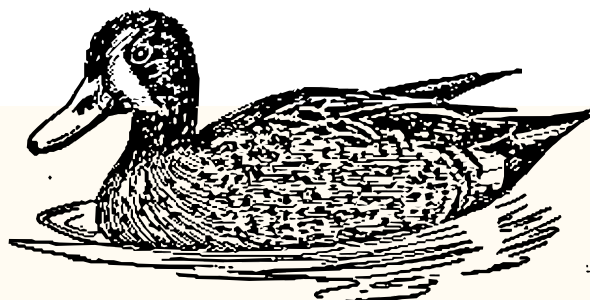
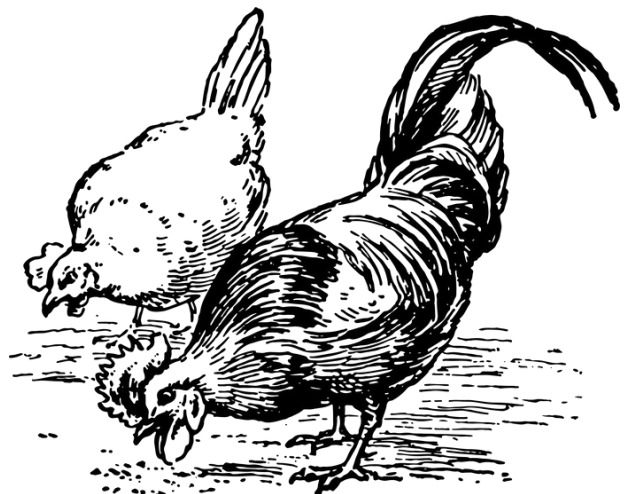
According to the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH), it is advised that individuals use personal protective equipment (PPE) when in contact with sick or dead birds. PPE is available at each county's Rutgers Cooperative Extension Office. The county office contact information can be found at <https://njaes.rutgers.edu/county/>. The NJDA continues to work closely with the NJDOH, NJDEP, and other state and federal partners to monitor the current H5N1 situation and coordinate disease control and elimination measures.

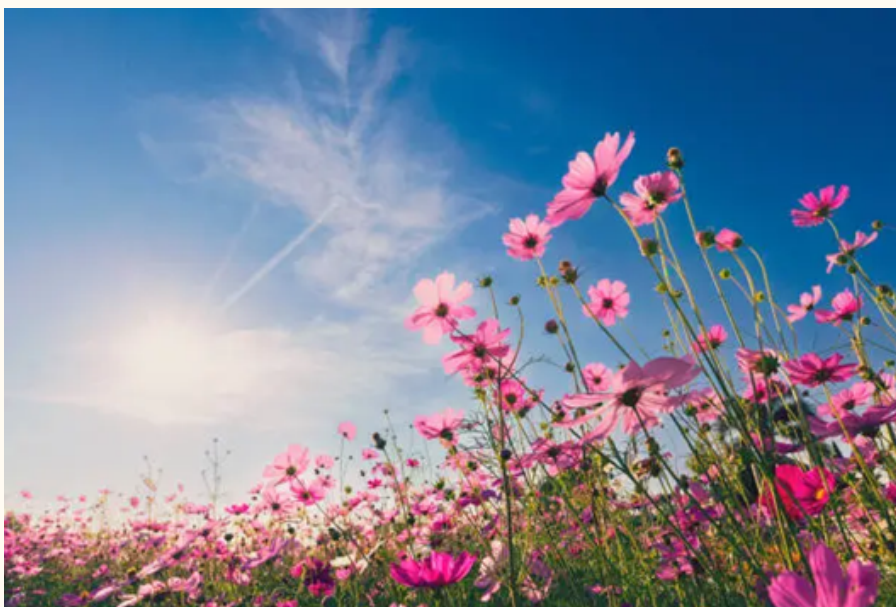
HPAI is a reportable disease. If you suspect HPAI in your poultry, please alert the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Health at 609-671-6400.

Sincerely,



Amar Patil DVM, MVSc, PhD, Diplomate ACVM
State Veterinarian / Director, New Jersey Department of Agriculture Division of Animal Health
P.O. Box 330 Trenton, NJ 08625-0330, Phone: (609) 671-64000





The Salem County Board of Agriculture

meeting will be held on

Monday April 21st, 2025, at 8:00 PM

at the Ware Building

Address: 51 Cheney Road, Woodstown, NJ 08098

Extension Office Telephone: (856) 769-0090



Salem County's Largest

YARD SALE

APRIL 19, 2025

Saturday | 8am-3pm

Salem County Fairgrounds

735 Route 40, Pilesgrove, NJ 08098

(RAIN OR SHINE)

Spaces: 10x10 (indoor) \$50, 10x10 (indoor/climate controlled) \$70, 10x10 (outdoors) \$30, 10x20 (outdoors) \$50

To reserve a space contact Andy Ware
609-472-0256 or wareandy13@gmail.com

**All proceeds benefit the Salem County 4th of July
festival/fireworks**



Pesticide License Exams



**Virtual testing available.
Sign up, exam schedule and more
information available at**

<https://pacer.rutgers.edu/>

Click the link above!

Pesticide Manuals are also available for purchase in the
extension office or online!



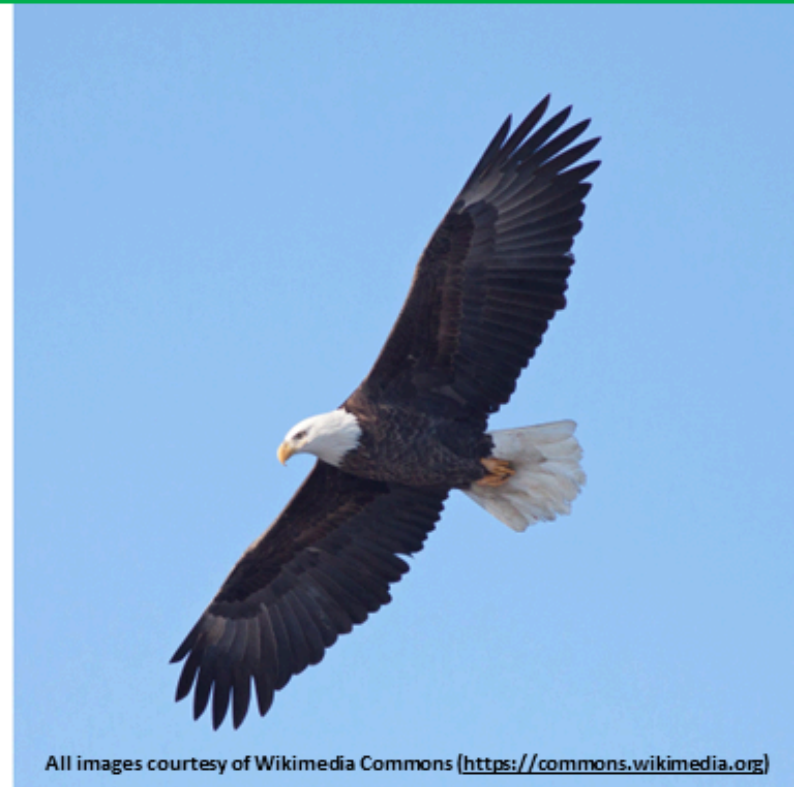
FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

**SALEM COUNTY AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION
OFFICE**

[https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?
id=61566167394480](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61566167394480)



Some Good News: Environmental Success Stories in New Jersey



All images courtesy of Wikimedia Commons (<https://commons.wikimedia.org>)

This spring, we highlight impactful programs that made a difference in protecting the Garden State. From shellfish habitat restoration to plastic reduction, these projects showcase the creativity, collaboration, and dedication of individuals, organizations, and communities working towards a greener future. Join us as we explore the stories behind these successes, learn about the challenges overcome, and discover how these initiatives can serve as models for environmental progress in New Jersey and beyond.

April 14 – Forestry Success in the Pinelands.
Benjamin Pisano & Dylan Wiget, NJ Forest Service

April 21 – Plastic Reductions in NJ.
N. Dini Checko, Association of NJ Environmental Commissions

April 28 – Ocean Observation on the Jersey Shore.
Dr. Travis Miles, Rutgers University

May 5 – Wildlife Recovery in NJ.
Kathleen Kerwin, Wildlife Biologist

May 12 – Dam Removal/Restoration.
Carl Alderson, NOAA

May 19 – Shellfish & Marine Habitat Restoration.
Dr. Christine Thompson, Stockton University &
Capt. Alek Modjeski, American Littoral Society

All webinars start at 6:30pm

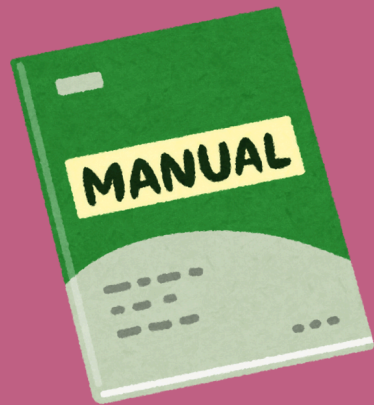


To register for this webinar series, please visit:

<https://go.rutgers.edu/somegoodnews>

This webinar series is a collaboration between two Extension programs: Earth Day, Every Day (E2D2) and the Marine Extension Program Seminar Series (MEPSS). If you want to learn more about E2D2 or MEPSS please visit <https://envirostewards.rutgers.edu/earth-day-every-day/> or <https://ocean.niaes.rutgers.edu/marine/marine-extension-program-seminar-series/>.

The link above is clickable!!



Have Ag-Related Questions?

Need a Pesticide Manual?

Updated Agriculture Truck

Certificate?

Soil Sample Kit?

Need advice from our Ag Agent?

Give the office a call!

856-769-0090

