

About this dossier

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Eradication: Final report for Avian Influenza 2019

For each approved annual or multi-annual programme Member States shall submit to the Commission by the 30 April each year an annual detailed technical and financial report covering the previous year. That report shall include the results achieved and a detailed account of eligible costs incurred (Art 14 of Regulation (EU) No 652/2014).

This form is for information only, no submission possible.

ID: 20200526-7BR3FOII

Country code: HR

Reporting period

From: 2019

To: 2019

Year of implementation: 2019

1. Technical implementation of the programme

1.1 Description and evaluation of the evolution of the epidemiological situation, the technical implementation of the activities foreseen under the programme and the cost-effectiveness of the programme.

AI surveillance programme in poultry:

In the year 2019 AI programme was implemented as a combination of risk-based surveillance and surveillance based on representative sampling according to the Commission Decision 2010/367/EU. Objectives of the surveillance of the AI programme were to collect the data about virus circulation, early detection and control the disease (LPAI subtypes H5 and H7 in poultry and domestic waterfowl). According to the type of poultry keeping in Croatia, number of the poultry holdings and fact that all outbreaks of AI were detected in holdings with presence of more than one poultry species ("mixed species holdings") with low biosecurity level, testing was based on combination of both surveillance methods with hypothesis that it will cover an entire poultry population in Croatia.

Sampling and testing in poultry holdings was carried out in order to detect presence of AI antibodies.

Surveillance based on representative sampling was implemented on the holdings prescribed by the programme:

- Laying hens: 36 randomly selected holdings with laying hens,

- Laying hens free range: 27 randomly selected holdings with laying hens,
- Breeding hens: 14 flocks,
- Breeding turkey: 1 flock,
- Breeding ducks: 3 flocks,
- Fattening turkey: 17 flocks,
- Fattening ducks: 1 flock.

Risk based surveillance was conducted on a dedicated holdings located "in higher risk area" based on criteria and risk factors. In total 137 backyard holdings with more than one poultry species in "higher risk areas" were tested during 2019.

All flocks were tested once per year.

Suspicion in poultry:

In 2019 on holding with 40 hens, 30 hens died in short time and some of them before dead showed clinical signs. Three dead animals were tested with Real Time RT- PCR and results were negative.

AI surveillance programme in wild birds:

It was foreseen testing of wild birds (minimum 5 birds/location) on the 22 locations. Those locations are of the main interest for active searching of dead or moribund wild birds. In 2019 in total 161 wild birds were tested by PCR test (one wild bird- one PCR test). Birds were located on 35 different locations (in 16 counties) and in total 27 different bird species were collected and tested. Costs of collecting and identification of wild birds are █████ HRK (█████ EUR) per bird.

Suspicion in wild birds:

During 2019 there was one clinical suspicion in one pigeon (*Columba livia domestica*; bird was found dead). Real Time RT-PCR finished with negative results.

During 2019 there was one positive Real Time RT-PCR result in a duck. Two additional PCR tests on pooled sample were performed (for subtypes H5 and H7) and both finished with negative results. In addition virus isolation on embryonated eggs were performed and result of this method was positive.

AI epidemiological situation in poultry and wild birds:

In period between December 2016 and April 2017 four primary outbreaks of AI in poultry were confirmed (in total on 11

holdings in following counties: City of Zagreb, Koprivnica- Križevci, Virovitica- Podravina and Krapina- Zagorje). Subtypes

H5N5 and H5N8 were identified. In total 3,067 poultry were culled and destroyed and 21, 016 eggs were destroyed. All

measures in accordance with Directive 2005/947EZ were applied. There is no evidence of AI in poultry since the last

confirmed outbreak in March 2017.

During 2016 and 2017 (until April 30, 2017) HPAI- H5N5 and H5N8 were isolated in 41 wild birds (in 2 wild birds-subtype

H5N5 were confirmed, in 39 wild birds subtype H5N8 were confirmed). All positive birds were found dead. Locations

where positive birds where found are situated in seven counties (Osijek- Baranja, Vukovar- Srijem, Sisak- Moslavina, City of Zagreb, Koprivnica- Križevci, Virovitica- Podravina, Karlovac).

Since April 2017 there was no confirmed outbreak of AI.

Additional clarification of financial costs in 2019:

Total No of holdings sampled in 2019

In total 236 poultry holdings in the framework of surveillance programme were tested for presence of AI.

No of samples per holding

Following sampling criteria were applied:

- 5- 10 birds/samples per poultry holding (from all sheds on the holdings with more than one shed) from all poultry category except ducks, geese and mallards,
- 20 birds/samples per holdings with ducks/gees/mallards,
- holdings with more than one shed per holding at least 5 birds per shed.

In column "No of samples per holding" an average is calculated (depending of different No of sheds per each holding; 10 samples/holding; 20 samples/holdings with ducks and geese).

Total No of tests performed by method:

Discrepancy in the number of HI tests for H5 and HI tests for H7- the number of H5 tests is bigger than the number of H7 tests because the H5N8 antigen is included in the routine panel of antigens for testing of ducks and geese sera in order to detect possible silent infection with H5 HPAI virus in these species.

The total number of PCR tests done is presented (both M gene PCR (generic AI PCR) and PCR tests that have been conducted for subtyping (i.e. H5, H7) subsequently to positive generic AI PCR test)).

Authorised veterinary organisations billed the Veterinary and Food Safety Directorate by submitting invoices in which a total number of poultry samples (blood / swab / carcass) delivered was 3,315 poultry. Croatian Veterinary Institute- Poultry Centre counted 3,799 samplings what is less than payments to the authorized veterinary organizations. The difference is due to pooling of organs from carcasses and/or swabs from the same holding and species in order to reduce the number of laboratory testing.

1.2 Details on the level of achievement of the targets set in the approved programme and technical difficulties.

See point 1.1.

1.3 Epidemiological maps for infection and other relevant data on the disease/activities (information on serotypes involved,...) (Please attach files of data using the PDF attachment feature) Use the textbox below to provide clarifications for the maps you attach, if needed.

See point 1.1.

2. TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME ON AVIAN INFLUENZA

VERY IMPORTANT: Please fill out the following tables with figures corresponding to measures performed during the implementing period (1/1 to 31/12).

In the column "Total number of samples taken", please put 0 if the same samples have already been counted for another laboratory analysis (example : for HI-H5 and HI-H7 test, only 1 sample should be counted).

Table A - POULTRY HOLDINGS SAMPLED : SEROLOGICAL INVESTIGATION ACCORDING TO ANNEX I TO COMMISSION DECISION 2010/367/EU

Poultry category	NUTS2 Code	Total number of holdings	Total number of holdings sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of samples taken	Methods of laboratory analysis	Total number of tests performed per method
Laying hens	HR	53	36	10	751	HI test for H5	751
Laying hens	HR	0	0	0	0	HI test for H7	751
Free range laying hens	HR	42	27	10	237	HI test for H5	237
Free range laying hens	HR	0	0	0	0	HI test for H7	237
Chicken breeders	HR	14	14	10	848	HI test for H5	848
Chicken breeders	HR	0	0	0	0	HI test for H7	848
Turkey breeders	HR	1	1	10	411	HI test for H5	411
Turkey breeders	HR	0	0	0	0	HI test for H7	411
Duck breeders	HR	3	3	20	20	HI test for H5	40
Duck breeders	HR	0	0	0	0	HI test for H7	20
Fattening turkeys	HR	17	17	10	10	HI test for H5	10
Fattening turkeys	HR	0	0	0	0	HI test for H7	10
Fattening ducks	HR	1	1	20	60	HI test for H5	120
Fattening ducks	HR	0	0	0	0	HI test for H7	60
Backyard flocks (optional)	HR	180	137	10	1,462	HI test for H5	1,612
Backyard flocks (optional)	HR	0	0	0	0	HI test for H7	1,462
Backyard flocks (optional)	HR	1	1	3	3	PCR test	3
Total		312	237	103	3,802	Methods of laboratory analysis	Total number of tests

	Total - HI test for H5	4,029
	Total - HI test for H7	3,799
	Total - PCR test	3

Table B - WILD BIRDS : INVESTIGATION ACCORDING TO THE SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMME FOR AVIAN INFLUENZA IN WILD BIRDS SET OUT IN ANNEX II TO DECISION 2010/367/EU

NUTS 2 Code	Total number of wild birds sampled for passive surveillance	Number of PCR tests done for passive surveillance	Number of virus isolation tests for passive surveillance
HR	161	162	1
Total	161	162	1

Table C - POULTRY AND WILD BIRDS : NUMBER OF OUTBREAKS OF AVIAN INFLUENZA DETECTED DURING THE YEAR

	Domestic birds	Wild birds
Nr of HPAI outbreaks	0	0
Nr of LPAI outbreaks	0	0

COMMENT / ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION

Exchange rate on April 30th 2020 (European Central Bank)