



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 measures

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

In the South-West and Western France, additional measures of depopulation have been implemented.

I. HEALTH SITUATION IN FARMS OUTSIDE SOUTH-WEST AND WESTERN REGIONS

85 outbreaks in 8 departments

36 outbreaks in the Lot department (46), 28 in the Dordogne department (24), 8 outbreaks in the Nord department (59), 4 in the Cantal department (15), 2 in the Indre-et-Loire department (37), 2 in the Seine- Maritime department (76), 3 in the Corrèze department (19) and 3 isolated outbreaks in the Haute Vienne department (87).

2 departments with an evolving situation: Lot (46), Dordogne (24)

In the **Lot**, since the 1st case confirmed on March 21, there had been a few epidemiologically linked outbreaks, without significant extension.

In **Dordogne**, a first outbreak was confirmed on Saturday April 2 in a farm of 670 geese and 350 goslings in Saint-Geniès in Périgord. Two other farms, one of ducks and one of chickens were slaughtered on Sunday April 3 after confirmation in the municipalities of Val de Louyre and Caudeau. For the past week, there has been an upsurge in cases to reach a total of 36 outbreaks.

6 departments with a stable situation: departments of Nord (59), Cantal (15), Indre-et-Loire (37), Seine-Maritime (76), Corrèze (19) and Haute Vienne (87)

The Indre-et-Loire department regained its free status on March 29, 2022. If no new outbreak, the Nord department must regain its status by May 3.

II. HEALTH SITUATION IN THE SOUTH-WEST REGION

370 outbreaks in 5 departments: Gers (32), Landes (40), Lot-et-Garonne (47), Hautes-Pyrénées (65) and Pyrénées-Atlantiques (64)

The situation has not changed since last week (except for Lot et Garonne), confirming the good results of accelerated preventive depopulation measures (with the exception of breeding animals) and temporary ban on repopulation farms for all poultry and waterfowl within the perimeter encompassing the active outbreaks in the departments of Landes (40), Pyrénées-Atlantiques (64) and Gers (32). More than 80% of the outbreaks are located in the two departments of Landes (231 outbreaks) and Pyrénées-Atlantiques (71 outbreaks).

Depopulation has been completed since the end of February, with more than 4 million poultry slaughtered, more than half of which are waterfowl.

The French health authorities are finalizing the strategy for lifting restriction zones and authorizing repopulation. In all cases, the poultry must be put back in place in an uncontaminated environment, after sanitation, in order to prevent any new resurgence.

Potentially, the Landes department recovers its free status from April 4, but the zonings have not yet been lifted for the South-West zone. The department of Lot-et-Garonne lost its free status following the detection of two outbreaks on 13 April.

III. HEALTH SITUATION IN LIVESTOCK WEST REGION

848 outbreaks in 8 departments

- **529 outbreaks in Vendée department (85), 176 in the Maine-et-Loire department (49), 95 in Loire-Atlantique department (44), 41 in the Deux-Sèvres department (79), 3 in the Morbihan department (56), 2 in the Ille-et-Vilaine department (35), 1 in the Finistère department (29) and 1 in the Mayenne department (53)**

The situation is less evolving than last week in the West. The situation has been stable for two weeks in the departments of Mayenne and Brittany.

Department of Mayenne (53)

Without change. **The department of Mayenne regained its free status on March 30, 2022.**

Affected departments of Brittany: department of Morbihan (56), department of Ille-et-Vilaine (35) and department of Finistère (29)

Morbihan: two outbreaks were confirmed in duck farms in Ambon on March 15, then in Peillac on March 29. A third outbreak was confirmed this week on Tuesday April 5 in a poult farm in the town of Saint-Gravé.

Ille-et-Vilaine: Two outbreaks have been confirmed since March 19, 2022 in duck farms in the town of Essé. All the animals were slaughtered and regulated zoning was put in place. An epidemiological investigation is underway.

Finistère: The first outbreak was confirmed on Saturday April 2 in the town of Plounévezel. This case results from a self-check carried out by an operator, before sending a batch of ducks from a force-feeding farm to the slaughterhouse.

Department of Vendée (85) and neighboring Vendée : Loire-Atlantique (44), Maine et Loire (49) and Deux-Sèvres (79)

Since the beginning of February, outbreaks have multiplied in particular in the departments of Vendée and Maine-et-Loire (80% of outbreaks between them) and to a lesser extent in the neighboring departments, Loire-Atlantique (44), and Deux-Sèvres (79).

At this stage, the first epidemiological hypotheses of contamination are as follows:

- spread of the virus from the first farms affected from the coastal zone inland - potentially favored by certain climatic phenomena (storms);
- A rise of sick migratory birds, an introduction into the environment favored by the storms which led to a movement of birds from the seaside to the interior of the land
- currently increased dissemination due to the short distances between farms, with possible airborne transmission of the virus.

In view of the situation, since March 6, 2022, in addition to the slaughter, cleaning and disinfection and regulatory zoning measures, the surveillance zone has been extended by 10 km with a ban on movements and the re-installation of poultry. . As based on the measures applied in the South West area.

In addition, since April 1, a new “firewall” additional restricted area (ZRS), which corresponds to a strip of 10km north of the surveillance zone of the Pays de la Loire region, has been put in place. This operation aims to reduce the density of poultry by proceeding with the depopulation of waterfowl production farms. At this stage, more than 8 million animals have already been slaughtered.

French Influenza restriction zones

