

BC Poultry Emergency Response Team

Industry Update #12

Date: December 13, 2014

Time: 4:00 pm

Event: Avian Influenza 2014

Red font now denotes new information.

Event Overview

- No new farms reported
- IP 7 & 8 will be culled today; IP 9 Sunday
- In-barn composting will start on IP2 and IP3 on Sunday and IP1 on Monday
- Composting underway at IP 5 & 6
- Planning is underway for phase two composting and for C & D.
- Farms **must have** a wash stations at each farm site for trucks and other vehicles leaving the farm. At a minimum a hose with pressure fitting attached.
- There will be another producer update call conference on Wednesday; likely around 11am exact time and dial in numbers to be determined
- 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.**
- 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 created a new email account for growers to send in their flock health reports

BC_NAI_Flockreporting@inspection.gc.ca.

- Please fill in your flock health reports daily. **Growers who have not provided flock health reports will not be approved for movement permits.**
 - Broiler Growers, Turkey Growers and Table Egg Producers must email their flock health reports to CFIA **twice pre week**. In the subject line of the email, please write "Flock Health_Premise ID #".
 - Hatching Egg Producers must email their flock health reports to their hatchery who will attach them to the Movement Permit Application Form.

- CFIA is starting to drop off bins for 10 km zone. Please open them to read instructions. CFIA should not be entering bio secure zones and will bins at the gate.
- 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**
 - **If farmers are hauling their own feed, they need to go onto the CFIA website for a General Permit. Be sure to comply with the requirements of the permit.**
 - **Producers should not be applying for permits.** Farmers' responsibility will be the health part of the permit. The only time producers need to apply for a permit is when moving pullets/product to another farm.
 - ***processors/packers/graders etc* Tips to speed up the permitting process**
 - CFIA needs to be able to prioritize movement permit requests when they arrive at BC_NAI_Movement.BC_NAI_Movement@inspection.gc.ca.
 - You can help by putting the following information in the subject line "MOVEMENT_farm premise id #_date of movement". In addition, permit applicants should include both the premise ID number and control zone after the Farm Name in the Business Name field. You should include this information for Hatchery, Processor and Grading Stations as well. Please continue to include the flock health report with the permit application. Please note: When you fill out the permit application form online and hit send, there is no way to add an attachment.
 - Include your e-mail address if you would like to receive permit from CFIA. Print clearly!!
 - Same day has to be received by 2:00 PM.
 - Remember postal code for every single permit! Otherwise, they spend time looking them up.
 - 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.
- 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 is working on protocols for manure movement. **CFIA is getting complaints from the general public about manure spreading. A reminder that manure spreading is not allowed under the Agricultural Waste Control Act this time of year.**
- **Surveillance**
 - **Abbotsford City Auxiliary has 2 trucks out today and tomorrow helping deliver dead bird surveillance bins and apparently there are some complaints from producers and others about Biosecurity procedures by these people. This is delivery to the farm (they stop at the gate; which is the perimeter of your bio control zone) and not onto farm premises so does not require enhanced bio-security.**
 - **CFIA will start going around to collect dead birds on Monday; they continue to work on delivering bins to farms in the 10 km zone**
 - Every farm within the 3 Km zone should have a dead bird surveillance kit. They are for all farms even if the 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.
 - 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. 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.
- 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.
- 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

December 12, 13, 2014 – no additional news.

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
23	Poultry Farms within 1 km of an H5 Positive Farm
113	Poultry Farms between 1 and 3 km of an H5 Positive Farm
285	Poultry Farms between 3 and 10 km of an H5 Positive Farm

Prepared By: Christine Koch, BCPA