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HEALTH & CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Unit 04 - Veterinary Control Programmes

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*Programmes for the eradication, control and monitoring of certain
animal diseases and zoonoses*

**Survey programme for Avian Influenza in
poultry and wild birds**

Approved* for 2011 by Commission Decision 2010/712/EU

Finland

* in accordance with Council Decision 2009/470/EC

**Program for Eradication : ANNEX 4**

Submission number	1284366318074-408
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Country Geographical English Name	Finland

1. Identification of the programme	
Country Geographical English Name	Finland
Disease	avian influenza in poultry and wild birds
Request co-financing from	2011
Request co-financing to	2011
1.1 Contact	
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2. Description of the surveillance programme in poultry**2.1 Objectives, general requirements and criteria**

The objectives and general requirements shall be those described in the commission decision on the implementation of surveillance programmes for avian influenza in poultry and wild birds to be carried out in the Member States and amending decision 2004/450/EC (2007/268/EC).

The poultry business in Finland is concentrated in the province of Western Finland. However, the aim is to include farms also from other parts of the country. The latest available numbers of farms from IACS (Integrated Administration and Control System) are used for calculations.

2.2 Design and implementation

The total number of holdings to be sampled in Finland in 2011 for avian influenza will be 197: 42 holdings with chicken breeders, 60 holdings with laying hen, 28 holdings with free range hen for organic production, 44 holdings with turkey, 8 holding with duck of geese, 3 holdings with ostriches, 12 holdings with armed feathered game.

2.2.1 Poultry holdings (except ducks and geese) to be sampled

Category	NUTS (2) (a)	Total number of holdings	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of tests to be performed per method	Method of laboratory analysis
chicken breeders	FI18	32	20	15	600	Haemagglutination-inhibition test (HI)
	FI19	37	22	15	660	Haemagglutination-inhibition test (HI)
	FI19	69	42	30	1,260	
laying hens	FI13	51	4	15	120	Haemagglutination-inhibition test (HI)
	FI18	446	35	15	1,050	Haemagglutination-inhibition test (HI)
	FI19	243	19	15	570	Haemagglutination-inhibition test (HI)
	FI1A	21	2	15	60	Haemagglutination-inhibition test (HI)
	FI1A	761	60	60	1,800	
free range laying hens	FI13	5	5	10	100	Haemagglutination-inhibition test (HI)
	FI18	9	9	10	180	Haemagglutination-inhibition test (HI)
	FI19	13	13	10	260	Haemagglutination-inhibition test (HI)
	FI1A	1	1	10	20	agar gel immune diffusion test
	FI1A	28	28	40	560	
fattening turkeys	FI13	1	1	15	30	Haemagglutination-inhibition test (HI)
	FI18	14	14	15	420	Haemagglutination-inhibition test (HI)
	FI19	29	29	15	870	Haemagglutination-inhibition test (HI)
	FI19	44	44	45	1,320	
ratites	FI13	1	1	10	20	Haemagglutination-inhibition test (HI)
	FI18	1	1	10	20	Haemagglutination-inhibition test (HI)
	FI19	1	1	10	20	Haemagglutination-inhibition test (HI)
	FI19	3	3	30	60	
farmed feathered game	FI13	4	4	10	80	Haemagglutination-inhibition test (HI)
	FI18	7	7	10	140	Haemagglutination-inhibition test (HI)
	FI19	1	1	10	20	Haemagglutination-inhibition test (HI)
	FI19	12	12	30	240	
	Total	917	189	235	5,240	

2.2.2 Duck and geese holdings to be sampled according to point C of Annex I to Decision 2007/268/EC Serological investigation

NUTS (2) (a)	Total number of duck and geese holdings	Total number of duck and geese holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of tests to be performed per method	Method of laboratory analysis
FI13	5	5	50	500	Haemagglutination-inhibition-test (HI)
FI18	2	2	50	200	Haemagglutination-inhibition-test (HI)
FI19	1	1	50	100	Haemagglutination-inhibition-test (HI)
Total	8	8	150	800	

2.3 Laboratory testing: description of the laboratory tests used

The surveillance in poultry and in ducks and geese shall be carried out by haemagglutination-inhibition (HI) test for H5 and H7 in accordance with the diagnostic manual. The laboratory responsible for the testing is the Finnish Food Safety Authority Evira.

3. Description of the surveillance programme in wild birds

3.1 Objectives, general requirements and criteria

The objectives and general requirements shall be those described in the Commission Decision 2007/268/EC on the implementation of surveillance programmes for avian influenza in poultry and wild birds to be carried out in the member states and amending Decision 2000/450/EC.

3.2 Design and implementation

3.2.1 WILD BIRDS - Investigation according to the surveillance programme for avian influenza in wild birds set out in Annex II to Decision 2007/268/EC

NUTS (2) code/region (a)	Wild birds to be sampled	Total number of birds to be sampled	Estimated total number of samples to be taken for active surveillance	Estimated total number of samples to be taken for passive surveillance
FI13	ducks, geese, waders, seagulls	20	0	20
FI18	ducks, geese	40	0	40
FI19	ducks, geese	20	0	20
FI1A	geese, seagulls	15	0	15
FI20	ducks, waders, geese	5	0	5
Total	#SYNTAX	100	0	100

3.3 Laboratory testing: description of the laboratory tests used

3.3 Laboratory testing: description of the laboratory tests used

The virological surveillance in wild birds will be carried out individually M-gene PCR in accordance with the diagnostic manual. In case of a positive finding H5 PCR and analysis of the cleavage site are undertaken. Virus isolation will be needed in some cases. The laboratory responsible for the testing is Finnish Food Safety Authority Evira.

4. Description of the epidemiological situation of the disease in poultry during the last five years

Highly pathogenic avian influenza has never been detected in Finland. Antibodies were found in 2008. The farm was resampled and tested by PCR, which was negative.

4.1.1 Designation of the central authority in charge of supervising and coordinating the departments responsible for implementing the programme

The Finnish Food Safety Authority Evira is responsible for implementing the programme.

4.1.2 System in place for the registration of holdings

There is a central register for rural business in Finland which is held by the Information Centre of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. In this register system there are separate subregisters such as register for holdings keeping laying hen and producing eggs for commercial purposes and required to label the eggs in accordance with the Directive 1999/74/EC. Only small holdings selling eggs directly to consumers or situate in certain remote areas are exempted from this labeling requirement and are not registered centrally.

Poultry holdings which receive financial support such as all broiler flocks and most turkey flocks are registered for financial support and control purposes.

Information on the number of back-yard flocks, free-range organic farms and holdings keeping other species of poultry, such as farmed feathered game, ducks and geese or ostriches has to be combined from different registers. The reliability of these numbers therefore cannot be ensured.

4.1.3 Data on vaccination carried out

The use of avian influenza vaccine is prohibited in Finland.

5. Description of the epidemiological situation of the disease in wild birds during the last five years

Highly pathogenic avian influenza in wild birds has never been detected in Finland.

5.1 Measures included in the programme for surveillance in wild birds

5.1.1 Designation of the central authority in charge of supervising and coordinating the departments responsible for implementing the programme

The Finnish Food Safety Authority Evira is responsible for the implementation of the programme.

5.1.2 Description and delimitation of the geographical and administrative areas in which the programme is to be applied

For passive surveillance it is difficult to anticipate where the dead birds are found. However, taking into consideration passive surveillance in recent years, it is likely that most of these samples will come from coastal areas especially Uusimaa (FI181) and Oulu (FI 1A2).

5.1.3 Estimation of the local and/or migratory wildlife population

The estimated size of migratory wild bird population in Finland is 80 million birds and the local population 20 million birds.

6. Measures in place as regards the notification of the disease

Avian influenza is a compulsory notifiable disease in Finland according to the Act on animal diseases (55/1980). Avian influenza virus subtypes H5 have never been detected in Finland. Only low pathogenesis strains of the virus have been detected in some wild birds.

7. Costs

7.1.1 Poultry

As the number of samples to be taken will depend on the number of sheds per farm, the maximum numbers of samples are described. No costs of sampling are included as they have not been reimbursed by the EU in the past. The unit cost for HI test is 3,09€; for PCR 23,23€ and for virus isolation 54,52€. The prices are according to the report of year 2009.

In addition 40 PCR and Virus isolation tests will be done as confirmatory tests.

7.1.2 Wild birds

A total of 100 birds (200 samples) for passive surveillance will be examined. 30 additional confirmatory tests are calculated.

7.2 Summary of the costs

7.2.1 Poultry surveillance

Methods of laboratory analysis	Number of tests to perform per method	Unitary test cost (per method) in €	Total cost (€)
ELISA test	0	0.00	0.00
agar gel immune diffusion test	0	0.00	0.00
Haemagglutination-inhibition-test (HI) for H5 (specify number of tests for H5)	3,020	3.09	9,331.80
Haemagglutination-inhibition-test (HI) for H7 (specify number of tests for H7)	3,020	3.09	9,331.80
Virus isolation test	40	54.52	2,180.80
PCR test	40	23.23	929.20
no other measures	0	0.00	0.00
Total	6,120	83.93	21,773.60

7.2.2 Wild bird surveillance

Methods of laboratory analysis	Number of tests to perform per method	Unitary test cost (per method) in €	Total cost (€)
Haemagglutination-inhibition-test (HI) for H5/H7	0	0.00	0.00
Virus isolation test	30	54.52	1,635.60
PCR test	260	23.23	6,039.80
Other please specify here	0	0.00	0.00
no other measures	0	0.00	0.00
Total	290	77.75	7,675.40