

UPDATE Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Waterloo Region

May 6, 2022

On May 2nd, Feather Board Command Centre (FBCC) contacted you regarding confirmation of highly pathogenic avian influenza in a poultry flock in the Waterloo area. You received a communication as you were within the 10km FBCC buffered biosecurity advisory area. FBCC was strongly suggesting that you exercise extreme caution and invoke heightened biosecurity measures on your farm.

Please be advised that the Canadian Food Inspection Agency has notified FBCC that further test results have been returned. This premise has now be confirmed to be positive for low pathogenic avian influenza and is therefore not considered an infected premise. CFIA will not be contacting farmers in the area and there will be no additional movement controls put in place.

However, given the current AI situation in Ontario, FBCC continues to ask that all poultry farmers and poultry industry personnel continue to execute heightened biosecurity on and off the farm.

REMINDER: The following outlines biosecurity protocols that **MUST** be implemented (basic and heightened measures) on-farm:

- Keep poultry away from areas frequented by wild birds.
- Maintain strict control over access to poultry houses and your premises.
- Make sure equipment is cleaned and disinfected before taking it into poultry houses.
- Do not keep bird feeders or create duck ponds close to poultry barns.
- Maintain the highest sanitation standards.
- Change footwear when entering the Restricted Area and prevent wearing contaminated clothing and equipment in production areas.
- Control access to your farm site by communicating the situation to all essential visitors, including service providers, input suppliers and feed providers.
- Keep mortalities in secure, covered containers until they are moved to the disposal area or transported off-farm.
- Place waste entering the public collection system in a sealed, waterproof bag with the exterior disinfected.
- Place a hose and spray nozzle at entry point to Controlled Access Zone (CAZ); wash and disinfect vehicles at entry and at exit, paying special attention to wheels and wheel wells.
- If possible, keep all waste on-farm until the situation is resolved.
- **IMPORTANT:** Limit access to your farm to **ESSENTIAL** visitors only. Please note that each individual Feather Board (CFO, EFO, OBHECC, TFO) will be reaching out to their members regarding on-farm audits and inspections. Wherever possible, on-farm audits and inspections will be limited to essential visits only.

If your birds show any signs of illness, call your veterinarian immediately. It is also recommended that you contact the 24-hour Feather Board Command Centre (FBCC) support line, 1-877-SOS-BYRD.

Visit the Feather Board Command Centre's website at www.fbcc.ca for more information.

