

AVIAN INFLUENZA (AI)

CHRONOLOGY OF MAIN EVENTS AND LIST OF DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION¹

1 January – 31 December 2009

Response to outbreaks in Member States and third countries

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DG Health and Consumer Protection
Unit D1: Animal Health and Standing Committees

Date	Member State	Main event	Action by the European Commission
THU 08/01		Meeting of the SCoFCAH ²	The Belgian , German , Italian , Polish and Norwegian delegations presented information on the LPAI situation.
		CD 2009/6/EC published in the OJ	
			Fax 900 to Ms CVO's: information on publication of CD 2009/6/EC amending Decisions 2005/692/EC, 2005/731/EC, 2005/734/EC and 2007/25/EC concerning avian influenza as regards their period of application
WED 14/01	DE		Fax DE 001 to Ms CVO's: updated information on the LPAI H5N3 situation in Lower Saxony. A further outbreak (in total now 30 outbreaks) was confirmed by H5 PCR on 12 January in a turkey holding in the commune Bösel.

¹ This document summarises very basic information on the outbreaks of avian influenza (AI) in third countries and related Community action. This focuses on the animal health aspects. More detailed information on the events and actions taken in 2005-2007 can be found on the [SANCO AI webpages](#).

For additional information, please refer to the Decisions in the Official Journal, to the Commission's [avian influenza webpage](#), including associated [press releases](#).

All Commission Decisions (CD) can be accessed via the [EUR-Lex](#) webpages.

For more general animal health information, please refer to the Commission's [Animal Health](#) web-pages.

For public health information, please refer to the Influenza pages from the Commission's [public health](#) unit, [AI pages](#) from the World Health Organisation (WHO), or [pages](#) of the World Animal Health Organisation (OIE).

² Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health - a Regulatory Committee, chaired by the Commission, including veterinary experts from all MS's governments (http://ec.europa.eu/food/committees/regulatory/index_en.htm)

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THU 15/01	DE		Fax DE 002 to Ms CVO's: updated information from Germany on the LPAI H5N3 situation in Lower Saxony. A further outbreak (31 in total) was confirmed during the night of 14 January in a turkey holding outside the areas under restriction.
	PL	Poland – LPAI of H5 subtype not confirmed	Fax 901 to Ms CVO's: following the information presented at the SCoFAH of 8 January on a suspicion of avian influenza of the subtype H5 in turkeys in Boguszyce, county of Nowogard, Goleniow, Poland, the suspicion of LPAI was not confirmed.
FRI 16/01	DE		Fax DE 003 to Ms CVO's: updated information from Germany on the LPAI H5N3 situation in Lower Saxony. A further LPAI H5 outbreak (32 in total) was confirmed inside a restricted zone.
TUE 20/01	DE		Fax DE 004 to Ms CVO's: updated information from Germany on the LPAI H5N3 situation in Lower Saxony. A further outbreak (now 33 in total) was confirmed on 19 January in a turkey holding in Cloppenburg. The infected holding and a related contact holding are both located in a restricted zone "Sperrgebiet 5".
THU 26/01	CA	Canada – LPAI of H5 subtype in fattening turkeys	Fax 902 to Ms CVO's: information on an outbreak of low pathogenic avian influenza of H5 subtype in a farm with 60 000 fattening turkeys in Abbotsford, British Columbia at the westernmost limit of Canada.
TUE 03/02	FR	France – LPAI of H5 subtype confirmed in breeding ducks	Fax 902 to Ms CVO's: information on an outbreak of low pathogenic avian influenza of the H5 subtype confirmed on 1 February in a 5000 breeding duck holding in the department of Vendée, France.
TUE-WED 03-04/02		Meeting of the SCoFAH³	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The German and French delegations presented information on the LPAI situation. • The Romanian delegation reported about the detection of influenza A H5(non N1) in a sentinel bird in the Danube delta in Tulcea county during routine surveillance. • The Commission gave an update on the HPAI situation in China and the LPAI situation in Canada. • Draft Commission Regulation (SANCO/3491/2008) amending Regulation (EC) No 318/2007 laying down animal health conditions for imports of certain birds into the Community and the quarantine conditions thereof was put for a vote and endorsed by the SCoFAH. • Draft Commission Regulation (SANCO/4063/2008) concerning the establishment of a voluntary system of preventive biosecurity measures with respect to avian influenza and laying down conditions for the approval of compartments of poultry and other captive birds was discussed.
FRI 06/02	DE		Fax DE 005 to Ms CVO's: updated information from Germany on the LPAI H5N3 situation in Lower Saxony. No further outbreak of the disease has been detected since the confirmation of the last outbreak of low pathogenic avian influenza on 19 January 2009(33 outbreaks in total since the start of the event on 10 December 2008).
TUE 10/02	DE		Fax DE 006 to Ms CVO's: updated information from Germany on the LPAI H5N3 situation in Lower Saxony. Testing by serology and virology of poultry holdings in the communes of Garrel and Bösel has given negative results. On 10 February the restriction measures for "Sperrgebiet 1" have been lifted.

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THU 12/02	FR		Fax 903 to Ms CVO's: information by the French authorities on a second outbreak of low pathogenic avian influenza of the H5N3 subtype detected in a duck holding in Vendée situated within 900 metres from the first outbreak.
	CA		Fax 904 to Ms CVO's: information on the confirmation of a second outbreak of low pathogenic avian influenza of H5N2 subtype in a commercial poultry holding located near Abbotsford, British Columbia.
MON 16/02	F		Fax 905 to Ms CVO's: updated information by the French authorities on the situation for low pathogenic avian influenza of the H5N3 subtype. No further outbreaks (in total 2) have been detected.
	CZ	Czech Republic LPAI of H7 subtype confirmed In poultry	Fax 906 to Ms CVO's: information by the Czech authorities on a low pathogenic avian influenza outbreak of the H7 subtype in a poultry holding close to Hodonín in the Southern Moravian region in the Czech Republic detected during routine monitoring.
WED 18/02	DE		Fax DE 007 to Ms CVO's: updated information from Germany on the LPAI H5N3 situation in Lower Saxony. All follow-up investigations gave negative results and restrictions are to be lifted by 20 February. Restrictions in relation to the LPAI H5 outbreak in a backyard flock in Qedlinburg, Saxony Anhalt, have been lifted by 12 February.
TUE-WED 03-04/03		Meeting of the SCoFCAH⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Czech Republic, France, Germany and Romania gave an update on the disease situation for low pathogenic avian influenza. The Commission gave an update on the highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 situation in China and the low pathogenic avian influenza H5N2 situation in Canada. Draft Commission Regulation (SANCO/4063/2008-Rev2) concerning the voluntary establishment of additional preventive biosecurity measures for compartments with respect to avian influenza and laying down conditions for the approval of such compartments of poultry and other captive birds was discussed. Draft Commission Decision (SANCO/4692/2009) amending Decision 2007/268/EC on the implementation of surveillance programmes for avian influenza and wild birds to be carried out in Member States was discussed. Draft Commission Regulation (SANCO/4553/2009-Rev1) amending Commission Regulation (EC) No 798/2008 laying down a list of third countries, territories, zones or compartments from which poultry and poultry products may be imported into and transit through the Community and the veterinary certification was put for a vote and endorsed by the SCoFCAH
TUE 10/03	DE	Germany - confirmation of HPAI H5N1 in a wild bird	Fax 907 to Ms CVO's: information from the German authorities on a case of highly pathogenic avian influenza of the H5N1 subtype in one wild mallard shot on 10 January during hunting at lake of Starnberg, Germany. The bird had not shown clinical signs of disease and was tested in the frame of the routine surveillance programme for avian influenza. This is the first case of a HPAI H5N1 positive wild bird in 2009. The last positive case in wild birds in the EU was recorded on 29 February 2008 in the United Kingdom.
FRI 13/03	FR	France – LPAI of H5 subtype confirmed	Fax 908 to Ms CVO's: information by the French authorities on findings of low pathogenic avian influenza H5 in ducks used as decoy birds in the départements of Pas-de-Calais and Calvados, France, that have been sampled in the frame of routine

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		in decoy birds	surveillance for avian influenza biosecurity measures have been strengthened.
TUE 17/03		Reg (EC) 201/2009 published in the OJ	Amendment to Reg. 318/2007 update on list of bird quarantine facilities in MS.
WED 01/04			Fax 909 to Ms CVO's: information from the Czech authorities on lifting all the measures in relation to the outbreak of low pathogenic avian influenza of the subtype H7N9 in Hodonín, by 24 March.
WED-THU 01- 02/04		Meeting of the SCoFCAH ⁵	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • France and the Czech Republic gave an update on the disease situation for low pathogenic avian influenza. • Germany informed on a case of highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 in a wild bird. • Draft Commission Regulation (SANCO/4694/2009) amending Commission Regulation (EC) No 798/2008 laying down a list of third countries, territories, zones or compartments from which poultry and poultry products may be imported into and transit through the Community and the veterinary certification as regards Newcastle disease was discussed. • Draft Commission Decision (SANCO/4899/2009) amending Commission Decision 2006/415/EC and 2008/555/EC as regards their period of application was discussed. • Draft Commission Regulation (SANCO/4063/2008-Rev4) as regards the approval of poultry compartments and other captive birds' compartments with respect to avian influenza and additional preventive biosecurity measures in such compartments was put for a vote and endorsed by the SCoFCAH. • Draft Commission Regulation (SANCO/3491/2008-Rev2) amending Regulation (EC) No 318/2007 laying down animal health conditions for imports of certain birds into the Community and the quarantine conditions thereof was put for a vote and endorsed by the SCoFCAH. • Draft Commission Decision (SANCO/4692/2009) amending Decision 2007/268/EC on the implementation of surveillance programmes for avian influenza and wild birds to be carried out in Member States was put for a vote and endorsed by the SCoFCAH.
MON 06/04	CA		Fax 910 to Ms CVO's: information on certification requirements in relation to low pathogenic avian influenza in Canada and the decision (Document SANCO/4553/2009-Rev1) that received a favourable opinion at the meeting of SCoFCAH of 1-2 April were sent.
TUE-WED 05- 06/05		Meeting of the SCoFCAH ⁶	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Germany presented information on an outbreak of low pathogenic avian influenza of the H7H7 in a turkey holding in the Landkreis Kleve, Land North Rhine Westphalia. • Draft Commission Regulation (SANCO/4694/2009) amending Commission Regulation (EC) No 798/2008 laying down a list of third countries, territories, zones or compartments from which poultry and poultry products may be imported into and transit through the Community and the veterinary certification as regards Newcastle disease was discussed. • Draft Commission Decision (SANCO/4899/2009) amending Decisions 2006/415/EC concerning certain protection

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			measures in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza of the subtype H5N1 in poultry in the Community and Decision 2008/555/EC concerning certain protection measures in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza of subtype H5N1 in Croatia and Switzerland was put for a vote and endorsed by the SCoFAH.
WED 13/05	FR		Fax 910 to Ms CVO's: information from the French authorities on the lifting of the measures in relation to the findings of low pathogenic avian influenza of the H5 subtype in decoy birds in the departments of Vendée and Pas de Calais.
THU 14/05	IT	Italy – LPAI H5 confirmed in poultry	Fax 911 to Ms CVO's: information from the Italian authorities of an outbreak of low pathogenic avian influenza of the H5 subtype in a fattening turkey holding in the commune of Nogarele Rocca, Verona province, Veneto.
MON 18/05	SLO		Fax 912 to Ms CVO's: information from the Slovenian authorities on an avian influenza simulation exercise from 19 -21 May.
WED 20/05		Com Reg 411/2009 published in OJ	Amendment to Regulation (EC) No 798/2008 on imports and transit of poultry and poultry products
THU 28/05	IT	Italy – LPAI H7N3 confirmed in poultry	Fax 913 to Ms CVO's: information from the Italian authorities of an outbreak of low pathogenic avian influenza of the H7N3 subtype in a turkey holding in the commune of Perugia, Umbria Region.
WED/THU 03-04/06		Meeting of the SCoFAH ⁷	Italy presented the low pathogenic avian influenza situation in Italy.
THU 04/06	IT	Italy – LPAI H7 confirmed in poultry	Fax 914 to Ms CVO's: information from the Italian authorities of an outbreak in a mixed poultry holding of low pathogenic avian influenza of the H7 subtype in the commune of Villanova Mondovi, Cuneo province, Piedmont Region.
WED 10/06		CD 2009/437/EC published in the OJ	CD amending Decision 2007/268/EC on the implementation of surveillance programmes for avian influenza and wild birds.
THU 18/06	IT	Italy – LPAI H7 confirmed in poultry	Fax 915 to Ms CVO's: information from the Italian authorities on further outbreaks of low pathogenic avian influenza of the H7 subtype in Piedmont region, Cuneo and Torino provinces (2); in Emilia Romagna region, Forli-Cesena province (1). Additional temporary movement restrictions and pre-consignment testing are implemented.
FRI 26/06	ES	Spain – LPAI H5 (not N1) confirmed in poultry	Fax 916 to Ms CVO's: information from the Spanish authorities on an outbreak of low pathogenic avian influenza of the H5 (not N1) subtype in a fattening duck holding in Navarra province detected during routine surveillance.
SAT 27/06		CD 2009/494/EC CD 2009/495/EC published in the OJ	CD prolonging protection measures (equivalency of measures) in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza of subtype H5N1 in Croatia and Switzerland

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			CD prolonging Decision 2006/415/EC concerning certain protection measures in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza of the subtype H5N1 in poultry in the Community
TUE/WED 30/06-01/07		Meeting of the SCoFCAH ⁸	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Italy and Spain presented the low pathogenic avian influenza situation in their countries. Draft Commission Regulation (SANCO/4694/2009 - Rev.2) amending Regulation (EC) No 798/2008 laying down a list of third countries, territories, zones or compartments from which poultry and poultry products may be imported into and transit through the Community and the veterinary certification requirements as regards Newcastle disease was put for a vote and endorsed by the SCoFCAH.
THU 02/07			Fax 917 to Ms CVO's: information on the publication of Decisions 2009/494/EC and 2009/495/EC prolonging the application of Decision 2006/415/EC (protection measures H5N1 in poultry) and protection measures (Switzerland and Croatia).
MON 06/07	IT	Italy – LPAI H7 confirmed in poultry	Fax 918 to Ms CVO's: update from the Italian authorities on the low pathogenic avian influenza situation in Italy with the last outbreak confirmed in Lugo commune, Ravenna province, Emilia Romagna region and related control measures.
MON 20/07	CA	Canada AI free again	Fax 919 to Ms CVO's: information from the Canadian authorities on the regaining of the free country status for avian influenza following outbreaks of low pathogenic avian influenza in British Columbia in January/February 2009.
MON 10/08	USA	LPAI H7N9 in poultry	Fax 920 to Ms CVO's: information from the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, United States Department of Agriculture notified to the OIE on 6 August 2009 an outbreak of LPAI of H7N9 subtype in a commercial turkey operation with an estimated 160,000 birds in 16 houses. The farm is located in Minnesota (Meeker County, Meeker).
TUE/WED 07-08/09-		Meeting of the SCoFCAH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Italy and Spain present information on the low pathogenic avian influenza situation in their countries. The Community Reference Laboratory for avian influenza gives preliminary information on the avian influenza surveillance in wild birds and poultry in the EU during 2008. Draft Commission Decision amending Decisions 2005/692/EC, 2005/731/EC, 2005/734/EC and 2007/25/EC (SANCO/6128/2009) concerning avian influenza as regards their period of application was discussed. Draft Commission Regulation (SANCO/6131/2009) amending Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 798/2008 laying down a list of third countries, territories, zones or compartments from which poultry and poultry products may be imported into and transit through the Community and the veterinary certification requirements as regards transit from Belarus was discussed.
MON 12/10	ES	Spain -HPAI H7 confirmed in poultry	Fax 921 to Ms CVO's: information from the Spanish veterinary authorities on a confirmed outbreak of highly pathogenic avian

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			influenza of the subtype H7 in a large laying hen farm in the province of Guadalajara, autonomous region of Castilla-La Mancha.
DO 15/10	ES		Fax 922 to MS CVO's: information by the Spanish authorities on the disease situation for highly pathogenic avian influenza of the H7N7 in a laying hen farm in the municipality of Almoguera, province of Guadalajara, Castilla-La Mancha and on control measures taken including culling of birds present on the holding and establishment of zones. Investigations of poultry holdings in the established zones around the outbreak have so far given negative.
FRI 16/10		Meeting of the SCoFAH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spain presented the disease situation for highly pathogenic avian influenza of the H7N7 subtype. • Draft Commission Decision (SANCO/7040/2009) concerning certain protective measures in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza of subtype H7N7 in Spain was put for a vote and endorsed by the SCoFAH. • Draft Commission Regulation amending Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 798/2008 (SANCO/6131/2009 - Rev.2) as regards the inclusion of Belarus in the list of third countries set out in that Regulation in order to permit transit from Belarus through the Community of eggs and egg products for human consumption and modifying certification for day-old chicks of poultry other than ratites was put for a vote and endorsed by the SCoFAH. • Draft Commission Regulation (SANCO/6830/2009 - Rev.1) amending Regulation (EC) No 318/2007 laying down animal health conditions for imports of certain birds into the Community and the quarantine conditions thereof was put for a vote and endorsed by the SCoFAH.
FRI 16/10	ES		Fax 922 to MS CVO's: information on the disease situation presented by the Spanish delegate and the Commission protective measures in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza of the H7N7 subtype in Spain voted at the SCoFAH of 16/10.
TUE 20/10	ES		Fax 923 to MS CVO's: updated information from the Spanish authorities on the outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza of the H7N7 subtype in Almoguera, province Guadalajara, Castilla-La Mancha. Killing has been finalised and cleaning and disinfection ongoing. Further investigations of holdings in the established zones have given negative results.
FRI 30/10		CD 2009/794/EC published in the OJ	CD concerning certain protective measures in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza of subtype H7N7 in Spain published.
TUE/WED 03-04/11		Meeting of the SCoFAH	Information from Spain on the situation as regards highly pathogenic avian influenza of the H7N7 subtype
FRI 06/11	CZ	Czech Republic LPAI H5 confirmed in poultry	Fax 925 to Ms CVO's: information from the CZ authorities on an outbreak of low pathogenic avian influenza of the H5N3 subtype in game birds (mallards) kept for restocking wild game supplies close to the municipality Trebin, district of České Budejovice, Southern Bohemian region. Measures including killing of the birds are implemented.
SAT 07/11		CD 2009/818/EC published in the OJ	CD prolonging certain protection measures in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza of subtype H5N1.
TUE 17/11	FR	France LPAI H5 confirmed in poultry	Fax 926 to Ms CVO's: information from the French authorities on a confirmed outbreak of low pathogenic avian influenza of the H5 subtype in a duck holding in Saint Aubin du Plain, département Deux Sèvres. The 9000 birds present on the holding will be culled. There are no poultry holdings in the established (1km) restricted zone around the outbreak.

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FRI 20/11	DE	Germany LPAI H5 confirmed in poultry	Fax 927 to Ms CVO's: information from the German authorities on a confirmed outbreak of H5 subtype in a mixed poultry holding located in Grosswechsungen, commune Werther, Kreis Nordhausen, Thuringia. The approx. 2500 ducks, geese and chickens present on the holding will be culled and the restricted zone has been established around the infected holding.
MON 23/11	DE		Fax 928 to Ms CVO's: updated information from the German authorities on the outbreak of low pathogenic avian influenza in Grosswechsungen. Investigations in possible contact holdings and poultry holdings located in the restricted zone are ongoing.
THU 26/11	DE		Fax 929 to Ms CVO's: updated information from the German authorities on the outbreak of low pathogenic avian influenza in Grosswechsungen. Preliminary cleaning and disinfection have been finalised and investigations have not raised suspicion of disease in other poultry holdings.
TUE 15/12	CZ	Czech Republic LPAI H5N3 Lifting of measures	Fax 930 to Ms CVO's: information from the Czech authorities on lifting of the restrictive measures in relation to the outbreak of low pathogenic avian influenza of the H5N3 subtype in a poultry holding in South Bohemia by 1 December 2009.
MON/TUE 30/11-1/12		Meeting of the SCoFCAH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spain presented the disease situation for highly pathogenic avian influenza of the H7N7 subtype • France presented the disease situation for low pathogenic avian influenza of the H5 subtype. • Germany presented the disease situation for low pathogenic avian influenza of the H5 subtype. • Italy presented an update on the disease situation for low pathogenic avian influenza of the H5 subtype