

INFECTIOUS LARYNGOTRACHEITIS (ILT) BIOSECURITY ADVISORY ***(Update #6 – Niagara Region)***

April 5, 2021

On behalf of the four feather boards, the Feather Board Command Centre (FBCC) is issuing this update on the ILT situation in Ontario.

There have been no new cases in Niagara since February 5. Six of the seven infected premises have completed all ILT response and recovery protocols. There is one remaining layer flock still in production which will remain under veterinary oversight and continue to exercise heightened biosecurity. FBCC is projecting that the Biosecurity Advisory for this area may be lifted at the end of April, pending any further developments. During the meantime, heightened biosecurity remains in place.

This is an important stage for Niagara's recovery from a very challenging ILT outbreak. As a result of heightened biosecurity practices by farmers and service providers, together with aggressive vaccination, we are eradicating this highly contagious virus. Flock health monitoring and early engagement of veterinarians were key to controlling spread.

From November 2020 to now, ILT outbreaks have also been reported in seven small or backyard flocks in the counties of Renfrew, Stormont-Dundas-Glengarry, Bruce, Peterborough, Prince Edward, Simcoe and the district of Sudbury. Biosecurity Advisories continue to remain in place for Niagara, Stormont-Dundas-Glengarry and Renfrew at this time.

Both small flock owners and commercial poultry producers should be aware of the risks for infectious laryngotracheitis (ILT) infection and spread between flocks and to surrounding farms. Mixing of birds with different health status is a significant risk factor for the introduction of ILT to a flock. Vaccinated birds should not be mixed with birds of unknown vaccination status. In addition, new birds should be segregated and monitored for at least 30 days before introducing them to an existing flock. New birds should always come from reputable suppliers that have strict biosecurity and disease controls practices in place, such as licensed brokers, dealers or registered hatcheries. All-in/all-out procedures are recommended to ensure that all the birds are of equal health status. OMAFRA has issued an [ILT Veterinary Advisory](#) that provides more information.

All previous updates to this outbreak and resource materials are available at www.fbcc.ca.

