



HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA

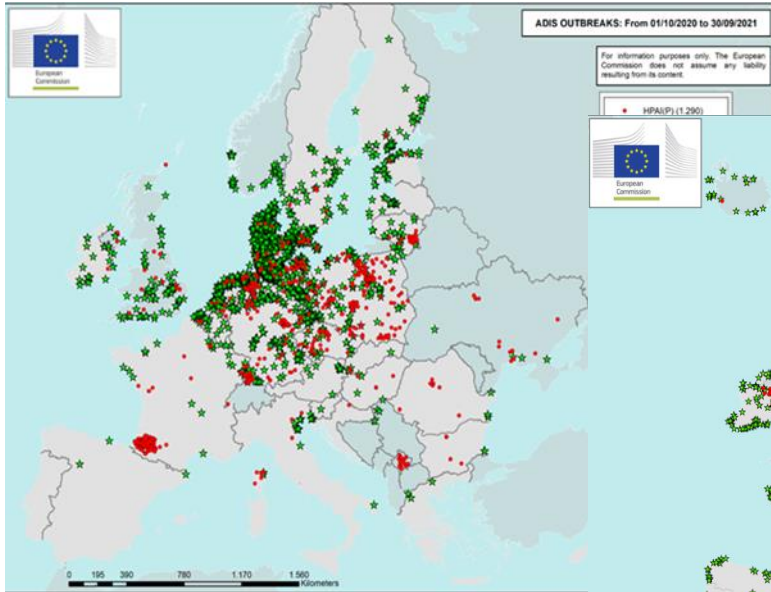
DISEASE SITUATION

ANIMAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE
20 November 2024

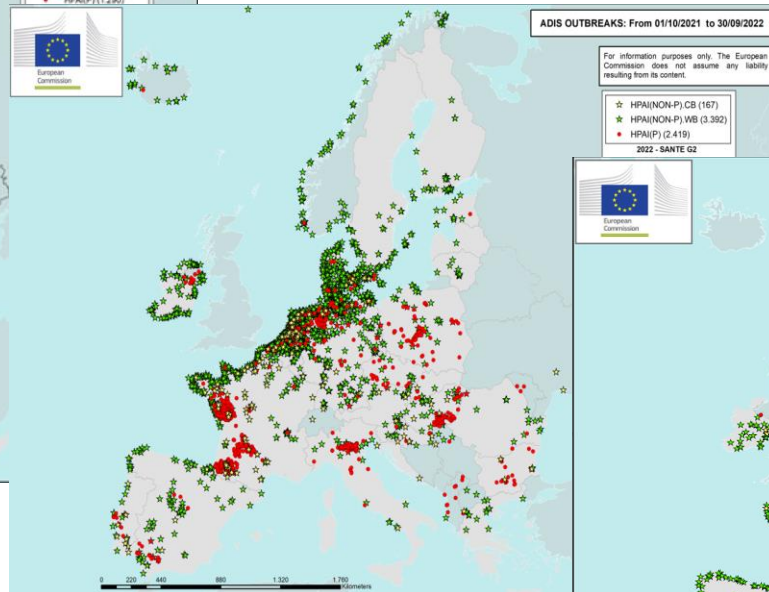
European Commission,
DG Health and Food Safety
Unit G2 – Animal Health

HPAI in EU - map view

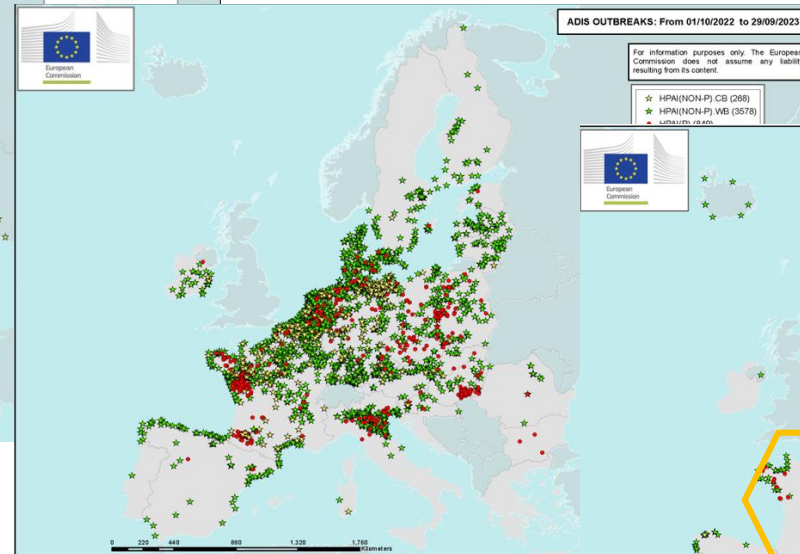
Oct 2020 – Sept 2021



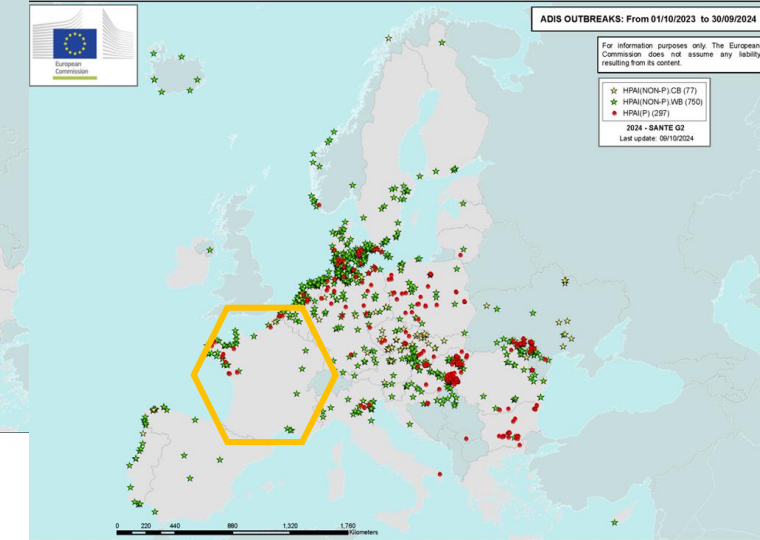
Oct 2021 – Sept 2022



Oct 2022 – Sept 2023



Oct 2023 – Sept 2024



Virus spread with **wild birds** in all parts of Europe

Recurrent clusters in poultry in certain areas with high density of poultry production

Vaccination of production ducks ongoing from 1 October 2023

Current HPAI situation

- Epidemic season 2024-2025 has now started

Since 1/10/2024

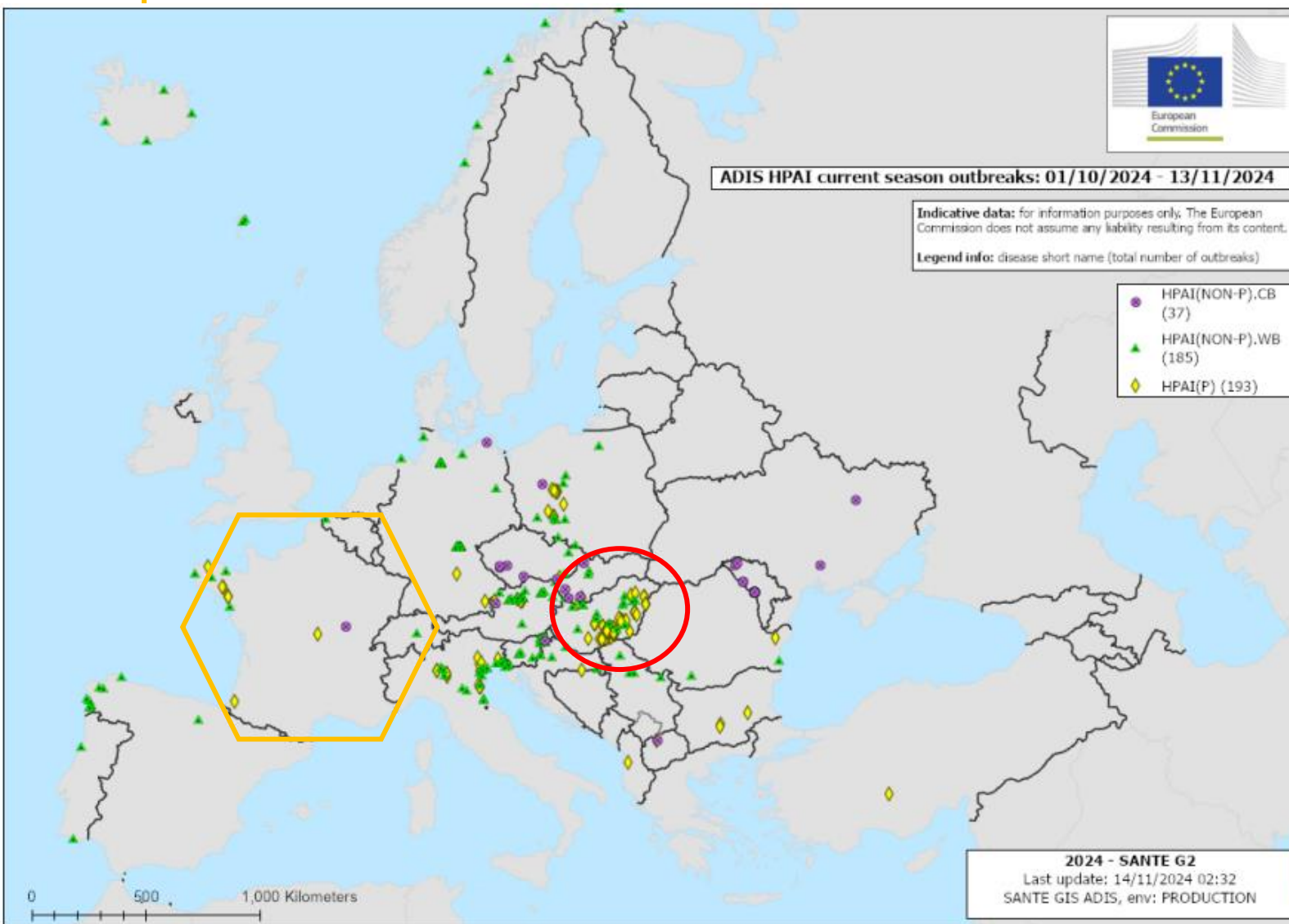
191 outbreaks in wild birds

224 outbreaks in poultry confirmed in

More than 7 Mil. poultry that have to be killed in the outbreaks

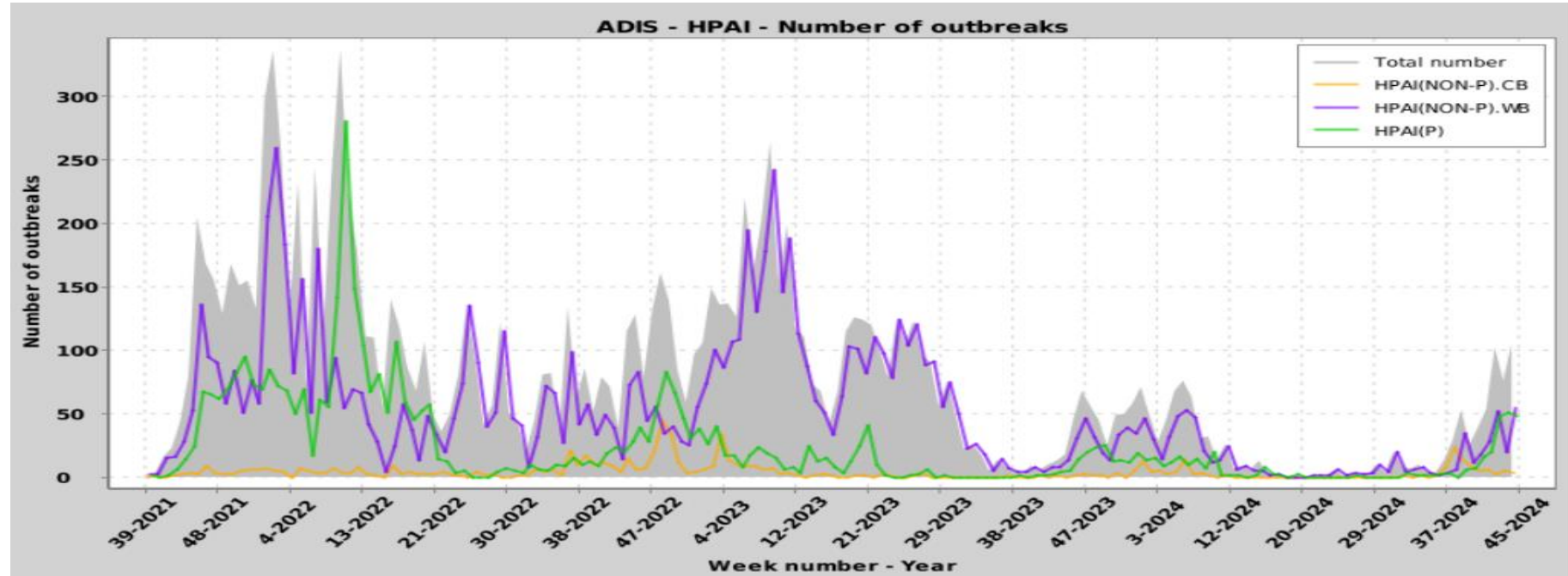
Austria, Bulgaria, Czechia, Germany, France, Italy, Hungary, Croatia, Slovakia, Poland, Netherlands

In certain areas where outbreaks are **again** developing in **clusters (Hungary)**

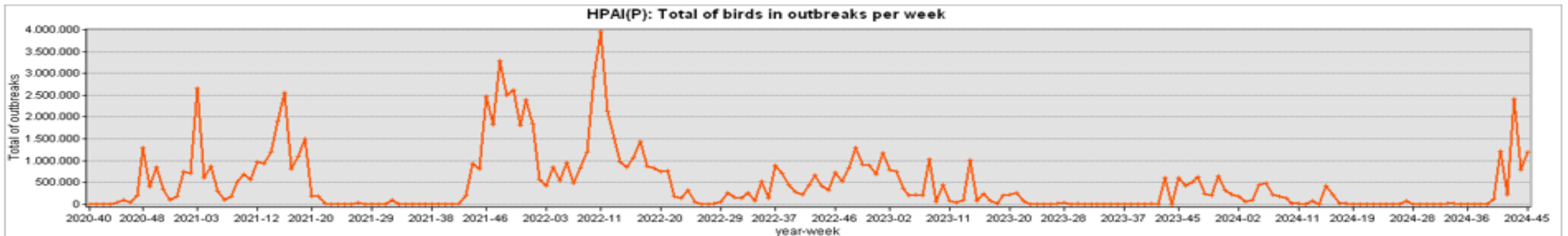


Graphics of the HPAI epidemics in the EU

Weekly number of outbreaks in 2021-2024



Weekly number of poultry in outbreaks in 2020-2024



Summary of HPAI epidemic seasons in figures

2021-2022:

the most severe HPAI epidemic season ever experienced by EU with the highest number of outbreaks in poultry and affected poultry

2022-2023:

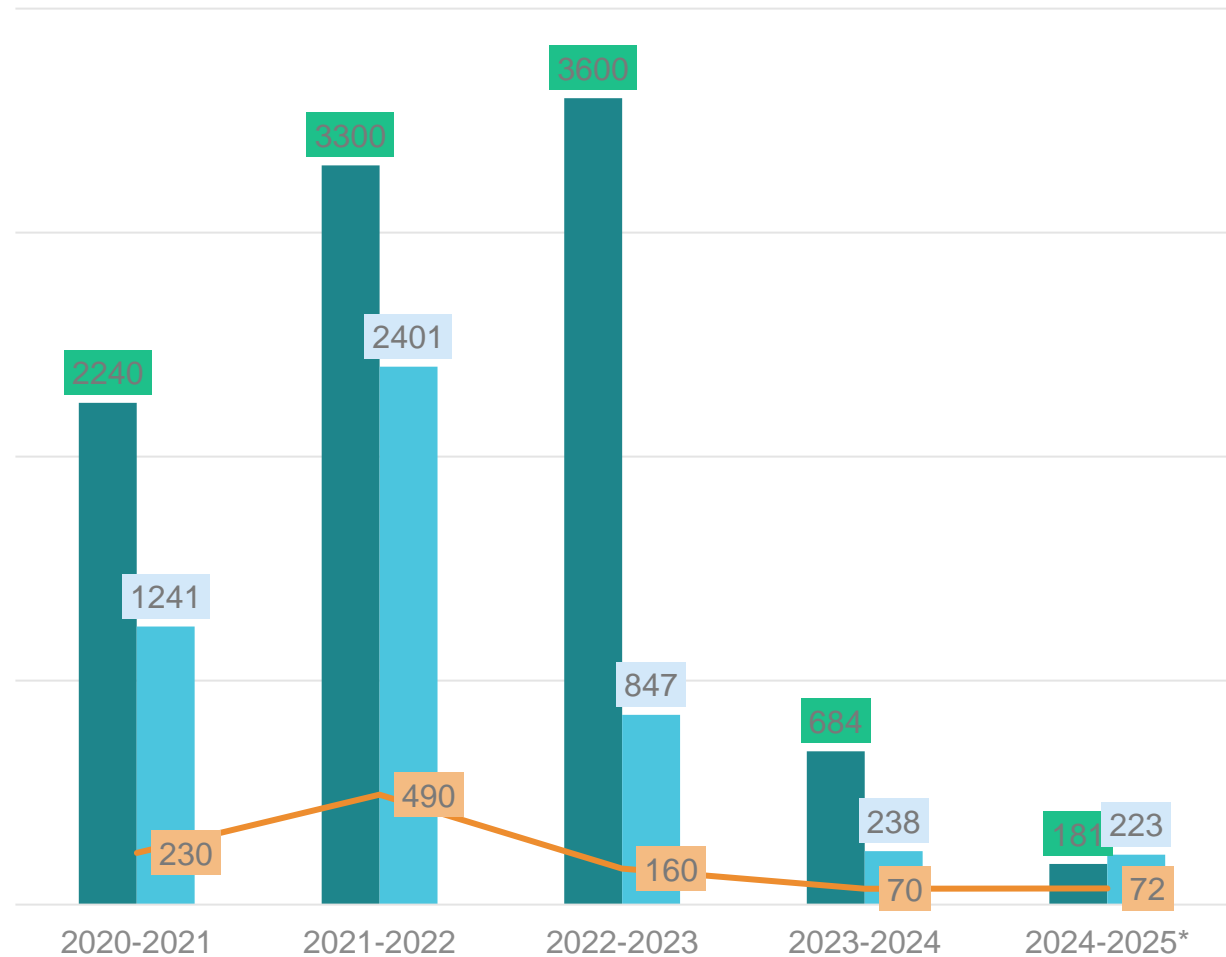
even with **higher number** of outbreaks in **wild birds**, **less poultry outbreaks** (improved biosecurity and preventive measures e.g. reduced density in high risk areas)

2023 – 2024:

less number of **outbreaks** in wild birds and poultry. **Start vaccination campaign poultry (ducks) in France**

2024 – 2025:

Earlier start of season, central part of EU more affected. **Vaccination in France continues**

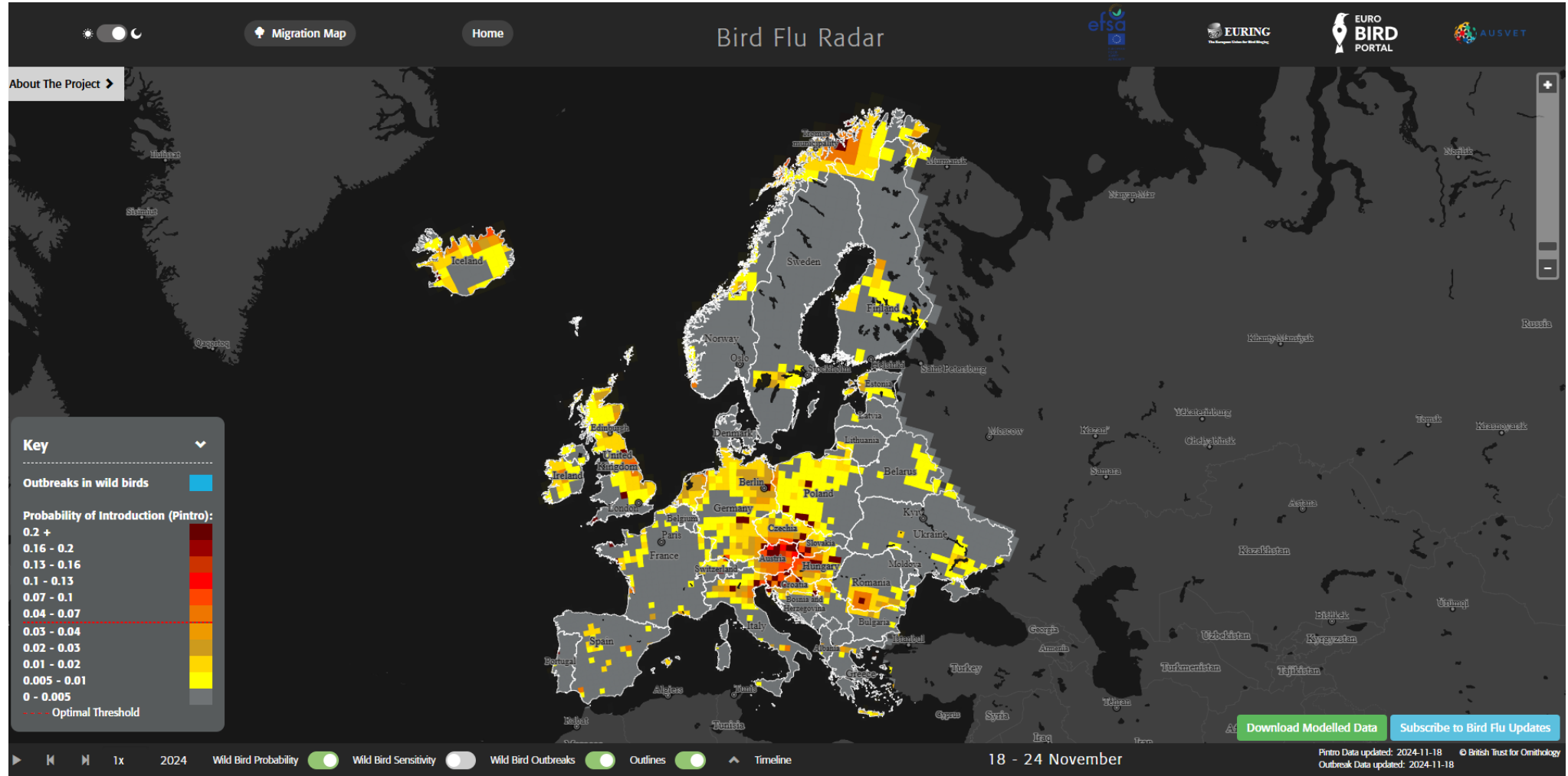


Legend: Wild birds (dark teal bar), Poultry outbreaks (light blue bar), Poultry affected (100 thousands) (orange line)

* Up to 19 Nov 2024

EFSA's Bird Flu Radar

<https://app.bto.org/hpai>



Conclusions

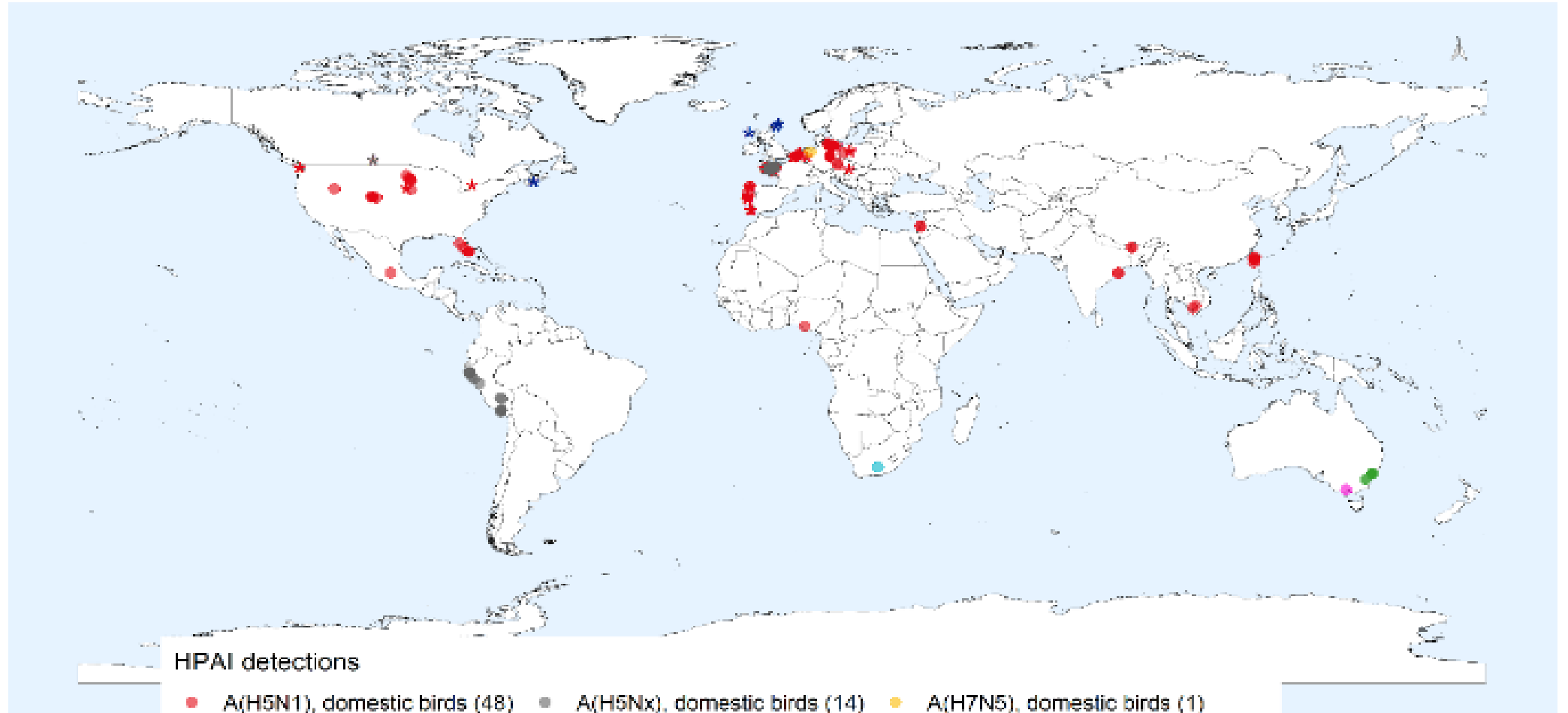
- **H5N1 increased risk** for poultry in the EU since 2020
- **Recurrent clusters** in areas with high density of certain **poultry** sectors (e.g. fattening ducks for foie gras, fattening turkeys)

Awareness and early detection of virus in wild birds are key for prevention of disease spread to poultry establishments

BIOSECURITY remains the **cornerstone** as preventive measure to protect poultry from infection.

Geographical distribution HPAI in birds

15 June – 23 Sept 2024



Author: EFSA
Data sources: ADIS, WOAHI
Date updated: 20/09/2024

HPAI in the USA

Current situation

H5 Bird Flu Detections in USA

- Dairy cattle: [Ongoing multi-state outbreak](#) 
- Wild Birds: [Widespread](#) 
- Poultry Flocks: [Sporadic outbreaks](#) 
- Mammals: [Sporadic infections](#) 
- Person-to-person spread: None
- Current public health risk: Low

The virus

- H5N1 of clade 2.3.4.4b
- **reassortant** (genotype B.13.3) , descendant of the predominant genotype **observed** in wild birds **on the Pacific Flyway**, **never detected in Europe**
- has been **found in the same area** in Texas in:
 - wild birds in Nov 2023, then
 - in poultry in Jan – Feb 2024, then
 - in cattle in March 2024
- **no other genotype found in cattle**

HPAI in US dairy cows

(<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/sites/default/files/hpai-dairy-national-epi-brief.pdf>)

- Common clinical signs: low appetite, reduced milk production, and abnormal appearance of milk (thickened, discolored).
- Lactating cows have been most highly affected, and **signs of illness have been reported in less than 10% of cows within a herd.**
- Most affected animals recover with supportive treatment, and the **mortality/culling rate has been low at 2% or less.**
- **Movement of lactating cows is a recognized risk/reason for disease transmission between dairy cattle farms.**
- Other risk factors for transmission between farms : **shared personnel; uncleaned vehicles** and **equipment** between premises; and **frequent visitors** having access to animals.

HPAI in US- risk to humans

Current situation on [CDC website](#)

31 Total Reported Human Cases in the United States During 2024

Human Case Summary during the 2024 outbreak, by state and exposure source

Exposure Source

State	Cattle	Poultry	Unknown	State Total
California	15	0	0	15
Colorado	1	9	0	10
Michigan	2	0	0	2
Missouri	0	0	1	1
Texas	1	0	0	1
Washington	0	2	0	2
Source Total	19	11	1	31

Human-to-human transmission of avian influenza A(H5) virus **has not been identified in the United States.**

CDC states that the **immediate risk to the general public** from H5N1 bird flu **remains low**, but people with exposure to infected animals are at higher risk of infection.

The **FDA and USDA have indicated** that based on the information currently available, the **commercial milk supply is safe** because of:
1) the pasteurization process and
2) the diversion or destruction of milk from sick COWS.

HPAI in US dairy cows

USDA measures

USDA Federal Order:

- **testing** for H5N1 **before interstate movement** of lactating dairy cattle
- **no** lactating dairy cattle **positive** for H5N1 virus **may move interstate**
- producers and/or states **to submit epidemiological investigation and contact tracing information** for herds with positive H5N1
- **laboratories and state veterinarians must report** any dairy cattle with positive H5N1 PCR results or positive influenza A serology

Measures in the affected farms:

- affected cows to be **isolated** from other animals
- **milk from impacted animals** is being diverted or destroyed, does **not enter the food supply**
- **pasteurization** is required for **any milk entering interstate commerce**
- **financial support** for: enhance biosecurity, offset costs associated with testing, veterinary expenses, PPE, milk disposal, milk losses

HPAI in US dairy cows

USDA recommendations

To producers and veterinarians to prevent the spread:

- minimize dairy cattle movements
- not moving sick or exposed animals
- upholding good biosecurity practices
- testing animals before necessary movement
- voluntary Dairy Herd Status Program:
 - weekly bulk milk testing,
 - if negative for more 3 weeks movement to other states possible without pre-movement testing of individual animals

Thank you



© European Union 2020

Unless otherwise noted the reuse of this presentation is authorised under the [CC BY 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) license. For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders.

Slide ¹⁶xx: **element concerned**, source: **e.g. Fotolia.com**; Slide xx: **element concerned**, source: **e.g. iStock.com**

