

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) Detections in Canada

October 10, 2023

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) has been detected on poultry premises in various locations across Canada within the last few weeks:

Alberta

- October 6, 2023
- October 3, 2023
- September 26, 2023
- September 11, 2023

Saskatchewan

- September 21, 2023

Canadian Food Inspection Agency has provided [maps of the Primary Control Zones](#) for all active HPAI cases across Canada.

Note: There are currently no active cases of HPAI in Ontario.

PROTECT YOUR FARM:

HPAI virus is carried and circulated by wild birds. CFIA surveillance continues to show infected wild birds across Canada, meaning potential for environmental contamination, posing a significant risk of HPAI infecting Ontario poultry barns. As a result, it is important to continue to use FBCC's rigorous biosecurity practices to prevent introduction of the virus to their flock, or those of their neighbours.

As a reminder, the following outlines biosecurity protocols that **MUST** be implemented (basic and heightened measures) on-farm:

- Maintain strict control over access to poultry houses and your premises.
 - Create Controlled Access and Restricted Access Zones for your farm and production areas ([FBCC recommended biosecurity practices](#)).
 - Change footwear when entering the Restricted Area and prevent wearing contaminated clothing and equipment in production areas.



- Consideration of having a physical barrier such as a bench stepover between the Controlled Access Zone and Restricted Area.
 - Communicate and explain your situation and the zones to all essential visitors, including service providers, input suppliers and feed providers.
 - Place a hose and spray nozzle at the entry point to the Controlled Access Zone (CAZ); wash and disinfect vehicles at entry and at exit, paying special attention to wheels and wheel wells.
- Keep poultry away from areas frequented by wild birds.
 - Do not keep bird feeders or create duck ponds close to poultry barns.
 - Maintain the highest sanitation standards.
 - Make sure equipment is cleaned and disinfected before taking it into poultry houses.
 - Keep mortalities in secure, covered containers until they are moved to the disposal area or transported off-farm.
 - Place waste entering the public collection system in a sealed, waterproof bag with the exterior disinfected.
 - If possible, keep all waste on-farm until the situation is resolved.
 - **IMPORTANT:** Limit access to your farm to ESSENTIAL visitors only.

IMPORTANT ACTION REQUIRED

FBCC is asking all farmers to review the following:

- [FBCC recommended biosecurity practices](#)
- [Benches at the Barn Entry \(CFIA\)](#)
- [Information from Canadian Food Inspection Agency \(CFIA\)](#)
- [Additional Avian Influenza resources](#)

Ontario poultry farmers must take an active role in protecting birds by employing strict heightened biosecurity measures on-farm. Farmers should be diligent in observing flocks, monitoring mortalities and tracking feed and water consumption.

Should you suspect any signs of health concerns in your flock, or have questions, please contact your veterinarian and respective Board.

STAY INFORMED

FBCC is committed to providing timely communications to Ontario's poultry industry and will continue to keep you updated as the situation evolves. FBCC staff are collaborating with CFIA and OMAFRA in responding to the situation and working to support business continuity for the poultry industry.

We strongly encourage farmers and industry to sign up for FBCC alerts to receive direct communications. [Sign up today!](#)

