



## Situation Report: Feb. 16, 2022

### Kentucky Department of Agriculture's Office of State Veterinarian responds to Avian Influenza in Kentucky

**BACKGROUND:** On Feb. 14, 2022, USDA and state officials announced a confirmed case of H5N1 highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) was identified in a single commercial broiler chickens in Fulton County, Kentucky, near the Tennessee border.

HPAI is known to be deadly for domesticated fowl. On Feb. 11, a commercial chicken operation in Fulton County alerted the Kentucky Department of Agriculture of an increase in poultry deaths. Testing at the Breathitt Veterinary Center and the USDA's National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) confirmed the presence of HPAI in samples from the commercial chicken operation. The Breathitt Veterinary Center Laboratory also obtained a non-negative avian influenza test result on the samples from a Webster County turkey flock. The sample was sent to NVSL for confirmation pending.

State officials quarantined the affected premises. Federal and state partners began working jointly on additional surveillance and testing of commercial and backyard poultry flocks in the area and established an incident command center in Fulton County.

The KDA established a 10 kilometer surveillance zone around the detected property.

Avian influenza does not present a food safety risk; poultry and eggs are safe to eat when handled and cooked properly. There is no risk to the food supply, but birds from the flocks will not enter the food system. No human cases of avian influenza viruses have been detected in the United States.

#### **CURRENT SITUATION AS OF 2/15/2022:**

- USDA's National Veterinary Services Laboratories confirmed the presence of HPAI in samples taken from a commercial turkey flock in Webster County.
- Depopulation efforts complete at premises in Fulton County and Webster County
- 10 kilometer surveillance zones continue around each affected premises. Those inside the 10 kilometer zone were notified by state or federal officials.

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- The Kentucky Department of Agriculture has worked with the Kentucky Poultry Federation and other industry partners to notify all poultry owners – backyard and commercial operators – to keep birds indoors to prevent the spread of high path avian influenza. Those in the surveillance zones in and around Fulton and Webster counties have additional restrictions. [Click here to read the letter.](#)

**RESOURCES:**

Signs of Avian Influenza: [kyagr.com/HPAI](http://kyagr.com/HPAI)

Avian Influenza Frequently Asked Questions: [kyagr.com/HPAI](http://kyagr.com/HPAI)

Keep up to date on Kentucky's response and sign up for updates: [kyagr.com/HPAI](http://kyagr.com/HPAI)

Additional information on biosecurity for backyard flocks: <http://healthybirds.aphis.usda.gov>