

# BC Poultry Emergency Response Team

## Industry Update #5

**Date:** December 6, 2014

**Time:** 5:30 pm

**Event:** Avian Influenza 2014

### Event Overview

#### Information as of December 6, 2014

There is now a fifth suspect farm in the Aldergrove/Abbotsford area. It has yet to be confirmed by CFIA.

If producers experience an increase in mortality or other symptoms; call your vet for instructions.

Surveillance is focusing on the infected zone for now; will work on the restricted zone next.

All the birds in the two initial farms have been culled either yesterday or today. IP3 will be culled tomorrow. CFIA is evaluating when to cull the fourth and fifth farms.

In discussions with CFIA to clarify health of animals act to clarify compensation. Working with the Ministry of Agriculture to address gaps in compensation.

Free counselling available is for anyone through social services. The contact is Heleen Sandvik and she can be reached at 604-375-3487 (cel).

### What can we expect from CFIA?

CFIA is starting to put out bins for dead bird surveillance. Bins will be dropped at end of driveways of farms in the infected zone. There are some directions in the bins - i.e. if there any fresh morts in barn (up to 5) please drop them into bins so that CFIA can sample them.

We are waiting for CFIA to define their three zones: infected, restricted and primary control zone. There will be no placement in the infected zone and no manure movement in the infected and restricted zone.

For producers in the infected zone, please fill out the CFIA's electronic questionnaire and send them to Christine Koch 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. Yet to be confirmed by CFIA.

## Additional Information

### Biosecurity

**Bio-security has never been more important;** think operating room. Coveralls in barn, no street shoes in anit-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.

### 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 spokespeople 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

5	Poultry Farms positive for H5, placed under quarantine
20	Poultry Farms within 1 km of an H5 Positive Farm, all placed under quarantine
81	Poultry Farms between 1 and 3 km of an H5 Positive Farm, all placed under quarantine