

# BC Poultry Emergency Response Team

## Industry Update #10

**Date:** December 11, 2014

**Time:** 5:00 pm

**Event:** Avian Influenza 2014

Red font now denotes new information.

### Event Overview

- A ninth farm has been confirmed outside the two other zones in the Matsqui Prairie region.
- CFIA says that the increase is not unexpected given the virulence of virus and the fact that we don't know how it is spread. There is lots of epidemiology going on to try and figure out what's going on. Please fill out survey asap if you are asked
- Composting has not started on the first four IPs; **hope to have the contracts in place soon and then it will start.**
- Please don't contact the CFIA directly unless your farm has been declared an Infected Premise or if you've been contacted directly by CFIA. These phone calls are slowing down the processes and responses. If you have any questions, contact your Board.
- Farmers should not be applying for permits. Leave it up to the company coming onto your farm to apply – your processor, hatchery, feed company etc. Phone the company just to make sure they are applying.
- Every farm within the 3 Km zone should have a dead bird surveillance kit. They are for all farms in the 3 km zone even if your barns are empty. They may not be empty in a month or two. Turn the box upside down if you don't have any dead birds. The bins are dropped at your gate because that is your bio-control area.
- Permit requests – key date is product movement date off farm – the day birds are being moved not killed. **10 PM still need permit for night of movement.**
- Be very diligent in observing your flocks. As part of the permitting process, all producers within the infected and restricted zones are being asked by CFIA to monitor flock health; record and monitor the number of mortalities and track your flocks' feed and water consumption. **All producers should now have CFIA's flock information health sheet; if you don't, contact your Board.**
- Take an active role in protecting your flocks by employing strict biosecurity measures on your property and immediately report any suspicious symptoms to your vet or the CFIA. **Don't be the one to initialise a cross-industry disaster.**
- Free counselling is available for anyone through social services. The contact is Heleen Sandvik and she can be reached at 604-375-3487 (cell).

### What can we expect from CFIA?

- **CFIA has a new number for producers who have sick birds to call: 604 557-4528**
- CFIA has declared the **primary control zone**. Basically, the southern half of BC. Within this zone there are three disease control sub-zones: infected, restricted and security.
  - The outer boundary of an **infected zone** is up to 3 km from any known infected premises.

- The **restricted zone** is established surrounding the infected zone and measured based on the epidemiology of the disease in order to prevent the spread of avian influenza (3 km to 10 km).
  - The **security zone** is the remainder of the primary control zone (beyond 10 km).
- **All movement** of captive birds in and out of, and through the primary control zone is strictly controlled and **now requires a permit from the CFIA**. Permits require flock health records and mortality records. A health record form can be found on the CFIA website shortly.
- The movement restrictions apply to:
  - captive birds (including but not limited to poultry, fowl and pet birds);
  - poultry products or by-products;
  - anything that has been exposed to captive birds (which could include but is not limited to feed, vehicles, equipment or clothing).
- **The movement restrictions also apply to poultry products and by-products and material that has come into contact with captive birds.** It is the responsibility of the producer to ensure any trucks going onto or leave the farm have permits. It is your assurance they are following the rules to minimize spread.
- **Permits**
  - **Producers should not be applying for permits.** Permits must be displayed in trucks (e.g. processors, hatcheries, feed companies) coming onto your farm; so permits should be filled in by these companies coming onto your farm. Farmers responsibility will be the health part of the permit.
  - *Tips to speed up the permitting process*
    - **Producers should submit flock health sheets should directly to processors/packers (company applying for the permit).** Then the permit application and flock health record should be submitted as one document. Otherwise CFIA may not know that that the two forms belong together.
    - Be sure to identify species (broiler, turkey etc), include the premises ID, address info with postal code for all addresses
  - CFIA needs at least three days lead time to process **permits – plan ahead!**
  - Producers will need a permit to move birds on your own farm.
  - **CFIA has developed a feed permit system to facilitate feed delivery**
  - Product bought for human consumption does not need a permit.
  - Companies coming onto your farm with services such as power washing and vaccinating will need to apply for a general permit. Be sure they comply with strict bio-security guidelines.
  - If in doubt, apply for a permit.
- There will be no **placement** within 1 km of an infected premise. Outside the 1 km area, a permit will be required and there will be phased-in placement that will be monitored and tested.
- **Manure movement** is now prohibited within the 10 zone. CFIA has met with manure haulers to develop protocols to allow for pickup and delivery of lower risk manure movement. If you must store manure on the farm, be sure to store it according to Agriculture Waste Control Regulations and your sector's foods safety protocols.
- **Surveillance**
  - For farms within 1 km of an infected premise, CFIA will be conducting baseline surveillance with swab and blood tests. Producers must do twice weekly dead bird monitoring using the bins provided by CFIA.

- For farms 1 to 10 km, surveillance will be done weekly via dead bird monitoring. Hatching eggs will be twice weekly. Hatching eggs will be twice weekly. All Broiler Breeder Barns and Broiler Breeder Pullet operations within 3 and 10 K zones will have their Dead Bird Surveillance Sampling frequency increased to TWICE weekly. This will include all who had previously been scheduled for ONCE a week. New sampling dates for previously scheduled sites will be based on the previously assigned date:
  - Mon - Thurs
  - Tues-Fri
  - Wed - Sat.
- Bins have been dropped off at all farms within one km of an infected premise; CFIA is working on getting bins to the 1 to 3 km zone farm. Bins will be dropped at end of driveways of farms in the infected zone. There are some directions in the bins, so open the bins.
- For all farms within an infected zone, you must report on feed and water consumption twice a week. Watch your flock carefully! Contact your vet if you see any changes.
- The CFIA website for more information and to download permits is: <http://inspection.gc.ca/ai>
- E-mail contact to ask for a permit: [BC\\_NAI\\_Movement@inspection.gc.ca](mailto:BC_NAI_Movement@inspection.gc.ca).
- Please fill out the CFIA's electronic background questionnaire (Tombstone) if you have been requested and send them to Christine Koch (koch.c@telus.net) who will forward to CFIA.

## Event Chronology

**December 1, 2014** – Two premises tested positive for avian influenza and have been quarantined by CFIA

**December 2, 2014** – Two high risk contacts were identified, resulting in two additional premises being placed under quarantine. Industry has put voluntary movement restrictions in place and will be sampling all farms moving product out of the industry standard 3km zones. CFIA has not yet established control zones.

**December 3, 2014** – No additional news

**December 4, 2014** – Virus confirmed as highly pathogenic H5N2. The two high risk contacts have been confirmed positive for H5. H5 positive turkeys have been euthanized.

**December 5, 2014** – The initial H5 positive breeder flock has been euthanized. All farms within 3 km of an infected premise have been issued quarantine notices. Dead bird surveillance has commenced in the 1km zone.

**December 5, 2014** – A fifth suspect farm in the Aldergrove/Abbotsford area.

**December 7, 2014** – AI confirmed on IP5.

**December 8, 9, 2014** – no additional news.

**December 10, 2014** – three new cases confirmed

**December 11, 2014** – a ninth farm in a new area has been identified

## Additional Information

### Biosecurity

**Bio-security has never been more important.** It is the first step to preventing the spread of the disease. Coveralls in barn, no street shoes in anti-room. Wash all vehicles before they arrive and leave your farm with pressurized water and disinfection. This includes conveyor belts and any other equipment. Producers must wash the undercarriage and wheels on all vehicles leaving the farm. This includes the farmers' own trucks and cars. **Note that this washing is the responsibility of the producer not the truck driver.** The allied trades will be informed of this biosecurity responsibility and will be asked to report back to the BC Poultry Association if their vehicle was not washed by the producer.

Truck drivers must not go in buildings because of strict biosecurity. This especially important in this outbreak because we are not sure how it got into barns and moves around.

### Premise ID Numbers

When communicating with your hatchery, processor and CFIA, please use your premise id numbers. If you are not sure what your number is, please look at the signs on your barns. These numbers were created in order to easily identify farms in an emergency situation. These are the numbers that CFIA and the Ministry of Agriculture will be using to track any samples obtained on farm.

## Handling Media Requests

As the BC poultry industry continues to work closely with provincial government authorities and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, it is critical to resolve this situation as quickly and effectively as possible. The industry is receiving media attention regarding avian influenza and the turkey farm in Abbotsford.

During this time, media may approach poultry producers directly for additional information or for interviews. Please do not speak to them as it is important that a consistent message and accurate facts be provided. Ray Nickel is the industry spokesperson during this time.

**Direct all media requests to your commodity board office,** politely and briefly.

If, for any reason, it is absolutely unavoidable to speak to media, simply say that you are aware of the situation and that the poultry industry continues to work closely with the government and Canadian Food Inspection Agency to resolve the situation quickly and effectively. **Direct them to call your board office.** Repeat if necessary.

## Farm Summary

9	Poultry Farms positive for H5, placed under quarantine
21	<del>Poultry Farms within 1 km of an H5 Positive Farm</del> not up-dated yet
108	<del>Poultry Farms between 1 and 3 km of an H5 Positive Farm</del> not up-dated yet
275	<del>Poultry Farms between 3 and 10 km of an H5 Positive Farm</del> not up-dated yet

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