



State  
Veterinary  
Administration

# Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Czechia

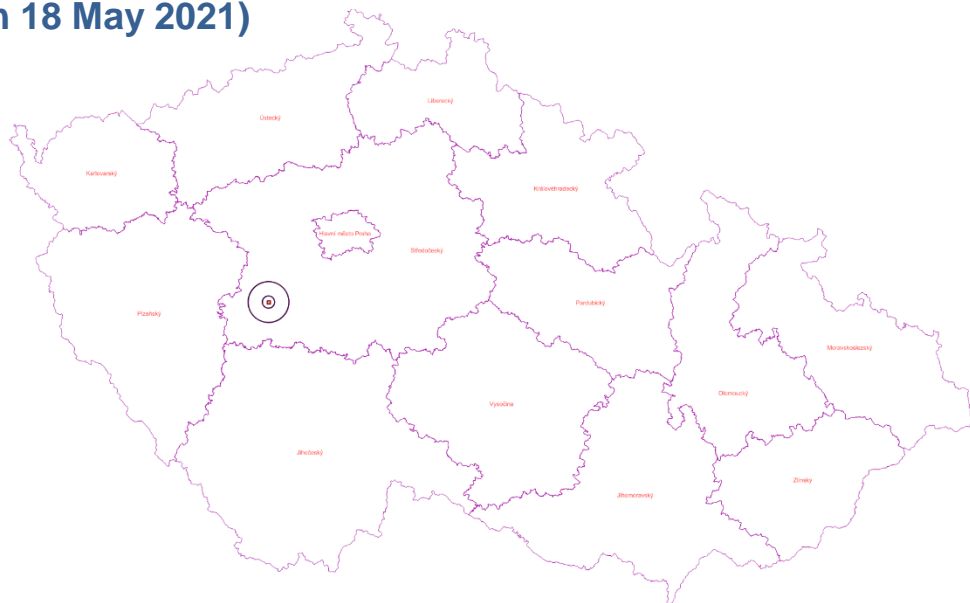
(Update situation and measures in place)

PAFF meeting, 20 October 2021

# Outbreak of HPAI H5N1 in poultry – Trhové Dušníky

**38th HPAI outbreak in 2021 (the last outbreak on 18 May 2021)**

- **Backyard flock with 33 birds**
  - 16 laying hens, 12 ducks and 5 geese
  - poultry and poultry products for private use only
  - locality: Trhové Dušníky (49°43'14.407"N, 14°0'50.990"E), in Příbram district in the Central Bohemian Region
  
- **27 September 2021:**
  - suspicion: mortality of 5 geese and 1 duck with clinical signs
  - sampling, preliminary measures
  - the National reference laboratory for Avian Influenza (NRL) in the State Veterinary Institute Prague confirmed AI virus of subtype H5
  
- **28 September 2021:**
  - culling of all remaining poultry (in total 27 birds) on the affected farm – by injection (T61), disposal of carcasses and poultry products, preliminary cleaning and disinfection
  
- **29 September 2021:**
  - the NRL confirmed HPAI H5N1
  - the restricted zone was established and enforced



# Measures on the affected flock (outbreak)

## Preliminary measures

- Census of susceptible animals
- Biosecurity - to keep birds on their living places
- Ban of all movement of poultry, poultry products, by-products
- Disinfection

## Control measures

- Culling and disposal of all remaining poultry on the affected farm
- Disposal of poultry products → 20 eggs
- Cleaning and disinfection
- Identification of movements of poultry, poultry products, persons, mammals, vehicles and other equipment by which the avian influenza virus could have spread (21 days back since the first occurrence of clinical signs) → There was no movement of poultry or poultry products from the affected farm (neither before nor after confirmation of HPAI). No contact establishments were found out.

## Epidemiological investigation:

**Source of infection:** probably wild birds, the breeder confirmed the possibility of direct contact of poultry with wild waterfowl

## Measures in the protection zone

- Census of all poultry establishments \* – no commercial poultry farms, no slaughterhouse, no hatchery
- To keep birds in closed facilities
- Ban of all movement of poultry, poultry products, by-products
- Disinfection and biosecurity measures on poultry holdings
- Poultry health monitoring, changes to be reported to the Regional Veterinary Administration (RVA)
- Ban of poultry and other birds exhibitions and markets
- Ban of the release of birds for restocking
- Official checks of poultry establishments and sampling – ongoing

**Expected validity:  
until 19 October**

## Measures in the surveillance zone

- Census of poultry establishments \* – no commercial poultry farms, no slaughterhouse, no hatchery
- Ban of all movement of poultry and poultry products (derogation approved by RVA only)
- Disinfection and biosecurity measures on poultry holdings
- Poultry health monitoring, changes to be reported to the RVA
- Ban of poultry and other birds exhibitions and markets
- Ban of the release of birds for restocking
- Official checks of poultry establishments and sampling – ongoing

**Expected validity:  
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\* online recording questionnaire

The State Veterinary Administration (SVA) carries out intensive surveillance in wild birds and SVA has also ordered municipalities to cooperate in intensive surveillance.

The general public, poultry organisations, breeders of captive birds, private veterinarians, Regional Veterinary Administrations and others were informed immediately after confirmation of HPAI H5N1 outbreak through an official letter, press release and the website of the SVA.

# Virus characterisation

- The NRL confirmed HPAI of subtype H5N1 on 29 September
- The NRL is in contact with EURL
- The sequences were provided to the EURL and uploaded to the GISAID database.
- According to the NRL statement:

*„It appears that our H5N1 strains are closely related to other H5N1 viruses circulated in the Europe during 2020 and 2021 with a novel PB2 segment acquired by reassortment with unknown European LPAI strains of avian origin.“*

**Thank you  
for your attention**