



HPAI situation in Slovakia


December 2023 - February 2024

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Occurrence of HPAI in Slovakia

- season 2023/2024 – **HPAI H5N1**

➤ **Wild birds**

- 9 cases (swans, wild geese)

➤ **Poultry**

- 2 backyard flocks (Piešťany and Levice district)
- 3 commercial farms (Komárno, Pezinok and Trnava district)

➤ **Captive birds**

- 3 outbreaks – birds of prey, owls

- (Last case in the season 2022/23 – 01.06.2023 (black-headed gull))

HPAI in Slovakia – **wild birds** – H5N1

- **Wild birds** – 9 cases in 2024
 - mute swans SK-HPAI (NON-P) 2024-00001, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 10
 - Wild goose (*Anser anser*) SK-HPAI (NON-P) 2024-00003
 - Goose (*Anser albifrons*) SK-HPAI (NON-P) 2024-00009
 - (mass deaths in red)
- **Infected zone** – up to 3 km
 - ↑ **monitoring** of wild birds
 - Biosecurity (kept birds) – keeping the kept birds in the interior premises if possible, **avoiding the contact with wild birds**, disinfection after contact with wild birds, **information for the citizens** in villages within the zones, **movements** of the kept birds or products – previous notice to the DVFA, immediate **reporting of the suspicion** of the disease in the kept birds to the DVFA

HPAI in **captive birds** – 3 outbreaks

- **ADIS reference** – SK-HPAI(P)-2023-00018, 19; SK-HPAI(P)-2024-00002
- Establishments with up to 20 raptors/owls and/or water birds
- Each of the birds in the establishments had its own exterior aviary
- No epidemiological links with other establishments
- **Suspicion** after sudden deaths of some birds (2 – 3 per establishment)
 - 1) *Buteo buteo* (common buzzard), *Strix uralensis* (owl)
 - 2) *Accipiter gentilis* (hawk), *Tyto alba* (barn owl)
 - 3) Black swan (*Cygnus atratus*)
- **Confirmation** - on 5.12., 18.12.2023 and 18.1.2024
- Source of infection – direct/indirect contact with wild birds
- **Derogations from the depopulation and zoning**



HPAI in Slovakia – 2 backyard flocks (1.)

- 1st outbreak in poultry in the winter season 2023/2024

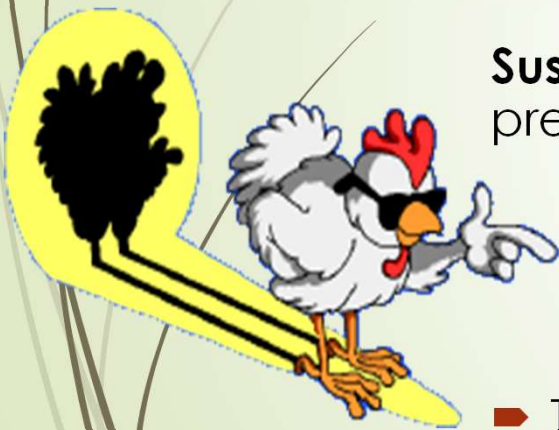
ADIS reference – SK-HPAI(P)-2023-00004

backyard flock - village Slatina (Levice district, south of Slovakia)

Suspicion after 5 hens and the cock had died suddenly without previous visible clinical signs (40 birds in the flock of *Gallus gallus*)

- official samples taken (sent to the NRL for AI – VI Zvolen)
- **Confirmation** - on 27.12.2023 HPAI subtype H5N1

- Till the depopulation 34 hens have died
- 6 hens have been killed on the spot (28.12.2023)
- Preliminary C and D – 28.12.2023



HPAI in Slovakia – 2 backyard flocks (2.)

- 1st outbreak in poultry in 2024 (2nd in this winter season)

ADIS reference – [SK-HPAI\(P\)-2024-00001](#)

backyard flock - village Hubina (Piešťany district, western Slovakia)

Suspicion after few hens died suddenly without previous visible clinical signs (27 birds in the flock of *Gallus gallus*)

- official samples taken (sent to the NRL for AI – VI Zvolen)
- **Confirmation** - on 10.01.2024 HPAI subtype H5N1
- 7 out of 27 hens have died
- 20 hens have been killed on the spot (11.01.2024)
- Preliminary C and D – 11.01.2024



HPAI in Slovakia

Commercial farms – 3 outbreaks



- **3 outbreaks = the same owner**
- Big commercial holdings – adult breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus*
- **PRIMARY OUTBREAK** (Komárno district, south of western Slovakia)
- Suspicion **25.01.2024**
- Confirmation **26.01.2024**
- Probable source of infection – indirect contact with wild birds (positive mute swan found 100 m from the farm few days before outbreak)
- **2 SECONDARY OUTBREAKS** (Pezinok and Trnava district, western Slovakia)
- Suspicion (both) **02.02.2024** – Friday morning
- Confirmation (both) **02.02.2024** – Friday 18:50

HPAI in Slovakia – all cases and outbreaks in winter season 23/24



<https://www.svps.sk/zvierata/vtacia-chripka-aktualna-situacia.asp>



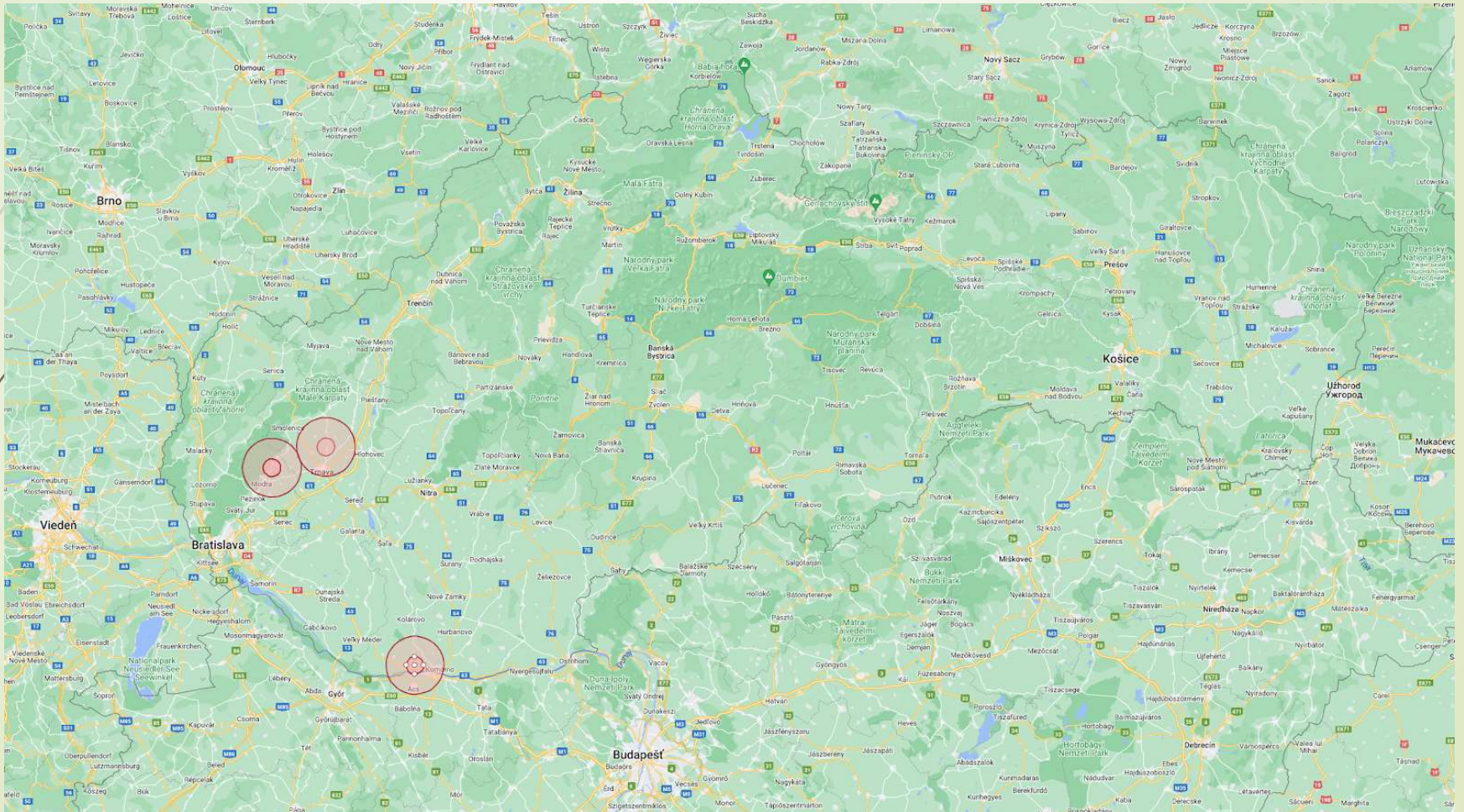
- Epidemiological investigation covered by the officials from the CA

The most **probable route** of introduction of the virus **to the second and third farm** – indirect contact with the primary outbreak – **fomites** (vehicles, persons) through the **owner's common hatching eggs warehouse.**

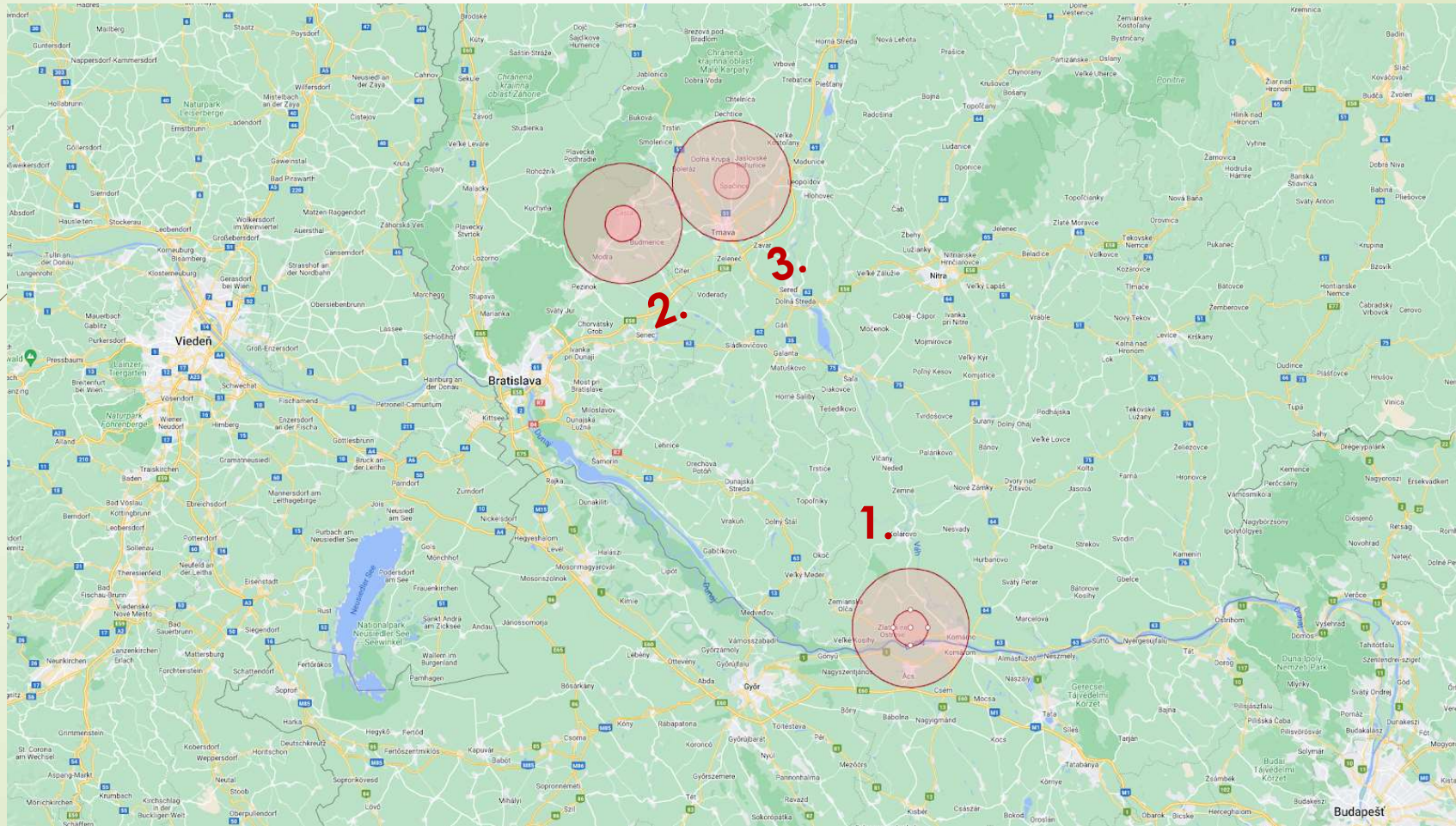
- DVFAs ordered veterinary measures in accordance with AHL and the delegated regulation 2020/687 for:
 - Outbreak farm
 - Protection zone 3 km
 - Surveillance zone 10 km
 - **Surveillance zone of the primary outbreak extends to the territory of Hungary**
 - CA of Hungary has been informed immediately



HPAI in Slovakia - commercial farms



HPAI in Slovakia - commercial farms



Commercial farm (no. 1) - situation

➤ **ADIS reference** – SK-HPAI(P)-2024-00002

Farm in the village Zlatná na Ostrove (Komárno district, south-western part of Slovakia)

Suspicion - after sudden increased mortality of the hens in one flock on 25.01.2024

- official samples taken (sent to the NRL for AI – VI Zvolen)
- **Confirmation** - on 26.01.2024 HPAI subtype H5N1

➤ 6 epidemiological units within the farm (sectors A – F)

➤ about 350 m distance between 2 units

➤ Each unit – 4 barns (10.000 pcs per 1 barn/flock)

➤ In total – 5x 40.000 birds (sector F was not stocked)= **cca 200.000**



Commercial farm (no. 1) - depopulation

- ADIS reference – SK-HPAI(P)-2024-00002
- 26.01.2024 first positive sector E confirmed(40.000 pcs of poultry)
- **Depopulation of sector E** finished on 02.02.2024 – birds remaining alive killed on the spot by the *Specialized mobile unit* for the eradication (trained personel with the truck with the mobile gas chamber – CO2)
- **Preliminary cleansing and disinfection** finished on 04.02.2024
- since then also sectors D (07.02.) and C (16.02.) confirmed positive
- Depopulation is ongoing on the farm

Depopulation – mobile gas chamber (CO₂)





Commercial farm (no. 2) - situation

➤ ADIS reference – SK-HPAI(P)-2024-00003

Farm in the village Častá (Pezinok district, western Slovakia)

Suspicion - sudden increased mortality of the hens in sector E on 02.02.2024, official samples taken in the morning (sent to the NRL)

➤ **Confirmation** - on 02.02.2024 at 18:50 (HPAI subtype H5N1)

➤ 4 epidemiological units within the farm (sectors B - E)

➤ about 350 m distance between 2 units

➤ Each unit = 4 barns (cca 7.500 pcs per 1 barn)

➤ In total – 4x 30.000 birds = **cca 120.000 birds!**



Commercial farm (no. 2) - depopulation

- **ADIS reference** – SK-HPAI(P)-2024-00003 (Častá)
- 02.02.2024 confirmed first positive sector E (30.000 pcs of poultry)
- since then also sector D confirmed positive (14.02.2024)
- **Depopulation of sector E** finished on 15.02.2024 – birds remaining alive killed on the spot by the *Specialized mobile unit* for the eradication (mobile gas chamber – CO₂)

- Depopulation is ongoing on the farm (sector D)
- All the carcasses and eggs – disposed by the rendering plant
- Preliminary cleansing and disinfection is ongoing in the sector E
- Preliminary C and D- probably end of next week

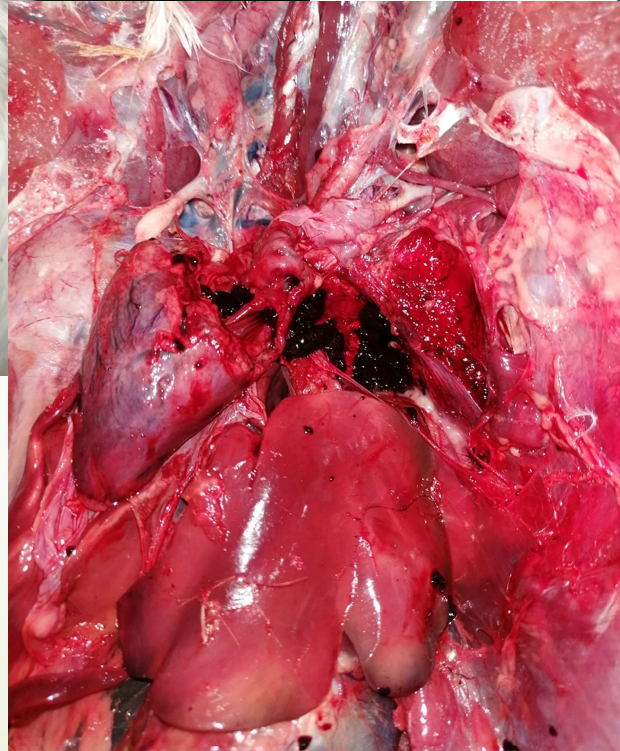


Sector E (4 barns, 30.000 birds in total)



Commercial farm (No. 3) - situation

- ▶ **Farm in the village Špačince, district Trnava**
ADIS reference – SK-HPAI(P)-2024-00004
- ▶ **Poultry on the farm** – 23.784 pcs of poultry in total (in 4 flocks/barns)
- ▶ 3 flocks of adult breeding poultry + 1 flock of laying hens
- ▶ **Suspicion + confirmation: 02.02.2024**
- ▶ 5.2. – **depopulation** on the spot had started (CO₂)
- ▶ 1st flock = 100% mortality, 2nd + 3rd about 50% mortality till the depopulation
- ▶ Preliminary cleansing and disinfection **finished on 13.02.2024**
- ▶ *Specialized mobile unit* for the eradication (truck with the mobile gas chamber)
- ▶ Carcasses and eggs – disposed by the rendering plant



Clinical signs
HPAI
G. gallus

The role of central and local veterinary authority – AI management in general

State Veterinary and Food Administration of the Slovak Republic (SVFA SR)

- prepares a surveillance programme for avian influenza - determination of monitoring in Slovakia
- evaluates monitoring in Slovakia
- takes measures based on the evolution of the disease situation in the Slovak Republic
- submit annual and half-yearly reports to the European Commission
- proposes to the Minister of Agriculture a budget for the implementation of the survey plan
- submits to the European Commission reports on the positive results of the avian influenza surveillance through the online system.


District Veterinary and Food Administrations (40) (DVFAs)

- provide methodological guidance (for hunters) on sampling and sending samples
- evaluate the monitoring and epidemiological situation in the region
- order measures at local level
- Check the compliance with /fulfilment of the measures ordered



Measures ordered by DVFA (zones) I.

Measures for protection zone and surveillance zone

- 
- to provide the **census of all poultry and captive birds** in municipalities in and send it in writing to the DVFA
 - To Ensure that poultry and captive birds are **kept in enclosed or other premises** on the holding so that kept birds **do not come into contact with wild birds**
 - to ensure **increased biosecurity** in all poultry and other captive birds, in particular:
 - (a) **Disinfection** at entrances and exits from premises where poultry and other captive birds are kept.
 - (b) Avoid direct and indirect contact of farmed birds with wild birds (especially water birds).
 - (c) **The water used** to feed the farmed birds shall not come from surface water reservoirs accessible to wild birds.
 - (d) **Report immediately to the DVFA any symptoms** of avian influenza in poultry and other captive birds according to the criteria:
 - decrease in feed and water intake of more than 20%
 - decrease in egg production of more than 5% lasting more than 2 days
 - Weekly mortality rate higher than 3%
 - any clinical manifestation (discharge from the eyes, beak, severe watery diarrhea, drowsiness, swelling of the lobes and combs) or post-mortem change indicative of avian influenza

Measures ordered by DVFA (zones) II.



- **To minimize the number of people in contact** with poultry and captive birds, keep records of the holding's visit and comply with the relevant biosecurity measures to prevent the spread of avian influenza to any person entering or leaving the holding.
- **To inform the citizens** and breeders about the measures ordered and about the health situation by means of local radio, by posting on the official board of the municipality or by other means in the usual way.
- **Increased surveillance of wild bird** populations, especially waterfowl, subsequent search for dead or diseased birds, where appropriate in cooperation with ornithological organizations and bird observers, reporting dead birds to the competent authority - DVFA.

Measures ordered by DVFA (zones) III.

DVFA prohibits:

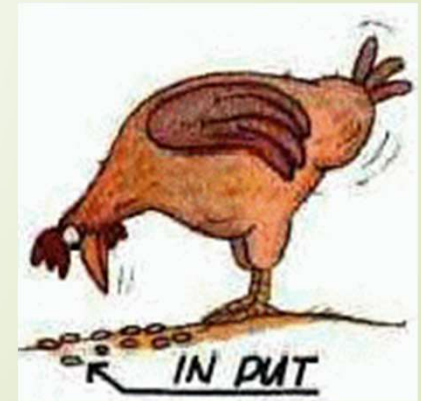
- **Any movements** of live and slaughtered poultry, eggs and other birds in the abovementioned municipalities
- **Supply and removal** of poultry, other captive birds and mammals of domestic animals to and from holdings without the permission of DVFA
- Discharging, spreading and other handling of **used litter, manure** and sludge from farms in the specified municipalities without the permission of DVFA.
- **Markets, exhibitions and other gatherings of poultry** or other birds in the abovementioned municipalities.
- Release of birds for the **restocking of hunting grounds.**

Surveillance programme for AI in Slovakia

In the Slovak Republic the “Avian influenza surveillance programme for poultry and wild birds for 2023” is implemented in compliance with the requirements of AHL and its delegated and implemented acts.

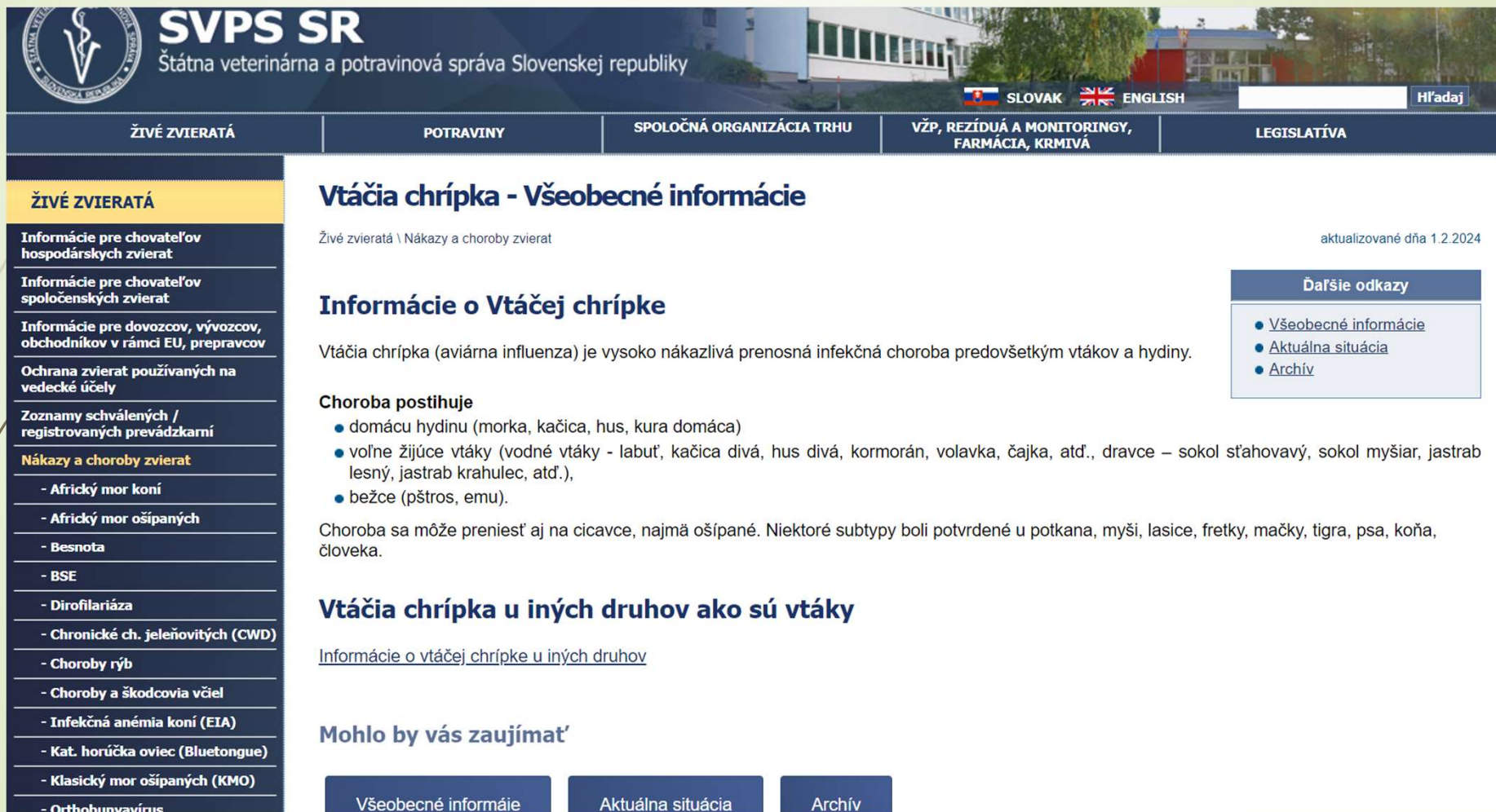
In 2023:

- **1.051** samples (= 103 farms) investigated in poultry for H5/H7 (**active monitoring**) – **negative** results
- **Passive monitoring poultry** – 1 commercial farm and 2 backyard flocks in January 2023, 1 backyard in December 2023
- **52 dead wild birds sampled**
 - **25 positive** for H5N1: 7 positive mute swans, 16 black-headed gulls, 1 owl, 1 common tern



Information for public - SVFA website

https://www.svps.sk/zvierata/choroby_chripka.asp



The screenshot shows the website of the State Veterinary and Food Administration of the Slovak Republic (SVPS SR). The page is titled "Vtáčia chrípka - Všeobecné informácie" (Avian Influenza - General information). The page is updated as of 1.2.2024. The main content includes a definition of avian influenza, a list of affected species, and information on transmission. A sidebar on the left contains a navigation menu with categories like "ŽIVÉ ZVIERATÁ" and "Nákazy a choroby zvierat". A search bar and language options (Slovak, English) are visible at the top right.

SVPS SR
Štátna veterinárna a potravinová správa Slovenskej republiky

SLOVAK ENGLISH Hľadaj

ŽIVÉ ZVIERATÁ POTRAVINY SPOLOČNÁ ORGANIZÁCIA TRHU VŽP, REZÍDUÁ A MONITORINGY, FARMÁCIA, KRMIVÁ LEGISLATÍVA

ŽIVÉ ZVIERATÁ

- Informácie pre chovateľov hospodárskych zvierat
- Informácie pre chovateľov spoločenských zvierat
- Informácie pre dovozcov, vývozcov, obchodníkov v rámci EU, prepravcov
- Ochrana zvierat používaných na vedecké účely
- Zoznamy schválených / registrovaných prevádzkarní
- Nákazy a choroby zvierat**
 - Africký mor koní
 - Africký mor ošipaných
 - Besnota
 - BSE
 - Dirofilariáza
 - Chronické ch. jeleňovitých (CWD)
 - Choroby rýb
 - Choroby a škodcovia včiel
 - Infekčná anémia koní (EIA)
 - Kat. horúčka oviec (Bluetongue)
 - Klasický mor ošipaných (KMO)
 - Orthohunvavírus

Vtáčia chrípka - Všeobecné informácie

Živé zvieratá \ Nákazy a choroby zvierat

aktualizované dňa 1.2.2024

Ďalšie odkazy

- [Všeobecné informácie](#)
- [Aktuálna situácia](#)
- [Archív](#)

Informácie o Vtácej chrípke

Vtáčia chrípka (aviárna influenza) je vysoko nákazlivá prenosná infekčná choroba predovšetkým vtákov a hydiny.

Choroba postihuje

- domácu hydinu (morka, kačica, hus, kura domáca)
- voľne žijúce vtáky (vodné vtáky - labuť, kačica divá, hus divá, kormorán, volavka, čajka, atď., dravce – sokol sťahovavý, sokol myšiar, jastrab lesný, jastrab krahulec, atď.),
- bežce (pštros, emu).

Choroba sa môže preniesť aj na cicavce, najmä ošipané. Niektoré subtypy boli potvrdené u potkana, myši, lasice, fretky, mačky, tigra, psa, koňa, človeka.

Vtáčia chrípka u iných druhov ako sú vtáky

[Informácie o vtácej chrípke u iných druhov](#)

Mohlo by vás zaujímať

Všeobecné informácie Aktuálna situácia Archív

Thank you for your
attention!

