

Update on Avian Influenza 08/2018

23 March 2018

HPAI H5N6 in Ireland

- The white tailed sea eagle, found dead on Cribby Island, Mountshannon, Co. Clare, has been confirmed as avian influenza HPAI H5N6 subtype on 15 March 2018.

HPAI H5N6 in Europe

- On 23 March 2018, a common buzzard found in Co. Antrim, Northern Ireland tested positive for HPAI H5N6 subtype.
- The Netherlands confirmed on 23 March 2018 a peregrine falcon and a common buzzard both tested positive for HPAI H5N6 subtype.
- On 20 March 2018, HPAI H5N6 subtype was confirmed in a back yard flock of rare breeds in northern Germany. The farm had 73 birds, including a mixture of hens, geese, ducks, and turkeys, and 11 birds were initially found dead.
- Sweden confirmed HPAI H5N6 subtype in backyard flock of captive birds on 15 March 2018. Sixteen birds were found dead, from a total of 105 birds on the premises.
- A duck farm in the Netherlands, with 29000 birds, confirmed HPAI H5N6 subtype on 15 March 2018. One hundred birds were found dead, with another 150 reported showing clinical signs.
- A common buzzard was confirmed as HPAI H5N6 subtype positive in Sweden on 14 March 2018.

HPAI H5N8 in Europe

- On 13 March 2018, Italy reported HPAI H5N8 subtype in a **poultry** premises in the Bergamo region of northern Italy. It is a commercial farm of fattening turkeys with 150000 birds that reported 240 dead birds.

Advice

- DAFM continues to monitor the situation in Europe closely and the advice to poultry flock owners, including owners of backyard poultry, is to remain **vigilant to the threat of avian influenza** and implement strategic, ongoing biosecurity measures – in particular by feeding birds indoors or under cover.
- Specific biosecurity advice can be found here:
https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/avian_influenza/biosecurityadvice/
- Flock owners are also reminded to update their flock registration details. On-line registration is now possible. Full details can be found [here](#).

- There is now a link to the avian influenza section of the DAFM website from the home page – see Current Topics on the top left of the screen:
<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/>

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