

# Low Pathogenicity Avian Influenza H7N2 in Wales, UK

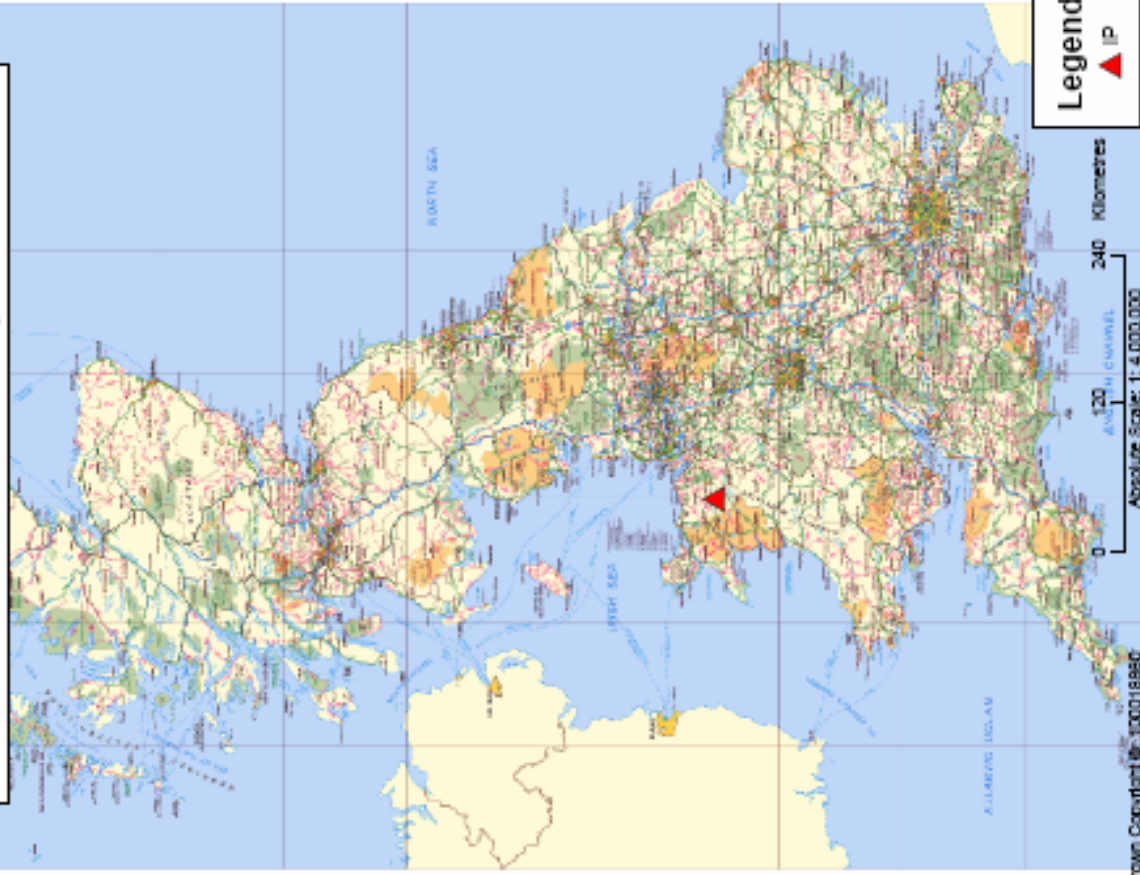


Report to SCoFCAH

5 June 2007



**Location of Infected Premises, Conwy, Wales.  
Confirmed on 24 May 2007**



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CREATOR: RADAR Team

DATE CREATED: 2007-06-01

PUBLISHER: RADAR Team

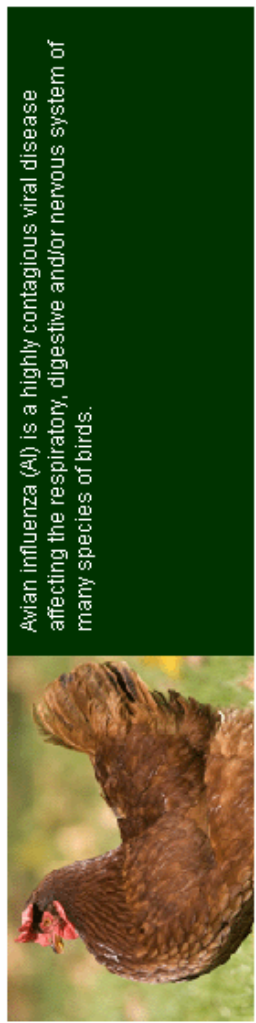
QUALITY: Not Applicable

SOURCES: Disease Investigation Report



**Environment and countryside**

- Animal health and welfare
- Disease surveillance and control
- Avian influenza
  - Avian Flu frequently asked questions
  - Avian Influenza Restricted Zone
  - Food Standards Agency
  - What to do if you see a dead bird
  - Information for poultry keepers
  - Legislation
  - Related links



**Important Updates:**

**Confirmation of avian influenza in North Wales**  
 The Chief Veterinary Officer for Wales, Dr Christianne Glossop, has confirmed a case of avian influenza in birds in North Wales. The strain identified is H7N2 low pathogenic avian influenza. The strain is different to the highly pathogenic H5N1 strain currently circulating in South East Asia, and in Europe last year.  
[Read more on the confirmation of avian influenza in North Wales](#)

**Avian Influenza Restricted Zone**  
 Animal Health Act 1981  
 Avian Influenza and Influenza of Avian Origin in Mammals (Wales) (No.2) Order 2006 (S.I. 2006/2927)  
[Declaration of a Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza Restricted Zone](#)

**More information about human health is available from the National Public Health Service (NPHS)**  
[Visit the National Public Health Service website \(external link\)](#)

**If you keep poultry, please visit our [Information for poultry keepers page](#).**

**Useful telephone numbers**

- Defra Emergency Helpline - 0845 933 5577

**Related Links**

- 
**Defra**  
 Read the latest updates on Avian Influenza from the Defra website
- 
**National Public Health Service for Wales**  
 Read the latest updates on Avian Influenza from the NPHS website
- 
**Food Standards Agency**  
 The Food Standards Agency is accountable to the National Assembly for Wales

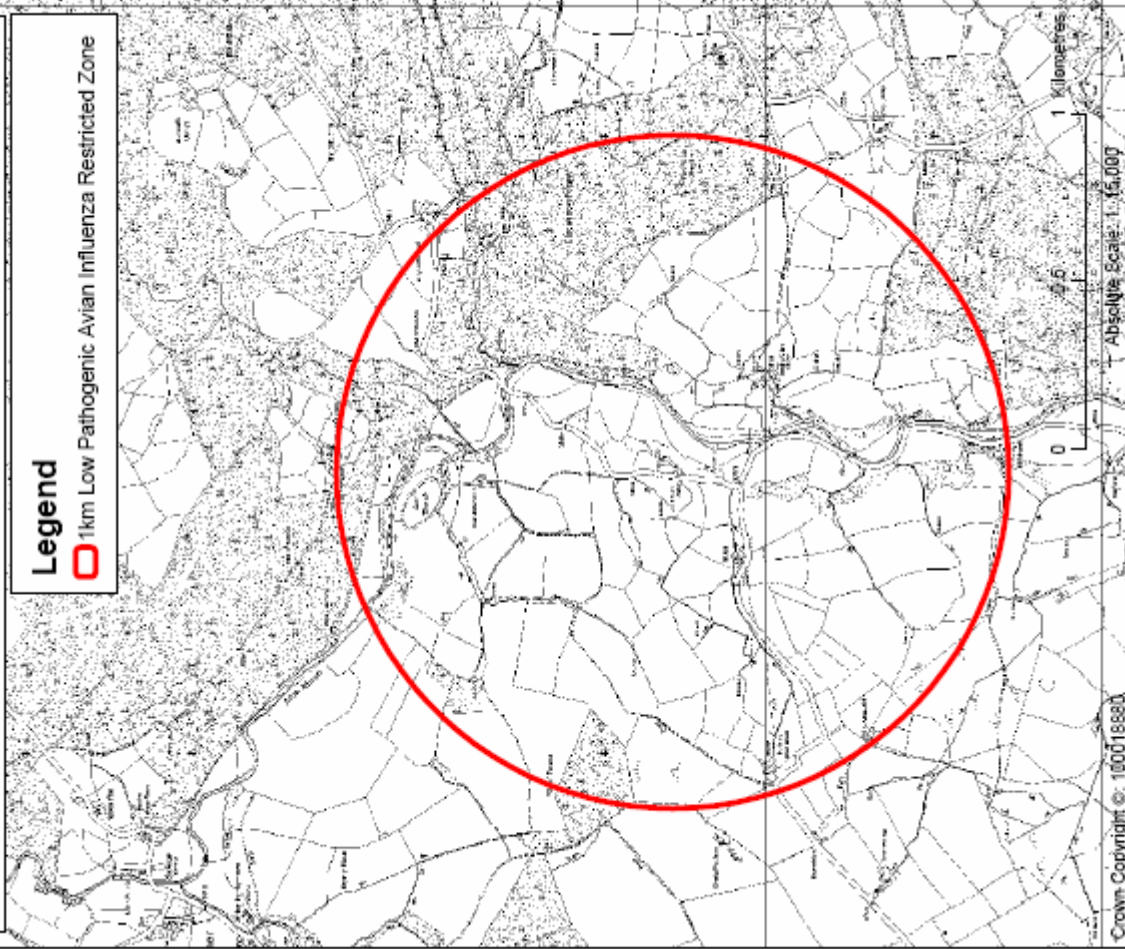
# Chronology

- 7 May: hens bought from market
- 8 May: hens start to become ill and die, approx 1 per day
- 17 May: private vet investigates, notifiable disease not suspected
- 18 May: birds to laboratory for post-mortem
- 23 May: H7 virus detected
- 24 May: H7N2 LPAI confirmed. Remaining poultry killed and sampled. Poultry gatherings banned. 1km restricted zone.
- 25 May: Preliminary disinfection.
- 3 June: Cleansing and disinfection

**1km Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza Restricted Zone  
around Infected Premises, Conwy, Wales.  
Confirmed on 24 May 2007**

**Legend**

 1km Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza Restricted Zone



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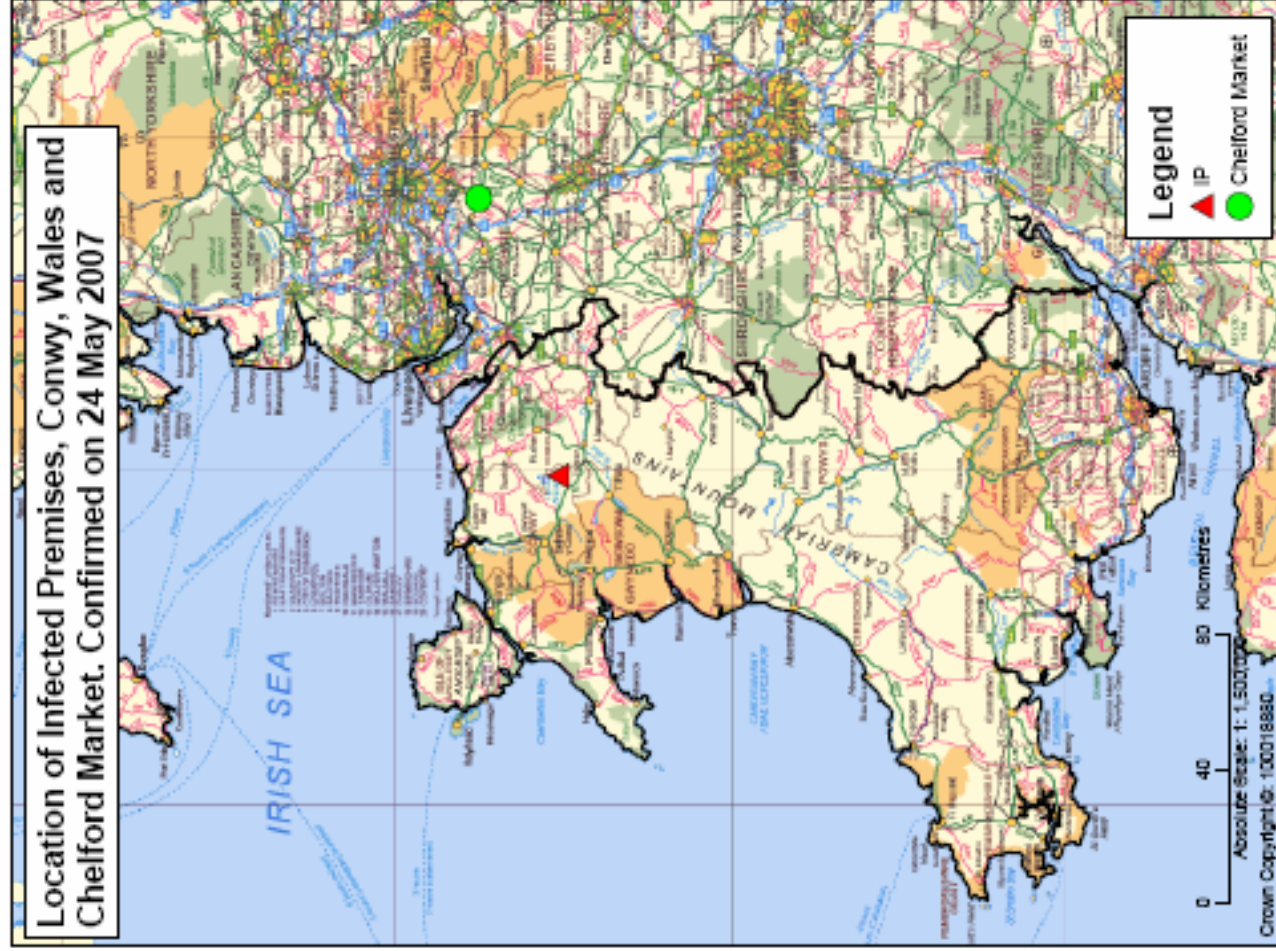
# Infected Premises

- Smallholding with 46 hens, 2 geese, dogs, other livestock
- Local sales of eggs
- 16 purchased hens died
- Resident birds showed clinical signs when culled

# Epidemiology - Source

- Endemic infection on IP
  - Low seroprevalence in surviving birds so unlikely
- Chelford Market 7 May
  - 500 lots of birds
  - 3 dealers who supplied birds to the market under investigation, tests negative
- Wild birds of high risk species uncommon in this area.

**Location of Infected Premises, Conwy, Wales and Chelford Market. Confirmed on 24 May 2007**



Absolute Scale: 1:1,500,000  
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**Legend**

- ▲ IP
- Chelford Market

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# Epidemiology - Spread

- 3 small poultry flocks in 1 km zone clinically healthy
- 200+ tracings from market under investigation, all results negative so far
- 6 hens passed through IP 7 May negative
- Movements of veterinarian traced
- 5 suspect cases linked to market + 5 other suspect cases – initial results all negative.

# Public Health

- On 25 May nine people were tested for the flu. Four of the test results were positive. No one has been seriously ill, however. H7N2 is a low pathogenic strain of avian flu, different to the highly pathogenic H5N1 strain currently circulating in South East Asia. In almost all human cases to date, H7N2 infection has generally been associated with a mild disease. The risk to the general public is considered to be very low.

# Food Safety

- The Food Standards Agency advises that avian flu does not pose a food safety risk for UK consumers. The risk of people getting avian influenza from eating poultry meat and eggs is low. Evidence from countries where people have caught the disease indicates that direct contact with infected birds is the main risk factor. Eating infected chicken or eggs has not been identified as a cause of their illness.
- Poultry on infected premises are being culled and will not go into the food chain.

