



United States Department of Agriculture

International Reporting Procedures For Avian Influenza

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SPS Agreement



Animal health

OIE - History

1924 – established (28 countries)

- OIE = Office International des Epizooties
- **The World Organization for Animal Health**

1976 – U.S.A. joins the organization

1994 - Designated by the WTO as the scientific reference body for animal health

In May 2003 the Office became the World Organization for Animal Health but kept its historical acronym OIE.

2016 – **180 Member Countries**

- **One country - One vote**

The World Organization for Animal Health



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List of OIE Globally Reportable Poultry Diseases - 2017

Avian diseases and infections

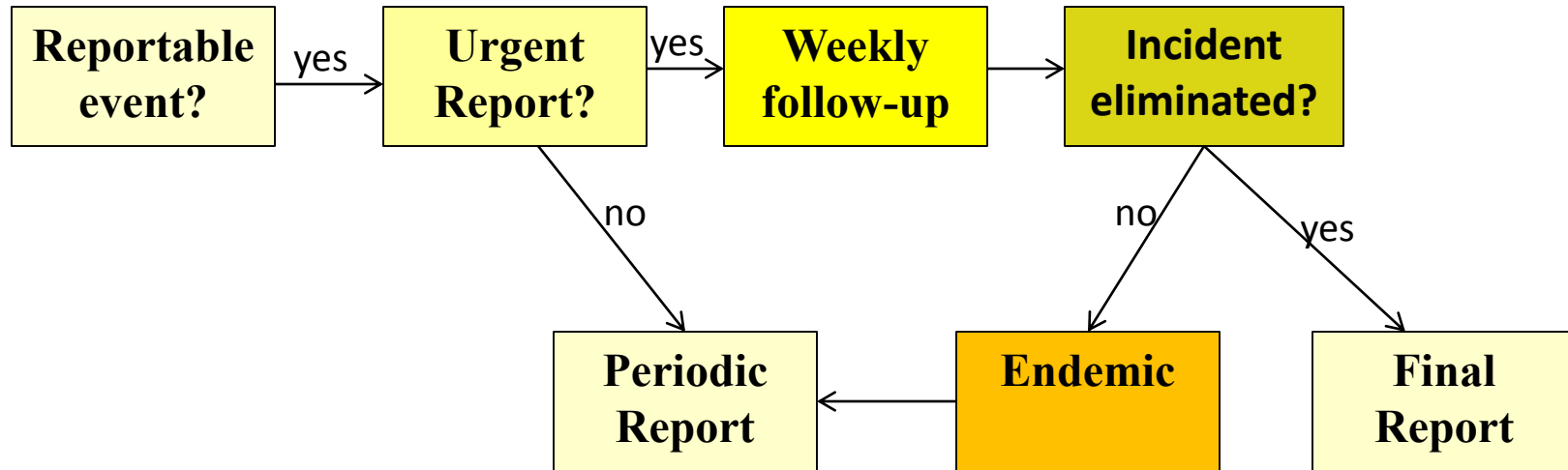
- Avian chlamydiosis
- Avian infectious bronchitis
- Avian infectious laryngotracheitis
- Avian mycoplasmosis (*Mycoplasma gallisepticum*)
- Avian mycoplasmosis (*Mycoplasma synoviae*)
- Duck virus hepatitis
- Fowl typhoid
- **Infection with avian influenza viruses**
- **Infection with influenza A viruses of high pathogenicity in birds other than poultry including wild birds**
- **Infection with Newcastle disease virus**
- Infection with bursal disease (Gumboro disease)
- Pullorum disease
- Turkey rhinotracheitis

List is reviewed on a regular basis

In case of any modifications it is adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates at its annual General Session

New List comes into force on January 1st of the following year

Reporting to the OIE



U.S. Examples:

- 2017 Wisconsin H5N2 LPAI **OIE Report immediate notification** was sent on – March 06, 2017
- 2017 Tennessee H7N9 HPAI **OIE Report immediate notification** was sent on – March 08, 2017
- 2017 TN, AL, KY, GA H7N9 LPAI **OIE Follow-up Report #2** was sent on – April 3, 2017

OIE reporting system

- OIE operates two websites, one public and one reserved for OIE Delegates
- Processes data on animal diseases in real-time and then informs the international community.

WAHIS (World Animal Health Information System)

- **Input**
- Each Member country is assigned a secure passcode to access the system
- Access to this secure site is only available to authorized users, namely the Delegates of OIE Member Countries and their authorized representatives, who use WAHIS to notify the OIE of relevant animal disease information.

A comprehensive range of information is available from

- Immediate notifications and follow-up reports submitted by Country / Territory Members notifying exceptional epidemiological events current in their territory
- Six-monthly reports stating the health status of OIE-listed diseases in each Country / Territory.
- Annual reports providing health information and information on the veterinary staff, laboratories and vaccines, etc. ...

OIE reporting system

WAHID (World Animal Health Information Database)

- **Output**
- It replaces and significantly extends the former web interface named Handistatus II System
- Provides information on 119 diseases (13 for Avian) listed for 2016
- Provides public access to all data regarding OIE-Listed diseases, held into WAHIS database as soon as they are validated by the OIE

This extensive database is a cornerstone in OIE efforts to improve the transparency, efficiency and speed with which animal health information is disseminated throughout the world

Latest OIE Report from WAHID – March 03, 2016

Vol. 30 - No. 13, 30 March, 2017

24/03/2017: Highly pathogenic avian influenza, Czech Republic, (Follow-up report No. 12)

24/03/2017: Highly pathogenic influenza A viruses (infection with) (non-poultry including wild birds), Poland, (Follow-up report No. 7)

24/03/2017: Highly pathogenic avian influenza, Greece, (Follow-up report No. 3)

24/03/2017: Highly pathogenic avian influenza, United States of America, (Follow-up report No. 3)

24/03/2017: Low pathogenic avian influenza (poultry), United States of America, (Follow-up report No. 1)

24/03/2017: Highly pathogenic avian influenza, China (People's Rep. of), (Immediate notification)

24/03/2017: Highly pathogenic influenza A viruses (infection with) (non-poultry including wild birds), Belgium, (Immediate notification)

- **Note that on the OIE website there is no way for a country to declare itself “free” of HPAI. For example, US should be free of HPAI, which is not reflected on the OIE website**
 - Disease notification reports become public once they are validated.
 - OIE provides official disease status recognition for six diseases (AHS, FMD, CSF, BSE, CBPP, and PPR) but not for avian influenza.
 - There is a process for countries to make a self-declaration of freedom from avian influenza and other diseases if they can demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the relevant OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code Chapters, which is then published in the OIE Bulletin on a quarterly basis.

OIE AI Reporting Guidelines

OIE Definition of Avian Influenza (AI):



The OIE is no longer using the term “**notifiable**”

But What is notifiable (reportable) still remains the same (H5 and H7)

AI is defined as **an *infection of poultry*** caused by an influenza A virus with high pathogenicity (HPAI), and by H5 and H7 subtypes with low pathogenicity.

In previous versions of the *Terrestrial Code* and *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals (Terrestrial Manual)*, HPAI and H5/H7 LPAI viruses were termed “notifiable avian influenza” viruses.

OIE AI Reporting Guidelines



OIE Definition of Avian Influenza (AI):

The terms “notifiable avian influenza”, “high pathogenicity notifiable avian influenza” and “low pathogenicity notifiable avian influenza” have been removed from the *Terrestrial Code* and the *Terrestrial Manual*.

To avoid confusion with the scientific use of “avian influenza”, which began in 1955.

In the *Terrestrial Manual* the terms HPAI, H5/H7 LPAI and influenza A will be used. The latter indicates any influenza virus from birds that is H1–H16.

OIE AI Reporting Guidelines



H5 and H7 isolates from poultry that are not highly pathogenic for chickens and do not have an HA0 cleavage site amino acid sequence similar to any of those that have been observed in HPAI viruses are designated as H5/H7 LPAI and are notifiable.

For the purposes of the *Terrestrial Code*, HPAI and H5/H7 LPAI in poultry are termed “avian influenza” and are notifiable. Non-H5/H7 influenza A (i.e. H1–4, H6 and H8–16) are not “avian influenza” and are not notifiable.

OIE Definition of Poultry

Poultry: all domesticated birds, including backyard poultry, used for the production of meat or eggs for consumption, for the production of other commercial products, for re-stocking supplies of game, or for breeding these categories of birds, as well as fighting cocks used for any purpose.

Not poultry

Birds kept in captivity for any reason other than for those reasons referred to, including those kept for shows, races, exhibitions, competitions, pets or for breeding or selling these categories of birds





Low Pathogenicity AI (LPAI) Reporting

Commercial Production Flocks- Confirmation of H5/H7 LPAI in commercial flocks is an uncommon occurrence and any finding of H5 and H7 (unless the finding is only serology) will be reported immediately to the OIE.

Note: A finding of serology alone in commercial production flocks is not a reason for reporting to the OIE. It requires further epidemiological investigation and sampling, and if nothing else is found, then nothing is reported. See further explanation in next slides.



Low Pathogenicity AI (LPAI) Reporting

Backyard Flocks- Finding LPAI H5/H7 subtypes in backyard poultry flocks is not uncommon because the biosecurity of such flocks may be suboptimal, and separation from wildlife is often neither feasible nor practical.

Therefore, reporting such findings to the OIE will be made in the 6-month and Annual OIE Animal Health Reports.

Note: If only positive serology is found, and further investigation finds no additional positive findings, then this is not reported, not even in a 6-month report.



Low Pathogenicity AI (LPAI) Reporting

Waterfowl and Shorebirds- These birds are the natural reservoir for the LPAI virus and findings in these wild birds are not uncommon and actually expected. Such findings of low pathogenicity H5 and H7 strains detected in wild birds will not be reported to the OIE.



High Pathogenicity AI (HPAI) Reporting

Any finding and all strains of HPAI confirmed in commercial flocks, backyard flocks, live bird marketing systems (LBMS), and wild birds will be reported to the OIE.

The OIE does not suggest that a country can be free of HPAI in wild-birds.

However, the OIE does require that all HPAI strains be reported regardless of where it is detected.

The requirement to also report HPAI detected in wild birds stems from the fact that the Asian H5N1 HPAI strains causing outbreaks in Asia, Europe and Africa was also killing wild birds.

The OIE clearly states in the Terrestrial Code that no trade restrictions should be applied to countries reporting the HPAI virus only in wild birds.

Reporting Serological Detections of Avian Influenza

The OIE Code is clear on this point: Item 6 of Article 10.4.1 of the OIE Code Chapter on Avian Influenza states that:

Antibodies against H5 or H7 subtype, which have been detected in poultry and are not a consequence of vaccination, should be immediately investigated. In the case of isolated serological positive results, infection with avian influenza viruses may be ruled out on the basis of a thorough epidemiological and laboratory investigation that does not demonstrate further evidence of such an infection.

Therefore, if during an investigation, no additional evidence of the virus is detected, then such serological detections are not reported to the OIE.



Summary - Reportable Avian Influenza

Highly Pathogenic strains from poultry and other birds, including wild birds, are notifiable to the OIE

All H5 and H7 subtypes regardless of virulence in *poultry*

All other subtypes are *not* reportable

Frequency of reporting

Highly pathogenic AI

- Any finding, any time – immediately upon confirmation
- Emergency report followed by weekly updates until resolved

Low pathogenicity AI (H5/H7)

- Live bird marketing system (LBMS); backyard flocks
 - 6-month and annual reports
- Commercial Production flocks
 - Immediately upon confirmation
 - (serology alone not enough to trigger reporting)

Bilateral Agreements

Note: *OIE reporting is separate from some bilateral obligations the United States has with several countries.*

Japan

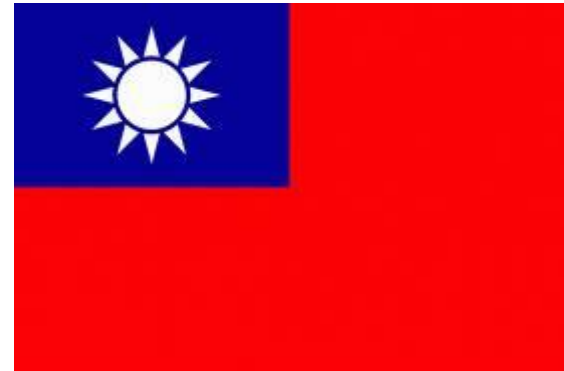
- Notification of any sero+ H5 or H7 detection in any domestic avian species (except pet birds) and in any domestic environment (backyard or commercial production).
- Zoned to affected State for HPAI
- Zoned to 10 km radius for LPAI
- Ban lifted 3 months after completion of C&D



Bilateral Agreements

Taiwan

- Notify any AI detections reportable to the OIE (backyard or commercial)
- Self-restrict exports from affected State
- Resume trade 3 months after last detection





Bilateral Agreements

We also have bilateral agreements to provide shipment certification related to AI (H5 and H7) for varying commodities with other countries.

While these agreements may not require direct notification of AI detections to the importing country, they do often require notification of FSIS, AMS, or the VS field to discontinue endorsement of certain certificates (that are no longer true) after certain AI laboratory confirmations at NVSL.

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Thank You For Your Attention!!!