

AI Alert: No. 02/2019

THIS IS NOT A MONITORED EMAIL – PLEASE DO NOT REPLY

Dear all,

Please see below for the latest information on avian influenza outbreaks or events in Europe:

- There have been four outbreaks of **HPAI H5N8 subtype** in **Bulgaria**. The most recent outbreaks were reported on **5th April** in Plovdiv in the south of Bulgaria, when HPAI H5N8 was confirmed in both a backyard flock and a commercial poultry holding. Disease control measures were implemented including culling of all birds on the affected premises, cleaning and disinfection and the establishment of protection and surveillance zones in line with EU legislation (Directive 2005/94/EC).
- In **Denmark**, **HPAI H5N6 subtype** was confirmed on **14th January** in a wild bird, a white tailed eagle.
- On **28th February**, a **LPAI H5 subtype** was confirmed in **Denmark** in a commercial poultry holding with organic laying hens. The layers were tested in accordance with the Danish surveillance programme for avian influenza in poultry. The holding consists of approximately 7000 laying hens. The hens at the infected holding were killed and the carcasses disposed by rendering.
- There was one outbreak of a **LPAI H5 subtype** in **Germany** in a non-commercial holding of geese, ducks and chickens. No captive birds or their products have been dispatched to other regions in Germany or EU Member States.

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:

- Discouraging wild birds and preventing direct contact with poultry.
- Feeding poultry indoors or under cover.
- Implementing good hygiene practices in all areas where poultry are kept or have access to.

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

https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/avian_influenza/poultryregistration/

NDCC and Border Inspection Posts Division