



State
Veterinary
Administration

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in the Czech Republic

SCOPAFF meeting, 13. 2. - 14. 2. 2020

History of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in the Czech Republic

- ✓ 2006 – wild birds
- ✓ 2007 – poultry, wild birds
- ✓ 2017 – poultry, wild birds, captive birds

Outbreaks of HPAI in 2017

➤ Poultry

39 HPAI outbreaks (H5N8, H5N5) in 11 regions

- 33 HPAI H5N8 outbreaks in backyard flock
- 5 HPAI H5N8 outbreaks in commercial poultry farm
- 1 HPAI H5N5 outbreak in captive birds in ZOO Liberec

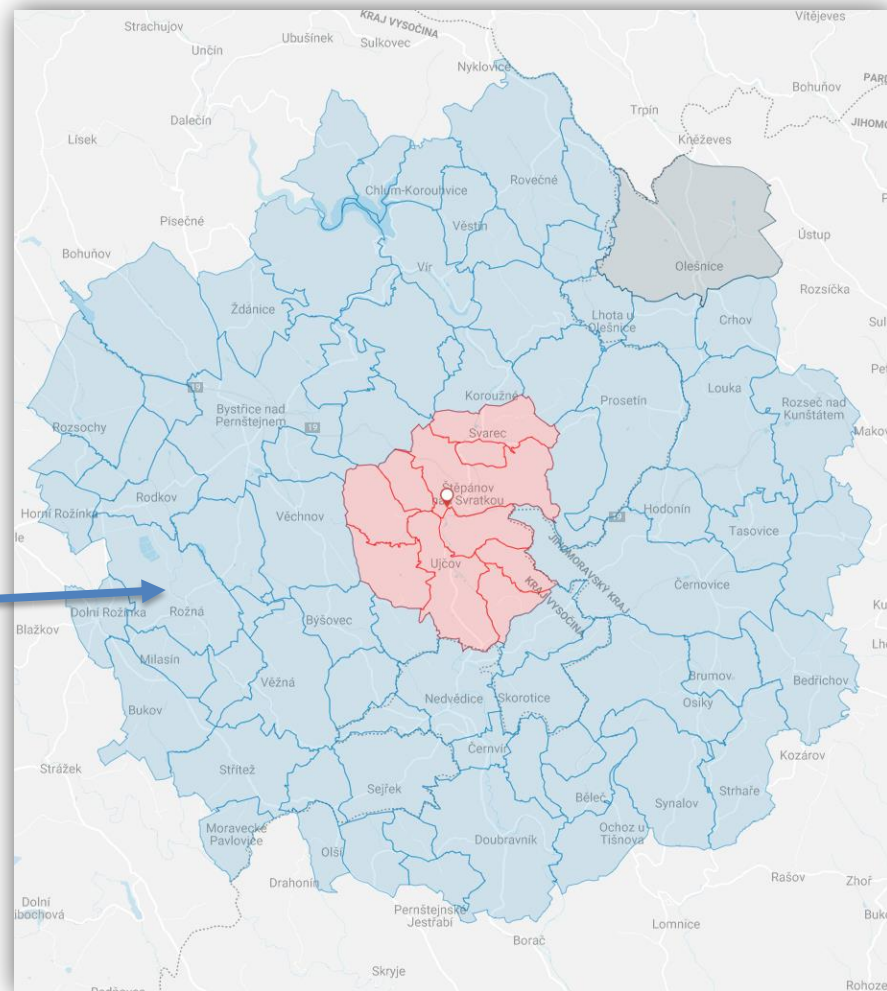
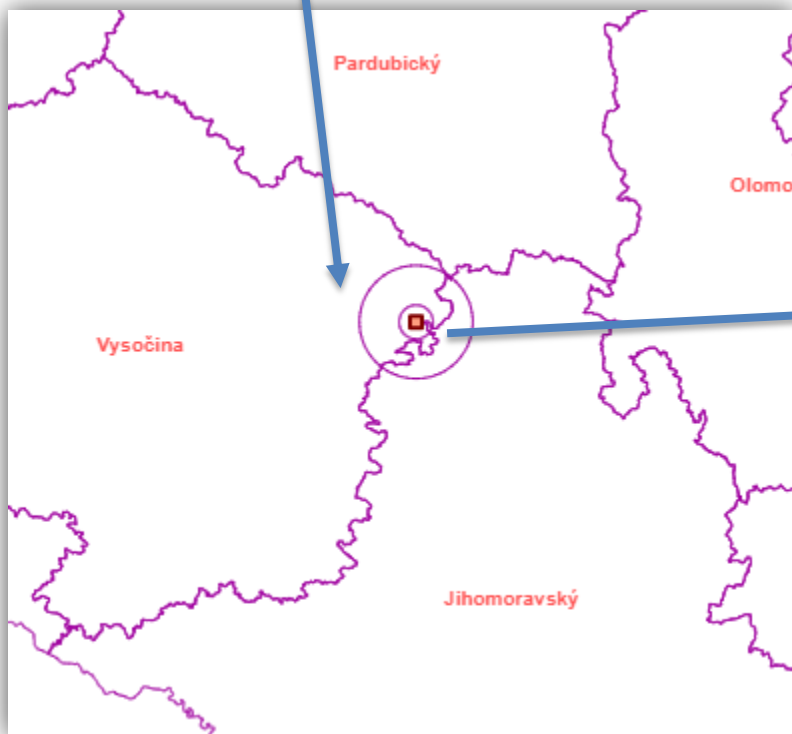
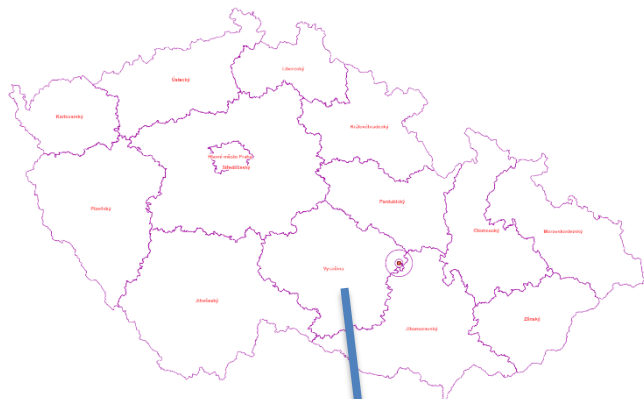
➤ Wild birds

51 HPAI positive wild birds (H5N8) in 13 regions

- 40 swans, 7 mallards, 2 geese, 2 herons

Outbreak HPAI 2020

- ✓ Region Vysočina
- ✓ District Žďár nad Sázavou
- ✓ Olešnička - cadastral territory 763454
- ✓ 49°29'57,05"N, 16°19'57,928"E



 outbreak, protection zone (3 km), surveillance zone (10 km)

Outbreak description

- ✓ 1 outbreak of HPAI in poultry detected in a small backyard flock with 12 laying hens and 3 ducks - in total 15 birds
- ✓ **17. 1. 2020** - the owner informed the Regional Veterinary Administration (RVA) Vysočina about death of 6 hens during previous two days
- ✓ Clinical symptoms of dead birds: cyanosis of comb
- ✓ **17. 1. 2020** - the official samples of dead birds sent to the National reference laboratory in the State Veterinary Institute Prague
- ✓ **17. 1. 2020** - the NRL confirmed AI virus H5
- ✓ **18. 1. 2020** - the NRL confirmed HPAI H5N8
- ✓ **18. 1. 2020** - the culling and disposal of 9 birds in the affected flock
 - the culling and disposal of 13 birds in 2 flocks in the vicinity
 - disposal of poultry products, feeding stuffs and by-products
 - preliminary cleaning and disinfection

Measures in outbreak

Preliminary measures (17. 1. 2020)

- Census of susceptible animals
- Biosecurity - to keep birds on their living places
- Ban of all movement of poultry, poultry products, by-products
- Disinfection

Control measures (18. 1. 2020)

- Culling and disposal of all remaining poultry on the affected farm
- Disposal of poultry products, feeding stuffs and by-products
- Disinfection

The same measures were applied in two contact holdings (18. 1. 2020)

Epidemiological investigation

- Biosecurity: partly fenced backyard closed to stream, not protected free-range feeding, over fence contact with poultry in neighbourhood (12 laying hens and 1 rooster)
- Source of infection probably contact with wild birds



Measures in the protection zone

- Census of all poultry holdings (by 22. 1. 2020 at the latest)*
- To keep birds in closed facilities
- Ban of all movement of poultry, poultry products, by-products
- Disinfection and biosecurity measures on poultry holdings
- Poultry health monitoring, changes to be reported to RVA
- Ban of poultry and other birds exhibitions and markets
- Ban of the release of birds for restocking

* online recording questionnaire

- No commercial farm registered in protection zone

- Official checks of poultry holdings and sampling according to Diagnostic manual were performed
- The objective of the official controls was to check health status of birds and preventive measures and biosecurity on these farms

Measures in the surveillance zone

- Census of commercial poultry holdings (by 22. 1. 2020 at the latest)
 - Ban of all movement of poultry and poultry products (exception approved by RVA only)
 - Disinfection and biosecurity measures on poultry holdings
 - Ban of poultry and other birds exhibitions and markets
 - Ban of the release of birds for restocking
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- One small registered commercial farm in surveillance zone – currently 430 broilers and 170 laying hens

Prevention of Avian Influenza in the Czech Republic

Early warning system = for farmers with commercial holding is mandatory to record the changes in poultry health:

- ✓ Drop in feed and water intake higher than 20 %,
- ✓ Drop in egg production higher than 5 % for more than two days,
- ✓ Mortality rate higher than 3 % in a week,
- ✓ Any clinical sign or post-mortem lesion suggesting avian influenza.

Surveillance programme in poultry and wild birds (in accordance with the Commission Decision 2010/367/EU)

Poultry

- ✓ active surveillance
- ✓ on the whole territory of the Czech Republic
- ✓ Categories included: *laying hens flocks of Gallus gallus producing table eggs and breeding flocks of Gallus gallus; free range laying hens; turkey breeders; duck breeders; geese breeders; fattening turkeys; fattening ducks; fattening geese; farmed game birds (gallinaceous); farmed game birds (waterfowl)*

Wild birds

- ✓ passive surveillance on sick and found dead wild birds

Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1136

on risk mitigation and reinforced biosecurity measures and early detection systems in relation to the risks posed by wild birds for the transmission of highly pathogenic avian influenza viruses to poultry

- No major migratory flight paths of birds are recognized in the Czech Republic. There are recognized only several minor flight paths of birds from north to south.
- Due to this reason and according to the epidemiological and ornithological data the Czech Republic has not identified any high risk area for the introduction of AI.
- The Czech Republic has identified „areas at risk“ with high density of poultry farming and landscape with more water bodies (ponds, rivers, dams, lakes), i.e. regions:
 - ✓ *Southern Moravian region*
 - ✓ *Southern Bohemian region*
 - ✓ *Pardubice region*
- More intensive official checks in poultry holdings are performed in line with the multi-annual control plan in such areas

**Thank you
for your attention**