

**Kern County Fair and Event Center**  
15<sup>th</sup> District Agricultural Association  
1142 South P Street  
Bakersfield, CA 93307  
(661) 833-4900  
kcfair@kerncountyfair.com



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# PRESS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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*For more information contact:*

*Chelsey Roberts, Marketing Specialist*

*Desk: (661) 833-4906 | cell: (661) 805-0325*

*[marketing@kerncountyfair.com](mailto:marketing@kerncountyfair.com)*

## **Kern County Fair Announces Updates for 2024 Fair Due to Avian Influenza Concerns**

**Bakersfield, California** – In light of recent developments surrounding the Avian Influenza (HPAI H5N1), which has now reached the Central Valley, the Kern County Fair has been working closely with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to determine the best course of action moving forward. With the confirmed cases in Tulare County dairies, the safety and health of our exhibitors, their families, our fairgoers, and the dairy cattle industry remain our top priority.

After waiting for official guidance from CDFA, we are now able to provide the following updates for the 2024 Kern County Fair:

### **Key Updates:**

- **Dairy Birthing Area:** The dairy birthing area has been converted into a beef cow-calf viewing area. A local beef producer will bring cow-calf pairs for display, providing fairgoers with a unique educational opportunity.
- **Dairy Replacement Heifer Show and Sale:** The 2024 Dairy Replacement Heifer Show and Sale has been canceled. However, exhibitors will still be listed on the Fair's add-on site, where they can receive add-ons for their heifers as usual.
- **Registered and Grade Dairy Cattle (Division 202):** All dairy cattle entered in Division 202 are still eligible to be shown at the 2024 Fair. Participation is optional, and exhibitors are encouraged to consider the current Avian Flu concerns before deciding.
- **Biosecurity Measures:** Dairy cattle attending the show will be stalled together based on their place of origin. This arrangement will ensure that all animals from

one location are contained together, in a separate area of the back dairy cattle barn, away from fairgoer traffic. This precaution is intended to enhance biosecurity.

- **2025 Springer Futurity Heifers:** Exhibitors of 2025 Springer Futurity Heifers will still be eligible for participation, even if they choose not to attend the 2024 show.

We understand the challenges and uncertainties this situation presents and appreciate continued patience and understanding of all of our 2024 Junior Livestock Exhibitors.

About Kern County Fair:

The 2024 Kern County Fair runs from September 18 to 29, offering a wide range of attractions, food, and entertainment for all ages. Don't miss out on the fun and excitement – discount tickets on sale now at all Sully's locations and [kerncountyfair.com](http://kerncountyfair.com)!

For more information and to stay updated on the latest announcements, visit our website at [www.kerncountyfair.com](http://www.kerncountyfair.com) or follow us on social media.

The Kern County Fair is an annual event that celebrates the community of Kern County with a variety of attractions, including live entertainment, agricultural exhibits, carnival rides, delicious food, and much more. The fair provides a fun and educational experience for visitors of all ages.

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