

HPAI SITUATION – update

The epidemiology of avian influenza (AI) is complex. AI viruses constantly evolve by mutation and re-assortment with the emergence of new subtypes causing significant impact on animal health and production. Some AI subtypes can be zoonotic and therefore pose major threat to human health.

This report presents an overview of HPAI disease events (in poultry and non-poultry including wild birds) reported to the **OIE's early warning system** (immediate notification and follow-up reports) by its Members, as well as non-Member Countries, during the period 31 July – 20 August, 2020 through the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS). The stable situations reported in the **six-monthly reports** by two countries, namely Egypt and Indonesia, are not described in this report as this data for the second semester 2019 will be collected throughout the first and second semesters of 2020.

The HPAI events (new outbreaks) are reported in Table 1.

Table 1: HPAI outbreaks reported through early warning system during 31 July – 20 August 2020

| REGION | COUNTRY | Administrative divisions affected | Subtype(s) | | N° Outbreaks | |
|---------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| | | | Poultry | Non -poultry | Poultry | Non poultry |
| Asia | Chinese Taipei, Vietnam | 6 | H5N1, H5N5 | NA | 9 | NA |
| Europe | Russia | 1 | NA | H5N8 | NA | 2 |
| Oceania | Australia | 1 | H7N7 | NA | 2 | NA |

1. Spatial distribution



Figure 1. New and ongoing outbreaks in poultry (31 July – 20 August, 2020)

In this period, **11 new outbreaks** (red dots on the map) were notified in poultry, in Australia, Chinese Taipei, and Vietnam. The total ongoing HPAI outbreaks worldwide is **62** (blue dots on the map). They are distributed as follows: Africa (20), Asia (39), Europe (1) and Oceania (2).



Figure 2. New and ongoing outbreaks in non-poultry, including wild birds (31 July – 20 August, 2020)

In this period, **2 new outbreaks** were notified in non-poultry in Russia. The total ongoing HPAI outbreaks (blue dots on the map) in these bird populations is **27**. They are distributed as follows: Africa (10), Asia (15), and Europe (2).

2. Impact of the disease by Region in poultry

During the period (31 July – 20 August), a total of **406,159** animals were notified as losses in Africa and Asia in the ongoing and new outbreaks (**39,161*** losses notified in the previous report).

* The impact of the disease is measured in terms of losses, which are calculated by the sum of dead and culled animals from the infected farm or backyard premises of the reported outbreak. In case of non-poultry the losses correspond to the dead animals reported.

3. Changes in the epidemiological situation
Countries/Territories with new outbreaks during the period.

Africa

No new outbreaks were reported in poultry and non-poultry during the period. Ongoing outbreaks are still present in South Africa and Nigeria in poultry (H5N6 and H5N8) and in South Africa in non-poultry (H5N8).

America

No new or ongoing outbreaks were reported during the period

Asia

Chinese Taipei and Vietnam reported **9 new outbreaks** (H5N1, H5N5) in poultry. Ongoing outbreaks are still present in Afghanistan, China (People's Rep. of), Chinese Taipei, India, Korea (DPR), Philippines and Vietnam in poultry (subtypes H5, H5N1, H5N5, H5N6 and H7N9) and Afghanistan, China (People's Rep. of) and India in non-poultry (H5, H5N1, H5N6 and H7N9).

Europe

Russia reported **2 outbreaks** (H5N8) in non-poultry. **One ongoing outbreak** is still present in Bulgaria in poultry (H5N8).

Oceania

Australia reported **2 outbreaks** (H7N7) in poultry, that are still ongoing.

Key messages

In the reporting period, **11 new HPAI outbreaks** were reported in domestic birds in Asia and Oceania involving 3 different HPAI subtypes namely H5N1, H5N5 and H7N7. 2 new outbreaks of H5N8 were reported in non-poultry in Europe. In addition, 89 HPAI outbreaks in poultry and non-poultry are still ongoing in Oceania, Europe, Asia and Africa involving different subtypes, namely H5, H5N1, H5N5, H5N6, H5N8, H7N3, H7N7 and H7N9.

- Outbreaks of H5N1, H5N6 and H7N9 are still continuing in a few Asian countries with Vietnam reporting recurrence of new H5N1 outbreaks.
- In Chinese Taipei, H5N5 subtype has continued to be reported since September 2019.
- Australia experienced recurrence of H7N7 outbreaks after six years.
- In South Africa ongoing outbreaks of H5N8 are continuing. The number of outbreaks of H5N8 which were reported in European countries in poultry and/or wild birds has decreased and only one outbreak of H5N8 is ongoing in Bulgaria. It is more likely that the source of infection in these outbreaks is contact with wild birds and followed by limited local spread.

Veterinary Authorities in the affected countries have responded to contain outbreaks in poultry with stamping out measures, heightened surveillance, and recommendations to poultry owners to increase biosecurity.

The OIE Standards, and the transparency of reporting through the OIE's World Animal Health Information System, provide the framework for Veterinary Services to implement effective surveillance, reporting, and controls for avian influenza. Wild bird surveillance can indicate periods of heightened risk, and at these times measures to improve on-farm biosecurity may reduce the likelihood of exposure of poultry.