



## Situation Report: Oct. 11, 2022

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

**BACKGROUND:** On Oct. 7, 2022, USDA and state officials announced a confirmed case of H5N1 highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) was identified in a backyard flock of mixed-species birds in Fayette County.

HPAI is known to be deadly for domesticated fowl. On Oct. 5, 2022, a dead bird from a backyard poultry premises in Fayette County submitted to the University of Kentucky Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory tested presumptive positive for H5 Avian Influenza and the next evening the National Veterinary Services Laboratory confirmed the test in samples from the submitted bird.

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) began an investigation upon notification from the University of Kentucky Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory of a submitted bird testing positive for Avian Influenza. State officials quarantined the affected premises and depopulated the flocks. Federal and state partners began working jointly on additional surveillance and testing of commercial and backyard poultry flocks in the area.

State officials quarantined the affected premise and established a 10 kilometer surveillance zone around the property to determine if there are any further detections.

Working with the Kentucky Poultry Federation and other industry partners, KDA began notifying all poultry owners – backyard and commercial operators – to keep birds indoors to prevent the spread of high path avian influenza.

This was the third positive case of HPAI in Kentucky during 2022. In February 2022, USDA and state officials announced two confirmed cases of H5N1 in commercial broiler chicken operation in Fulton County and a commercial turkey operation in Webster County. Federal and state partners worked jointly to eradicate the disease from these two premises to meet the World Organization of Animal Health's free from avian influenza designation in May.

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 and eggs 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 10/11/2022:**

- On Oct. 10, 2022, a dead bird from a backyard poultry premises in Logan County submitted to the Breathitt Veterinary Center Laboratory tested presumptive positive for H5 Avian Influenza and samples are pending testing at the National Veterinary Services Laboratory.
- Fayette County infected premise under quarantine and depopulation and disposal complete
- Logan County infected premises under quarantine with depopulation and disposal pending
- Ongoing surveillance around the infected premises in Fayette and Logan counties.
- KDA, USDA, and industry stakeholders continue to provide outreach to bird enthusiasts to report sick birds and practice good biosecurity to protect the health of Kentucky's poultry. LETTER

**RESOURCES:**

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

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

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

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