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CONTROL ORDER RESTRICTING MOVEMENT OF DAIRY CATTLE INTO DELAWARE DUE TO THE UNUSUAL DAIRY CATTLE MORBIDITY EVENT

In February 2024, an unknown disease affecting dairy cattle causing decreased lactation, low appetite, thickened colostrum-like milk, and other clinical signs was identified in Texas. Herds with these signs have tested positive for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in individual cows and/or the milk. As of April 1, 2024, the states of New Mexico, Kansas, Michigan, and Idaho have confirmed cases of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in dairy cattle.

Under the authority granted in 3 Del. C. § 7101, the Delaware Department of Agriculture has issued this control order restricting the movement of dairy cattle into Delaware, specifically:

- **No dairy cattle from an affected herd, as described above, shall be allowed to move into Delaware until further notice. If any cattle from an affected premises exhibit these signs, all cattle on that premises shall be restricted.**
- **Dairy cattle outside the Delmarva Peninsula require a signed health certificate within 48 hours of entry. Upon arrival, all dairy cattle will be quarantined for 30 days.**

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza is not a food safety concern. Milk and meat from sick cattle are prohibited from entering interstate commerce for human consumption. Pasteurization effectively kills viruses and bacteria in milk, and proper food handling and cooking of meat to a safe internal temperature kills foodborne germs, including Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza.

Authorized By:

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