



Federaal Agentschap voor de Veiligheid van de Voedselketen
Agence fédérale pour la Sécurité de la Chaîne alimentaire
Föderalagentur für die Sicherheit der Nahrungsmittelkette
Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain

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Highly pathogenic Avian Influenza in Belgium

Updated situation and measures in place



AHW PAFF, 11-12/02/2021

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New outbreak of HPAI H5N8 in poultry

- Commercial farm with 27,230 meat turkeys
- In Deerlijk in West Flanders
- Date of confirmation: 29 January
- Low mortality and morbidity; typical symptoms of bird flu were not present (blackhead was however confirmed)
- Gassing of all birds present
- Source of infection: probably wild birds
- Epidemiological survey: all contacts negative
- Litter removed, cleaning and disinfection going on



New outbreak of HPAI H5N8 in poultry

- **Establishment of Protection (3 km) and Surveillance (10 km) zones**
 - 40 commercial poultry farms, 1 slaughterhouse (SZ), no hatchery
 - Inventory of all poultry/birds
 - in 24 h (commercial) or 72 h (hobby) in the protection zone
 - in 3 days (commercial and hobby) in the surveillance zone
 - Strengthening of biosafety
 - Transport forbidden (poultry/birds, litter, eggs, cadavers) but derogations under strict conditions for hatching eggs, pullets and poultry for slaughter
 - Clinical examination every 4 days by the vet in the protection zone
 - Foreseen lifting after 21 days (19 February) of the protection zone and 30 days (28 February) of the surveillance zone



Summary of outbreaks

Place	Type of AI virus	Zones	Established on	Lifted on
Menen	HPAI H5N5	Protection zone (3 km)	26-11-2020	17-12-2020
		Surveillance zone (10 km)	26-11-2020	26-12-2020
Dinant	HPAI H5Nx	Buffer zone (500 m)	08-12-2020	07-01-2021
Diksmuide	LPAI H5Nx	Restricted zone(1 km)	17-12-2020	07-01-2021
Deerlijk	HPAI H5N8	Protection zone (3 km)	29-01-2021	
		Surveillance zone (10 km)	29-01-2021	

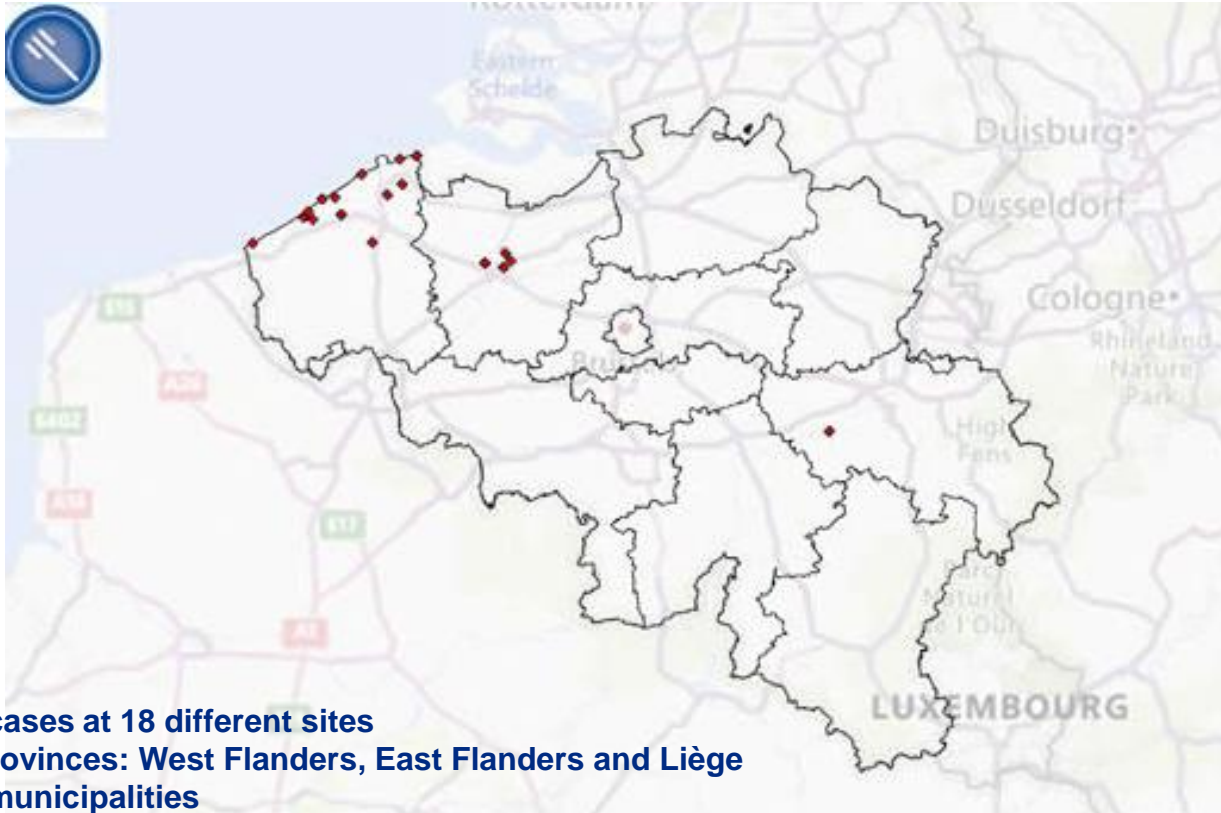


Additional measures – Increased risk period

- In force since 1 November 2020
- Measures strengthened 2 times following the confirmation of HPAI in wild birds and then in poultry
- Confinement or protection of poultry and captive birds, except ratites (derogation foreseen under strict conditions for racing pigeons)
- Drinking and feeding inside
- Use of well water or catchment water is forbidden except if it has been treated with viroicide
- Gatherings are forbidden (derogation foreseen under strict conditions for racing pigeons when the racing season starts)
- Thinning of broilers is forbidden (derogation under strict conditions from 14 February on)



HPAI in wild birds



- 23 cases at 18 different sites
- 3 provinces: West Flanders, East Flanders and Liège
- 13 municipalities



A large flock of birds, possibly terns, is captured in flight against a clear, light blue sky. The birds are scattered across the frame, with some in the foreground and others further away, creating a sense of depth and movement. The overall mood is serene and natural.

Thank you for your attention

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