



Highly pathogenic Avian Influenza in Belgium

Situation and measures in place



AHW PAFF, 21 October 2022

Summary of H5N1 HPAI outbreaks in Belgium (2021-2022 season)

Place	Animals	Zones	Established on	Applicable until
Roeselare (06-08-2022)	Captive birds	/	/	/
Bocholt	Captive birds	Protection zone (3 km)	21-09-2022	14-10-2022
		Surveillance zone (10 km)	21-09-2022	23-10-2022*
Beernem	Captive birds	Protection zone (3 km)	21-09-2022	12-10-2022
		Surveillance zone (10 km)	21-09-2022	21-10-2022*
Sint-Laureins (1)	Poultry	Protection zone (3 km)	21-09-2022	14-10-2022
		Surveillance zone (10 km)	21-09-2022	23-10-2022*
Zwevezele (27-09-2022)	Captive birds	/	/	/
Sint-Laureins (2)	Poultry	Protection zone (3 km)	28-09-2022	19-10-2022*
		Surveillance zone (10 km)	28-09-2022	28-10-2022*
Sint-Laureins (3)	Poultry	Protection zone (3 km)	30-09-2022	20-10-2022*
		Surveillance zone (10 km)	30-09-2022	29-10-2022*
Wingene	Poultry	Protection zone (3 km)	03-10-2022	23-10-2022*
		Surveillance zone (10 km)	03-10-2022	01-11-2022*
Diksmuide	Captive birds	Protection zone (3 km)	05-10-2022	26-10-2022*
		Surveillance zone (10 km)	05-10-2022	04-11-2022*
Tongeren	Poultry	Protection zone (3 km)	10-10-2022	30-10-2022*
		Surveillance zone (10 km)	10-10-2022	08-11-2022*
Theux	Captive birds	Protection zone (3 km)	17-10-2022	06-11-2022*
		Surveillance zone (10 km)	17-10-2022	15-11-2022*

** Provisional date established. Actual date of lifting will depend on the results of the final monitoring in the zone.*



Outbreak of HPAI H5N1 in captive bird

Roeselare BE-HPAI(NON-P)-2022-00102

- Date of confirmation: 6th Augustus 2022
- Roeselare: Province of West Flanders
- Hobby holder with 30 captive birds (ornamental chickens)
- Increase of mortality
- No clinical signs but petechial hemorrhages and a full crop at the autopsy
- Source: most likely contact with wild birds (infected gulls found earlier in July in Roeselare)
- Risk assessment performed:
 - considering:
 - type and the small size of the establishment (hobby holder with only 30 captive birds)
 - localisation (hobby holder isolated and without contacts)
 - increased risk period still implemented in Belgium for professional and hobby holders
 - intensive surveillance still in force for poultry, captive birds and wild birds
 - Conclusion: measures only applied in the establishment and no zoning is established.



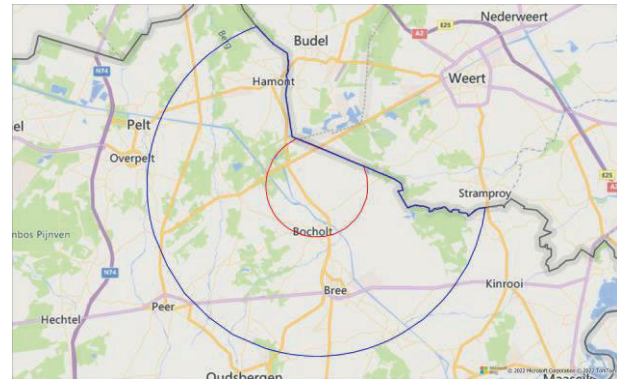
Outbreak closed

Outbreak of HPAI H5N1 in captive bird Bocholt

BE-HPAI(NON-P)-2022-00124

- Date of confirmation: 20th September 2022
- Bocholt: Province of Limburg
- Trader holding with 4,125 captive birds
 - Ornamental captive birds and ornamental poultry of various species (emus, pheasants, ducks, swans, geese, cranes, storks, ibis, tropical pigeons,...)
 - Including species in the CITES list
 - Already been confirmed positive for HPAI H5N1 on the 7th of January 2022
- Notification context
 - No clinical signs or abnormal mortality
 - Epidemiological link with a HPAI outbreak in France: ornamental ducks from this Belgian trader delivered on 6 September
 - No other outbreak
 - No other birds have been certified for trade/export
- Protection zone (3 km) and surveillance zone (10 km) established

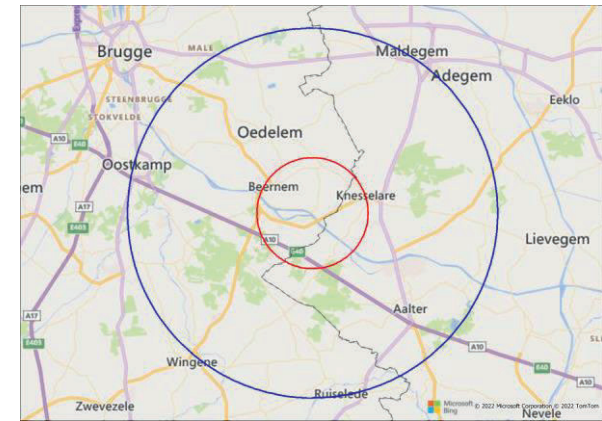
Outbreak still in progress



Outbreak of HPAI H5N1 in captive bird Beernem

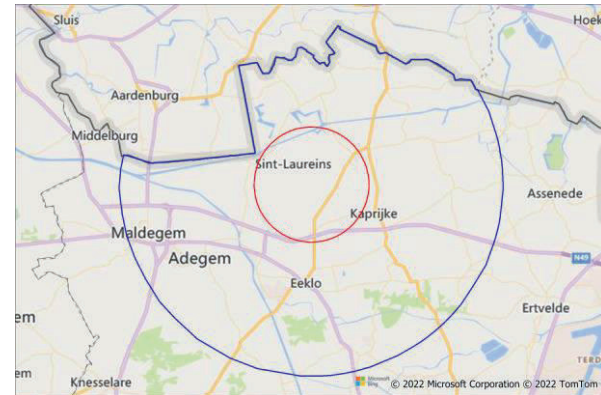
BE-HPAI(NON-P)-2022-00123

- Date of confirmation: 21st September 2022
- Beernem: Province of West Flanders
- Trader holding with 2,862 captive birds
 - Ornamental captive birds and ornamental poultry of various species (geese, swans, ducks, wading birds, peacocks, cranes, ibis,...)
 - Including species in the CITES list
- Increase of mortality first in wading birds and then mortality spread to other species.
- No clinical signs
- Protection zone (3 km) and surveillance zone (10 km) established
- **Outbreak still in progress**



Outbreak of HPAI H5N1 in Poultry Sint-Laureins (1) BE-HPAI(P)-2022-00003

- Date of confirmation: 21st September 2022
- Sint-Laureins: Province of East Flanders
- Commercial farm with 151,310 laying hens
- Increase of mortality but no clinical signs
- Source: likely contact with wild birds
- Protection zone (3 km) and surveillance zone (10 km) established
- **Outbreak still in progress**



Outbreak of HPAI H5N1 in captive bird

Zwevezele BE-HPAI(NON-P)-2022-00131

- Date of confirmation: 27th September 2022
- Zwevezele: Province of West Flanders
- Hobby holder with 18 captive birds (ducks, geese, black swan, peacocks)
- Clinical signs:
 - black swan: neurological symptoms and death
 - No clinical sign in other birds
- Source: wild birds suspected as the animals were not protected from contact with wildlife
- Risk assessment performed:
 - considering:
 - type and the small size of the establishment (hobby holder with only 18 captive birds)
 - localisation (hobby holder isolated and without contacts)
 - increased risk period still implemented in Belgium for professional and hobby holders
 - intensive surveillance still in force for poultry, captive birds and wild birds
 - Conclusion: measures only applied in the establishment and no zoning is established.



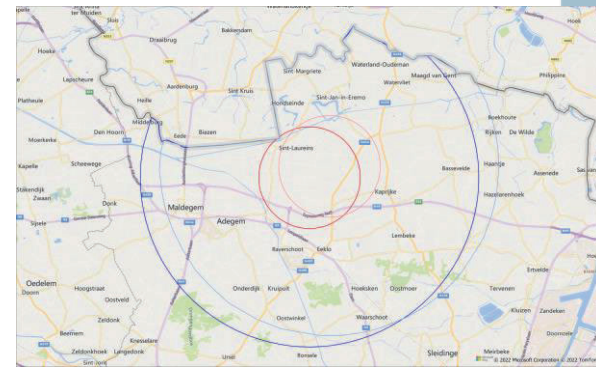
Outbreak closed

FAVV - AFSCA - FASNK - FASFC

Outbreak of HPAI H5N1 in Poultry Sint-Laureins (2) BE-HPAI(P)-2022-00004

- Date of confirmation: 28th September 2022
- Sint-Laureins: Province of East Flanders
- Commercial farm with 44,214 chicken breeders
- Source:
 - Seems to be distinct from the 1st outbreak in Sint-Laureins: the farm was sampled on 23/09 as part of the measures in the 1st outbreak and results were negative.
 - Wild birds suspected
- High mortality from 26/09 but no clinical signs
- Protection zone (3 km) and surveillance zone (10 km) established
 - Outbreak localized in the 3km zone of the 1st outbreak in Sint-Laureins
 - The 10km zone extension mostly covered the 10km zone already delimited for the Beernem outbreak
 - limited impact in terms of surface of zones compared to the zones already delimited

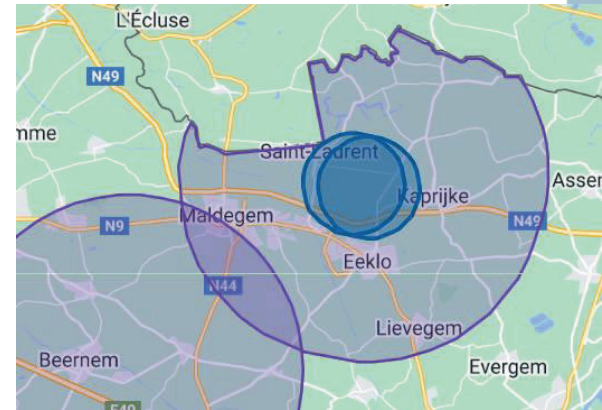
○ **Outbreak still in progress**



Outbreak of HPAI H5N1 in Poultry Sint-Laureins (3) BE-HPAI(P)-2022-00005

- Date of confirmation: 30th September 2022
- Sint-Laureins: Province of East Flanders
- Commercial farm with 17,577 Bio laying hens
- Slight mortality
- Source:
 - suspicion of secondary outbreak to the 2nd outbreak in Sint-Laureins as located less than 300m from it
 - ventilation suspected as introduction way and the culling operations in the neighborhood
- Protection zone (3 km) and surveillance zone (10 km) established
 - Outbreak at less than 10 km from the Netherlands
 - Outbreak localized in the 3km zone of the 1st outbreak in Sint-Laureins
 - limited impact in terms of surface zones compared to the zones already delimited

○ **Outbreak still in progress**



Outbreak of HPAI H5N1 in poultry

Wingene BE-HPAI(P)-2022-00006

- Date of confirmation: 2nd October 2022
- Wingene: Province of West Flanders
- Commercial farm with 112,900 laying hens
- Increase mortality
- Source: likely contact with wild birds
- Protection zone (3 km) and surveillance zone (10 km) established
 - The 10km zone extension covered part of the 10km zone already delimited for the Beernem outbreak
- **Outbreak still in progress**



Outbreak of HPAI H5N1 in captive bird Diksmuide

BE-HPAI(NON-P)-2022-00138

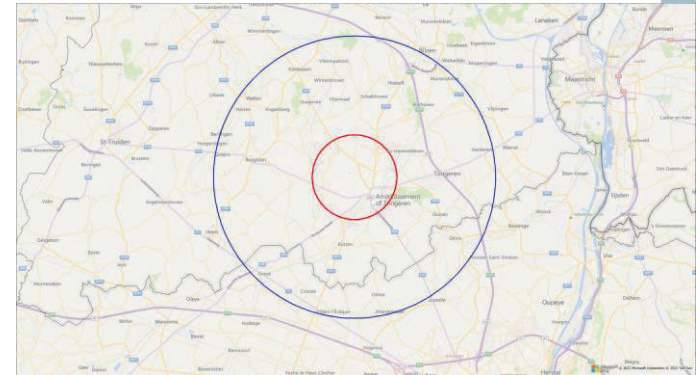
- Date of confirmation: 5th October 2022
- Diksmuide: Province of West Flanders
- Trader holding with 1,556 captive birds (ducks, geese, swans, chickens, ornamental hens, peacocks, birds and pheasants)
- Mortality in ducks, geese and chickens but no clinical signs reported
- Protection zone (3 km) and surveillance zone (10 km) established
- **Outbreak still in progress**



Outbreak of HPAI H5N1 in poultry Tongeren

BE-HPAI(P)-2022-00007

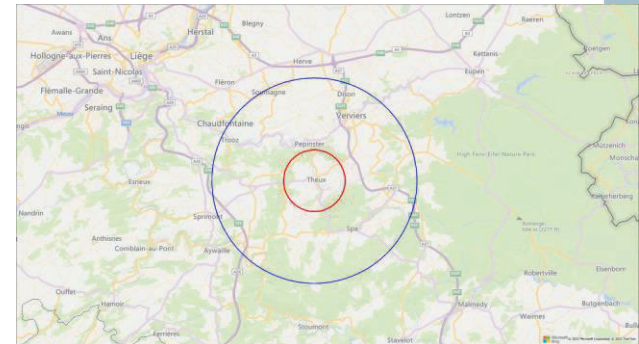
- Date of confirmation: 11th October 2022
- Tongeren: Province of Limburg
- Commercial farm with 21,153 laying hens
- Increase mortality
- Source: likely contact with wild birds
- Protection zone (3 km) and surveillance zone (10 km) established
- **Outbreak still in progress**



Outbreak of HPAI H5N1 in captive bird

Theux BE-HPAI(NON-P)-2022-00145

- Date of confirmation: 17th October 2022
- Theux: Province of Liege
- Trader holding with 150 captive birds (Laying hens, ornamental hens, ducks, peacocks, pigeons, turkeys, pheasants)
- Source: purchase of birds?
- Clinical signs: lowered activity of the hobby holder's turkeys and pheasants and death in the days that followed
- Protection zone (3 km) and surveillance zone (10 km) established
- **Outbreak still in progress**



Outbreak of HPAI H5N1

Measures in the outbreaks

- Culling of all poultry and captive birds in all outbreaks
 - 3rd outbreak in Sint-Laureins: Pre-emptive culling of all broilers (28,000) on another farm located approximately 150 m from the outbreak
- Litter removed, cleaning and disinfection
- Protocol for restocking with at least 3-week sanitary vacuum
 - Repopulation only after approval by the FASFC
- Establishment of Protection (3 km) and Surveillance (10 km) zones around all outbreaks, except for the outbreaks in Roeselare and Zwevezele
 - Bocholt: part of the 3 and 10 km zone on the territory of the Netherlands
 - Sint-Laureins: part of the 10 km zone on the territory of the Netherlands



Protection (3 km) and Surveillance (10 km) zones

Establishments

	Protection zone (3 km)	Surveillance zone (10 km)
Establishments in the zones - commercial poultry farms (including outbreaks) - hatcheries - egg packing stations - slaughterhouses	Bocholt	
	6 commercial poultry farms	17 commercial poultry farms 1 slaughterhouse
	Beernem	
	6 commercial poultry farms	58 commercial poultry farms
	Sint-Laureins	
	8 commercial poultry farms	27 commercial poultry farms
	Wingene	
	13 commercial poultry farms 2 egg packing stations	74 commercial poultry farms 3 hatcheries 7 egg packing stations
	Diksmuide	
	3 commercial poultry farms	34 commercial poultry farms 4 egg packing stations
	Tongeren	
	1 commercial poultry farm 1 egg packing station (in the outbreak establishment)	11 commercial poultry farms 3 egg packing stations
	Theux	
	3 commercial poultry farms	14 commercial poultry farms 4 egg packing stations



Protection (3 km) and Surveillance (10 km) zones Measures

	Protection zone (3 km)	Surveillance zone (10 km)
Transport	Forbidden (poultry, hobby poultry, birds and hatching eggs) Not applicable to transit (on main roads without unloading or stopping)	
Measures for all professionals and hobby holders	Poultry and captive birds - Forbidden of all gathering of poultry and captive birds (fairs, markets, expositions...) - Increase vigilance : Increase of morbidity/mortality or decrease of production must be immediately notify to FASFC	
Measures for non-registered hobby holders	Reinforced biosecurity (visitors ban, specific clothing, respect biosecurity measures)	



Protection (3 km) and Surveillance (10 km) zones Measures

	Protection zone (3 km)	Surveillance zone (10 km)
Measures for professional establishment (holdings, hatcheries and egg packing stations)	Clinical examination by the vet within 24 h (mandatory report of the visit to FASFC) and after in case of symptoms of abnormality.	Clinical examination by the vet in case of symptoms
	Inventory of all poultry/birds in 24 h	
	If more than 0.25% mortality per day in stall/compartment: mandatory sampling for avian influenza	
	Reinforced biosecurity : ban on visitors, register of entries (except for zoos or nature reserves where visitors don't have access to areas where birds are kept), specific clothing, respect biosecurity requirement, disinfection of vehicles and materials, specific disposal of cadavers, prohibition of the disposal or spreading of litter/manure/slurry,...	
Prohibition of consumption eggs removal from poultry farm except for direct transport to designated packaging station or farm producing egg products where they will be handled and processed.		



Protection (3 km) and Surveillance (10 km) zones Measures

	Protection zone (3 km)	Surveillance zone (10 km)
Additional measures for slaughterhouses and hatcheries	<i>NA (no slaughterhouse or hatchery)</i>	<p><u>1 Slaughterhouse in Bocholt</u>: can continue activities via corridor for poultry from outside the zone and, after authorisation, from inside the zones (flows separation)</p> <p><u>3 Hatcheries in Wingene</u>: can continue activities via corridor for hatching eggs from outside the zone and send day-old chicks or hatching eggs to holdings outside the zones</p>
	<p>Derogation according to a specific timetable depending on the different zones and sub-zones with the overlap of these during the different outbreaks</p>	
	Hatching eggs may be transferred to hatchery for hatching or to egg breaking plant for processing	<p>Hatching eggs may be transferred to hatchery for hatching</p> <p>Slaughter poultry may be removed to slaughterhouse (logistical slaughter)</p>
Foreseen lifting	After 21 days => become a 10 km surveillance zone	After 30 days and favourable monitoring



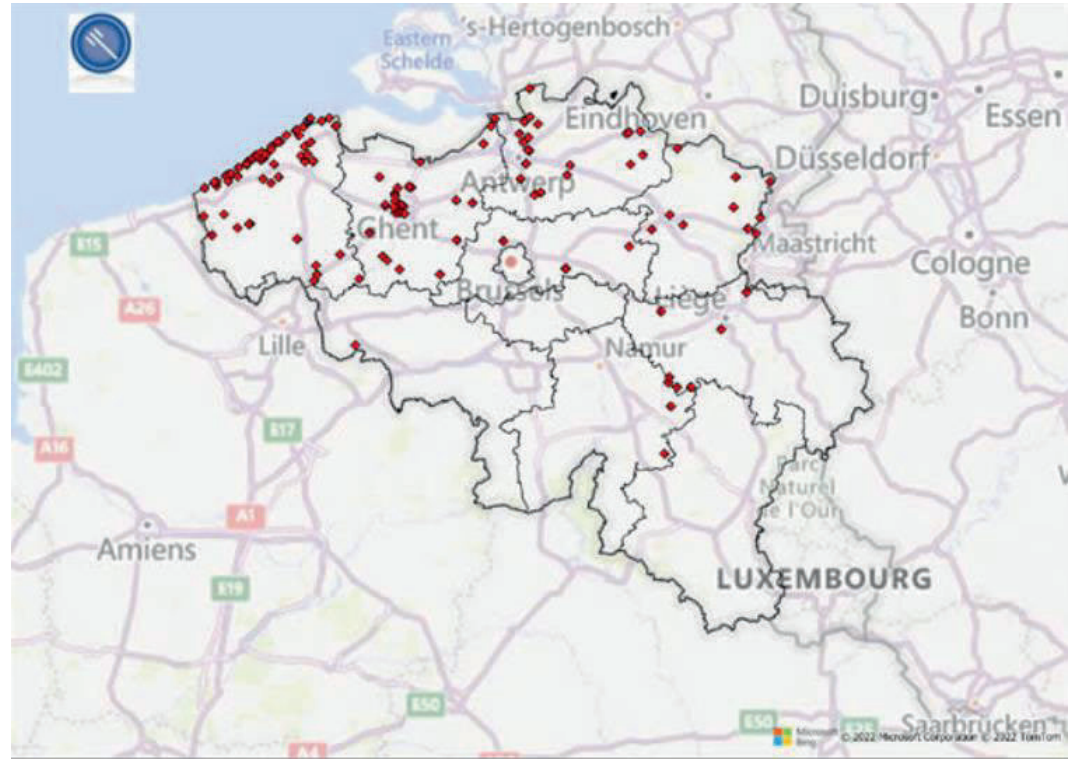
Additional measures on the whole territory – Increased risk period

- Increased risk period declared on 15 November 2021
 - Confinement or protection of all poultry and captive birds in registered establishments since 5 October 2022
 - Feeding of poultry and captive birds inside or protected
 - Watering of poultry and captive birds with surface water/rainwater is forbidden (except if treated to inactivate viruses)
 - Thinning of broilers only under specific conditions determined by the FASFC
 - Gatherings of poultry and captive birds are forbidden except for other captive birds for non-commercial gatherings and public market organised by a local authority but under strict conditions
 - **Increased daily biosecurity**
 - **Increased vigilance**



Outbreak of HPAI in wild birds

- 189 cases since the 11th November 2021
- 183 H5N1 and 6 H5NX HPAI
- 86 different sites
- 8 provinces: West Flanders, Eastern Flanders, Antwerp, Flemish Brabant, Limburg, Namur, Hainaut and Liege



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 text "Thank you for your attention" is centered over the middle of the image in a white, sans-serif font.

Thank you for your attention

