

BC Poultry Emergency Response Team

Industry Update #7

Date: December 8, 2014

Time: 5:00 pm

Event: Avian Influenza 2014

Event Overview

- The fifth farm has been confirmed positive for H5 AI by CFIA. not sure of N type yet
- IP3 culling finished yesterday
- IP4 culling started today
- IP 5 will be depopulated Wednesday
- Surveillance is focusing on premises within one km of an infected premise for now.
- You are urged to take an active role in protecting your flocks by employing strict biosecurity measures on their property, and immediately reporting any suspicious symptoms to the CFIA. For example, if producers experience an increase in mortality or other symptoms; call your vet for instructions.
- There will be five producer call in tomorrow with the ERT team leaders. Your board will be sending out dial in and passcode information.
 - 11:15 am - BC Egg Producers
 - 12:15 pm - BC Hatching Egg Producers
 - 1:15 pm - BC Chicken Producers
 - 2:15 pm - BC Turkey Producers
 - 3:15 pm - Non Supply Managed
- Free counselling is available is 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 declared the **primary control zone**. 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).
- 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).
- **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**. 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. The permit will involve monitoring flock health – food and water consumption, number of mortalities, and dead bird surveillance using bins dropped off by CFIA.

- CFIA needs at least three days lead time to process **permits**. The priority will be for flocks within the 1 km rather than the order they came in.
- 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** – ideally manure should not be moved. To move manure, you will need a permit and will have to follow strict bio-security requirements because manure can be a primary way to spread AI. Contact CFIA as soon as possible if you are thinking of moving manure.
- 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
- 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; please open the bin and follow instructions.
- 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. Yet to be confirmed by CFIA.

December 7, 2014 – AI confirmed on IP5.

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.

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

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