

# Avian Influenza in the UK: H5N8 HPAI

Poultry case in smallholding in Norfolk,  
June 2017

# Current situation in the UK

- Two smallholdings in Lancashire were reported in May 2017. The zones were lifted on the 7<sup>th</sup> June at 00:01.
- No further cases were identified as a result of these cases.
- A reduced Avian Influenza Prevention Zone remained in place in parts of Lancashire, Cumbria and Merseyside to account for residual risk from wild birds.
- On the 2<sup>nd</sup> June a smallholding premises was confirmed with H5N8 HPAI, in Norfolk.
- The premises is located 12km from an earlier outbreak in February in broiler breeders (IP9).

# IP13 – smallholding in South Norfolk District, Norfolk

- Smallholding (unhoused) of 24 chickens and 7 geese
- Clinical signs in 2 chickens started on 12/05/2017; initially treated for bacterial infection.
- Further deaths in the chickens and suspicion reported to the APHA on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Disease confirmed on the 4<sup>th</sup> June as H5N8 HPAI.
- All but three chickens had died. The geese were still clear of clinical signs. Disease control measures including culling remaining birds at IP and restriction zones have been put in place.
- Primary C&D effective as of 05/06/2017
- No trade to EU MSs or third countries during the source or spread windows from the IP.
- Ornithology field assessment reported many areas suitable for wild waterfowl in the wider region.

# IP13 – history of biosecurity

- Birds had been housed securely and species separated until 13<sup>th</sup> April.
- When birds were released the geese had access to a pond where wild waterfowl had been observed. Chickens occasionally accessed the pasture where geese were kept.
- The geese were seropositive for H5 with high titres when tested on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June; chickens were PCR positive.
- Virus showed almost identical sequence to the broiler breeders (IP9)
- Two pigs present at the IP tested negative by PCR and serology.
- Therefore presumed source of infection was from the pond to the geese and then indirect contact with chickens.

# Map showing the case and the control zones

- 3km PZ – no commercial premises, just 6 smallholdings
- 10 km SZ – 73 premises with > 50 birds
- 78 premises with fewer than 50 birds
- The IP has no commercial links and no high risk tracings
- Foot patrols and raised awareness for commercial premises in the SZ will be Undertaken on a risk basis

