

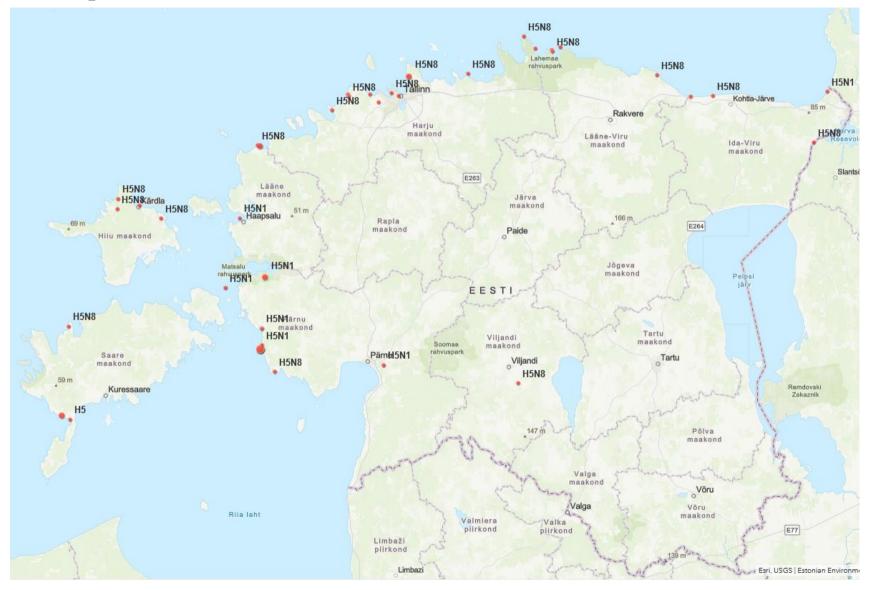
Highly pathogenic avian influenza in Estonia

Kärt Jaarma

Cases of wild birds in 2021

- Positive cases of wild birds until the date of the 14th of November 2021:
- 28 swans (mainly mute swans) (H5N8)
- 3 white-tailed eagles (H5N1)
- 8 gulls (H5N1)
- 5 great cormorants (H5N1)
- 2 northern goshawks (H5N8, H5N1)
- 1 grey heron (H5N8)
- 1 mallard (H5)
- 1 Eurasian eagle-owl (H5N8)
- In total 275 samples from wild birds are taken and 49 wild birds are positive.

Map with locations of 49 cases



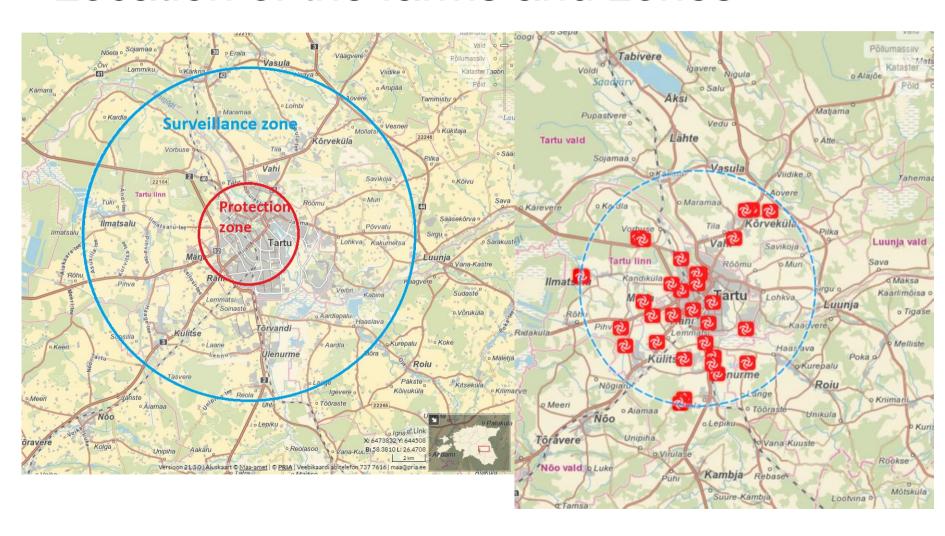
HPAI in domestic birds (1)

- On the 4th of October the owner noticed that laying hen was dull and lost its appetite. Other hens teased the sick hen and because of that the owner brought the hen to the house. The backyard poultry farm had 3 laying hens and 1 rooster.
- On the 5th of October the owner brought the sick hen to the animal clinic to see the veterinarian. Hen had fever and diarhhea. The samples of blood (mild inflammation) and for detecting parasites (no findings) was taken and the treatment was determined.
- On the 19th of October the owner brought the sick hen to the animal clinic again because the condition of the hen got worse. The hen got treatment and was sent back home.
- On the 21st of October the owner called to the clinic because the condition of the hen was not going better. The hen was euthanized. The sample for detecting avian influenza was taken.
- HPAI virus of subtype H5N8 (RT-PCR) was confirmed in laying hen by Veterinary and Food Laboratory on the 22nd of October.

HPAI in domestic birds (2)

- Measures taken by AFB:
- Restrictions on the farm, epidemiological investigation, notification
- Zoning and restrictions on the farms in the zones
- Stamping out and destruction of the carcasses
- Cleaning and disinfection of the farm
- Possible source of infection: virus transmission from wild birds.
 Most likely the hen got infected in the outdoor cage which was covered with net of wire and the droppings of wild birds could have got there.
- The owner isolated the sick hen from the others and that explains why the others did not get infected.
- The sick hen was alive for 17 days after showing the first clinical syptoms, which is rare for HPAI.

HPAI in domestic birds (3) Location of the farms and zones

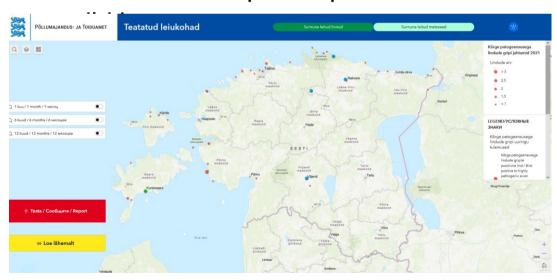


Following actions:

 Pursuant to the Decree of the Director General of AFB keeping of domestic birds outdoors is prohibited, unless the poultry are protected against contact with wild birds (e.g. with nets, roofs, horizontal fabrics or by other appropriate means) or the poultry are supplied with feed and water indoors or under a shelter which sufficiently discourages the access of wild birds.

Internet application for notification

- Launched on 30.09.2021
- Allows hunters and public to notify about finding of dead wild bird
- Accessible via mobile phone, pc or tablet
- In addition a separate phone number for notifying dead birds or





Awareness campaign

- Leaflets by e-mail directly to farmers and others dealing with birds
- TV, radio, press notices
- Special webpage
 https://pta.agri.ee/eestis-levib-lindude-gripp
- Special column on webpage of AFB





Thank you!

Kärt Jaarma