

BC Poultry Emergency Response Team

Industry Update #3

Date: December 4, 2014

Time: 4:30 pm

Event: Avian Influenza 2014

Event Overview

Information as of December 4, 2014

CFIA has received confirmation from the Winnipeg lab that the virus is highly pathogenic H5N2. This is different from the H5N8 strain that was found in the Netherlands. It does not pose a risk to human health.

Depopulation of the infected premises should be completed by Saturday evening, with the two high risk contact farms to be depopulated next week. CFIA has not yet determined the control zones.

Industries first priority continues to be depopulating the infected premises as soon as possible. The Emergency Response Team is also reviewing composting and cleaning & disinfection protocols to ensure that all processes and required approvals are in place when these things need to happen to we can get back to normal as soon as possible.

The poultry industry is performing voluntary testing on all poultry premises in the 3km zone who are moving product (eggs, broilers and turkeys). The industry veterinarian will contact you directly to set up the sampling. Please ensure that your farms are tested ahead of time and please inform us if there are any schedule changes. This is very important as product will not be allowed to be transported if the farm does not have negative test results ahead of time.

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.

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.

Additional Information

Biosecurity

We have had a few calls from Allied Trades asking what additional biosecurity measures they should be taking at this time. Please call your clients and discuss any additional measures they would like you to be taking. At a minimum, you should be disinfecting your tires when driving on to and off of poultry premises and ensuring that you have no visible organic matter on your vehicles or in your wheel wells. CFIA has not yet placed movement restrictions in place so please take caution when servicing farms within the 3km zones. Service these farms as your last visit of the day and avoid driving through these regions as much as possible.

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.

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.

Farm Summary

4	Poultry Farms positive for H5, placed under quarantine
17	Poultry Farms within 1 km of an H5 Positive Farm
54	Poultry Farms between 1 and 3 km of an H5 Positive Farm