

FBC Global Reportable / Notifiable Disease Summary November 2021

Ontario -Infectious Laryngotracheitis

Biosecurity Advisory was lifted for French River and on Nov. 12 a new case was diagnosed in a small flock [near Arnprior, Renfrew County](#). This is the 15th case this year, all in small flocks except the 3 commercial flocks that were part of the Niagara outbreak.

The FBC and Farm Health Guardian have launched a pilot project involving all sectors of the poultry industry operating in the Niagara area. The purpose is to assess the value of geo-fencing to enhance biosecurity and control disease spread during a simulated outbreak. This will take place from January to March 2022. For more information [contact lorraine@farmhealthguardian.com](mailto:lorraine@farmhealthguardian.com)

USA – Low Path Avian Influenza in Minnesota

On Nov. 22 a low path H5 AI was diagnosed in a commercial turkey Flock in Kandiyohi County Minnesota during pre-slaughter AI surveillance. The flock was quarantined and will be monitored and tested as will all commercial poultry operations and individuals with backyard flocks within 10 kilometers. This area was the epicenter of the spring 2015 North American highly pathogenic avian epizootic that resulted in the loss of 50 million chickens and turkeys and cost the economy around US\$ 879 million.

USDA reported in a Nov. 16 [webinar](#) entitled “*Avian Influenza in the Forecast: Are You Ready?*” that 27% of 3800 wild bird samples taken in 25 different states were H5+ve but fortunately not highly pathogenic. A potentially useful tool has been produced by Cornell Lab of Ornithology: [live wild bird migration maps](#) in real time!

Avian Influenza Summary

An excerpt from The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) [press release](#) of Nov 19 states:

“Various subtypes of high pathogenicity avian influenza have been reported by more than 40 countries over the last six months. During the high-risk period of this disease, October to April, countries need to scale up surveillance efforts, implement strict biosecurity measures and ensure a timely reporting of outbreaks to curb its spread.”

It appears the winter of 2021-2022 will be another challenging one for the region’s poultry sector.

Already this fall season 603 cases of HPAI (242 poultry or captive bird flocks and 442 wild birds) have been reported in wild birds and poultry in 23 European countries: Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Poland, The Netherlands, Sweden, Ukraine, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary, Norway, France, UK, Romania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Slovakia, Switzerland, Austria and Luxembourg. Cases seem to be increasing exponentially week over week. [A breakdown by country has been compiled by IZSVE.](#)

The Veneto region of Verona province in Italy is being ravaged by highly pathogenic H5N1 Avian influenza. Almost all the 123 flocks that have become infected since mid-October are located in this area. Almost all cases have been large commercial farms, the majority being turkeys. The UK, Germany, Netherlands, Poland and Hungary are also facing significant flock losses due to H5N1.

Almost all cases in globally this fall have been the H5N1 strain, in contrast to last year’s H5N8. There is a predictable sequence to most of the HPAI outbreaks in Europe. First the virus is identified in dead and

hunter-killed migratory birds followed by outbreaks in backyard and non-confined flocks and then very soon in commercial flocks. As we saw in 2015, commercial turkey flocks appear to be extremely susceptible to avian influenza and then the disease appears in commercial confined egg production units and broiler flocks.

Austria

H5N1 in 19-bird hobby chicken flock in northeastern state of Lower Austria

Bulgaria

33,120 laying hen flock with H5N1

Croatia

A 93-bird flock with H5N1 in Staro Pracno, in the central part of country.

Czech Republic

A 39-bird layer flock and 2 breeding geese flocks in southern Bohemia (2200 birds)

Denmark

For the first time this winter, H5N1 was diagnosed in a 27,600 bird turkey flock in Sønderupsønder, Slagelse on Zealand. A 50-bird mixed backyard flock in the immediate area also tested positive.

France

H5N1 has just been diagnosed in a 77,450-bird layer flock in Warham, Dunkirk in northern France. It's the first time since last winter that the avian flu has been found in a commercial farm, although 4 cases have been found among wildlife and 3 in backyard poultry. The 10 km surveillance zone extends into Belgium. Last year, the H5N8 HPAI virus variant caused more than 470 outbreaks in the French duck and goose industry in the southwest of the country.

Germany

IZSVE is reporting 17 new flocks infected with High Path H5N1; about half are commercial flocks (over 160,000 birds). Germany has identified the same virus strain in 240 wild birds as part of their surveillance program.

Hungary

Hungary is experiencing its first HPAI cases this season. IZSVEE is reporting 25 infected poultry flocks (turkey, ducks, breeder chickens and breeder geese) with a total of 712,660 birds.

Italy

Between Oct 19 and Nov 29, [Italy has reported 123 flocks infected with H5N1](#), almost entirely in the Veneto region in northeast part of the country. Most cases have been in commercial meat turkey flocks but broiler and layer chickens, pheasants, ducks, and guinea fowl flocks are also being stricken. The number of poultry dead or destroyed by HPAI in Italy so far stands at well over 4 million.

Netherlands

Eight flocks have been reported as infected with H5N1 this season affecting 250,000 birds. More than 100,000 birds from other farms have been culled as a precautionary measure.

Norway

Two neighbouring flocks (14,500 birds) with H5N1 in Voll, Rogaland on southwest coast.

Poland

IZSVEE reporting 27 flocks infected with H5N1 this month totaling some 940,161 infected birds. Almost all outbreaks were in commercial birds — mainly in ducks. Outbreaks began with a cluster of 4 very large commercial turkey farms and a broiler chicken farm within 5 km of each other. Recent cases have been confirmed in five provinces — Greater Poland, Mazovia, Lodz, Lubusz and Silesia.

Switzerland

A 30-bird mixed flock at an animal sanctuary with H5N1 in Hüntwangen, northern Switzerland near German border.

Iran

OIE reports that H5N5 was identified as part of routine surveillance in 3 mixed flocks (643 birds) in northern Iran in late October. Flocks are in north central part of the country.

Ireland

Following some 49 wild bird H5N1 incidents in 9 different counties, stringent biosecurity measures were imposed on November 17, in a bid to stop avian influenza from spreading into Irish commercial poultry flocks. Despite this on Nov. 21 Avian Influenza H5N1 was confirmed in a 36,500 bird turkey flock from Castleblayney, Monaghan. A few days later a second outbreak of bird flu was discovered in a 100,000-bird commercial broiler chicken flock in Co Monaghan.

UK

Since the high path H5N1 avian influenza outbreak began in late October, there have been **22 infected flocks** spread across the UK, at least 8 which were commercial flocks. [See interactive map](#). On Nov. 3 an Avian Influenza Prevention Zone (heightened biosecurity) was declared across the whole of Great Britain. No gatherings of poultry, galliforme or anseriforme birds are permitted.

As of Nov. 19, all bird keepers are legally required to keep their birds indoors and to follow strict biosecurity measures in order to limit the spread and to eradicate the disease.

Kazakhstan

Between September 22 and October 4, five outbreaks in poultry linked to an H5 virus were reported to the OIE. Affected were a total of around 5,300 poultry in flocks described as “backyards” in four regions.

Russia

Eleven more flocks including more than 580,000 chickens, waterfowl and quail, have been diagnosed with new HPAI H5 and H5N1 infections this month in Kirov, Volga River basin, Bashkortostan, Tatarstan, Kursk and Kaliningrad.

Slovakia

H5N1 diagnosed in a 14-bird small flock southeast of Bratislava in southern Slovakia.

Israel

Four more commercial flocks (2 turkey, 1 breeder turkey and 1 duck) infected with H5N1 in Hazafan, Haifa, HaDaram and Barukh. More than 85,000 birds were destroyed.

India

Media reports that more than 180 cranes died of bird flu in Jodhpur district of Rajasthan. On Nov 26 H5N1 found in a small flock of 245 poultry in the same region in northwest India

China

A HPAI H5N1 epidemic has been diagnosed 134 wild waterfowl in a nature reserve in Caofeidian District, Tangshan City, Hebei Province. This is the 8th wild bird outbreak reported this year.

Japan

Four cases of two strains of high path AI occurred this month. These are the first for the season. First case was H5N8 in a 143,000-bird layer flock in Akita Prefecture in the north. Two more flocks, 800 km away in Kagoshima Prefecture, were infected: a 38,500 layer flock with H5N1 and a 11,000 chicken farm with H5N8. A 4th flock with H5 was detected in Hyogo. On Nov 20 a crane in a Kagoshima wild life preserve tested positive for H5N8.

South Korea

South Korea has confirmed H5N1 avian influenza in wild birds in South Chungcheong and Jeollabuk-do provinces, the first cases in seven months. Since then, one quail farm with 774,405 birds and five duck farms with 128,000 birds have been infected with the same virus strain in Chungbuk and Jeonnam.

South Africa

More than 20,500 endangered Cape cormorants have died in the Western Cape following an H5N1 avian flu outbreak that began in mid October,

Togo

A 3000-bird guinea flock was diagnosed with H5N1 in Legbassito (Belgique2), Maritime, Zio in the far south.