

# BC Poultry Emergency Response Team

## Industry Update #6

**Date:** December 7, 2014

**Time:** 6:30 pm

**Event:** Avian Influenza 2014

### Event Overview

- The fifth suspect farm in the Aldergrove/Abbotsford area is now referred to as two separate outbreaks – IP5 and IP6. At first they were referred to as 5A and 5B. They have yet to be confirmed by CFIA.
- 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. IP3 will be finished culling today. Depending how long it takes; culling may start on IP 4 today; if not it will start tomorrow.
- Quarantine notices have been delivered to 15 out of 17 farms.
- 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 is putting 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.

Until a farm receives an individual quarantine notice or until the control areas are established (expected to be tomorrow) movement permits or licenses are not required. CFIA is expected to declare at least a 3 km **infected zone**, at least a 10 km **restricted zone**, and the rest of province is **surveillance zone**. Once the zones are established there will be no placement in the infected zone and no manure movement in the infected and restricted zones. At that point all producers deemed to be in the **infected zone** must fill out a Request for *Authority to Move Form* before you move any animals or poultry products off your farm.

Currently, CFIA has asked producers deemed to be in the one and three km areas to fill out the CFIA's electronic questionnaire (Tombstone) and send them to Christine Koch ([koch.c@telus.net](mailto:koch.c@telus.net)) who will forward to CFIA.

If you have questions about moving product off your farm either contact your Board, or processor/hatchery/grading station.

### 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 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.

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

### 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

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