

# Avian Influenza in the UK: H5N8 HPAI

Poultry and wild bird cases December 2016  
– January 2017

# Current situation in the UK

- In early December, 2016 the UK increased the risk level for incursion of H5N8 HPAI because of the situation in Europe and recognising the likely migration routes of wild waterfowl.
- A Prevention Zone was declared on the 6<sup>th</sup> December requiring poultry keepers to house where practicable and prevent access of wild birds to poultry feed and water (Northern Ireland from later in December). This order is in place until 28/02/2017.
- Gatherings of birds of galliforme and anseriforme species are banned in England, Scotland and Wales. Other gatherings must be licensed.
- Wild bird surveillance was increased in early December, such that any single birds of target species found dead or sick should be reported to APHA.
- Three outbreaks (one of which was in a commercial holding) and fourteen wild bird incidents in England, Scotland and Wales.

# First case: H5N8 HPAI in commercial turkeys

- Commercial (seasonal) turkey producer (2,500 birds) in East Lindsey, Lincolnshire
- Clinical signs first treated by PVS on 11/12/2016 and to APHA on 15/12/2016
- >90% mortality, remaining birds were culled on 17/12/2016, 3km protection zone and 10km surveillance in place.
- Primary C&D effective as of 19/12/2016; Zones were merged on 9/01/2017 and will be lifted on the 18/01/2017.
- No onward spread identified following surveillance and tracings activities.
- No trade on or off the premises to MSs or third countries during the source or spread windows.
- Large migratory wild waterfowl populations in the area – most likely source of infection.

# Backyard premises in Carmarthenshire, Wales

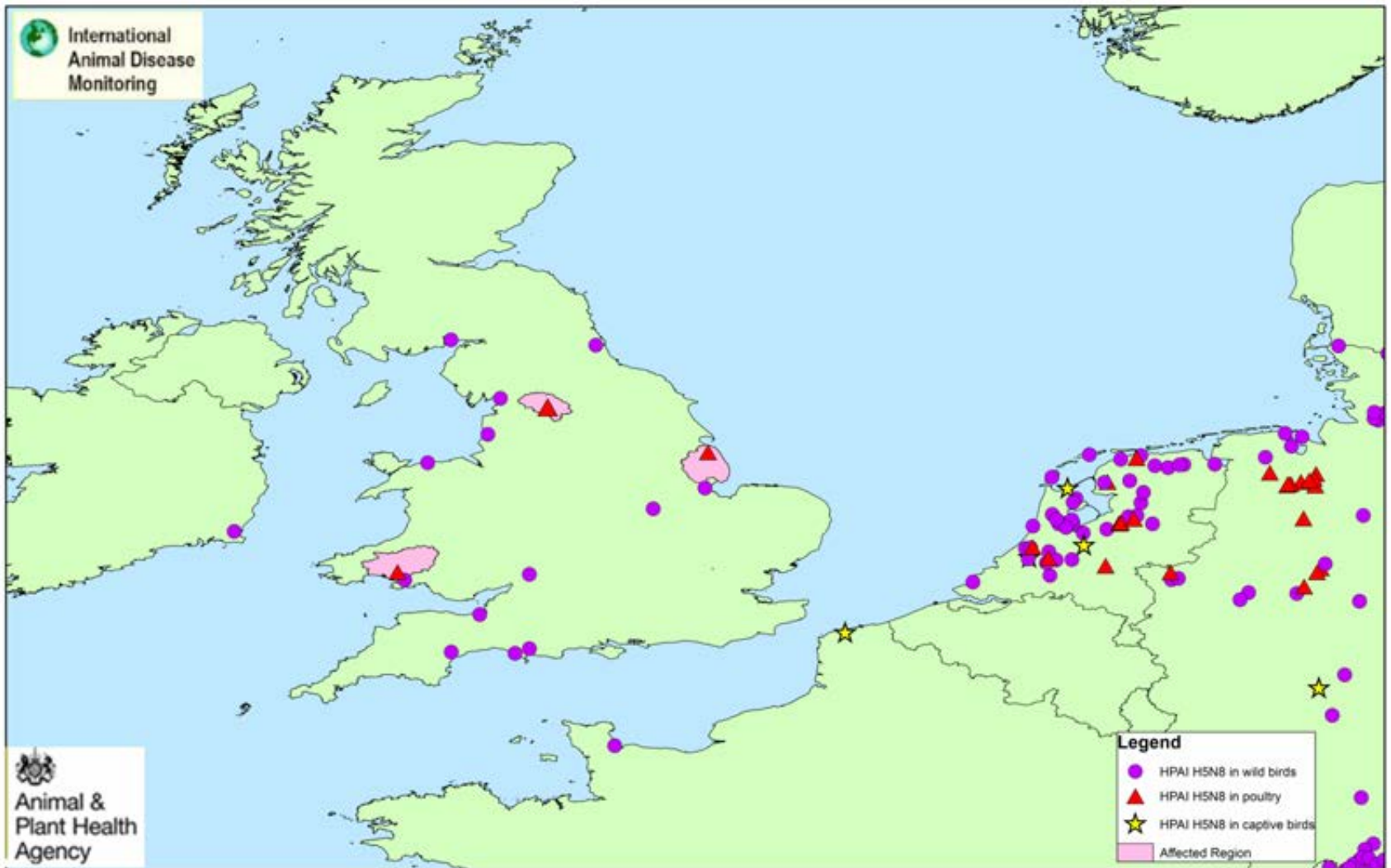
- Small backyard flock, (not housed) of chickens and Muscovy / Call ducks;
- Holding situated 18km from the wild bird finding in Llanelli, Carmarthenshire;
- The chickens were exhibiting clinical signs, disease confirmed on 02/01/2017 and all the birds were depopulated;
- Primary C&D was effective as of 05/01/2017. Zones will remain in place as per EU legislation.
- No trade on or off the premises to other MSs or third countries in the source or spread windows;
- Presence of wild waterfowl in the area, including a wild wigeon testing positive, confirms likely source is infected wild birds.

# Backyard flock in Craven district, North Yorkshire

- Small backyard (unhoused) of chickens and Indian runner ducks; clinical signs in chickens only started on 28/12/2016; disease confirmed on 06/01/2017.
- Contiguous (empty) premises had presence of wild pheasants and ducks. Birds of both species were tested and some mallards were found H5N8 positive. No pheasants were found positive for H5N8.
- Disease control measures including culling remaining birds at IP and restriction zones have been put in place. No commercial premises in the PZ.
- Primary C&D effective as of 10/01/2017
- No trade to EU MSs or third countries during the source or spread windows.

# Wild bird findings in Great Britain

- Passive surveillance for sick or dead wild waterfowl and other target species carried out in known wetland areas through warden patrols and through public reporting to Defra helpline.
- First finding was in West Wales at a wetland reserve, of a wild Eurasian wigeon in December 22<sup>nd</sup>
- To date, all findings are associated with large waterfowl assemblages and coastal areas. Numbers are published on APHA website [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/583511/ai-findings-1617.csv/preview](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/583511/ai-findings-1617.csv/preview)
- One site (Abbotsbury in Dorset) has a die-off of mute swans. This site previously had outbreak of H5N1 HPAI in 2008. The site is being monitored carefully but no additional zone in place, as UK has a Prevention Zone order already, requiring housing of poultry.



Date Prepared 15/01/2017

### Outbreaks of H5N8 HPAI in poultry, captive and wild birds October 2016 - January 2017

Actual Scale 1:7,500,000

Map prepared by IDM

