

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Strikes Commercial Flocks in Poland

Country: Poland

Post: Warsaw

Report Category: Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety, Agriculture in the News, Livestock and Products, Agricultural Situation

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Report Highlights:

On January 2, 2020, Poland's Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO) announced that on December 31, 2019, three cases of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) were confirmed on commercial turkey farms in southeastern Poland's Lublin Province. According to media reports, over 42,000 turkeys from the three Lublin locations will be euthanized. On December 31, 2019, the CVO informed the European Commission about the occurrence of HPAI through the Animal Disease Notification System (ADNS). Also, on January 3, 2019, the CVO announced another HPAI case in the western Polish province of Wielkopolska on a commercial layer farm. Although Poland is the European Union's (EU) largest poultry producer, it is not eligible to export poultry meat to the United States.

General Information

On January 2, 2020, the CVO confirmed that on December 31, 2019, three HPAI cases of the H5N8 subtype were detected on commercial turkey farms in the Lublin Province. The National Veterinary Research Institute in Puławy confirmed HPAI in turkeys from farms in Stary Uścimów, Lubartow County, Lublin Province (Map 1 below). The first HPAI case occurred on a farm with over 12,000 turkeys. The second and third sites, which are considered by General Veterinary Inspectorate (GVI) officials as a secondary infection sites, occurred on farms with 9,500 and 20,600 turkeys, respectively. Over 42,000 total turkeys were on the three HPAI outbreak sites. On December 31, 2019, the CVO informed the European Commission about the occurrence of HPAI through the ADNS system.

On December 31, 2019, the Governor of Lublin directed provincial and county crisis response teams to prevent HPAI's spread. On January 1, 2020, the Governor issued a regulation restricting the movement of poultry in the Lubartów, Łęczyński and Parczewski counties. GVI and local veterinary and law enforcement services established a three km radius protection zones and surveillance zones of at least a 10 km radius around the outbreak sites, as per regulations and protocols, including:

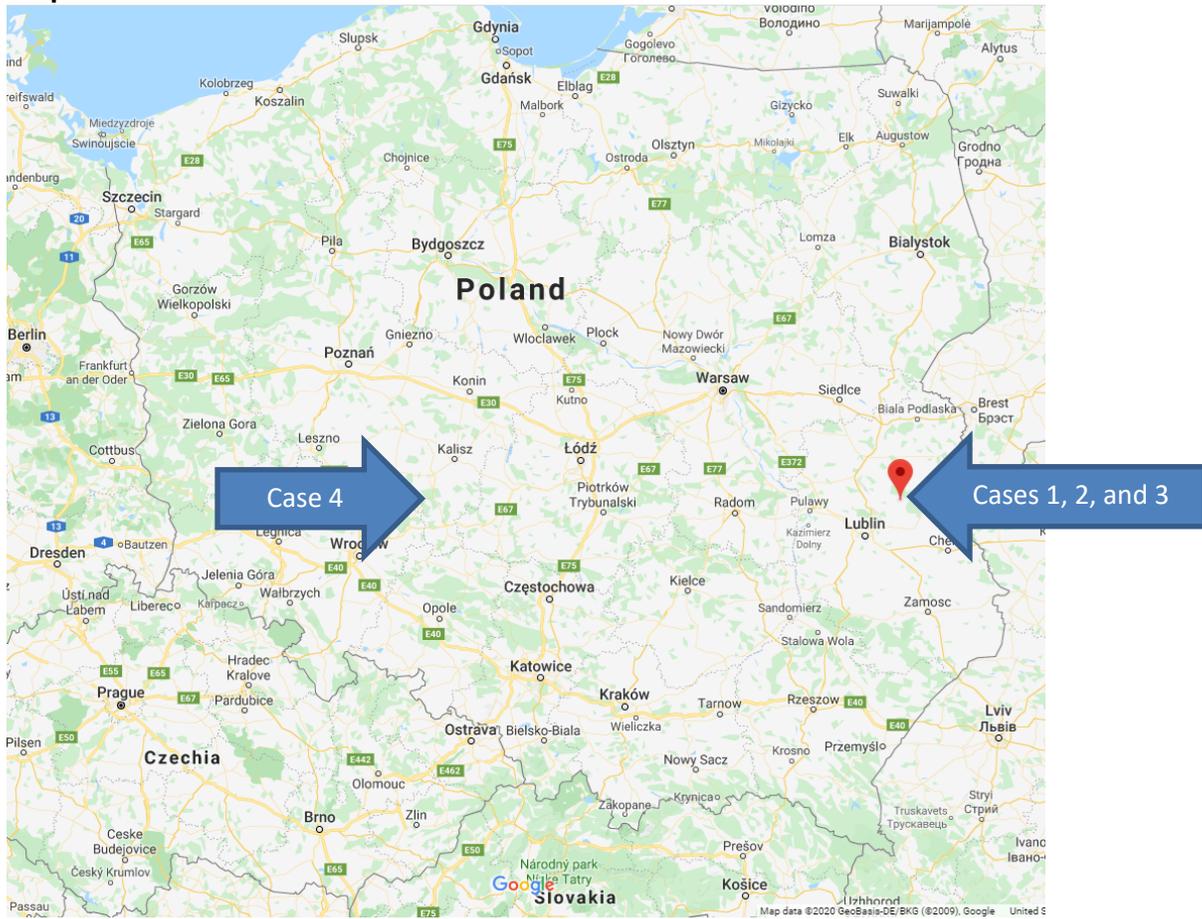
- Three km radius protection zones around the outbreak sites in Lubartów County, including the villages of Stary Uścimów, Nowy Uścimów, Drozdówka, Głębokie, Maśluchy, and Orzechów Kolonia;
- Seven km radius surveillance zones around the smaller protection zones, which include Lubartów, Łęczyński and Parczewski counties.

On January 3, 2020, the CVO confirmed a fourth HPAI case on a layer farm in the village of Topola-Osiedle in the Township Przygodzice, County Ostrów, Wielkopolskie Province in western Poland. According to media reports, the Wielkopolska Province farm has 65,000 laying hens.

Poland's last HPAI outbreaks occurred in late 2016 and early 2017 in wild birds and on commercial poultry farms. In December 2016 and early 2017, 23 HPAI cases were confirmed on farms, mainly in geese, in northwestern and southeastern regions of the country. Most of these cases occurred near lakes and ponds, so experts linked them with water fowl migration. While the current HPAI outbreak in Lublin Province occurred near lakes, that area is not typically considered to be located on a migratory pathway.

Poland is the EU's largest poultry producer and almost half of its poultry meat is exported. 90 percent of Polish poultry exports are destined for other EU markets, with the remaining 10 percent shipped primarily to Hong Kong, Ukraine, Vietnam, and South Africa. Polish poultry meat exports in 2018 were valued at upwards of \$2.4 billion. During the first nine months of 2019, poultry meat exports (value terms) increased by five percent over the corresponding period in 2018. Poland is not currently eligible to export of poultry meat to the United States.

Map 1: HPAI Outbreak Sites



Attachments:

No Attachments.