

OIE UPDATE ON AVIAN INFLUENZA IN ANIMALS (TYPE H5)

http://www.oie.int/eng/info/hebdo/AIS_23.HTM#Sec8

MISCELLANEOUS: AVIAN INFLUENZA IN THE UNITED KINGDOM/GREAT BRITAIN (IN WILDLIFE)

(Date of previous outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza in the United Kingdom/Great Britain reported to the OIE: 1992).

Immediate notification report

Information received on 6 and 13 April 2006 from Dr Debby Reynolds, Director General for Animal Health and Welfare, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), London:

Report date: 6 April 2006.

Reason for immediate notification: re-occurrence of a listed disease or infection in a country or zone/compartiment following a report declaring the outbreak(s) ended.

Identification of agent: highly pathogenic avian influenza virus subtype H5N1.

Date of first confirmation of the event: 6 April 2006.

Date of start of the event: 30 March 2006.

Clinical disease: yes.

Nature of diagnosis: clinical and laboratory.

Details of outbreak:

First administrative division	Lower administrative division (county)	Type of epidemiological unit	Name of the location (village)	Latitude	Longitude	Date of start of the outbreak	Species	Number of animals in the outbreak				
								susceptible	cases	deaths	destroyed	slaughtered
Scotland	Fife	NA*	Anstruther	53°13'29"N	2°40'55"W	30-Mar-06	fau	...	1	1	0	0

* NA: not applicable

Description of affected population: a wild whooper swan found dead at Cellardyke slipway. The swan carcass had been collected and taken to the competent authorities under current active surveillance protocols.

Diagnosis:

Laboratory where diagnostic tests were performed	Species examined	Diagnostic tests used	Date	Results
VLA-Weybridge, United Kingdom (OIE/FAO Reference Laboratory for avian influenza)	fau	- real-time PCR(1) - neuraminidase inhibition test - sequence analysis	6-Apr-06	- positive H5 - positive N1 - amino acid sequence at cleavage site reveals a HPAI profile

Source of outbreak or origin of infection: unknown or inconclusive - contact with wild animals.

Control measures undertaken: vaccination.

Treatment of affected animals: no.

Other details/comments:

- Prophylactic vaccination of poultry is undertaken routinely.

- Enhanced sampling of dead wild birds and domestic poultry from the protection zone and of wild birds from the surveillance zone and the "wild bird risk area" has revealed no further cases to date. The disease is not present in poultry and the United Kingdom retains its disease free status.

- Controls under decision 2006/115/EC are being implemented.

Final report: no.

(1) PCR: polymerase chain reaction