



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH & CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
Unit 04 - Veterinary Control Programmes

SANCO/3884/2008

*Programmes for the eradication, control and monitoring of certain
animal diseases and zoonoses*

**Survey programme for Avian Influenza in
poultry and wild birds**

Approved* for 2009 by Commission Decision 2008/897/EC

Slovenia

* in accordance with Commission Decision 90/424/EEC

Standard requirements for the submission of national surveillance programmes for avian influenza in poultry and wild birds for 2009

1. Identification of the programme

Member State: SLOVENIA
Disease: AVIAN INFLUENZA
Year of implementation: 2009
Reference of this document:
Contact (name, phone, fax, e-mail): Aleksandra Hari Phone: +386 1 300 13 24
Fax: +386 1 300 13 56
E-mail: aleksandra.hari@gov.si
Date sent to the Commission: 29 April 2008

2. Description of the surveillance programme in poultry

2.1. Objectives, general requirements and criteria

The purpose of serological surveillance for LPAI subtypes H5 and H7 in poultry is:

- to detect sub-clinical infections with LPAI of subtypes H5 and H7 thereby complementing early detection systems and subsequently preventing possible mutation of these viruses to HPAI;
- to detect infections of LPAI H5 and H7 subtypes in specifically targeted poultry populations at specific risk for infection due to their husbandry system or the susceptibility of specific species;
- to contribute to the demonstration of a free status of a certain country, region or compartment from notifiable avian influenza in the frame of international trade according to OIE rules.

Sampling shall be carried out from 1 January to 31 December 2009.

Samples collected for other purposes shall be used, whenever possible.

Testing of samples shall be carried out at the National veterinary institute (NVI), Laboratory for contagious poultry diseases, functioning as the National reference laboratory for avian influenza (NRL for AI) of the Republic of Slovenia.

All results shall be sent to the Community Reference Laboratory for Avian Influenza (CRL) for collation with a good flow of information.

All avian influenza virus isolates shall be submitted to the CRL in accordance with Community legislation.

Whenever possible, NRL for AI shall submit to the CRL, H5 or H7 positive sera collected from Anseriformes in order to establish an archive to facilitate future test development.

2.2. Design and implementation

On the basis of annual *Rules on carrying out of systematic surveillance of animal diseases and vaccination of animals* monitoring and survey programmes for each year are laid down.

The programme shall comprise the following categories and species of poultry: fattening turkeys, chicken breeding flocks, laying hens, raites, game poultry (pheasants, partridges), backyard and "backyard duck holdings". Blood samples for serological examination shall be taken by private practitioners with concession.

1. **Fattening turkeys:** 10 samples shall be taken. In the case of several sheds on a holding at least 5 samples shall be taken from each shed.
2. **Chicken breeding flocks:** All 11 chicken breeding flocks are included in the survey programme. The number of sheds varies from 2 to 36 sheds per holding. Most holdings have 1 to 8 sheds, with the exception of two bigger holdings: one with 36 sheds and the other with 18 sheds. At holdings with 2 sheds, 10 samples shall be taken, and at all other holdings at least 5 samples per shed shall be taken.
3. **Laying hens:** There are 122 registered holdings with laying hens in Slovenia. Most holdings include 1 to 2 sheds, but few of them include 3, 4, 5, 8, and up to 14 sheds. The holdings shall be randomly selected and approximately 650 samples shall be taken.
4. **Raittes:** There are 35 ostrich holdings recorded in Slovenia. The survey programme shall include holdings with more than 5 ostriches. Five (5) samples shall be taken at each holding.
5. **Backyard holdings:** There are 34.859 poultry holdings in Slovenia (census in 2007); 60 poultry holdings, situated in the vicinity of commercial poultry holdings shall be selected; 10 samples per holding shall be taken.
6. **Backyard duck holdings:** There are 2.479 holdings with ducks out of 34.859 poultry holdings in Slovenia (census in 2007); the holdings with more than 40 ducks shall be selected; 40 samples shall be taken at each holding.

Table 2.2.1 POULTRY HOLDINGS^(a) (except ducks and geese) TO BE SAMPLED

Serological investigation according to point B of Annex I to Commission Decision 2007/268/EC¹ on holdings of fattening turkeys

NUTS (2) code ^(b)	Total number of holdings ^(c)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of tests to be performed per method	Methods of laboratory analysis.
Slovenia ²	55	55	at least 5 per shed	570	HI test H5 HI test H7
Total	55	55	at least 5 per shed	1,140	HI test H5 and H7

(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.

(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) 2 can not be used, coordinates (long/lat- to write out) are requested.

(c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.

Table 2.2.1 POULTRY HOLDINGS^(a) (except ducks and geese) TO BE SAMPLED

Serological investigation according to point B of Annex I to Commission Decision 2007/268/EC¹ on holdings of chicken breeders

NUTS (2) code ^(b)	Total number of holdings ^(c)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of tests to be performed per method	Methods of laboratory analysis.
Slovenia ⁴	10	10	at least 5 per shed	475	HI test H5 HI test H7
Total	10	10	at least 5 per shed	960	HI test H5 and H7

(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.

(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) 2 can not be used, coordinates (long/lat- to write out) are requested.

(c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.

¹ OJ L 115, 3.5.2007, p. 3.

² NUTS (2) code in Slovenia is purely statistical and no veterinary records (poultry holdings) are made on the basis of NUTS (2), therefore the entire territory of Slovenia is considered as region, where the surveillance programme shall be performed.

³ OJ L 115, 3.5.2007, p. 3.

⁴ NUTS (2) code in Slovenia is purely statistical and no veterinary records (poultry holdings) are made on the basis of NUTS (2), therefore the entire territory of Slovenia is considered as a region, where the surveillance programme shall be performed.

Table 2.2.1 POULTRY HOLDINGS^(a) (except ducks and geese) TO BE SAMPLED
Serological investigation according to point B of Annex I to Commission Decision 2007/268/EC⁵ on holdings of laying hens

NUTS (2) code ^(b)	Total number of holdings ^(c)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of tests to be performed per method	Methods of laboratory analysis.
Slovenia ⁶	122	60	at least 5 per shed	650	HI test H5
Total	122	60	at least 5 per shed	650	HI test H7
				1.300	HI test H5 and H7

(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.

(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) 2 can not be used, coordinates (longitude to write out) are requested.

(c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.

Table 2.2.1 POULTRY HOLDINGS^(a) (except ducks and geese) TO BE SAMPLED
Serological investigation according to point B of Annex I to Commission Decision 2007/268/EC⁵ on holdings of ratites

NUTS (2) code ^(b)	Total number of holdings ^(c)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of tests to be performed per method	Methods of laboratory analysis.
Slovenia ⁸	35	22	5	110	HI test H5
Total	35	22	5	110	HI test H7
				220	HI test H5 and H7

(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.

(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) 2 can not be used, coordinates (longitude to write out) are requested.

(c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.

⁵ OJ L 115, 3.5.2007, p. 3.

⁶ NUTS (2) code in Slovenia is purely statistical and no veterinary records (poultry holdings) are made on the basis of NUTS (2), therefore the entire territory of Slovenia is considered as region, where the surveillance programme shall be performed.

⁷ OJ L 115, 3.5.2007, p. 3.

⁸ NUTS (2) code in Slovenia is purely statistical and no veterinary records (poultry holdings) are made on the basis of NUTS (2), therefore the entire territory of Slovenia is considered as region, where the surveillance programme shall be performed.

Table 2.2.1 POULTRY HOLDINGS^(a) (except ducks and geese) TO BE SAMPLED
Serological investigation according to point B of Annex I to Commission Decision 2007/268/EC⁹ on holdings of farmed feathered game (pheasants, partridges, quails...)

NUTS (2) code ^(b)	Total number of holdings ^(c)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of tests to be performed per method	Methods of laboratory analysis.
Slovenia ¹⁰	8	8	10	80	HI test H5 HI test H7
Total	8	8	10	160	HI test H5 and H7

(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.

(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) 2 can not be used, coordinates (longitude to write out) are requested.

(c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.

Table 2.2.1 POULTRY HOLDINGS^(a) (except ducks and geese) TO BE SAMPLED
Serological investigation according to point B of Annex I to Commission Decision 2007/268/EC¹¹ on holdings of "backyard flocks"

NUTS (2) code ^(b)	Total number of holdings ^(c)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of tests to be performed per method	Methods of laboratory analysis.
Slovenia ¹²	34.859	60	10	600	HI test H5 HI test H7
Total	34.859	60	10	1.200	HI test H5 and H7

(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.

(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) 2 can not be used, coordinates (longitude to write out) are requested.

(c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.

⁹ OJ L 115, 3.5.2007, p. 3.

¹⁰ NUTS (2) code in Slovenia is purely statistical and no veterinary records (poultry holdings) are made on the basis of NUTS (2), therefore the entire territory of Slovenia is considered as region, where the surveillance programme shall be performed.

¹¹ OJ L 115, 3.5.2007, p. 3.

¹² NUTS (2) code in Slovenia is purely statistical and no veterinary records (poultry holdings) are made on the basis of NUTS (2), therefore the entire territory of Slovenia is considered as region, where the surveillance programme shall be performed.

Table 2.2.2. DUCK AND GEESE HOLDINGS TO BE SAMPLED^(a) according to point C of Annex I to Decision 2007/268/EC

Serological investigation

NUTS 2 code ^(b)	Total number of duck and geese holdings	Total number of duck and geese holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of tests to be performed per method	Methods of laboratory analysis.
Slovenia ¹³	2.479	25	40	1.000	HI test H5
				1.000	HI test H7
Total	2.479	25	40	2.000	HI test H5 and H7

(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.

(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS 2 code can not be used, coordinates (longitude – to write out) are requested.

2.3. Laboratory testing: description of the laboratory tests used

In accordance with the avian influenza diagnostic manual (Commission Decision 2006/437/EC) haemagglutination-inhibition (HI) test for H5 and H7 subtypes shall be used for testing the samples. The tests shall be done in NRL for AI in Slovenia.

Designated strains supplied by the CRL for Avian Influenza shall be used:

- H5** (a) Initial test using Ostrich/Denmark/72420/96 (H5N2)
- (b) Test all positives with Duck/Denmark/64650/03 (H5N7) to eliminate N2 cross reactive antibody.
- H7** (a) Initial test using Turkey/England/647177 (H7N7)
- (b) Test all positives with African Starling/983/79 (H7N1) to eliminate N7 cross reactive antibody.

¹³ NUTS (2) code in Slovenia is purely statistical and no veterinary records (poultry holdings) are made on the basis of NUTS (2), therefore the entire territory of Slovenia is considered as region, where the surveillance programme shall be performed.

3. Description of the surveillance programme in wild birds;

3.1. Objectives, general requirements and criteria

Virological surveillance for avian influenza in wild birds aims to identify the risk of introduction of AI viruses (LPAI and HPAI) to domestic poultry by:

- ensuring early detection of HPAI H5N1 by investigating increased incidence of morbidity and mortality in wild birds, in particular in selected "higher risk" species;
- in the event that HPAI H5N1 is detected in wild birds, then surveillance of live and dead wild birds shall be enhanced to determine whether wild birds of other species can act as asymptomatic carriers or "bridge species";
- continuing a "baseline" surveillance of different species of free living migratory birds as part of continuous monitoring of LPAI viruses. Anseriformes (water fowl) and Charadriiformes (shorebirds and gulls) shall be the main sampling targets to assess if they carry LPAI viruses of H5 and H7 subtypes or HPAI viruses.

Sampling shall be carried out from 1 January to 31 December 2009.

Testing of samples shall be carried out at NRL for AI in Slovenia.

All results shall be sent to the CRL for collation and with a good flow of information.

All avian influenza virus isolates of cases in wild birds shall be submitted to the CRL in accordance with Community legislation.

3.2. Design and implementation

On the basis of annual *Rules on carrying out of systematic surveillance of animal diseases and vaccination of animals* monitoring and survey programmes for each year are laid down.

Sampling design shall be carried out in cooperation of Veterinary administration of the Republic of Slovenia with experts from NRL for AI, ornithologists, Hunters association, Slovene forest service and Ministry of environment and spatial planning.

As mallard is the most common and frequent species of water fowl in the Republic of Slovenia, the majority of samples shall be taken from this species. Beside that, mallard is the only water fowl species that hunters are allowed to shoot. The samples shall also be taken by Slovene museum of natural history, in frame of which Bird ringing centre is organised. They are the only one in Slovenia with permission to catch and ring the birds. Sampling, where appropriate, shall be carried out by hunters and skilled persons from Bird ringing centre. Some of the samples shall be taken from the rescue centre for wild animals.

Veterinary hygiene service (VHS) of NVI shall collect dead wild birds found on holdings or public areas, when notified. In notifying such occurrences ornithologists, hunters and also perceptive public shall participate.

In frame of the programme passive and active surveillance shall be carried out.

1. **Passive surveillance** shall be targeted on sick and dead wild birds, particularly on water birds. Attention shall be pointed on areas of increased morbidity and mortality in wild birds, areas close to the sea, lakes and waterways where birds were found dead, in particular when these areas are in proximity to domestic poultry farms and on birds which belong to identified "higher risk" species.
2. **Active surveillance** shall be targeted on living and clinically healthy and/or clinically diseased, injured or hunted birds, especially to birds belonging to the order of Anseriformes (water fowl) and Charadriiformes (shorebirds and gulls) at identified areas for concentration and mixing of high number of migratory birds involving different species and in particular when these areas are in proximity to domestic poultry farms.

In addition investigation of live or dead wild birds shall be targeted on birds in areas where cases of HPAI H5N1 have been identified in wild birds to possibly identify asymptomatic carriers, in areas epidemiologically linked to these cases and on birds which come possibly in close contact to domestic poultry holdings, which might function as "bridge species".

Sampling procedures

1. Oropharyngeal and cloacal swabs shall be taken from apparently healthy free living birds. If for any reason it is impractical to take cloacal swabs from live birds carefully collected fresh faeces samples may be taken. However, traceability in case of mixed sites frequented by different bird species shall be ensured.
2. Cloacal and tracheal/oropharyngeal swabs from wild birds found dead or shot shall be taken.
3. Swabs shall be placed in virus transport medium so that they are fully immersed and must be chilled immediately on ice or with frozen gel packs and submitted to the laboratory as quickly as possible, preferably not later than in 48 hours. In the absence of such medium, swabs must be returned to their casing and submitted dry. Samples must not be frozen unless absolutely necessary. If rapid transport within 48 hours to the laboratory (in transport medium at 4° Celsius) is not guaranteed, samples shall be immediately frozen, stored and then transported on dry ice.

Table 3.2.1. WILD BIRDS - investigation according to the surveillance programme for avian influenza in wild birds set out in Annex II to Decision 2007/268/EC

NUTS (2) code/region ^(a)	Wild birds to be sampled ^(b)	Total number of birds to be sampled	Estimated total number of samples to be taken for active surveillance	Estimated total number of samples to be taken for passive surveillance
Slovenia	water fowl and shore birds	480	660	300
	other free-living birds			
Total		480	660	300

(a) Refers to the place of collection of birds/samples. In case NUTS 2 code can not be used, region as defined in the programme by the Member State is requested

(b) General description of the wild birds are intended to be sampled in the framework of the active and passive surveillance.

3.3. Laboratory testing: description of the laboratory tests used

Laboratory tests shall be carried out in accordance with the avian influenza diagnostic manual (Commission Decision 2006/437/EC) laying down the procedures for the confirmation and differential diagnosis of avian influenza. The tests shall be done in NRL for AI of the Republic of Slovenia.

All samples shall be tested for the presence of Influenza A virus using initial screening for M-gene PCR as soon as possible (within 14 days). All positive results shall be subsequently tested by H5 and H7 PCR. In case of H5 and/or H7 positive finding analysis of the cleavage site must be undertaken as soon as possible to determine whether or not it has a highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) or a low pathogenic avian influenza (LPAI) motif and also virus isolation test on embryonated eggs and determination of virus subtype shall be performed.

4.

Description of the epidemiological situation of the disease in poultry during the last five years

Avian influenza has never been recorded in poultry in the Republic of Slovenia. The examinations on avian influenza were only carried out at major mortalities of poultry as differential diagnosis.

Since 2004, the survey programmes for avian influenza are carried out each year. All the examinations results were negative. In the table below there are some data on results of the survey programmes.

Year	No. of tests (H5/H7)	No. of positive
2004	1,919	0
2005	2,292	0
2006	3,060	0
2007	4,294	0

4.1 Measures included in the programme for surveillance in poultry

4.1.1. Designation of the central authority in charge of supervising and coordinating the departments responsible for implementing the programme

Veterinary Administration of the Republic of Slovenia (VARŠ) is in charge of the implementation of the programme. Samples are taken by the private practitioners with concession in case of poultry and by hunters and bird ringing personnel in case of wild birds and then delivered to the National Veterinary Institute (NVI) where laboratory examinations are performed. Veterinary hygiene service (VHS) of NVI shall collect wild birds found dead on holdings or public areas.

4.1.2. System in place for the registration of holdings

The Veterinary compliance criteria act (Ur. I. RS, No. 93/05) is laying down in Article 7 and 11 that stables under veterinary control must be registered with VARŠ on the basis of a decree issued within the administrative procedure. Legal and natural persons involved in rearing activity must report any changes regarding animals, facilities or other changes to the nearest veterinary organisation, which is keeping the register of holdings and animals and notify thereof the VARŠ.

The Rules on veterinary conditions for the trade in poultry, day-old chicks and hatching eggs in the territory of EU and on import from third countries (UL RS 5/2004 as amended) which transpose Council Directive 90/539/EEC, lays down the conditions for approval of pedigree breeding, breeding and rearing establishments, and hatcheries.

The Rules on minimum conditions for the protection of animals kept for farming purposes and on the registration procedure of laying-hen rearing facilities, which transpose Commission Directive 2002/4/EC, lays down the conditions for registration of laying hens.

4.1.3. Data on vaccination carried out

The vaccination against avian influenza is not performed in the Republic of Slovenia.

5. Description of the epidemiological situation of the disease in wild birds during the last five years

Till 2006 avian influenza has never been recorded in wild birds in the Republic of Slovenia.

The first case of avian influenza in the Republic of Slovenia was mute swan (*Cygnus olor*), which was found on the bank of river Drava north-west from Maribor on 9 February 2006. The swan died during the transport to the wild animal shelter. The samples were taken in the frame of survey programme on avian influenza. On 11 February 2006 the NRL notified the positive result for A1 virus subtype H5. (RT-PCR). The HPAI H5N1 was confirmed in CRL, Weybridge and in OIE Reference laboratory for avian influenza in Padova. By the 25 March 2006, when the last positive bird was collected, there were 48 H5 positive wild birds altogether. The 47 positive wild birds were located along river Drava from Maribor to Markovci, only one grey heron (*Ardea cinerea*) was found west from Maribor, near Slovenj Gradec. The species of positive birds were: 44 mute swans (*Cygnus olor*), 2 grey heron (*Ardea cinerea*), 1 mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) and 1 northern pintail (*Anas acuta*).

Beside these cases, there were some samples which were positive in M-gene PCR and negative in H5/H7-gene PCR. Virus isolations were also negative. The species of positive birds were: 1 mute swan (*Cygnus olor*), 8 mallards (*Anas platyrhynchos*), 1 wild duck (*Anas sp.*), 1 common snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*) and 1 cormorant (*Phalacrocorax sp.*).

In 2007 there were no positive results for H5 or H7 viruses. However, 19 samples were positive in M-gene. One yellow legged gull (*Larus argentatus cachinnans*) was found positive for H13N6 subtype and one mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) was positive for H14 subtype. Beside that, 14 mallards (*Anas platyrhynchos*) and 3 mute swans (*Cygnus olor*) were positive for M-gene, but the virus isolations and H5/H7-gene PCR were negative.

Year	No. of tested	No. of H5 positive	No. of H7 positive	Total No. of positive
2004	114	0	0	0
2005	203	0	0	0
2006	1,038	48	0	60
2007	334	0	0	0

5.1. Measures included in the programme for surveillance in wild birds

5.1.1. Designation of the central authority in charge of supervising and coordinating the departments responsible for implementing the programme

Veterinary Administration of the Republic of Slovenia (VARS) is in charge of the implementation of the programme. Samples are taken by the private practitioners with concession in case of poultry and by hunters and bird ringing personnel in case of wild birds and then delivered to the National Veterinary Institute (NVI) where laboratory examinations are performed. Veterinary hygiene service (VHS) of NVI shall collect wild birds found dead on holdings or public areas.

5.1.2. Description and delimitation of the geographical and administrative areas in which the programme is to be applied

POULTRY

The entire territory of the Republic of Slovenia extends over an area of 20,000 square kilometres, and is divided into 10 Regional Offices of VARS (Figure 1) for the needs of operations of veterinary inspection services. In the light of the relative smallness of Slovenia, and a relatively small population of animals, the monitoring programme will be carried out on the entire territory of the Republic of Slovenia.

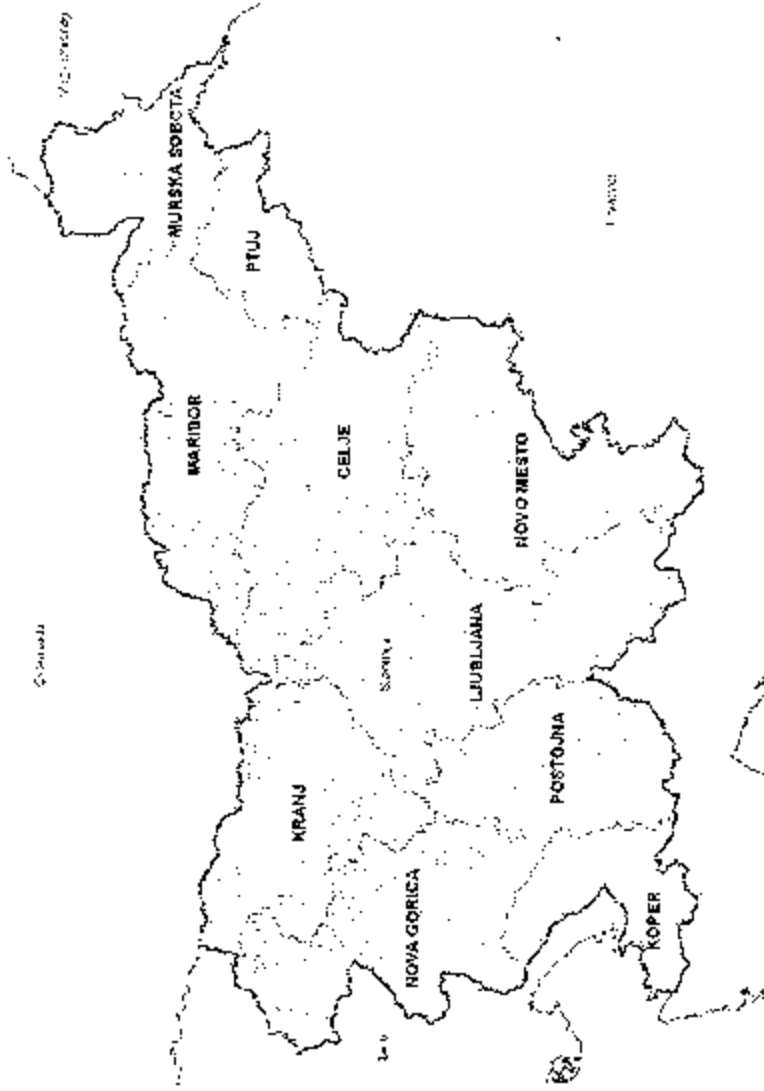


Figure 1: Regional offices of VARS

WILD BIRDS

The survey programme for wild birds shall be implemented on the entire territory of the Republic of Slovenia.

Active surveillance: the samples shall be taken by hunters from Hunting families, of which hunting area comprise bigger water surfaces and therefore bigger hunting bag of mallards is foreseen. The samples taken by bird ringing personnel shall be on the locations of ringing stations and on places which shall be appropriate for catching wild birds, especially water fowl, shore birds and gulls, if possible.

Passive surveillance: Veterinary hygiene service (VHS) of NVI shall collect dead wild birds found on holdings or public areas, when notified. In notifying such occurrences ornithologists, hunters and also perceptive public shall participate.

5.1.3 Estimation of the local and/or migratory wildlife population

In the table below there are some data on the estimation of bird population in the Republic of Slovenia during wintering and nesting. The data are from article: Božič Luka (2006): Rezultati januarskega štetja vodnih ptic leta 2004 in 2005 v Sloveniji (Acrocephalus 26(126)) and from the book Birds in Europe (2004). Birdlife International.

COMMON NAME (SCIENTIFIC NAME)	WINTERING	NESTING
Mute Swan (<i>Cygnus olor</i>)	1028	60
Bean Goose (<i>Anser fabalis</i>)	189	0
Greater White-fronted Goose (<i>Anser albifrons albifrons</i>)	169	0
Greylag Goose (<i>Anser anser</i>)	10	0
Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>)	22,804	15,000
Northern Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>)	47	2,500
Black-headed Gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>)	2,492	225
Common Gull (<i>Larus canus</i>)	32	0

6.

Measures in place as regards the notification of the disease

On the basis of the Rules on animal disease (Ur. I. RS, No. 81/07) which are also transposing Council Directive of 21 December 1982 on the notification of animal diseases within the Community 82/894/EEC, avian influenza is a compulsorily notifiable disease.

When the presence of a disease from former OIE List A is suspected, the veterinary organisation having established the suspicion shall immediately notify thereof by telephone and by fax, on a form that must include the prescribed data, VARS HQ which, in turn, shall immediately convene a meeting of the NDCC members. VARS HQ shall provide for a 24-hour service line for these purposes.

The designated laboratory shall immediately communicate the results of diagnostic investigations by telephone (via the 24-hour service line) and by fax to the Main Office of VARS.

VARS must notify the disease immediately or no later than within 24 hours to the International Office of Epizootic Diseases – OIE, the European Commission, and the competent veterinary authorities of all neighbouring countries. Notification shall include all the information required, and it shall be faxed or mailed or forwarded by the ADNS system.

In case of an outbreak of avian influenza in poultry, the measures prescribed in the Rules on measures for the detection, prevention and suppression of avian influenza (Ur. I. RS, No. 47/07), which are transposing the Council Directive 2005/94/EC are implemented.

In case of wild bird the European Commission shall be immediately informed according to Commission Decision 2005/731/EC. If the H5 is confirmed, the measures of Commission Decision 2006/563/EC shall be implemented.

7. Costs

7.1. Detailed analysis of the costs:

7.1.1. Poultry

Test	No. of tests	Cost of test
HI test H5	3.485	4.00 €
HI test H7	3.485	4.00 €

7.1.2. Wild birds

Costs of tests

Test	No. of tests	Cost of test
M-gene PCR	960	36.51 €
H5 PCR	30	36.51 €
H7 PCR	30	36.51 €
Sequencing	10	63.62 €
Virus isolation	30	63.34 €
Determination of the isolate by HI test (H5/H7)	10	26.12 €
Determination of the isolate by HI test (other subtypes)	10	79.29 €
Preparation of samples	480	56.75 €

Other costs

Other	Number	Cost
Transport medium	960	1.67 €
Refund for hunters	200	15.00 €
Refund for bird ringers – water birds	50	145.87 €
Refund for bird ringers – other birds	50	28.20 €

7.2 Summary of the costs

7.2.1. Poultry surveillance

Measures eligible for co-financing surveillance in poultry				
Methods of laboratory analysis	Number of tests to perform per method	Unitary test cost (per method)	Total cost	
Serological pre-screening ⁴	/	/	/	/
Haemagglutination-inhibition-test (HI) for H5	3,485	4.00 €	13,940.00 €	
Haemagglutination-inhibition-test (HI) for H7	3,485	4.00 €	13,940.00 €	
Virus isolation test	/	/	/	/
PCR test	/	/	/	/
Other measures to be covered	Specify activities			
Sampling	/	/	/	/
Others	/	/	/	/
Total	6,970	4.00 €	27,880.00 €	

⁴ Specify the laboratory test to be used.

7.2.2. Wild bird surveillance

Measures eligible for co-financing surveillance wild birds			
Methods of laboratory analysis	Number tests to perform per method	Unitary test cost (per method)	Total cost
Serological pre-screening	/	/	/
Haemagglutination-inhibition-test (HI) for H5/H7	10	26.12 €	261.20 €
Haemagglutination-inhibition-test (HI) for other subtypes	10	79.29 €	792.90 €
Virus isolation test	30	63.35 €	1,900.50 €
PCR test	1,020	36.51 €	37,240.20 €
Preparation of samples	960	56.76 €	54,489.60 €
Sequencing	10	63.62 €	636.20 €
Other measures to be covered	Specify activities		
Sampling	refund for hunters	15.00 €	3,000.00 €
Sampling	refund for bird ringers - water birds	145.87 €	7,293.50 €
Sampling	refund for bird ringers - other birds	28.20 €	1,410.00 €
Others	virus transport medium	1.67 €	1,603.20 €
Total		/	108,627.30 €

