



Ministry of Agriculture

Epidemiological situation and the measures regarding Highly pathogenic avian influenza in Hungary

Meeting of the Standing Committee of Plants, Animals, Food and Feed
15 January 2021



Post-epidemic phase

Circular ÉFHÁT/182/2020 - 9th July 2020: Lifting of restrictive measures, procedure of restocking (in cooperation with the Poultry Product Board)

- Procedure
- Check-list
- Self check-list

Since the introduction of the new procedure, more than 1300 on-spot checks have been carried out in the 3 counties, which were most affected in the epidemic

Revision of the compensation system – aim is to encourage enhancing biological safety measures



„Calm before the storm”

Several outbreaks all around Europe

Whole territory of Hungary is considered as high-risk area (routes of migratory birds and resting places are present in all regions of Hungary)

CVO order on closed keeping of poultry – whole territory of Hungary – as of 25th November 2020 – checks on closed keeping (on-spot visits and with drones)

Compulsory sampling if transported for further keeping (excl. day-old-chicks) of waterfowl – within 72 hours, swabs – don't have to wait for the result

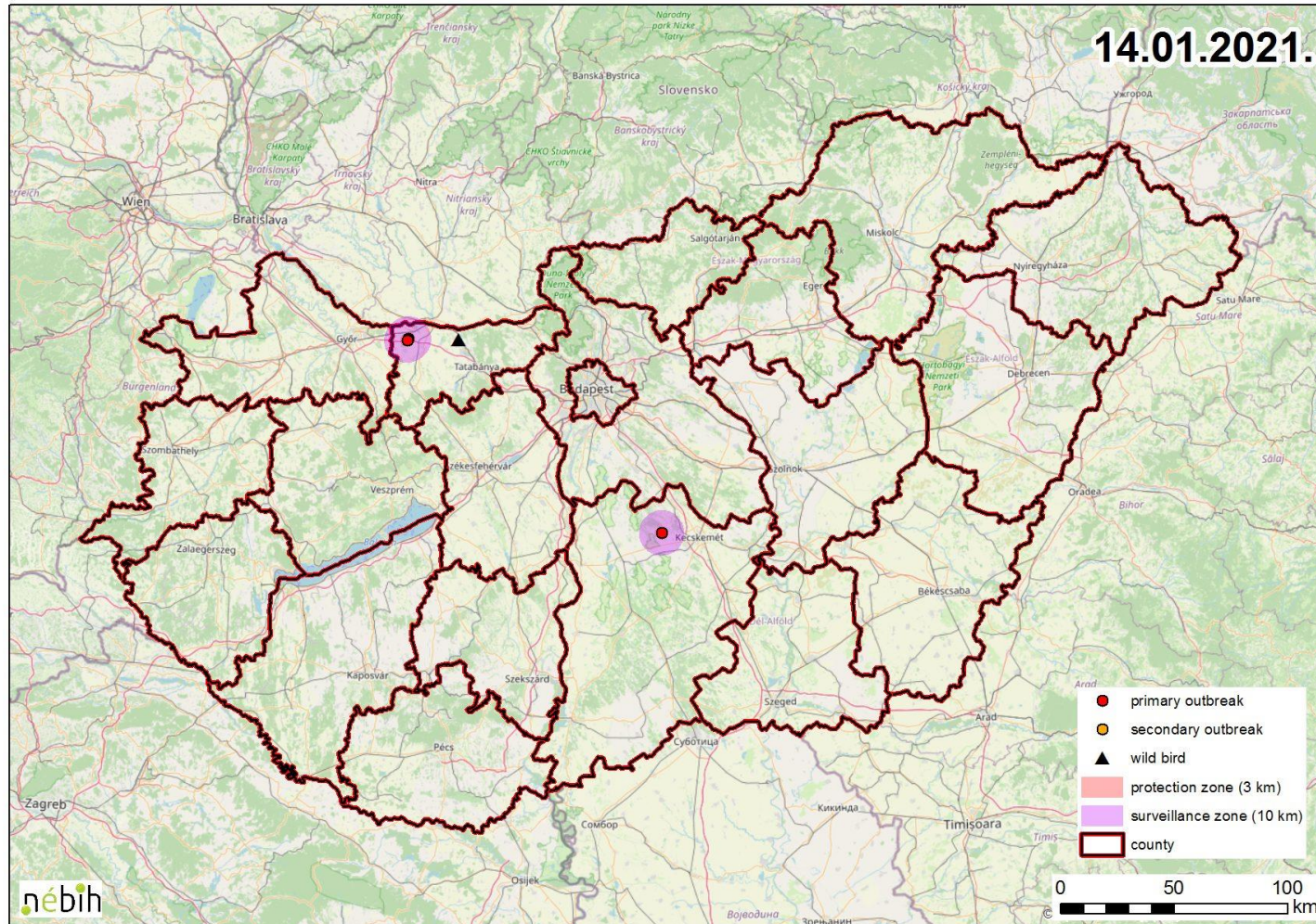
Compulsory sampling before the release of poultry for restocking supplies of game birds – within 72 hours, swabs - have to wait the result

Enhanced active and passive surveillance of wild birds (Birdlife Hungary)



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Current epidemiological situation

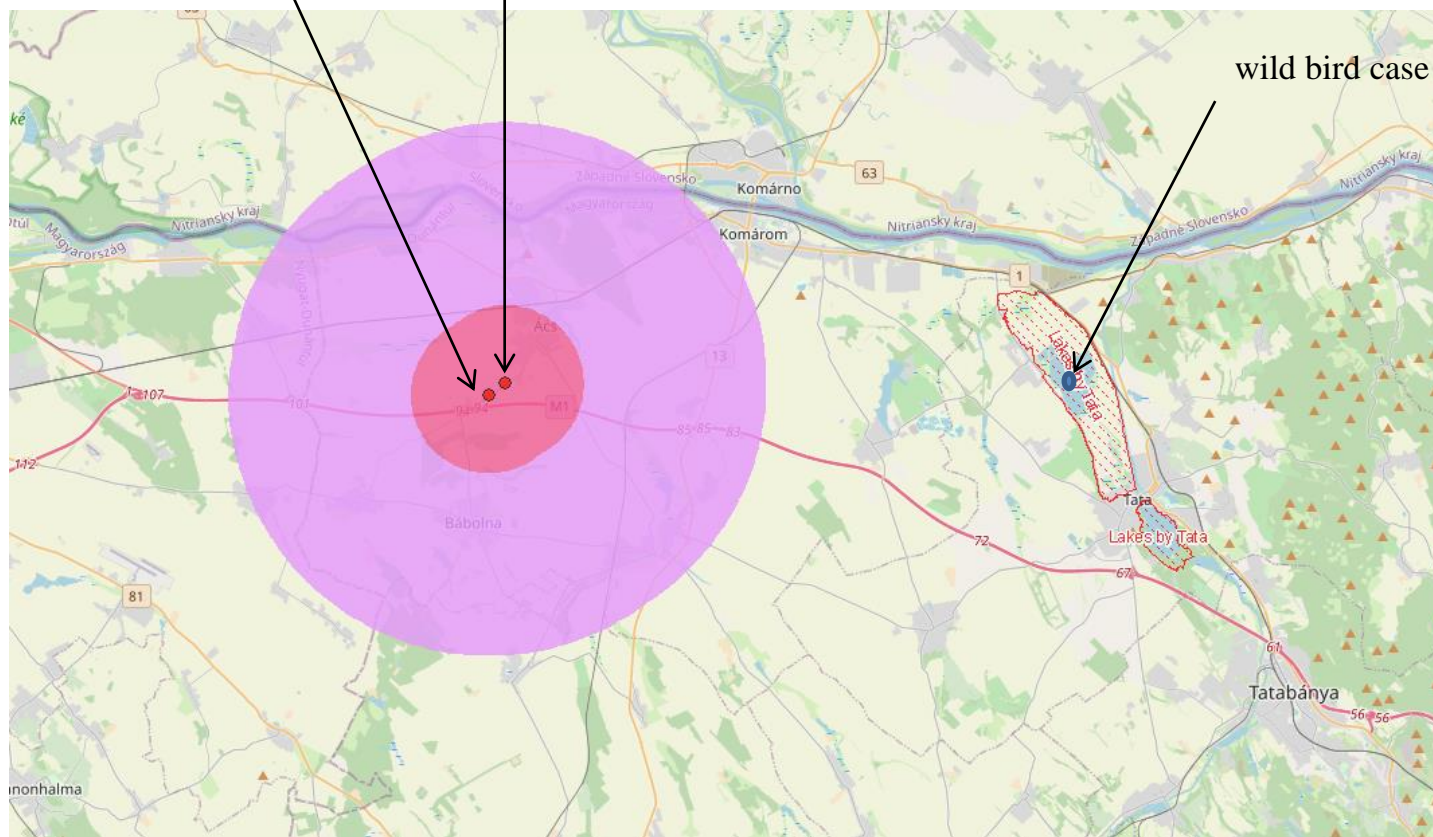




Outbreaks and wild bird case in Komárom-Esztergom county

primary outbreak

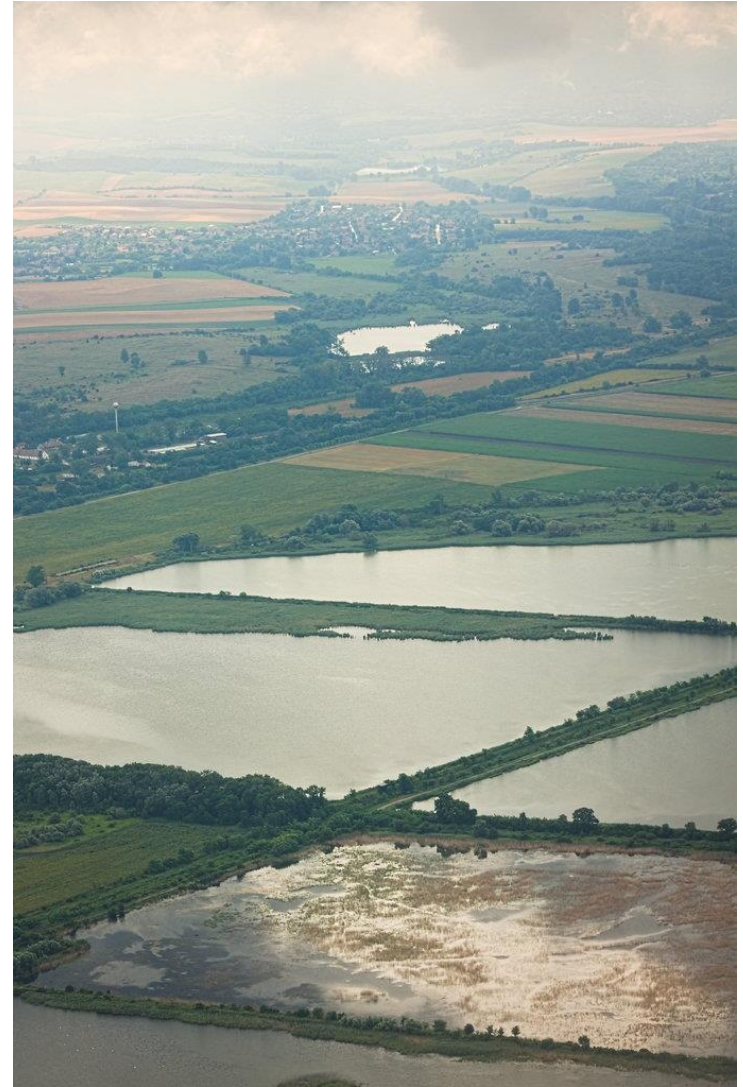
secondary outbreak





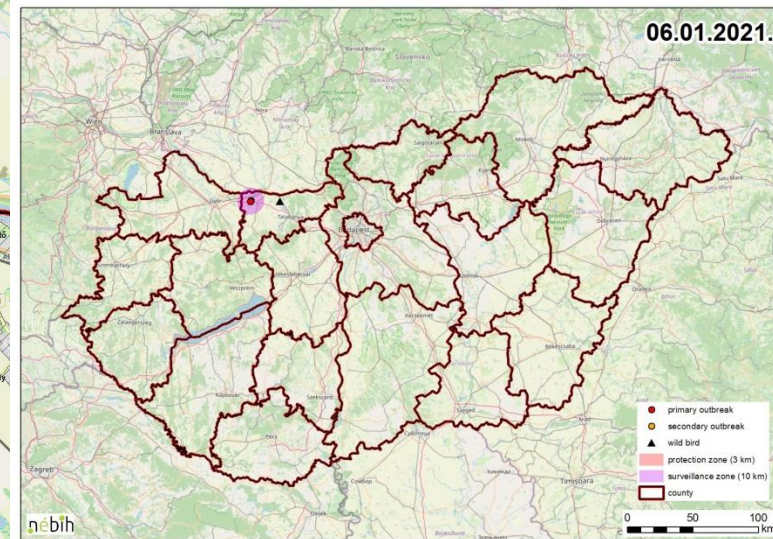
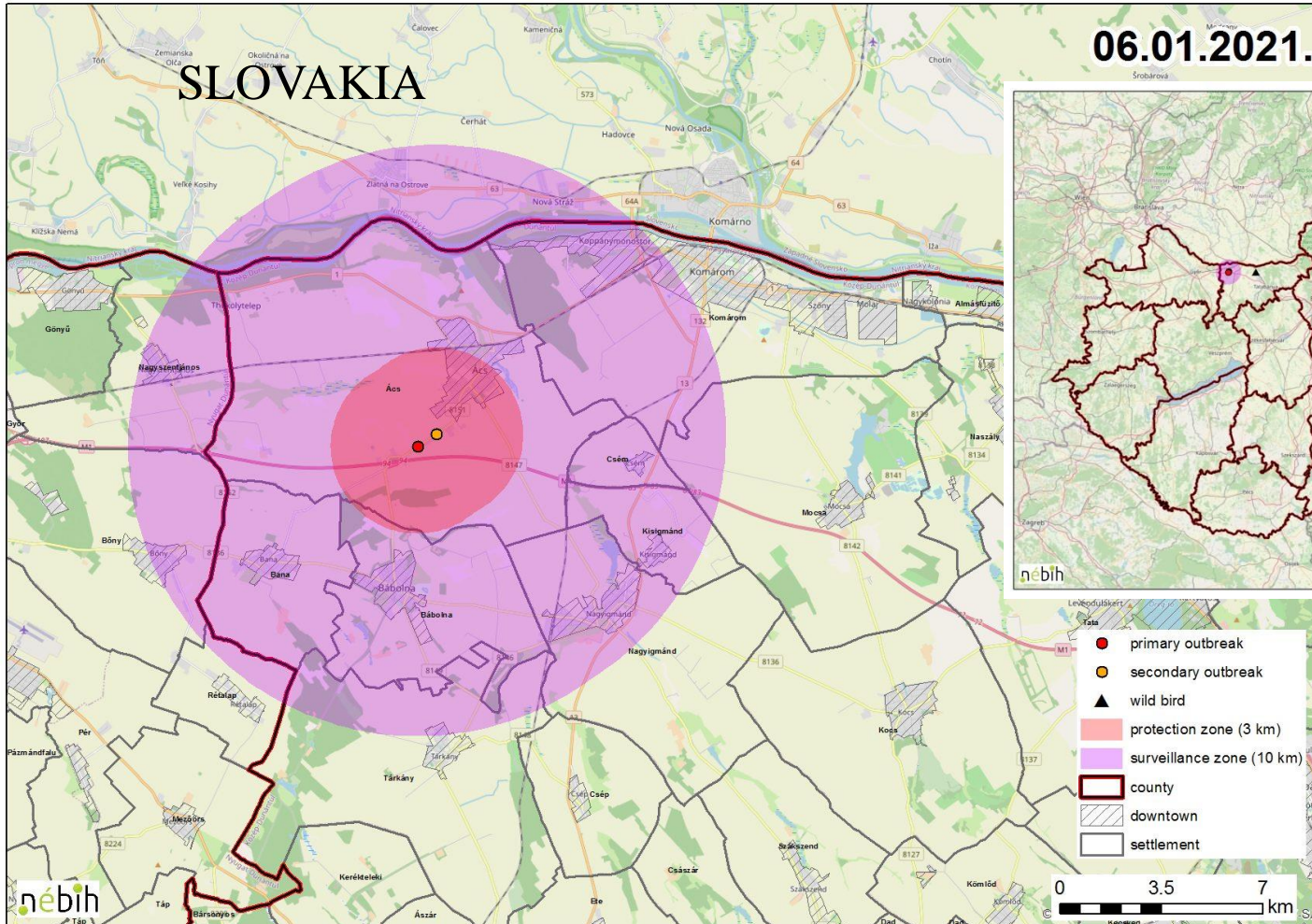
Wild bird case

Great egret (*Ardea alba*)
found dead in a fish pond – 22nd December
PCR + sequencing → HPAI H5N8 - 6th
January





HPAI outbreak in Hungary





1st outbreak: Komárom-Esztergom county

Fattening turkey holding

47 596 turkeys in 12 pens

symptoms in one pen (3900, 9-week-old turkeys):

drop in feed and water intake: 2-3rd January

increased mortality rate, watery diarrhea: 4th January

samples sent to the NRL: 4th January

the flock was already killed

based on suspicion

H5N8 confirmed: 6th January





Secondary outbreak

36 976 fattening turkeys – 18-22 weeks old
drop in feed and water intake 4th January
samples sent to the NRL: 4th January
H5N8 confirmed: 6th January

killing and preliminary disinfection was
finished 13th January





Epidemiological investigation, tracing

No poultry or their product have been moved from the affected nor from the contact holdings to EU Member States or Third Countries

Possible source of infection

- wild birds – positive case 25km



Epidemiological investigation, tracing

Both the poultry and the wild bird sample shows 100% similarity with Croatian and Swedish samples from November

(A/Turkey/Sweden/SVA201114SZ0001/20KN303106/2020 and A/turkey/Croatia/104/2020) on the HA gene on a 500 base pair section.



Control measures

In accordance with Council Directive 2005/94/EC

Restriction zones:

- SZ overlaps to SK
- PZ: 2 other large scale holding within 1 km – negative, but preventive killing (5 773 turkeys, 72 700 broilers)
- 12 large scale holdings is SZ



Other measures

CVO order 3/2017 is still in force – poultry should be able to be closed if ordered, stocking density

CVO order on ordering closed keeping of poultry – in force

National Disease Control Centre

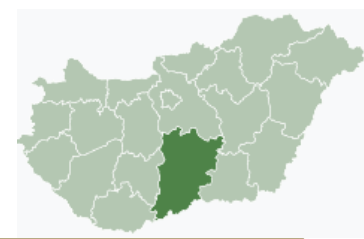
awareness: TV, radio, internet

dedicated webpage of the NFCSO:

<http://portal.nebih.gov.hu/madarinfluenza>



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Primary outbreak in Bács-Kiskun country

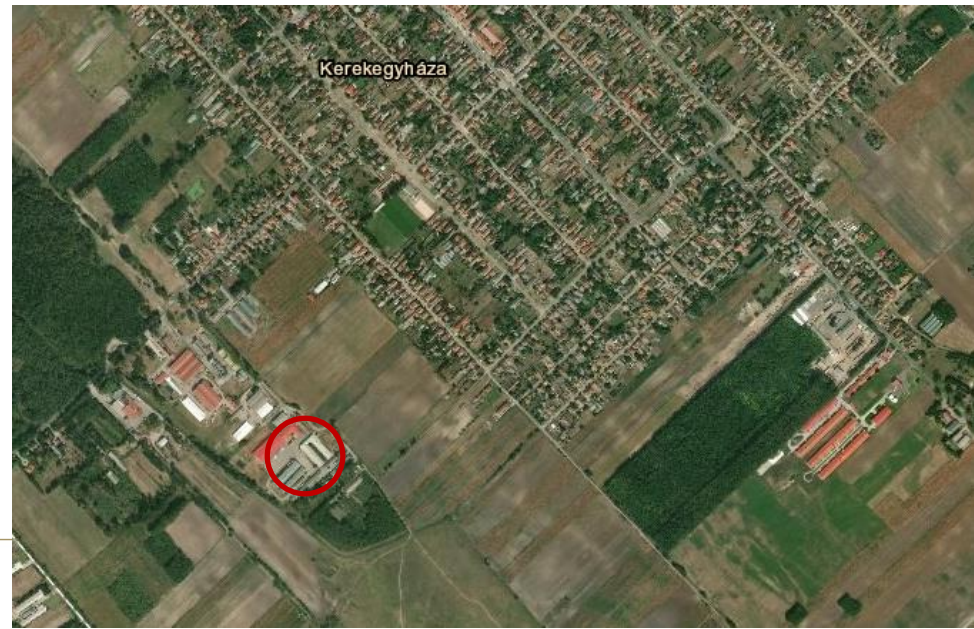
laying hen holding in Kerekegyháza (area with dense laying hen population)

101 185 hens in 4 pens – in one of the pens (28 800 hens) drop in egg production, soft shell eggs, but no increased mortality swabs where taken and sent to NRL: 12th January

H5N8 confirmed: 14th January

epidemiological investigation and killing is ongoing

no poultry or their product have been moved abroad





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Thank you for your attention!

