

FBCC Global Notifiable Disease Summary October 2021

Ontario news:

- ILT Biosecurity Advisory for Hamilton has been lifted; French River Advisory remains in place.
- The Ontario Ministry of Health has issued its fall 2021 [Influenza Vaccination Advisory](#) to poultry industry workers. Vaccinated workers will help reduce the potential for an avian flu virus mixing with human flu viruses and help to keep the human viruses out of Ontario's flocks." ([aussi disponible en français](#))
- The Ontario Feather Board Command Centre (FBCC) is partnering with Farm Health Guardian to conduct an **all-poultry notifiable disease outbreak simulation** utilizing real-time movement recording technology during January – March 2022. Poultry farmers and service providers in the Niagara region who are interested in participating should [contact the FBCC](#).
- Ontario's Chief Veterinarian released an [Avian Influenza Biosecurity Advisory](#) in September.
- Ontario Animal Health Network (OAHN) Poultry Expert Network Quarterly Producer Report includes an informative article "[Wild bird migration and the movement of Avian Influenza Virus](#)" by Drs. Emily Martin and Jane Parmley at the University of Guelph
- "**Avian Influenza in the Forecast: Are You Ready?**" USDA- APHIS webinar on Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. ET. Registration is required and details are [here](#).

Low Path Avian Influenza in California

In October, [California Dept of Agriculture reported](#) four incidents of low path AI on 3 commercial farms and one store selling poultry. To date Empres-i+ has reported one as a low path H7 in Stanislaus County and another as low Path H5 in a domestic duck flock in Mercer County 50 km away.

Newcastle disease in Sweden

On Oct 29, a 7500-bird layer farm in Fjugesta, Lekeberg in central Sweden was depopulated due to an outbreak of Newcastle Disease. Flock had experienced egg drop and shell-less eggs.

International Avian Influenza Highlights

Although cases of avian flu declined in Europe in the spring and summer, the disease persisted in the north of the region. During the last couple weeks, 15 European countries have reported High Path H5N1 outbreaks, mostly in large commercial flocks. The 2021/22 avian flu season has arrived much earlier than expected!

H5N1 is spreading in wild birds mainly along the wildfowl migration flyway in Scandinavia and northern Germany. H5 viruses have produced far more virulence in wild birds than previously seen. Despite large die offs, the virus appears to be spreading more efficiently via migratory birds than ever.

Italy has culled 2 low path H5 flocks and 5 High path H5N1 turkey flocks in Verona province. Italy had been free of HPAI since May of this year.

Russia has already reported 18 new H5N1 outbreaks this month across southwestern Russia and into western Siberia, including a 4.4 million-bird layer flock in Tyumen. These are first infected commercial flocks since January this year.

So far this year China has reported 27 H5N6 cases in humans, more than half of the 51 cases it has reported since the first human case was detected in 2014. Most of the cases have had direct contact with poultry. No outbreaks of H5N6 have been reported in poultry in China since February 2020.

Czech Republic

Low pathogenic H5N1 at a 5000-bird commercial mixed poultry farm in Rohozna, in the central region of Vysocina, 130 kilometers from the capital Prague. Vysocina borders the Central Bohemian region, where a highly pathogenic form of H5N1 was detected in a backyard flock at the end of September.

Denmark

H5N1 was detected in 2 wild bird incidents on southwest coast of Denmark near the Wadden Sea in proximity to various German wild bird incidents.

Finland

After 19 wild birds infected with H5N1 in September, 12 more this month.

Estonia

A backyard flock of just four birds tested positive for the H5N8 virus variant; first outbreak of the season.

Sweden

H5N8 found in 10 dead Canada geese in Ekängsdalen, Linköping in the south.

Germany

H5N1 has been diagnosed in a 663 geese farm in Brunsbütte, Schleswig-Holstein on north west coast. This was preceded by 3 wild bird H5N1 incidents in 3 different locations: Pellworm island, Schleswig-Holstein Wadden Sea national Park and Greifswald, Mecklenburg-West Pomerania just 5 km from north east coast of Germany and on island of Koos about 10 km north on Greifswald Bay.

Netherlands

Four flocks have been culled in the last week due to an H5N1 incursion. First detected in a 35,301 bird layer flock on a organic poultry farm in Zeewolde (Flevoland). The Ministry is requiring caging of commercial poultry as well as non poultry birds and a regional movement ban. A precautionary cull of a 9500 bird flock in Barneveld, Gelderland was conducted because of a common visitor on both sites. There are 277 poultry farms within 10km of Barneveld. Media has reported that 107,000 broiler chickens are being culled due to a bird flu outbreak at a large poultry farm in Grootsherme in the municipality of Alkmaar. A neighbouring farm of 18,700 broilers is also being depopulated.

Italy

In the past 2 weeks, Italy has culled 2 low path H5 flocks and 5 High path H5N1 turkey flocks in Verona province resulting in loss of more than 160,000 birds. Italy had been free of HPAI since May of this year.

Low path H5 was identified in a turkey flock in Ferrara in Emilia- Romagna Region and an ostrich farm in Verona province in northeastern Italy during pre-slaughter surveillance.

During last week of October, High Path H5N1 was detected in a commercial farm of 13,520 fattening turkeys located in Ronco all'Adige, Verona Province. A hunting area for waterfowls is near the infected farm. Zone surveillance and epidemiology identified 4 other H5N1 infected turkey flocks in same region.

UK

In the past week, two premises have been de-populated due to H5N1 infection. On Oct. 26, high path H5N1 avian influenza was confirmed in a group of 49 mixed birds at a wild bird rescue centre in Wychavon north of Worcester in central England. All birds on site have been humanely culled. Media reports HPAI in 2 swans in Stratford on Avon

On Nov. 1, the Chief Veterinary Officer for Wales confirmed a case of H5N1 Avian Influenza (pathogenicity to be confirmed) at a poultry premises near Wrexham in northern Wales. The H5N1 strain has also been confirmed in wild birds in the area.

Kosovo

Sept 30 a farm of 22349 mixed poultry infected with H5N8

Serbia

9 mute swans in 3 locations parallel with Danube River, north of Belgrade with H5N8 or H5N1, mallard with H5N2 in Jazovo, Coka in northern Serbia and 2 swans in a zoo in southern Serbia with H5N1.

Ukraine

Oct. 13 HPAI H5 diagnosed in a 118 bird backyard flock in Velykoserbulivka, Mykolayiv in the south.

Poland

Update from August report indicates 570,000 hens were culled at a farm in the Żuromin region, rather than the previously reported 112,000. In 2021, Masovia and Greater Poland were the regions most severely hit by the epidemic. Close to **12 million birds** have been culled in past year.

Estonia

Two wild bird incidents with H5N8 on the island of Hiiumaa in western Estonia.

Kazakhstan

A 3499-bird small flock infected with H5 in Lebyazhye in North Kazakhstan region bordering Russia.

Russia

Eighteen new H5N1 cases reported to OIE this month across southwestern Russia and into western Siberia: 2 small flocks (77 birds) near the Ukraine border, 6 flocks (12,104 birds) in various areas between Volga River and Urals north of Kazakhstan and 9 more small flocks (1600 birds) in Tyumen. In addition, a very large commercial layer farm of 4.4 million birds in Tyumen is being de-populated due to an H5N1 outbreak. This is the region's first confirmed outbreak at a commercial premises since January of this year. All poultry and eggs within 6 km being destroyed and products in the market were recalled.

Oct 21 Local authorities in Orenburg Oblast which borders with Kazakhstan on the west and south, report 37 infected flocks (1800 birds), in small flocks in several districts. Also recorded are two mass mortalities among wild pelicans.

Israel

H5N1 at a 42,000-bird turkey farm, near Nahalal in HaZafon in northern Israel. This is the first case in 2021. There was an outbreak at this same farm in October 2020. Last time this HPAI virus variant was detected among Israeli poultry was in May of 2015.

Media reports a second infected flock of 5000 turkeys in a coop in the Ma'ayan Tzvi kibbutz in northern Israel.

Ghana

Oct 27 media The Avian influenza H5 subtype has been confirmed at a 850 bird layer farm in Saki, Kpone Katamanso in the Greater Accra Region. in Ghana.

South Africa

September reports of 3 H5N1 infected flocks (25,060 birds) in south eastern province of KwaZulu-Natal infected with H5N1 as well as a 14,800 bird farm in the west coast region.

H5N1 has led to a massive die-off of wild birds on Dyer Island in the Western Cape. Over 12,000 endangered Cape cormorants have died.

South Korea

Low path H5 avian flu virus has been detected wild bird droppings in northeastern province of Gyeonggi. The ministry has banned livestock vehicles and workers from habitats visited by migratory birds.

Taiwan

Three more flocks have been infected with H5N5 from mid August to end of September: native chickens at a Taipei slaughterhouse, and poultry at two farms in Yunlin county. Affected were a flock of more than 18,000 broiler breeders and a flock of 2,400 meat ducks.