

## **Senasica duly looks after avian influenza outbreaks**

Senasica introduced to producers a protocol to reinforce the biosecurity measures into the Mexican Production Units. This, with the purpose of improving the control and eradication of reportable avian influenza.



Derived from the epidemiological surveillance which is carried out in the country in order to control and eradicate avian influenza of high pathogenic type AH7N3, the National Service for Agro-Alimentary Public Health, Safety and Quality (Senasica) has reported before the World Organization of Animal Health (OIE) 15 disease outbreaks during this year. Eleven of the disease outbreaks were located in backyard properties, and four in poultry production units.

These findings were located in the area where vaccination against the disease is authorized. As a control measure, a quarantine was imposed in each affected property, and counter-epidemic measures recommended by national and international regulations in these events, were applied.

The Senasica suggests to poultry producers to reinforce their biosecurity measures in farms; vaccinate in a proper way; and notify about any abnormal mortality event in their flocks. This is to control the problem and avoid the spreading of the virus.

Senasica and producers agree to take actions to encourage the national aviculture.

As part of the protection actions for poultry activities in Mexico, which generate staple food for Mexican people; jobs and means of living for millions of farmers, the Senasica maintains epidemiological surveillance programs to control and contain diseases of high pathogenic type, such as avian influenza.

That is why, the Senasica submitted to producers a protocol of Biosecurity Management in Poultry Farms (GBGA) in order to reinforce the biosecurity

measures and avoid the entry of pathogen agents into the Production Units of the country.

The goal is to protect the national poultry industry and to continue with the same increasing noticed in the last years, by maintaining the supply of national market with chicken and eggs required by consumers.

This measure is a process for continuous improvement which, together with monitoring and inspection actions, seeks to correct and prevent security gaps in the national poultry industry, in the face of threats such as avian influenza of two types: H5 and H7.

It is necessary to emphasize that both diseases are under control, and that efforts of the Mexican government and producers are focused in improving their eradication.

To achieve the aforementioned, biosecurity of farms will be evaluated, and audits will be carried out in order to verify that they fulfil 100% of the minimum biosecurity measures (MMB).

The agency of Sader suggests producers to perform verifications by their veterinary staff; then an independent one, and finally a verification performed by Senasica's staff to confirm the presence of none avian influenza outbreak.