

# The SENASICA implements anti-epidemic measures in seven states to protect the national poultry production

To prevent the spread of the disease and protect the national consumption of poultry products, prior to the mobilization thereof, poultry production units in Sonora and Nuevo León must demonstrate, through tests carried out in official laboratories of the Secretariat of Agriculture, that their products are free from highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) A(H5N1)



The National Agro-Alimentary Health, Safety and Quality Service (SENASICA) has detected birds infected with HPAI A(H5N1) in seven locations of the country, as part of the actions implemented in the framework of the Animal Health National Emergency Device (Dinesa) to protect the production of chicken and eggs from the disease.

The agency of the Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development informed that three out of eight identified focuses of infection have affected three technical poultry production units (PPUs): two in Sonora and one in Nuevo León.

Technicians from the General Directorate of Animal Health (DGSA) quarantined the affected commercial farms and implemented the appropriate sanitary measures of depopulation, cleaning, and disinfection of the PPUs to start the sanitary vacation period and later introduce sentinel birds to verify the absence of the virus, before restarting the production processes.

The SENASICA's Mexico-United States Commission for Prevention of Foot-and-Mouth Disease and other Animal Exotic Diseases (CPA) reported that in all cases the appropriate anti-epidemic measures were implemented. These measures include tracking the virus in a 15-km radius of the detection sites.

Likewise, the total depopulation of the technical PPUs affected by the virus in Sonora in Nuevo León, which entails roughly 296,000 birds, has been completed.

Arising from these detections in commercial PPU, the SENASICA ordered internal quarantine measures in both states, which prohibit farms located in Sonora and Nuevo León from mobilizing poultry products that have not been authorized by the federal health authority.

Further, the SENASICA explained that, to prevent the spread of the disease and protect the national consumption of poultry products, the PPU must demonstrate, through tests carried out in official laboratories, that their products are free of HPAI A(H5N1) before the mobilization thereof.

To be authorized to mobilize and trade its products, the PPU also must be enrolled before the Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development and have a certificate of Minimum Biosafety Measures (MMB, in Spanish) issued by a veterinarian authorized by the SENASICA, that certifies the health of their animals.

On the other hand, the Secretariat of Agriculture recalled the detection of HPAI A(H5N1) in a family egg-laying farm in the municipality of Juárez, Chiapas that housed 186 birds. The rest of the focuses of infection correspond to wild fowl. Also, 120 birds were slaughtered in Parque Morelos of Tijuana, Baja California, and 5 birds infected by migratory birds died in Estado de México, Aguascalientes, and Tepatitlán (Jalisco).

The agency of the Secretariat of Agriculture mentioned that the introduction of HPAI A(H5N1) through migratory birds was to be

expected, due to the presence of the disease in Canada and the United States, which led to the implementation of the Dinesa in June 2022, which has made possible to respond quickly to detections, and coordinate containment actions with the producers.

Currently, technicians from the SENASICA and the CASA (Poultry Sanitation Auxiliary Commission) of the UNA (National Poultry Producers Association) are already analyzing the effectiveness of the available vaccines and are working in the design of a vaccination strategy to protect the national poultry production.

The federal agency again called poultry producers to raise the biosafety measures their PPU's, and promptly report any suspicion of the presence of the virus in their farms, through the 800 751 2100 phone number, the Avise app (available for iOS and Android devices), and at the offices of the Secretariat of Agriculture, the SENASICA or the CPA, located in all the country's states.