

# NADPRP in New England, 2023-25: Project Update



**by Richard Horwitz for the  
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# NADPRP

## National Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Program

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/funding/nadprp>



Project, 2023-25:  
**Secure Food Supply (SFS) Plans in  
New England Animal Agriculture:  
Gap Analysis and Strategies for  
Improvement in Small-Farm Security**



# Five Objectives and Phases of the Project

1. Review SFS guidance documents.
2. Review regulations and characteristics of animal agriculture in the region.
3. Identify gaps between SFS plans and SAHO assessments of their fit with the risks and response capacities of animal agriculture in the region.
4. Develop strategies for better aligning aims and effectiveness of SFS plans.
5. Share findings with national SAHOs and SFS planners.

## Findings for Objective 1 Review SFS Guidance Documents

Yes, SFS guidance can be expected to vary with farm size.  
Apt to be most effective for large and vertically integrated operations.

- That's where most of the at-risk agricultural animals are.
- They are the source of most of the food for U.S. consumption and export.
- They are most dependent on timely, undisrupted transport.
- They can better afford protective measures.
- Their structure simplifies communication, enforcement, and logistics.

# Response Objectives, Strategies, and Risks in Permitting Movement

<b>OBJECTIVE</b> What is the main aim of biosecurity in permitting?	<b>STRATEGY</b> How high should the bar be set to allow movement?	<b>RISK</b> What hazard lies on the “safe side” of error?
<b>DISEASE CONTROL</b>	<b>HIGH and FIRM</b> Up to a standard that best eliminates risk of infection	<b>TOO DISRUPTIVE</b> Shut down too many operations
<b>BUSINESS CONTINUITY</b>	<b>FLEXIBLE</b> Up to a standard that a critical mass of stakeholders can meet	<b>TOO PERMISSIVE</b> Shut down too few operations

## Findings for Objective 2A

### Regulatory Environment of States in the Region

- Similarities and differences among the states.
- Commonalities seem more significant than the differences.
- Key commonalities are flexibility in emergency response and silence on responsibility to “WOAH non-poultry.”
- Greatest constraint in state response may be a combination of:
  - Limited capacity of SAHOs and availability of private, farm-animal vets
  - Popularity of a daunting number of small farms and backyarders
  - Low priority of such animal care in SFS and TAD plans.
- In practice, the limitations have more to do with meager response resources than with regulations.

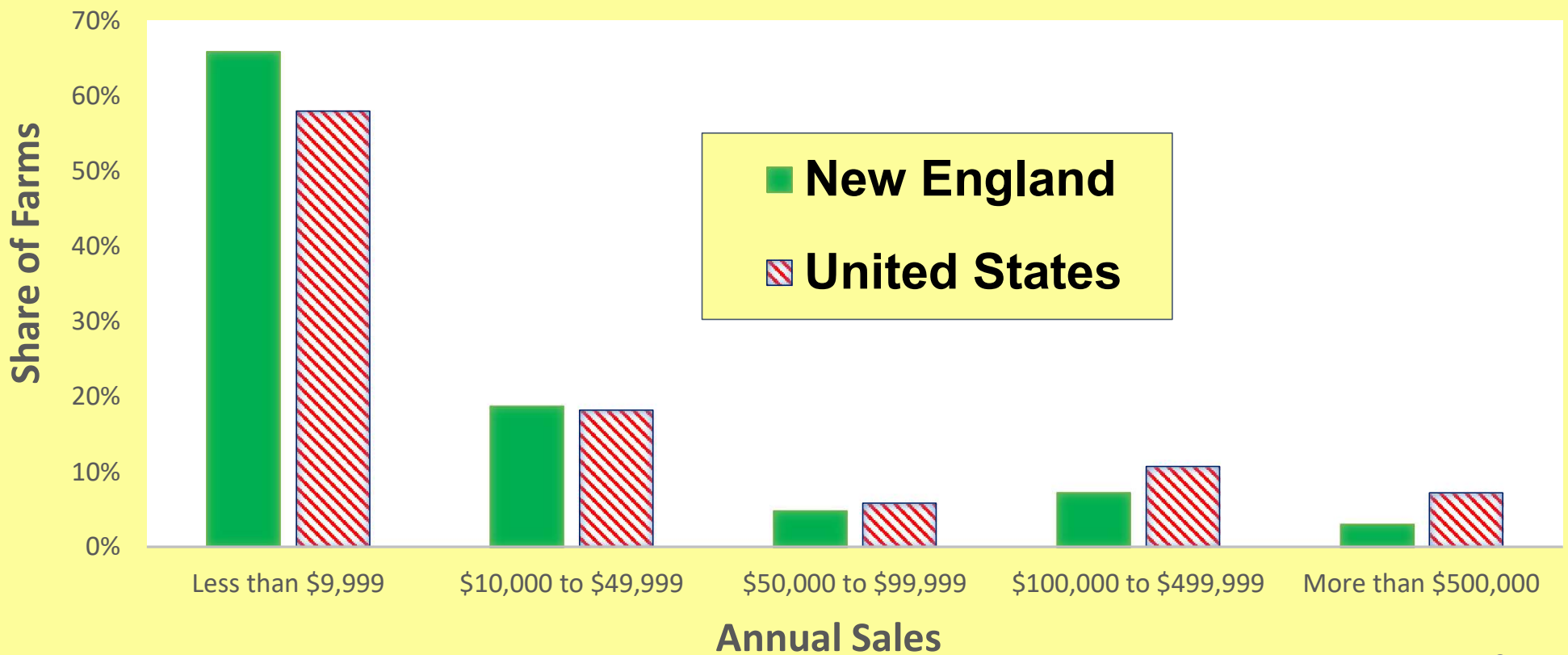
## Findings for Objective 2B

### Statistical Profile of Animal Agriculture

#### Highlights:

- In important ways, New England agriculture is “small.”
  - Exceptions
  - Net food importer
  - Farm size
- “Farm” in popular imagination.
- In important ways, New England agriculture is also “typical” of the U.S.
- High absolute value of animal agriculture in the region.

# Distribution of Farms by Size In Region and Nation, 2021



## Poultry Farming in New England

**When compared to the U.S. as a whole:**

**Standard distribution of farm sizes but fewer large flocks**

- Number of Farms – about 3% of national total
- Inventory – less than 1% of national total
- Sales – less than 1%

# Regional and National Experience with HPAI

2/2022 through 3/2024

Birds affected in the U.S.	1,113 flocks with 82 million birds in 48 states
Birds affected in in New England	34 flocks with 2,700 birds in 6 states
“Commercial” or “WOAH poultry”	3 flocks with 570 birds

<b>New England share of infected flocks in U.S.</b>	<b>3.055%</b>
<b>New England share of affected birds in U.S.</b>	<b>0.003%</b>

## Next Steps

- **Receive and respond to feedback from SAHOs.**
- **More precisely define and prioritize gaps.**
- **Brainstorm strategies for reducing those gaps.**

## Contact Information

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