



Context

On November 26th, 2021, an outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) strain H5N1 was detected in a breeding farm in the department of Nord (59), signifying the loss of the free status that France had recovered on September 2, 2021 in accordance with the Chapter 10.4 of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

Sanitary situation

For all the outbreaks, from the suspicion stage, health management measures were triggered with the establishment of regulated zoning (3 and 10 km) around the farms concerned, reinforcement of biosecurity measures, census of farms and prohibition of movements. poultry in restricted areas.

- **11 OUTBREAKS in breeding farms outside the South-West: 8 in the “Nord” department (59), 3 in the “Vendée” department (85)**

Department of North (59)

The department has a total of 8 H5N1 outbreaks in a single area, the last detected on December 20, 2021, all notified to the OIE in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 1.1 of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code. Additional preventive depopulation in healthy farms was carried out within a radius of 1 to 3 km. The epidemiological investigation favors the link with wildlife in a region known to host migratory species (presence of wetlands).

The absence of a new outbreak since December 20, 2021 (i.e. for more than 5 weeks) shows the effectiveness of the health measures put in place as well as the stabilization of the health situation in this department. All restriction zones are lifted. All outbreaks are closed in the OIE reports. The next step will be the recovery of the free status of the department, 28 days after the date of the disinfection and cleaning of the last farm concerned (date not yet known).

Department of Vendée (85)

Two outbreaks were detected on January 2 and 10, 2022, immediately depopulated. A third outbreak (palmipeds) was confirmed on January 25, 20km away from the first one, but with no epidemiological link. Investigations favor contact with birds as a source of contamination.

- **297 HOUSEHOLDS in the South-West farms in 5 departments : “Gers” (32), “Landes” (40), “Lot-et-Garonne” (47), “Hautes-Pyrénées” (65) and Pyrénées-Atlantiques (64)**

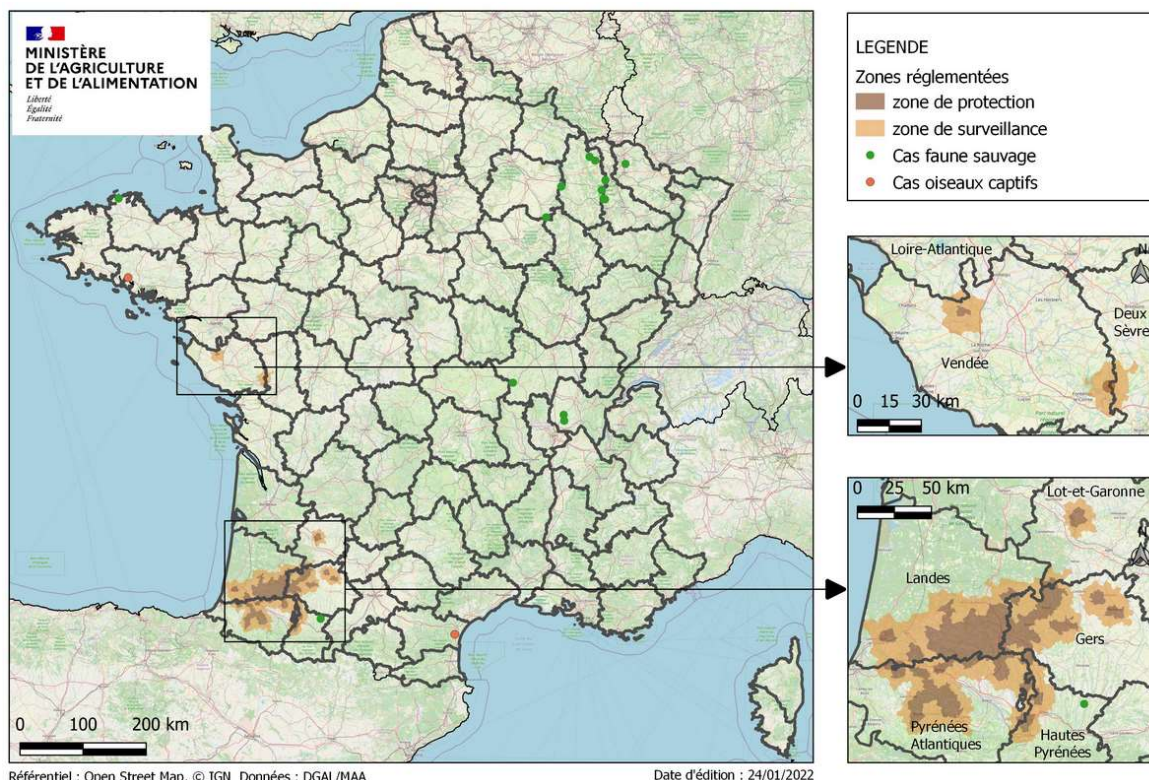
Since December 16, 2021, 297 outbreaks of HPAI H5N1 have been declared in the South-West, of which around 70% in the “Landes” department, 20% in the “Pyrénées-Atlantiques” and 10% in the “Gers” department. Even if it is the same H5N1 strain, these outbreaks have no direct epidemiological link with the outbreaks in the “Nord” department (59) and “Vendée” (85). Again they are located near wetlands attracting wild birds on their migration path.

The preliminary results of epidemiological surveys and analyzes of the virus strains detected also tend to show that the South-West was subjected to several simultaneous introductions and that the virus then spread from farm to farm.

To reduce the duration of the epizootic and to prevent it from spreading to other production areas that are now unscathed, the health authorities have decided to organize an accelerated preventive depopulation (poultry and palmipeds), with the exception of breeders. At the same time a temporary ban on restocking farms will be set up. The perimeter concerned (see map below) encompasses the active outbreaks in the departments of “Landes” (40), “Pyrénées-Atlantiques” (64) and “Gers” (32). This scope may change depending on epizootic developments.

To date, the slaughter concerned nearly 1.9 million palmipeds and nearly 900,000 galliforms birds.

French Influenza restriction zones



South-West restriction area and preventive depopulation zone

