



## **How to Find a Disinfectant Effective against Avian Influenza November 4, 2024**

Before you purchase and use a disinfectant with the goal of disinfecting against avian influenza, you must confirm that the disinfectant (1) is effective against avian influenza and (2) is registered for sale and distribution in Oregon.

### **Take-away Messages:**

- **Avian influenza must be on the label.** Before a disinfectant may be marketed as effective against a bacteria or a virus, the manufacturer must submit efficacy data to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for review and approval. To use a disinfectant against a specific virus, the virus must be stated on the container label.
- **Follow the contact time.** For a disinfectant to be effective, the treated surface must remain visibly wet with the disinfectant for a specific length of time (the **contact time**). Contact times vary by product and organism; make sure you are following the labeled contact time for disinfection against avian influenza.
- **The product may need to be diluted.** If the product is a concentrate, ensure that you are diluting it to the dilution rate listed on the label for disinfection against avian influenza.
- **THE LABEL IS THE LAW.** Read the entire label before applying a disinfectant. You must follow all applicable directions, restrictions, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) requirements, and precautions on the container label! If the container label refers you to a booklet, pamphlet, or supplemental material, you must read that as well.

### **Finding a Disinfectant**

To ensure a product may be used for disinfection of avian influenza in Oregon, confirm that:

1. The EPA Registration Number (“EPA Reg. No.”) is on EPA’s “List M.”
2. The product is registered in Oregon.
3. Directions for disinfection against avian influenza are on the disinfectant container label.

#### **Step 1: Search the EPA Reg. No. in List M**

- Every disinfectant label in the marketplace will have an “EPA Reg. No.” consisting of two or three sets of numbers. The EPA Reg. No. is typically on the first or last page of the label.
- Search the first two sets of numbers in the EPA Reg. No. in [List M, EPA’s Registered Antimicrobial Products Effective Against Avian Influenza](#). For example, if the container label has EPA Reg. No. 12345-67-890, search 12345-67. If the first two sets of numbers in the EPA Reg. No. are on List M, then the product will be effective against avian influenza when used according to label directions.

### Step 2: Search ODA's registration database

- Before a disinfectant may be sold and distributed in Oregon, it must be registered by the Oregon Department of Agriculture. Search the full EPA Reg. No. on [ODA's Search Registered Pesticide Products](#) (i.e., if the EPA Reg. No. on the container label has three sets of numbers, include all three in your search). If your search shows the product name and company/manufacturer on the container label and has a status of "Registered," then the product is registered in Oregon.

### Step 3: Read the label

- Read the container label and ensure that it has directions for use as a disinfectant (not sanitizer) against avian influenza. Some disinfectant labels will have a "List of Controlled Organisms" table separate from their use directions. In this case, ensure that avian influenza is listed as a controlled virus, and that you follow the labeled contact time and dilution (if the product is a concentrate). In addition to general disinfection directions, **the label may have special instructions for disinfection against avian influenza or may have site-specific directions (e.g., "disinfection of animal premises")**. The label may require pre-cleaning of surfaces before disinfection, and it may limit disinfection to certain surfaces or sites. **Do not apply disinfectants to people or animals.**

If you are unsure about how to properly apply a product, email the Oregon Department of Agriculture Pesticides Program at [pesticide-expert@oda.oregon.gov](mailto:pesticide-expert@oda.oregon.gov) or contact the manufacturer. If you are unsure whether a specific product is registered in Oregon or on List M, please email [pesticide-expert@oda.oregon.gov](mailto:pesticide-expert@oda.oregon.gov). In your email, please include the product name and EPA Reg. No. along with your question. This email is for disinfectant inquiries, not general avian influenza inquiries.

For avian influenza information, go to <https://oda.direct/AI>

For more general information on Disinfectants, Sanitizers, and Antimicrobial Products see: <https://npic.orst.edu/ingred/ptype/amicrob/index.html>

