



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH & CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
Unit 04 - Veterinary Control Programmes

SANCO/3873/2008

*Programmes for the eradication, control and monitoring of certain
animal diseases and zoonoses*

Survey programme for Avian Influenza in poultry and wild birds

Approved* for 2009 by Commission Decision 2008/897/EC

Lithuania

* in accordance with Commission Decision 90/424/EEC



**LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS
VALSTYBINĖ MAISTO IR VETERINARIOS TARNYBA
STATE FOOD AND VETERINARY SERVICE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA**

APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY FINANCING AVIAN INFLUENZA SURVEY IN LITHUANIA 2009

LITHUANIA, APRIL 2008

I. IDENTIFICATION OF THE PROGRAMME

Member State: Lithuanian Republic

Disease: Endemic avian influenza

Year of implementation: from 1st of January 2009 to 31st December of 2009

Reference of this document: _____

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I. Introduction

Avian influenza can occur in most, if not all species of birds. Waterfowl (wild and domesticated) are the major natural reservoir of influenza viruses. EFSA states that H5N1 can be present in several species of wild birds (e.g. ducks, sparrows, swans) without them showing clinical signs. There is therefore a high probability that the virus could be carried over long distances by wild birds (especially migratory birds).

Commercial ducks have frequently been shown to be infected with influenza viruses, but this has rarely been associated with disease in the ducks because of the marked resistance that these birds show, even to strains that are highly virulent for chickens and turkeys.

The subtypes of most importance in poultry are the influenza A H5 and H7, as these are the subtypes that have been found in cases of highly pathogenic avian influenza in poultry. All the other subtypes cause a much milder disease.

II. Legal framework

EU Legal acts

COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 2005/94/EC of 20 December 2005 on Community measures for the control of avian influenza and repealing Directive 92/40/EEC (will be implemented from 1 July 2007)

Council Decision 90/424/EEC of 26 June 1990 on expenditure in the veterinary field.

The Law on Veterinary Activities No I-2110 (of 17 December 1991), with amendments by the Law No VIII-1350 (of 7 October 1999) and by the Law No VIII-1793 (of 4 July 2000).

Lithuanian legal acts

Order No. 465 On the Approval of documents on the compensation of losses and expenses incurred during the eradication of foci of contagious animal diseases, adopted on 31 October 2001 by the State Food and Veterinary Service.

Order No. 152 On the Approval of Statute of the Control Centre for Contagious Diseases under State Food and Veterinary Service adopted on 3 April 2002 by the State Food and Veterinary Service.

Order No BI-226 On the Approval of Control Program of Contagious Animal Diseases adopted on 11 April 2005 by the State Food and Veterinary Service.

Order No BI-553 On the approval of avian influenza control requirements adopted on 15 June 2007 by the State Food and Veterinary Service.

III. Objectives

3.1. Surveillance for avian influenza in poultry

Serological surveys for AI subtypes H5 and H7 in poultry aim at:

1. Detecting subclinical infections with AI of subtypes H5 and H7 thereby complementing early detection systems.
2. Detecting infections of AI H5 and H7 subtypes in specifically targeted poultry populations at specific risk for infection due to their husbandry system or species specific susceptibility.
3. Contributing to the demonstration of a free status of a certain country, region or compartment from notifiable avian influenza in the frame of international trade according to OIE rules.

3.2. Surveillance for avian influenza in wild birds

Virological surveys for avian influenza in wild birds aim to identify the risk of introduction of AI viruses (LPAI and HPAI) to domestic poultry by:

1. Ensuring early detection of HPAI H5N1 by investigating increased incidence of morbidity and mortality in wild birds, in particular in selected "higher risk" species.
2. In the event that HPAI H5N1 is detected in wild birds, then surveillance of live and dead wild birds should be enhanced to determine whether wild birds of other species can act as asymptomatic carriers or "bridge species".

3. Continuing a "baseline" surveillance of different species of free living migratory birds as part of continuous monitoring of LPAI viruses, Anseriformes (water fowl) and Charadriiformes (shorebirds and gulls) shall be the main sampling targets to assess if they carry LPAI viruses of H5 and H7 subtypes (which would in any case also detect HPAI H5N1 and other HPAI, if present). "Higher risk species" will be targeted in particular.

Both, surveys in poultry and wild birds shall actively promote the co-operation between veterinary and public health authorities, influenza networks of virologists, epidemiologists, ornithologists and ecologists so as to contribute to an overall better understanding of the epidemiology of influenza viruses, and how to protect animal and human health from the threat they can pose.

Legal deadlines

Sampling shall cover a period appropriate to production periods for each poultry category as required. Sampling shall be carried from 1 January 2009 to 31 December 2009.

Testing of samples shall be carried out at National Veterinary Laboratory. The National Veterinary Laboratory, based at Kairūkščių 10, Vilnius, is the reference laboratory for avian and mammalian influenza. It also has the capacity and expertise for serological identification of antibodies to these viruses in the different species. A specific pathogen free flock is maintained as a source of eggs for virus isolation.

All positive serological findings shall be confirmed by the National Veterinary Laboratory by a haemagglutination-inhibition test, using designated strains supplied by the Community Reference Laboratory for Avian Influenza:

- H5 (a) Initial test using Ostrich/Denmark/72420/96 (H5N2)
- (b) Test all positives with Duck/Denmark/64650/03 (H5N7) to eliminate N2 cross reactive antibody.
- H7 (a) Initial test using Turkey/England/647/77 (H7N7)
- (b) Test all positives with African Starling/983/79 (H7N1) to eliminate N7 cross reactive antibody

All results (both serological and virological) shall be sent to the Community Reference Laboratory for Avian Influenza (CRL) for collation. A good flow of information is ensured. The CRL shall provide technical support and keep an enlarged stock of diagnostic reagents.

All avian influenza virus isolates will be submitted to the CRL in accordance with Community legislation. Viruses of H5/H7 subtype shall be submitted without delay and shall be subjected to the standard characterisation tests (nucleotide sequencing/VPF) according to the said Diagnostic Manual.

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Table 2.2.1 POULTRY HOLDINGS^(a) (except ducks and geese) TO BE SAMPLED
Serological investigation according to point B of Annex I to Commission Decision 2007/268/EC^(c) on holdings of broilers (only when at risk)
PLEASE USE ONE FORM PER POULTRY CATEGORY

NUTS (2) code ^(b)	Total number of holdings ^(d)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of tests to be performed per method	Methods of laboratory analysis
L100	80	42	5	210	ELISA
Total	80	42	5	210	ELISA

(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.

(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) 2 can not be used, coordinates (long/lat- to write out) are requested.

(c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.

Table 2.2.1 POULTRY HOLDINGS^(a) (except ducks and geese) TO BE SAMPLED
Serological investigation according to point B of Annex I to Commission Decision 2007/268/EC on holdings of fattening turkeys
PLEASE USE ONE FORMER POULTRY CATEGORY

NUTS (2) code ^(b)	Total number of holdings ^(c)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of tests to be performed per method	Methods of laboratory analysis
LT00	88	59	5	295	ELISA
Total	88	59	5	295	ELISA

(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.

(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) 2 can not be used, coordinates (long-lat- to write out) are requested.

(c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.

Table 2.2.1 POULTRY HOLDINGS^(a) (except ducks and geese) TO BE SAMPLED
Serological investigation according to point B of Annex I to Commission Decision 2007/268/EC on holdings of chicken breeders
PLEASE USE ONE FORM PER POULTRY CATEGORY

NCIS (C) code ^(b)	Total number of holdings ^(c)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of tests to be performed per method	Methods of laboratory analysis
L100	9	9	5	45	ELISA
Total	9	9	5	45	ELISA

(a) Holdings or birds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.

(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NCIS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) 2 can not be used, coordinates (long/lat- 10 write out) are requested.

(c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NCIS 2 region.

Table 2.2.1 POULTRY HOLDINGS^(a) (except ducks and geese) TO BE SAMPLED
Serological investigation according to point B of Annex I to Commission Decision 2007/268/EC⁴ on holdings of turkey brooders
PLEASE USE ONE FORMER POULTRY CATEGORY

NUTS (2) code ^(b)	Total number of holdings ^(c)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of tests to be performed per method	Methods of laboratory analysis
L100	1	1	5	5	ELISA
Total	1	1	5	5	ELISA

(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.

(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) 2 can not be used, coordinates (long/lat - to write out) are requested.

(c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in encircled NUTS 2 region.

Table 2.2.1 POULTRY HOLDINGS^(a) (except ducks and geese) TO BE SAMPLED
Serological investigation according to point B of Annex I to Commission Decision 2007/268/EC on holdings of laying hens
PLEASE USE ONE FORM PER POULTRY CATEGORY

NUIS (code) ^(b)	Total number of holdings ^(c)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of tests to be performed per method	Methods of laboratory analysis
LTR0	56	42	5	210	ELISA
Total	56	42	5	210	ELISA

(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.

(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) 2 can not be used, coordinates (long/lat. to write out) are requested.

(c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.

Table 2.2.1 POULTRY HOLDINGS⁽⁶⁾ (except ducks and geese) TO BE SAMPLED
Serological investigation according to point B of Annex I to Commission Decision 2007/268/EC⁶ on holdings of free-range laying hens
PLEASE USE ONE FORM PER POULTRY CATEGORY

NUIS (2) code ^(a)	Total number of holdings ^(b)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of tests to be performed per method	Methods of laboratory analysis
LT00	63	42	5	210	ELISA
Total	63	42	5	210	ELISA

(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.

(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) 2 can not be used, coordinates (long/lat- to write out) are requested.

(c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.

Table 2.2.1 POULTRY HOLDINGS^(a) (except ducks and geese) TO BE SAMPLED
Serological investigation according to point B of Annex I to Commission Decision 2007/268/EC^(b) on holdings of raptors
PLEASE USE ONE FORM PER POULTRY CATEGORY

NUIS (2) code ^(c)	Total number of holdings ^(a)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of tests to be performed per method	Methods of laboratory analysis
LT00	13	13	5	65	ELISA
Total	13	13	5	65	ELISA

- (a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.
- (b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) 2 can not be used, coordinates (long/lat- to write out) are requested.
- (c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.

Table 2.2.1 POULTRY HOLDINGS^(a) (except ducks and geese) TO BE SAMPLED
Scrological investigation according to point B of Annex I to Commission Decision 2007/268/EC on holdings of farmed feathered game (pheasants, partridges, quails...)
PLEASE USE ONE FORMER POULTRY CATEGORY

NUTS (2) code ^(b)	Total number of holdings ^(c)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of tests to be performed per method	Methods of laboratory analysis
LJ00	10	10	5	50	ELISA
Total	10	10	5	50	ELISA

(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.

(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) 2 can not be used, coordinates (long/lat- w write out) are requested.

(c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.

Table 2.2.1 POULTRY HOLDINGS^(a) (except ducks and geese) TO BE SAMPLED
Serological investigation according to point B of Annex I to Commission Decision 2007/268/EC^(c) backyard flocks
PLEASE USE ONE FORM PER POULTRY CATEGORY

NUTS (2) code ^(b)	Total number of holdings ^(a)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of tests to be performed per method	Methods of laboratory analysis
L700	2149	60	5	300	ELISA
Total	2149	60	5	300	ELISA

(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.

(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) 2 can not be used, coordinates (long/lat- to write out) are requested.

(c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.

Table 2.2.1 POULTRY HOLDINGS^(a) (except ducks and geese) TO BE SAMPLED
Serological investigation according to point B of Annex I to Commission Decision 2007/268/EC^(b) on holdings of others
PLEASE USE ONE FORMER POULTRY CATEGORY

NUCTS code ^(c)	Total number of holdings ^(a)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of tests to be performed per method	Methods of laboratory analysis
L100	15	15	5	75	ELISA
Total	15	15	5	75	ELISA

(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.

(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) 2 can not be used, coordinates (long/lat- to write out) are requested.

(c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.

REPORTING ON SAMPLING OF POULTRY HOLDINGS AND SURVEY RESULTS

SPVS shall report to the Commission positive and negative results of investigations detected during their surveillance of poultry every three months by the end of the following month using the standard reporting format and submit a final report (technical and financial).

7. Costs

7.1. Detailed analysis of the costs:

7.1.1. Poultry

7.1.2. Wild birds

7.2. Summary of the costs

7.2.1. Poultry surveillance

		Measures eligible for co-financing surveillance in poultry		
Methods of laboratory analysis	Number of tests to perform per method	Unitary test cost (per method)	Unitary test cost (per method)	Total cost
Serological pre-screening ¹	1865		0.5	932.5
Haemagglutination-inhibition-test (HI) for H5/H7 ²	400		16	6400
Virus isolation test	100		40	4000
PCR test	400		30	12000
Other measures to be covered		Specify activities		
Sampling				

¹ Specify the laboratory test to be used.

² Specify number of tests for H5 and for H7.

Others	
Total	23332.5

