

# **Vaccination programme for birds kept in zoos against avian influenza**

Submitted by the Czech Republic for approval by the Commission

Member state: **Czech Republic**  
Date: 21. 3. 2006  
Disease: **Avian Influenza**  
Animal species: **Birds kept in zoos**  
Period: *from April 2006*

## **Background:**

In accordance with Commission Decision 2005/744/EC of 21<sup>st</sup> October 2005, vaccination can be a way to protect birds kept in approved zoos against avian influenza. Due to this reason the Czech Republic introduces this vaccination programme to the Commission for approval.

The recent spread of the virus H5N1 in to the EU suggest that all Member States are at risk for detecting avian influenza cases by H5N1 in wild birds. Hence, all means that are required should be implemented in order to reduce the risk of an introduction of avian influenza in bird population.

Many birds kept in zoos cannot be kept indoors. There are many species in zoos that are part of worldwide programmes to save endangered species. The vaccination of susceptible birds kept in zoos is appropriate to prevent infection and death of these birds that are part of genetics pool.

The efficiency of the vaccine on the other species than poultry has not been proved enough. In approved zoos the birds are kept under constant veterinary supervision in a controlled and limited area. The vaccination campaign set up in zoos is a pilot project. The uncertainties it involves must be accepted.

## **Objective of the programme:**

The objective of the vaccination programme is to reduce the risk of introduction of avian influenza to birds kept in Czech zoos and to protect the birds from infection with avian influenza virus type A, subtype H5N1.

## **Details of zoos participating in the vaccination programme:**

- The approved zoos have submitted an inventory of the birds, which require preventative vaccination.
- All vaccinated birds must be kept separately from no vaccinated birds.
- Vaccination on zoos will be carrying out on voluntary basis.

- The list of zoos participating in the vaccination programme and detailed inventory of birds to be vaccinated is given in Annex I.

#### **Before vaccination:**

- A detailed timetable of all vaccination to be carried out must be submitted to the State Veterinary Administration, Department of Animal Health and Welfare before starting the vaccination.
- All expenses relating to the vaccination will be paid by the zoo authorities.

#### **Testing and sampling frame:**

Blood samples must be taken from at least 10% of the birds to include birds of different species prior to being vaccinated and 30 days post primary vaccination. These samples will be submitted to the NRL in State Veterinary Institute in Prague for serological testing for avian influenza. It is preferable to centrifuge the sera before they are sent to the NRL. The minimum amount of the serum required is 100µl. A record of the test result must be kept for 10 years.

#### **Vaccine:**

The vaccine will be stored at NRL for AI in State Veterinary Institute in Prague. The veterinarians in charge of the zoo will receive the necessary quantity of vaccine in accordance with the inventory and timetable submitted by the zoos. With a view to optimal effectiveness, the vaccine must be stored in accordance to the producer prescriptions during transport as well as at the place of final destination.

For vaccination will be used inactivated type of vaccines:

**Poulvac AI H5N9 (Fort Dodge)**  
**Gallimune Flu H5N9 (Merial)**

The vaccines will be used in accordance with SPC provided by producers. Primary vaccination consists of 2 injections given 6 weeks apart.

#### **Vaccination procedure:**

- Vaccination shall only take place on birds in a zoo.
- The official veterinarian shall control prevention measures that are taken to ensure that vaccinated birds are separated from the rest zoo birds and all possible steps are taken to reduce risk of contact with wild birds.
- Each vaccination campaign must be completed within 96 hours.
- All birds to be vaccinated must be individually identified and wherever possible bear as indelible identification indicating that the birds have been vaccinated.
- The vaccination can only take a place as a part of extraordinary veterinary measures imposed by the State Veterinary Administration (SVA) and under supervision of an official veterinarian. After the vaccination the zoos have to send a report to the SVA containing the data:
  - Name and address of the veterinarian responsible for the vaccination and blood sampling of the zoo birds.
  - Date and location of the vaccination.

- List of birds and their identification and name of the species in Czech and Latin.
- Doses of vaccine used for each species and possible side-effects.
- A complete list of all vaccinated birds, bearing all possible annotation (side effects), must be submitted when the vaccination programme is finished.
- The list of all the vaccinated birds must be kept for at least 10 years from the date of vaccination.
- The flasks containing vaccine must be sending back to the NRL in State Veterinary Institute in Prague. Together with the flasks a register on the identity, the species and the dates of vaccination of the birds must be send.

#### **Movement and trade restriction:**

- Vaccinated birds shall not be traded or moved unless under official supervision between zoos in the Czech Republic or after specific authorization of another Member State and in accordance with the Community legislation.
- Bird products from vaccinated birds shall not enter the food chain.

#### **Biosafety measures:**

- Access to all places in the zoo where the birds are kept is forbidden to all vehicles, persons and equipment that have contact in the last 4 days with birds, poultry or poultry eggs in an infected region or country.
- A record of all persons in charge of taking care of the vaccinated birds must be kept.
- All staff must be informed about the biosecurity measures in force in zoo.
- Where the wild birds may come in contact with the vaccinated birds, nets or wire nets may be required.
- Every effort must be made to avoid contact between the birds and the public visiting the zoo.

#### **Reporting to the Commission:**

A detailed report on the execution of the vaccination programme including results of testing carried out will be provided to the Commission and the Member States in the framework of the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health.

#### **Annex I:**

##### **1. Location of zoos participating and inventory of birds**

## List of Zoogardens

Enclosure: Annex I

Registratuion number	Name	Municipality	Region	Number of birds
CZ 11760904	Zoogarden Praha	Praha 7 - Troja	Capital city Prague	1.298
CZ 21760905	Zoogarden Chleby, o.p.s	Chleby	Central Bohemian Region	99
CZ 31760906	Zoogarden Ohrada	Hluboká nad Vltavou	Southern Bohemian Region	500
CZ 42760908	Zoogarden Děčín	Děčín	Region of Ústí nad Labem	165
CZ 42760919	Zoogarden Chomutov	Chomutov	Region of Ústí nad Labem	573
CZ 42760920	Zoogarden Ústí nad Labem	Ústí nad Labem	Region of Ústí nad Labem	180
CZ 51760908	Zoogarden Liberec	Liberec	Region of Liberec	271
CZ 52760909	Zoogarden Dvůr Králové	Dvůr Králové nad Labem	Region of Hradec Králové	836
CZ 61760909	Zoogarden Jihlava	Jihlava	Region of vysočina	160
CZ 62760900	Zoogarden Brno	Brno	Southernmoravian Region	160
CZ 62760911	Zoogarden Hodonín	Hodonín	Southernmoravian Region	205
CZ 62760922	Zoogarden Vyškov	Vyškov	Southernmoravian Region	104
CZ 71760900	Zoogarden Olomouc	Kopeček u Olomouce	Region of Olomouc	488
CZ 72760901	Zoogarden Zlín-Lešná	Zlín 12 Lešná	Region of Zlín	722
CZ 81760901	Zoogarden Ostrava	Ostrava	Moravia - Silesian Region	633
CZ	Zoogarden Plzeň	Plzeň	Region of Plzeň	1.500
Celkem				7.894

Map - zoogardens

