



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. DEPARTMENTS HAVING RECOVERED FREE STATUS

Departments concerned: Nord department (59), Indre-et-Loire department (37), Mayenne department (53), Landes department (40), Pyrénées Atlantiques department (64), Hautes Pyrénées department (65) and Gers (32)

Sanitary conditions and compliance with cleaning and disinfection operations have made it possible to lift the restriction zones in these departments. They regained their free status on the following dates, in accordance with the provisions of the OIE Code (28 days after the end of cleaning and disinfection operations – Article 10.4.6):

Department	Number of the department	Date of cleaning and disinfection	Date free status recovery (CD + 28 days)	Total number of confirmed outbreaks
Indre et Loire	37	28/02/2022	29/03/2022	2
Mayenne	53	01/03/2022	30/03/2022	1
Nord	59	04/04/2022	03/05/2022	8
Landes	40	14/04/2022	13/05/2022	231
Pyrénées Atlantiques	64	01/04/2022	29/04/2022	71
Hautes-Pyrénées	65	01/04/2022	29/04/2022	16
Gers	32	27/04/2022	26/05/2022	46

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

Number of confirmed outbreaks : 59 outbreaks in the Dordogne department (24), 42 in the Lot (46), 8 in the Nord (59), 5 in the Cantal (15), 2 in the Seine-Maritime (76), 2 in the Corrèze (19) 2 in the Haute Vienne (87), 2 in the Aveyron (12) and 1 in the Charentes (16)

In **Dordogne department**, a first outbreak was confirmed on April 2 in a farm of 670 geese and 350 goslings in Saint-Geniès in Périgord. 59 outbreaks have been notified, the last on April 28.

To prevent the spread of the epizootic, nearly 500,000 poultry were slaughtered, which represents nearly 1,300 tonnes of carcasses sent for rendering. In galliform farms present within a perimeter of 1 km around a declared outbreak or a sensitive site, all the poultry present must be slaughtered as a preventive measure; in palmiped farms within a radius of 3 km around an outbreak, all birds must be slaughtered. Beyond this protection zone, all "ready to force-feed" duck farms present within a perimeter of 5 km around a declared outbreak or a sensitive site must also be subject to preventive slaughter.

In the **Lot department**, 41 outbreaks have been confirmed since the first confirmed case on March 21. An additional restricted zone of 20 km has been defined in the western area of the department. More than 200 municipalities, mainly located in the North and East of the department, are under restriction.

In **Aveyron**, a second outbreak was confirmed on May 1 in a farm of 2,000 ducks in the town of Sénergues. All the animals were slaughtered.

In **Charente**, a first outbreak was confirmed on May 4, 2022 in a duck farm in the town of Saint-Romain. The surveillance zone set up immediately also concerns the neighboring department of the Dordogne.

No new cases have been detected in any of the above-mentioned departments since 6 May. The sanitary situation is therefore stable at this stage, showing the effectiveness of the measures that have been put in place.

III. HEALTH SITUATION IN THE SOUTH-WEST REGION (5 departments, 364 outbreaks)

Number of confirmed outbreaks : 229 outbreaks in Landes (40), 71 in Pyrénées-Atlantiques (64), 46 in Gers (32), 16 in Hautes-Pyrénées (65), and 2 in Lot-et-Garonne (47).

The situation is stable again this week, confirming the effectiveness of accelerated preventive depopulation measures (with the exception of breeders) and crawl space (temporary ban on repopulation of farms) for all poultry and palmipeds in the perimeter encompassing the outbreaks active 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.

Only the Lot-et-Garonne department (47) has not yet regained the status of HPAI-free department.

IV. HEALTH SITUATION IN LIVESTOCK WEST REGION (7 departments, 870 outbreaks)

Number of confirmed outbreaks : 536 outbreaks in Vendée department (85), 178 in the Maine-et-Loire (49), 97 in Loire-Atlantique (44), 53 in the Deux-Sèvres (79), 3 in the Morbihan (56), 2 in the Ille-et-Vilaine (35) and 1 in the Finistère (29)

The situation stabilizes. No new outbreaks have been confirmed since the two last week.

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 movement and the re-installation of poultry, as in the South-West zone.

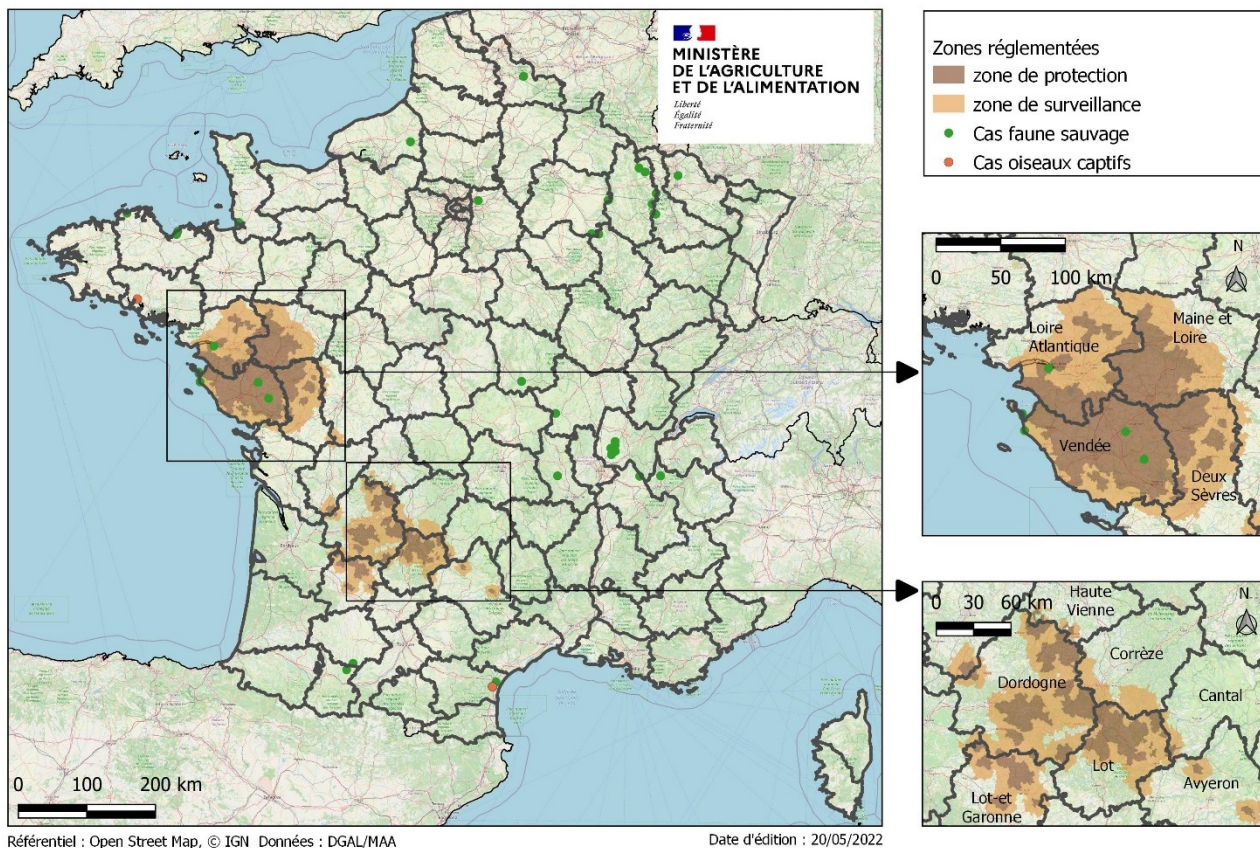
In addition, since April 1, a new "firewall" additional restricted area (ZRS), which corresponds to a strip of 10km north of the surveillance zone of the Pays de la Loire region, has been put in place. This operation aims to reduce the density of poultry by proceeding with the depopulation of waterfowl production farms.

At this stage, more than 8 million animals have already been slaughtered.

In the absence of any new outbreaks, the département of Ille-et-Vilaine will recover its free status on 2 June 2022 ; for the Finistere it will be the 11th of June 2022

The lifting of the restricted zones is effective in the department of Finistère (29).

French Influenza restriction zones



V. Lowering of the risk level at national level

The favourable evolution of the HPAI situation has led the Minister of Agriculture and Food to lower the risk level by ministerial decree of 9 May 2022 <https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/jorf/id/JORFTEXT000045772377> and thus to lift the obligation to containment poultry on a large part of the territory.

- The risk level has been lowered to "moderate" on the major part of the country. This change in risk level to 'moderate' implies that the containment of poultry will be maintained only in areas at particular risk.

- The level of risk of avian influenza is maintained at 'high' in the departments most particularly affected by the 2021-2022 epizootic by HPAI outbreaks on farms and in the departments adjacent. Nineteen departments are concerned.

The differentiated levels of risk and the location of the particular risk areas can be seen on the map below.

