

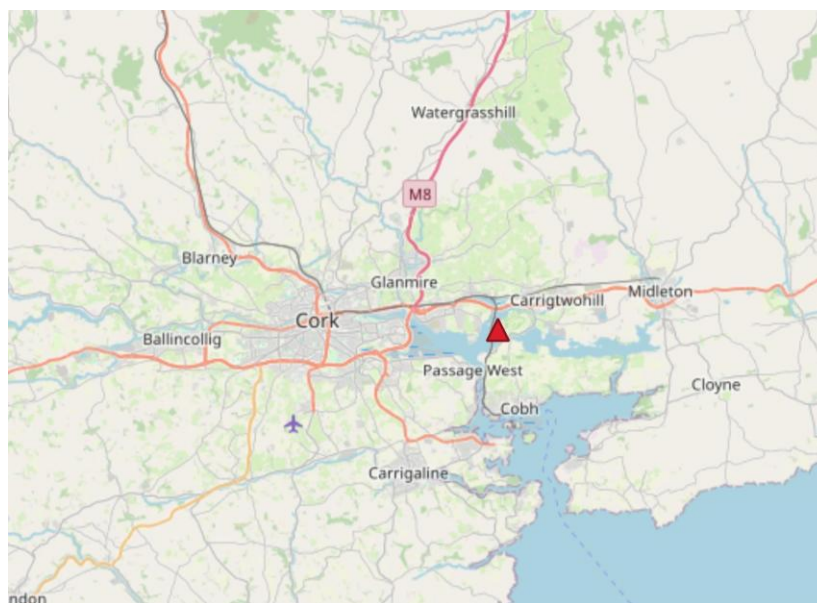


NDCC Avian Influenza Update 11 of 2025

1. Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza confirmed in a captive bird establishment in Cork

- Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) H5N1 has been confirmed in a captive bird establishment in Cork on 15.10.2025.
- Following a report of suspicion of avian influenza to the Department, the establishment which usually has public access was closed.
- An official investigation was initiated by the Department on 13.10.2025. Testing for avian influenza virus was conducted in the Department's veterinary laboratory in Backweston, Co. Kildare.
- The establishment is actively supporting DAFM and HSE with the ongoing management of this case.
- This HPAI outbreak in captive birds does not affect Ireland's disease-free status from HPAI in poultry.
- On foot of a risk assessment conducted by DAFM, it is considered that risk of onward disease spread from this site is negligible, given the technical and physical disease control measures that are in place. Restriction zones have therefore not been placed around this infected premises.

Figure 1 detailing the location of outbreak of HPAI in captive bird flock confirmed on 15 October 2025 marked with red triangle



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

2. Advice for poultry keepers

BE VIGILANT FOR THE CLINICAL SIGNS OF AVIAN INFLUENZA IN YOUR FLOCK

Biosecurity is the single most effective way to prevent the virus spreading from wild birds into poultry, or between poultry flocks. The ongoing risk posed by avian influenza and is a reminder to all who keep poultry, whether commercial holdings or those who have some backyard hens, to stay aware and take precautions to prevent contact with or contamination from wild birds.

- ❖ It is extremely important at this time that high **biosecurity standards** are followed and that all poultry holdings are [registered with DAFM](#), 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.
- ❖ A **guidance document** on biosecurity measures for poultry and captive bird keepers is available [here](#).
- ❖ **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.**

3. Advice for members of the public regarding wild birds

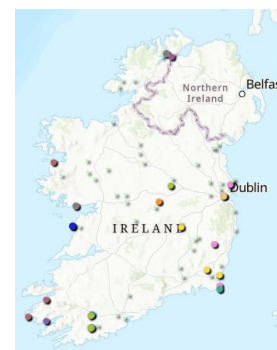
1.	Do not touch sick or dead wild birds.
2.	Do not touch wild bird feathers or droppings.
3.	Avoid contact with surfaces contaminated with wild bird droppings.
4.	Maintain good hand hygiene practices.
5.	If you are travelling from an area known or suspected to be affected with avian influenza or where 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. Current situation in wild birds in Ireland

- Wild birds continue to test positive for avian influenza in Ireland.
- The [Bird Flu Radar](#), 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.
- Highly pathogenic avian influenza continues to circulate in wild birds in Ireland. 41 cases have tested positive in 2025 to date (*Figure 2*).
- Low pathogenic avian influenza (LPAI) was detected in dead wild birds from The Lough area in Cork city which were submitted for testing in September 2025.
- Dead wild birds should be reported to DAFM using:
 - [Avian Influenza Wild Bird reporting App \(AvianCheck\)](#).

Figure 2 detailing the cases of HPAI detected in wild birds in Ireland in 2025 (as of 15/10/2025)

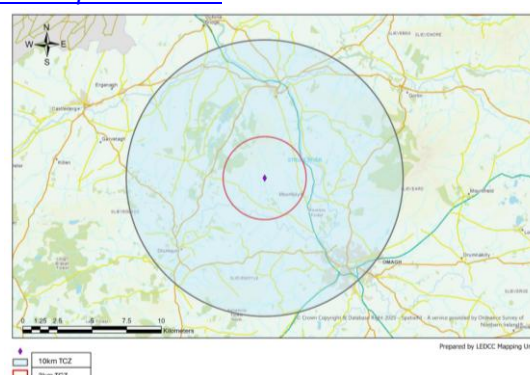


Source: [Wildbirds basemap](#)

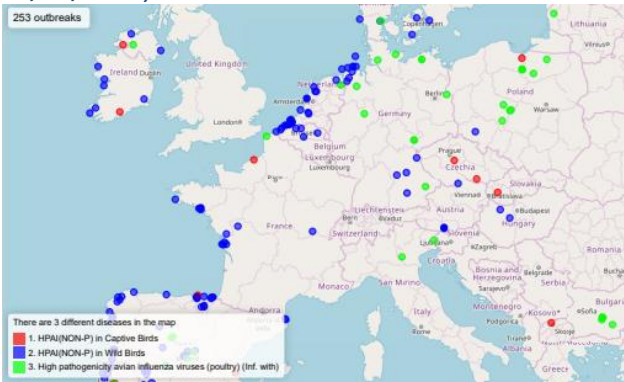
5. Current situation in Northern Ireland

- The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) of Northern Ireland confirmed the **suspect case of notifiable avian influenza** in a commercial poultry premises near Omagh in Co. Tyrone as HPAI H5N1 on 09.10.2025.
- The Temporary Control Zone (TCZ) that was in place from 05.10.2025 was replaced with a 3km Protection Zone (PZ) and a 10km Surveillance Zone (SZ) (*Figure 3*).
- Disease control measures have been put in place to reduce the risk of disease spread. These include the humane culling of all poultry on the site, disease surveillance, movement restrictions on animals and their products, enhanced biosecurity and prohibition of gatherings of poultry within the zones.
- Restriction zones do not cross into Co. Donegal. At their closest point they zone is approximately 3.5 km from the border.
- A map detailing the cases of Avian Influenza detected in wild birds in Northern Ireland following surveillance testing can be viewed [here](#).
- Further information: [DAERA website](#)

Figure 2 detailing the 3km PZ and 10km SZ surrounding the confirmed HPAI H5N1 case in a poultry premises in Co. Tyrone. [DAERA publications](#)



6. HPAI Situation Summary across Europe

 HPAI spread	 Details
<u>Situation update in Great Britain:</u> <i>Figure 4 detailing the current HPAI control zones and cases of HPAI in GB (as of 15/10/2025)</i>  Sources: APHA Interactive Avian Influenza Disease Map	The first cases of HPAI H5N1 of the 2025- 2026 outbreak season have been confirmed (<i>Figure 4</i>): ➤ England: ❖ HPAI H5N1 was confirmed in captive birds at a premises near Stockbridge, Hampshire on 11.10.2025. ❖ HPAI H5N1 was confirmed in poultry at a premises near Wybunbury, Cheshire on 13.10. 2025. This was a commercial flock with more than 10,000 birds. ❖ England is in an AIPZ with mandatory biosecurity measures. ➤ Wales & Scotland – no HPAI cases to date in current 2025-2026 avian influenza season ❖ 81 cases of HPAI were reported in the UK during the 2024-2025 season. ❖ Further information: Bird flu (avian influenza): latest situation in England – GOV.UK
<u>Situation update across Europe:</u> <i>Figure 5 HPAI outbreaks in captive birds, wild birds and poultry flocks across Europe (01/06/2025-06/10/2025)</i>  Source ADIS (Animal Disease Information System, European Commission).	❖ Since the 1st June 2025, there have been 253 outbreaks of HPAI in Europe; 45 in poultry flocks, 13 in captive birds and 195 in wild birds across Europe reported to the European Commission (<i>Figure 5</i>). ❖ Since the 1st October in Europe there have been: ➤ 26 outbreaks in poultry. ➤ 31 outbreaks in wild birds. ➤ 3 outbreaks in captive birds.

6. 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](#).

7. How to report a suspect outbreak in poultry

Report a suspect to your [Regional Veterinary Office](#) 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 [List of Target Species for Avian Influenza Surveillance](#), you can report it using the [Avian Influenza Wild Bird reporting App \(AvianCheck\)](#). 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.

8. 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

16th October 2025