

BC Poultry Emergency Response Team

Industry Update #2

Date: December 3, 2014

Time: 3:30 pm

Event: Avian Influenza 2014

Event Overview

Information as of December 3, 2014

Two additional breeder farms have been quarantined due to the movement of males from the infected breeder flock prior to the onset of symptoms. These farms are within the initial 3km zones and between the two positive farms. Samples have been taken and we are awaiting the results.

Depopulation of the infected premises is expected to be completed in the next few days. CFIA protocol is to obtain confirmation of the H5 at their Winnipeg lab and then the Agriculture Minister will sign the depopulation.

Industries first priority at this time is depopulating the infected premises as soon as possible. CFIA feels that as long as the farms are under quarantine and there is no movement on or off the premises, that the risk has been reduced to an acceptable level.

What can we expect from CFIA?

Once CFIA has determined what their zones are going to be, farms in the affected regions will be notified regarding any additional requirements that CFIA has imposed, these may include:

- Pre-Movement Surveillance for products (birds, eggs, etc)
- Dead Bird Surveillance
- Licence requirements for feed and other on-farm deliveries

The BC Poultry Emergency Response Team is working with CFIA and will forward information as soon as possible.

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.

Thank you for your cooperation during this time.

Additional Information

Biosecurity

In addition to the enhanced biosecurity measures listed in yesterday's update, there are a few additional measure that producers can take to reduce unnecessary traffic on your farm:

- 1) Reduce your garbage pick-ups if possible and/or take your dumpster to the end of your driveway. You can also ensure that the garbage truck is free of loose organic matter and you can disinfect the tires.
- 2) Read your electric and gas meters yourself and call the readings in to Fortis BC and Terasen Gas

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.

Social Media

Please refrain from posting items on Social Media (Facebook and Twitter) regarding this event at this time.

BC Poultry Emergency Operations Center

The BC Poultry EOC has been activated and is cooperating with CFIA and the BC Ministry of Agriculture. We will be working closely with both agencies to help eradicate the virus.

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

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