

## HEIGHTENED BIOSECURITY ADVISORY (Update) Southeastern Northumberland County, Ontario

June 26, 2020 (update from May 18) [LINK](#)

A flock of racing pigeons that suffered high mortality over several weeks in southeastern Northumberland County has been under Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) quarantine since May 18. FBCC is maintaining its 10 km radius Biosecurity Advisory Area established May 18. No serious health problems have been reported in area poultry flocks.

CFIA reported that the virus was a Pigeon Paramyxovirus-1. The flock will remain under CFIA quarantine for at least 60 days after clinical signs are absent. Recovered birds are not considered to be carriers and should not be a risk to other birds. The risk of spread to other flocks is considered low because of strong biosecurity, vaccination, distance from any other flocks, lack of interaction with poultry industry and the fact that no birds have left the premises and will not leave the premises for a significant period of time after all birds have recovered.

Poultry flock owners in the area are being advised as a precaution to maintain heightened biosecurity as this type of virus can cause Newcastle Disease in poultry.

Newcastle disease is a highly contagious disease in many species of domestic poultry, exotic and wild birds. Clinical signs may include respiratory distress, coughing and sneezing, diarrhea and neurological signs including tremors and paralysis. If you have any concerns regarding the health status of your flock, contact your veterinarian immediately as well as your Board. After hours, please call 1-877-SOS-BYRD.

Key steps to reduce the risk of infection in your flock include:

- Ensure birds with outdoor access are not exposed to wild bird dropping  
Ensure clean footwear and protective clothing each time a barn is entered.
- Minimize visits to other poultry sites and avoid co-mingling of birds
- Avoid exchanging and sharing equipment with other poultry production sites or farms.
- Ensure all vehicles/equipment accessing the barn vicinity are properly cleaned
- Ensure that laneways are restricted and secured.

For more information on this situation, please refer to OMAFRA's Veterinary Advisory [LINK](#)

Further updates will be provided as information becomes available through [www.fbcc.ca](http://www.fbcc.ca)

