

NDCC Disease Update 10 of 2025- Avian Influenza

1. Suspect avian influenza outbreak in Northern Ireland

- The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) of Northern Ireland has declared on 05/10/2025 a **suspect case of notifiable avian influenza** in a commercial poultry premises near Omagh in Co. Tyrone. (*Figure 1*).
- Disease control measures including the humane culling of all poultry on the site and the introduction of Temporary Control Zones (TCZ) 3 and 10 km around the farm, have been put in place to reduce the risk of disease spread.

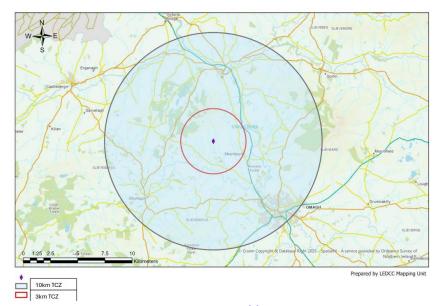


Figure 1 TCZ around AI suspect premises in Co. Tyrone

Source: DAERA publications

 TCZ measures include movement restrictions on animals and their products, enhanced biosecurity and prohibition of gatherings of poultry. For more information, please visit <u>DAERA</u> <u>website</u>.

2. Current situation in Ireland

The TCZs do not cross into Co. Donegal but are, at their closest point, around 3.5 km from the county line.

→ It is extremely important at this time that high **biosecurity standards** are followed and that all poultry holdings are <u>registered with DAFM</u>, whether commercial farms or those who have one or two backyard hens. Apart from being a legal requirement, it is also essential to help protect poultry flocks and farmers' livelihoods from the impacts which an outbreak of this disease would bring.

Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) continues to circulate in wild birds in Ireland and to date 41 have tested positive in 2025 (Figure 2).

Dead wild birds should be reported to DAFM using: Avian Influenza Wild Bird reporting App (AvianCheck).

Biosecurity continues to remain the #1 method in disease prevention and control

Figure 2 detailing the cases of HPAI detected in wild birds in Ireland in 2025 (as of 06/10/2025)



Source: Wildbirds basemap

3. Advice for members of the public regarding wild birds

1.	Do not touch sick or dead wild birds.		
2.	Do not touch wild bird feathers or droppings.		
3.	Avoid contact with surfaces contaminated with wild bird droppings.		
4.	Maintain good hand hygiene practices.		
5.	If you are travelling from an area known or suspected to be affected with avian influenza		
	or where wild birds have been found dead, do not make contact with poultry or captive		
	birds without prior cleaning and disinfection of clothing and footwear and do not bring sick		
	wild birds' home, particularly if you own or work with poultry or other captive birds.		
6.	Where handling sick or dead wild birds is unavoidable, you must wear gloves. Dispose of		
	your gloves appropriately. If you do not have immediate access to a bin they should be		
	placed inside a plastic bag and brought with you. Wash your hands and arms with hot soapy		
	water afterwards.		
7.	Keep pet dogs on a leash in areas where there are sick or dead wild birds.		

*The HSE-HPSC has advised that the risk to public health from the strain of avian influenza currently circulating (Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza subtype H5N1) is considered low for the public, and low to medium for occupationally exposed people.

4. HPAI Situation Summary across Europe

• The <u>Bird Flu Radar</u>, a tool developed for the European Food Safety Agency (EFSA) as a spatiotemporal risk assessment model details the risks of HPAI outbreaks in wild birds in Ireland.

Metric	Q Details	
Confirmed cases	 Since November 2024 there have been 81 outbreaks of HPAI in domestic poultry in the UK, currently, there is one active control zone in Cumbria (Figure 3). Since the 1st June 2025, there have been 205 outbreaks of HPAI in Europe; 24 in poultry flocks and 181 outbreaks in wild and captive birds cross Europe reported to the European Commission (Figure 4). 	
HPAI spread	 → A map detailing the cases of Avian Influenza detected in wild birds in Northern Ireland following surveillance testing can be viewed here. → HPAI continues to be detected in wild birds and domestic poultry in Great Britain in 2025. Bird flu (avian influenza): latest situation in England - GOV.UK 	

Figure 3 detailing the current HPAI control zones and cases of HPAI in GB (as of 06/10/2025)

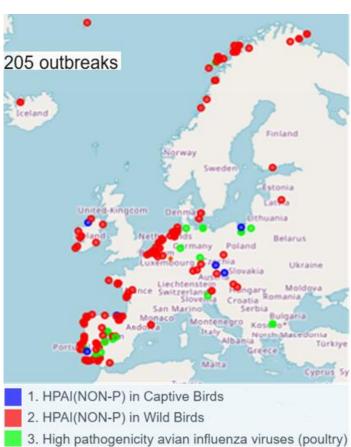


HPAI H5N5	HPAI H5N1
1	71
0	3
0	2
0	4
1	80
	1 0

Sources: APHA Interactive Avian Influenza

Disease Map, Bird flu (avian influenza): latest
situation in England - GOV.UK

Figure 4. HPAI outbreaks in captive birds, wild birds and poultry flocks across Europe (01/06/2025-06/10/2025)



Source ADIS (Animal Disease Information System, European Commission).

4. Managing the Risk

Biosecurity continues to remain the #1 method in disease prevention and control BE VIGILANT FOR THE CLINICAL SIGNS OF AVIAN INFLUENZA IN YOUR FLOCK

- Monitor your birds carefully for any clinical signs of disease. If in doubt, contact your veterinary practitioner for advice and report any suspect cases promptly. Maintaining high biosecurity measures on farm, is key to protecting Ireland's poultry industry from avian influenza and the serious consequences of an outbreak.
- A guidance document on biosecurity measures for poultry and captive bird keepers is available here.

5. How to report a suspect outbreak in poultry:

Report a suspect to your <u>Regional Veterinary Office</u> during normal office hours or the National Disease Emergency Hotline at 01 4928026 (outside of normal office hours) without delay.

How to report sightings of sick or dead wild birds:

If you find a sick or dead wild bird which is included on the <u>List of Target Species for Avian Influenza Surveillance</u>, you can report it using the <u>Avian Influenza Wild Bird reporting App (AvianCheck)</u>. Even where birds are not collected, reports of dead wild birds is important and useful to understand the disease situation in wild bird populations and to inform stakeholders of avian influenza risks.

6. Further information

Further information on Avian Influenza and biosecurity guidance here

Regional Veterinary Office / National Disease Emergency Hotline on 01-492-8026

This update is designed to keep you informed and help protect Ireland's bird populations and livelihoods. The cooperation of all stakeholders is crucial in the protection of the health and welfare of Irish poultry flocks.

National Disease Control Centre

06th October 2025