

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Ontario Update

April 12, 2022

On behalf of the Feather Board Command Centre (FBCC), the following provides important updates regarding the highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) situation in Ontario.

THE CURRENT SITUATION

As of April 11, 2022, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has confirmed the presence of HPAI, subtype H5N1 on 12 premises. Since our last update (April 6), HPAI has been confirmed in the following regions in Ontario (click on the location name to access the 10km FBCC buffered biosecurity advisory area):

- April 10 – [Township of South Glengarry](#) (poultry flock)
- April 6 – [City of Markham](#) (poultry flock)
- April 6 – [Municipality of Chatham-Kent](#) (poultry flock)
- April 5 – [Prince Edward County](#) (backyard flock)
- April 5 – [City of Markham](#) (poultry flock)

There are also two high-risk premises awaiting test results:

- [Township of South Glengarry](#) (poultry flock)
- [Hanover](#) (poultry flock)

Each confirmed infected premise and high-risk premise has been placed under quarantine. CFIA has also established specific movement control measures and permitting processes (as outlined below).

FOR FARMERS AND INDUSTRY IN BIOSECURITY ADVISORY AREAS

On Thursday, March 31, 2022, the CFIA established Primary Control Zones (PCZ), in the areas where the disease has been identified. The PCZ have been established to prevent the spread of highly pathogenic avian influenza:

- [Map: Avian Influenza Control Zones – Ontario](#)
- [Physical road boundary descriptions of Primary Control Zones](#)
- [Notice to industry](#)
- [Permits and movement permissions](#)



CRITICAL REMINDER FOR ALL POULTRY FARMERS & INDUSTRY STAKEHOLDERS

On March 26, 2022, FBCC announced the entire Ontario poultry industry MUST follow heightened biosecurity measures (found [HERE](#)). Farmers are reminded that they should have appropriate biosecurity personal protective equipment (PPE) available for themselves, their employees and anyone entering their premise.

Should birds show any signs of illness, farmers are to call their veterinarian, immediately. It is also recommended they contact the 24-hour FBCC support line, 1-877-SOS-BYRD and board office.

ONTARIO TAKING ADDITIONAL ACTION TO PROTECT FLOCKS

The Ontario government is taking additional steps to limit the spread of avian influenza among birds in the province. The Hon. Lisa Thompson, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, on the advice of the Chief Veterinarian for Ontario, has issued a Minister's Order under the *Animal Health Act, 2009*, with the purpose of limiting the commingling of birds from different locations in order to reduce the risk of disease transmission. Effective 12:01 a.m. April 9, 2022, the movement to and participation of birds in events where they commingle, such as shows, sales, swaps, fairs, sport and educational displays is prohibited. The full notice can be found [HERE](#).

ACCESS ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

We know that this is a stressful situation for all involved in Ontario's poultry industry. The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs has resources available to help people navigate these difficult times. Visit their [Mental Health for Farmers – First Aid Kit](#) or call 1-866-267-6255 for the Farmer Wellness Initiative, which provides farmers and members of their household access to free counselling sessions with a mental health professional.

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. Please understand that FBCC Board and staff are extremely busy ensuring an effective response to the situation. Your patience during this time is greatly appreciated.

If you haven't already done so, please sign up for FBCC Disease Alerts at www.fbcc.ca. Continue to visit www.fbcc.ca for more information and join the HPAI Daily Update Series (found [HERE](#)).

