

Cal-Maine Foods, largest producer of eggs in US, finds bird flu in chickens at Texas plant

Chickens at a plant in Texas' panhandle have tested positive bird flu resulting in the slaughter of 1.6 million hens and 337,000 pullets (young hens).

The largest supplier of eggs in the United States halted production after chickens at a Texas plant tested positive for the highly contagious bird flu - the latest in a spike of cases across the nation.

Cal-Maine Foods on Tuesday announced chickens at its facility in Parmer County, in the state's southwestern panhandle, tested positive for pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) resulting in slaughter of nearly 2 million chickens – 1.6 million hens and 337,000 pullets (young hens).

The announcement less than 24 hours after the Centers for Disease Control reported a person in Texas had been infected with the virus after coming into close contact with dairy cattle and just over a week after sick dairy cattle in Texas and Kansas tested positive for the virus.

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Source:

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2024/04/03/bird-flu-chickens-texas-eggs-cal-maine-foods/73188200007/>

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