



VETERINARY SURGEONS

I R E L A N D

Independence • Integrity • Innovation

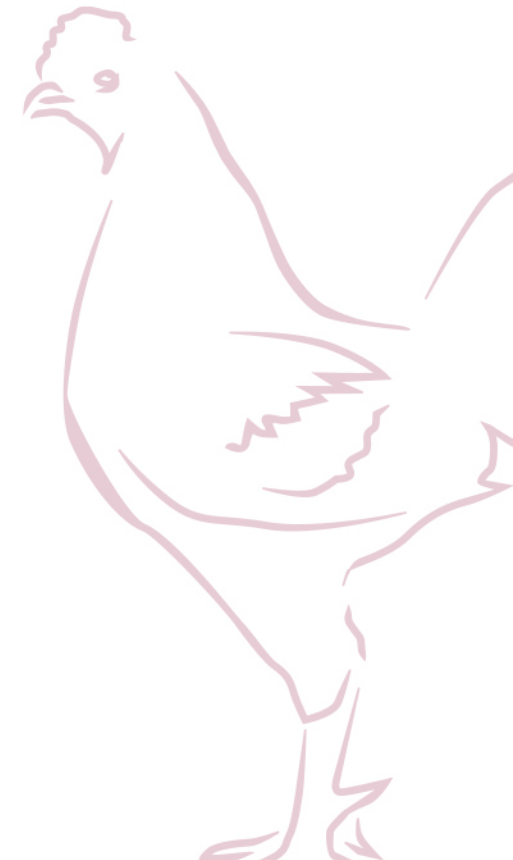


www.stdavids-poultryteam.ie

Protecting Poultry Flocks Amid Rising Avian Influenza Risks

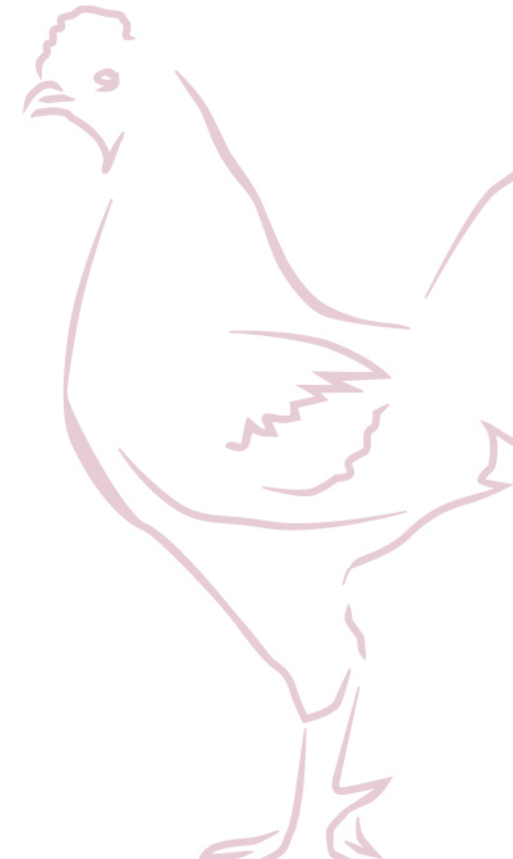
AONGHUS LANE

25/02/2025

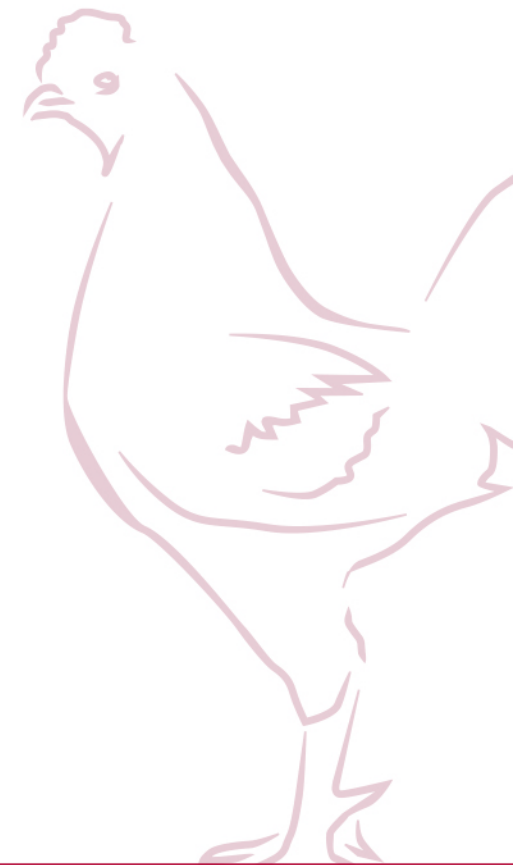


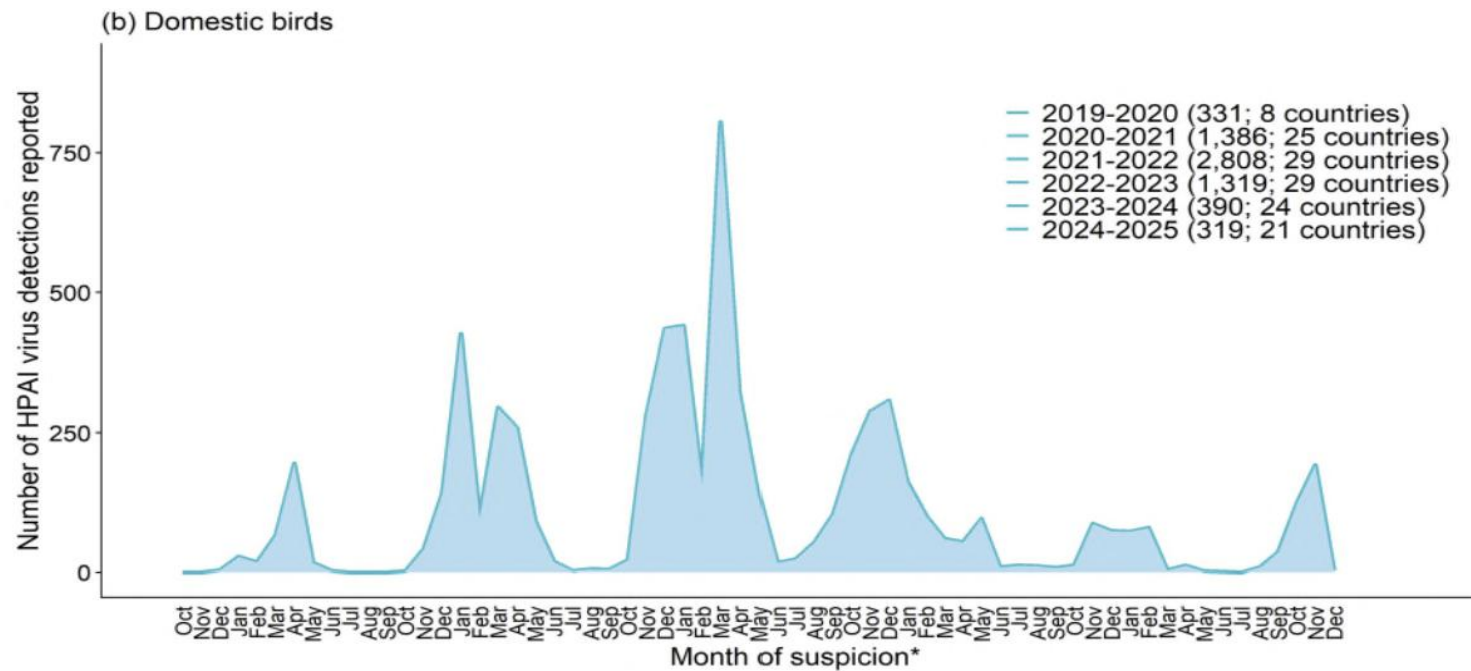
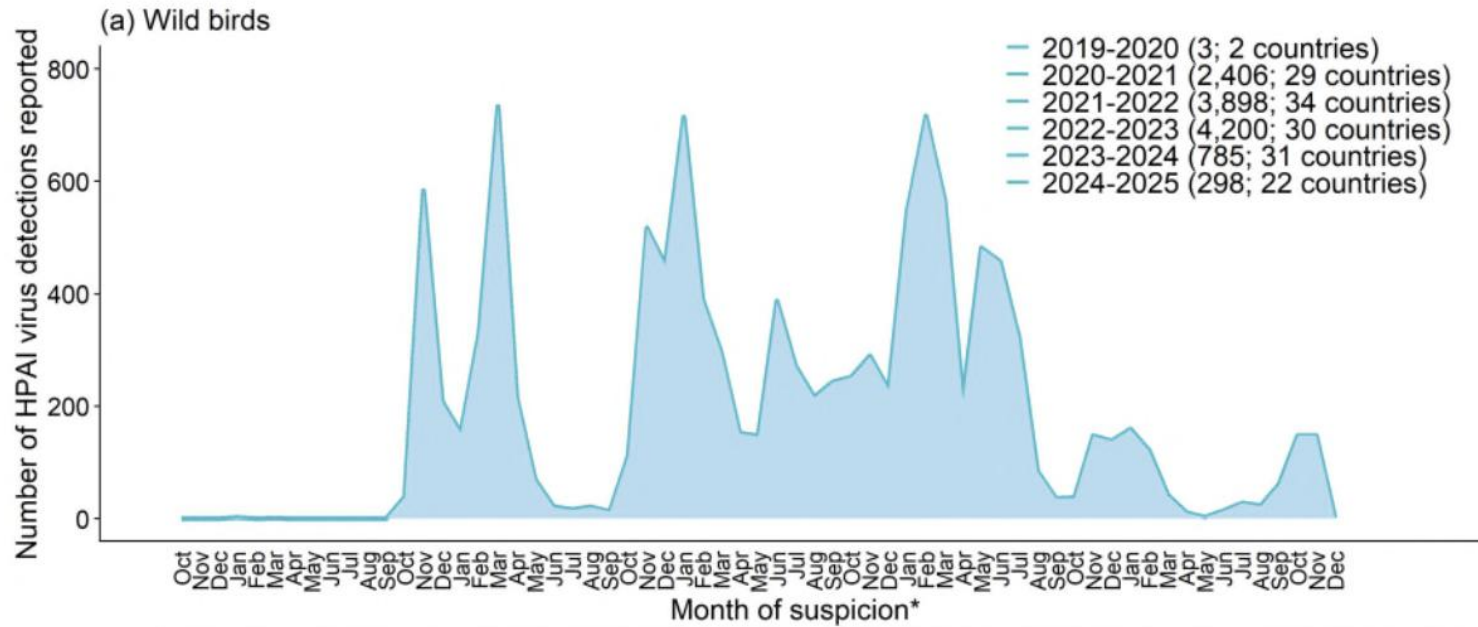
Overview

- Current Situation
- Global / European / National trends
- Avian Influenza Overview
- Biosecurity Awareness
- Closing Message / Q&A Session

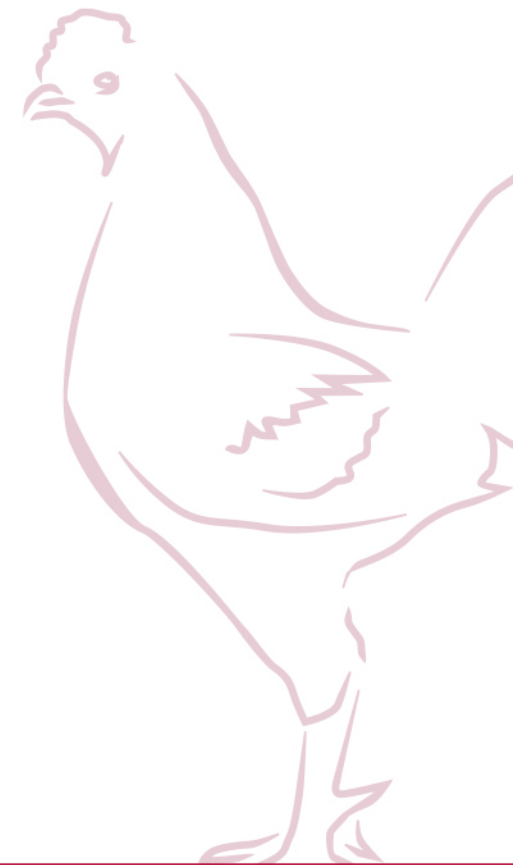


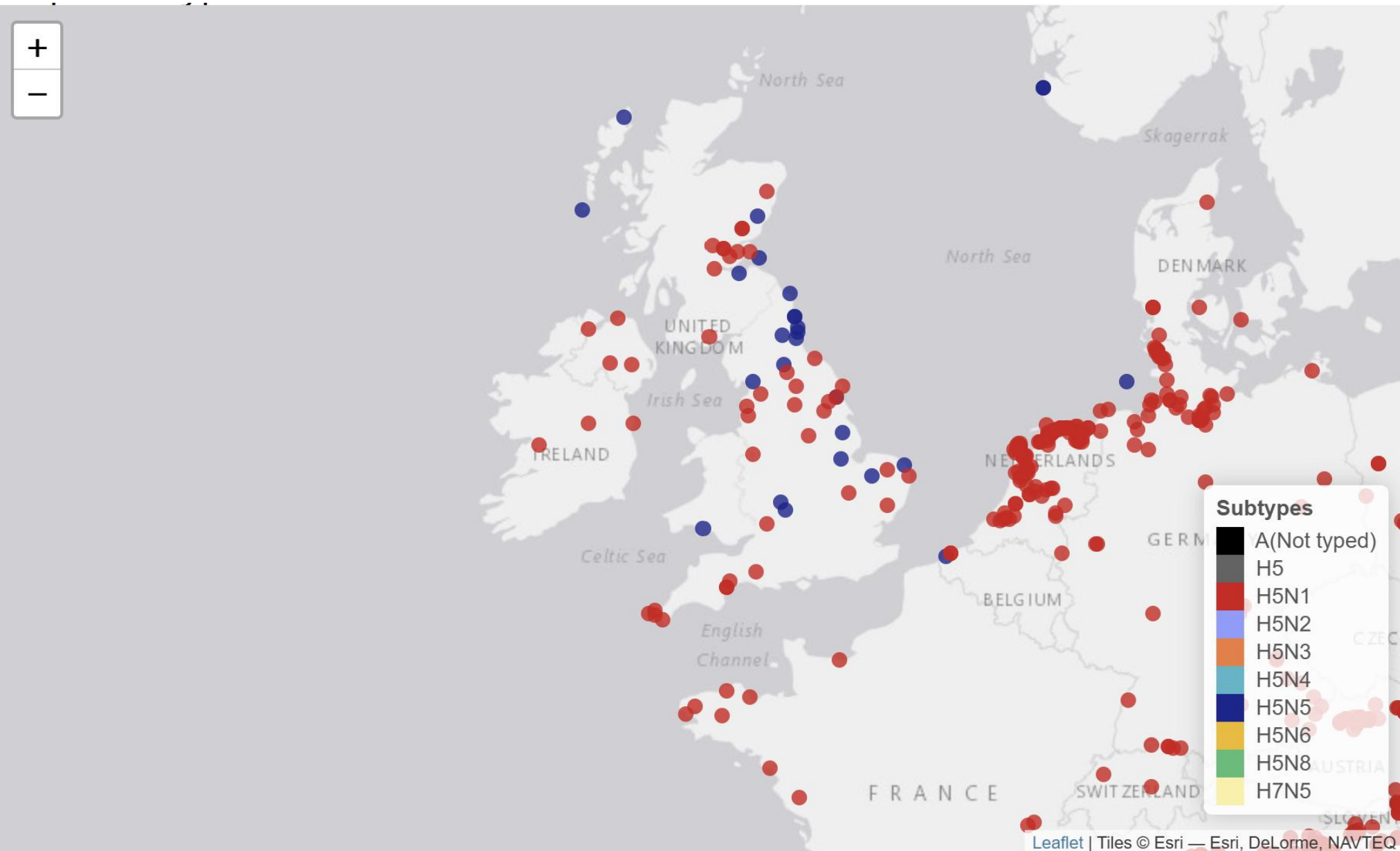
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Ref: EFSA

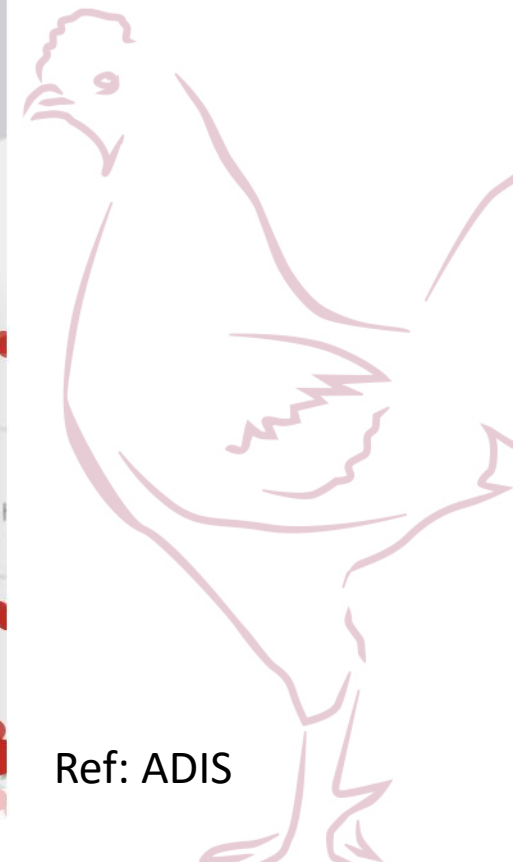




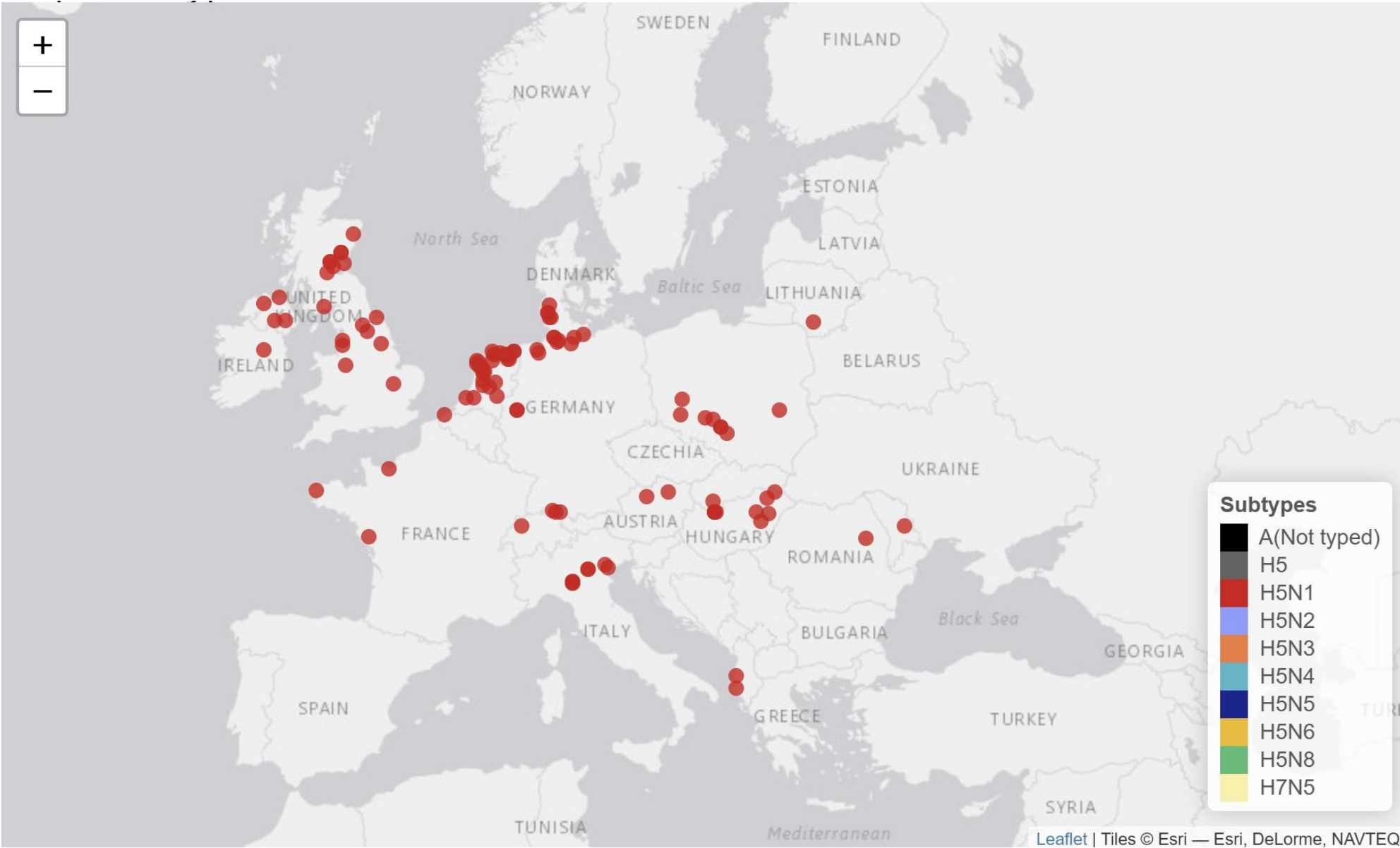
Wild Bird Detection

Sub-type: H5N1/H5N5

Oct '24 – Jan '25



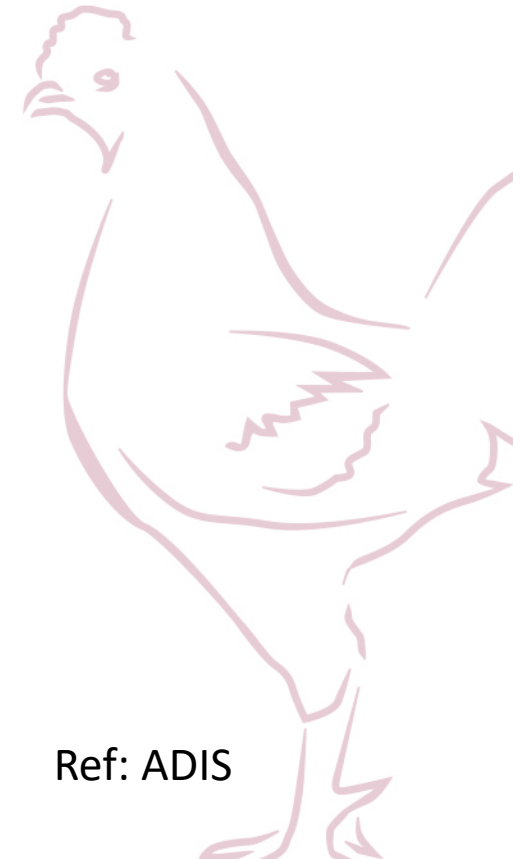
Ref: ADIS



Wild Bird Detection

Sub-type: H5N1

January 2025



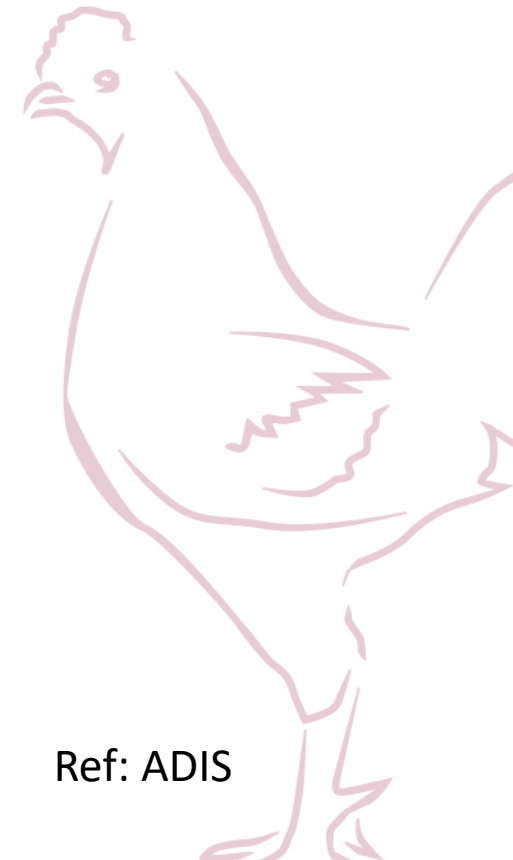
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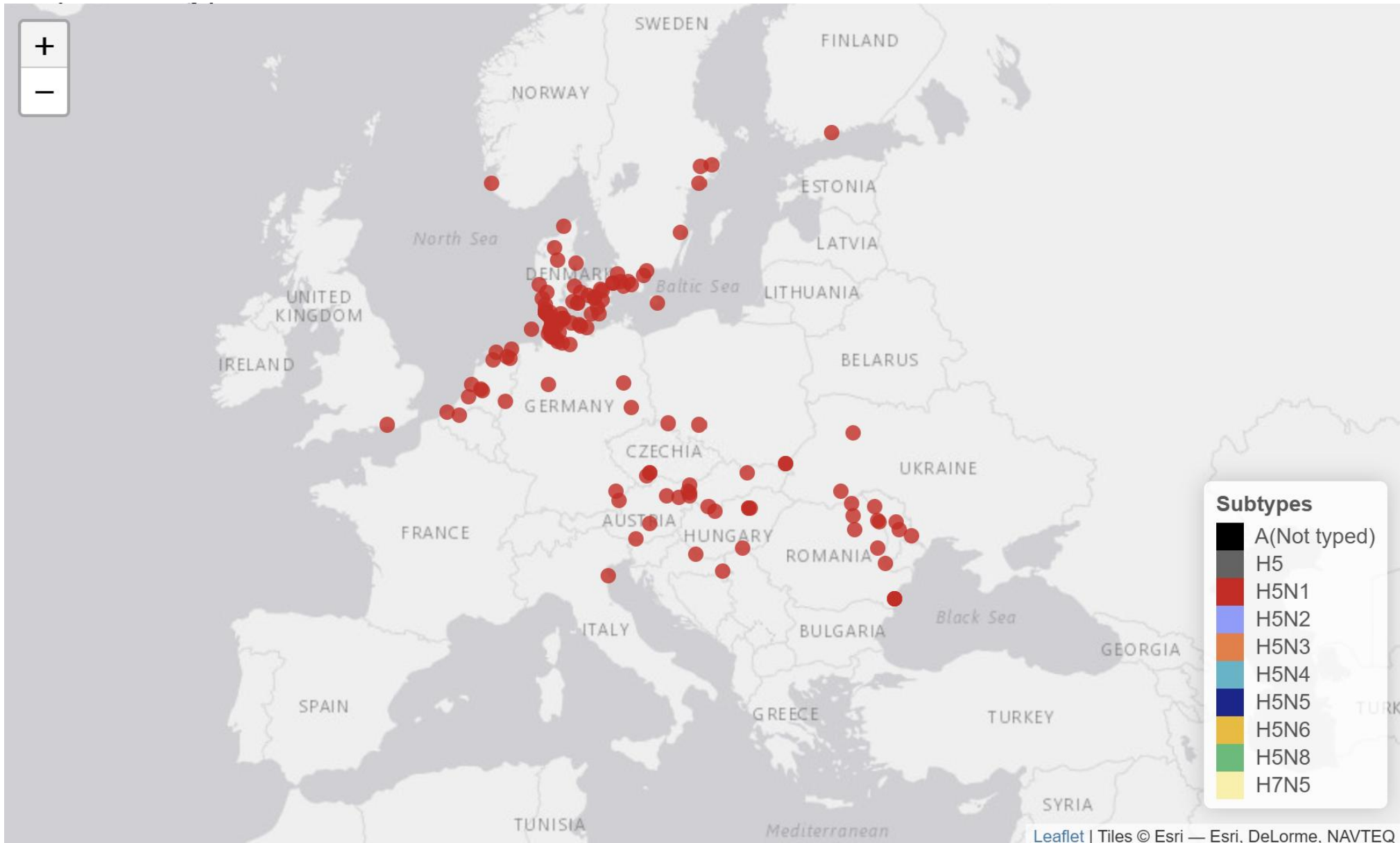
Poultry Detection

Sub-type: H5N1

January 2025



Ref: ADIS



Wild Bird Detection

Sub-type: H5N1

January 2024



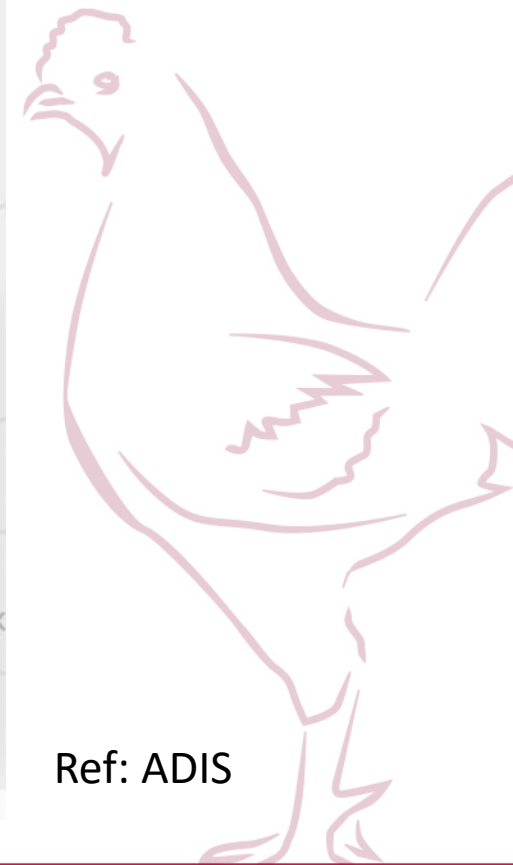
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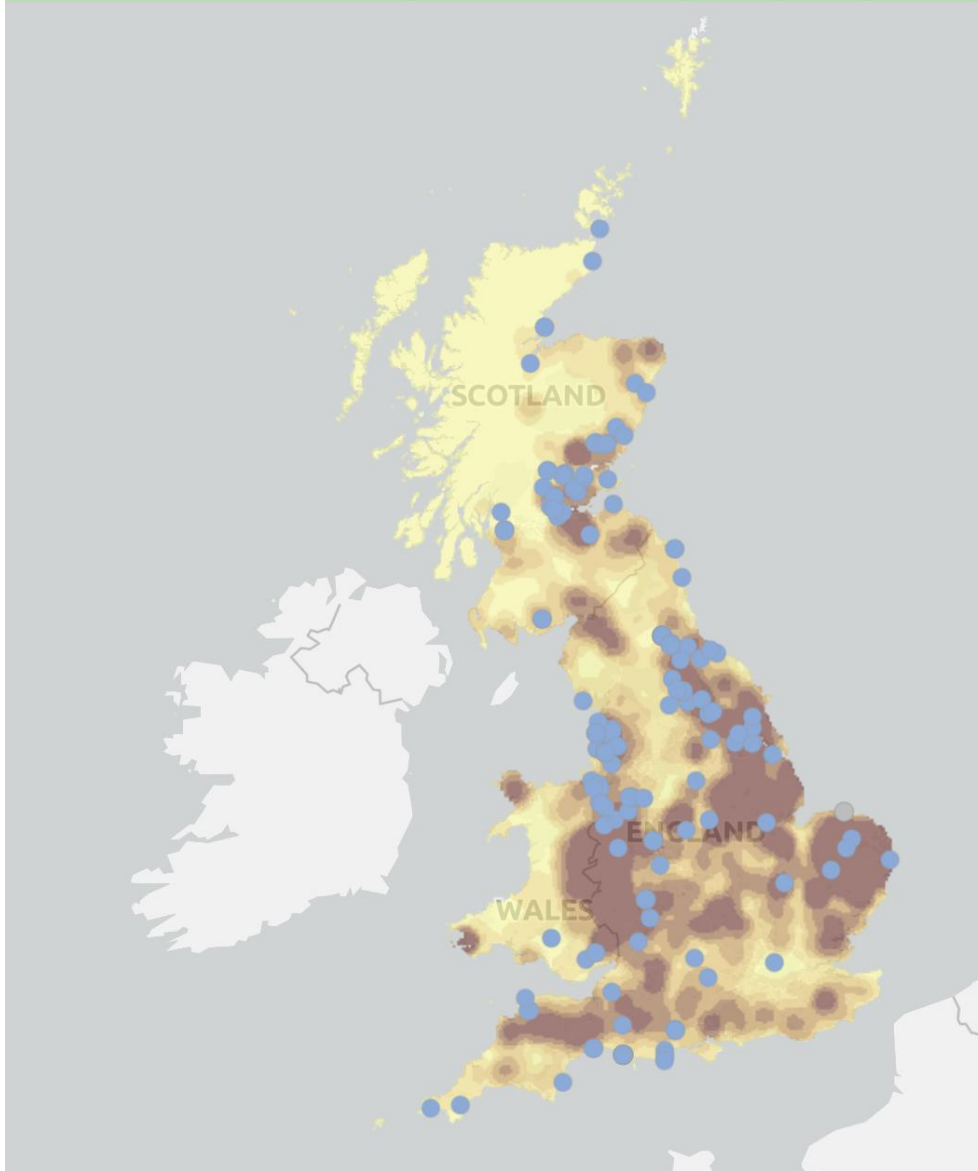
Poultry Detection

Sub-type: H5N1

January 2024



Ref: ADIS



Wild Bird Detection - GB

Sub-type: H5N1 (predominant)

25/12/24 – Present

Examples of wild bird types:

- Mute Swan
- Greylag Goose
- Buzzard
- Gull – multiple varieties
- Barnacle Goose
- Owl – multiple varieties
- Sparrow Hawk
- Canada Goose

Ref:APHA



What is Avian Influenza?

Influenza A

- Further differentiated using surface antigens (H1-16 & N1-9)

- H5 & H7 – notifiable
- Both HPAI / LPAI

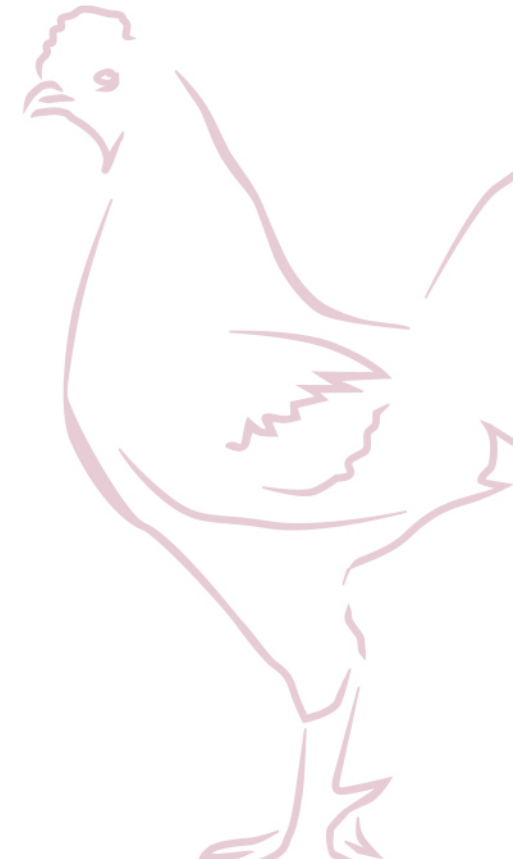
HPAI – Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza

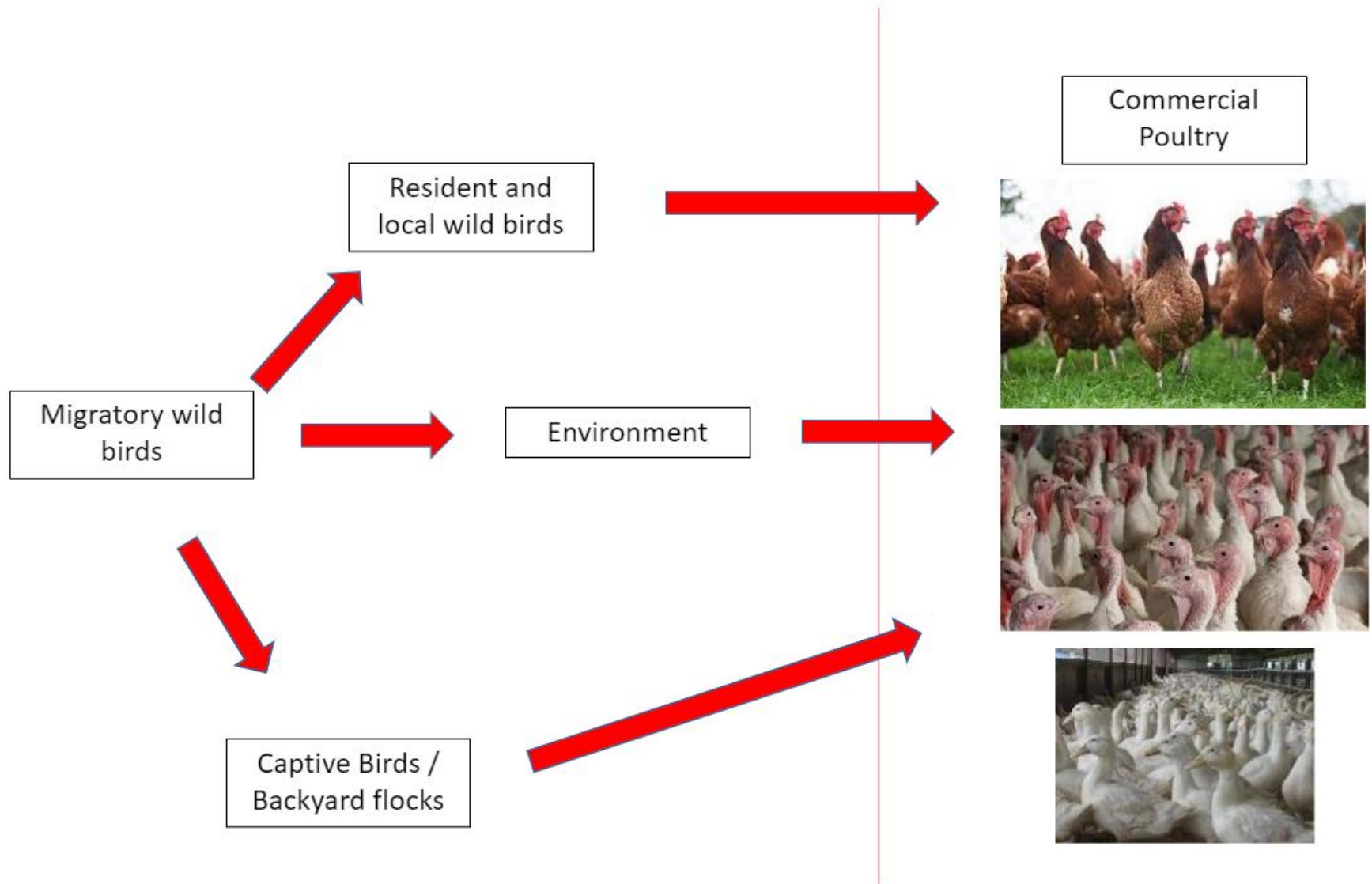
Affects wild and domestic birds, transmission to mammals inc. humans can occur.

Incubation period: 1-14 days, virus survival time outside the host = weeks in current conditions

Indirect: Feed/water, fomites

Direct: Infected birds, faeces and body fluids

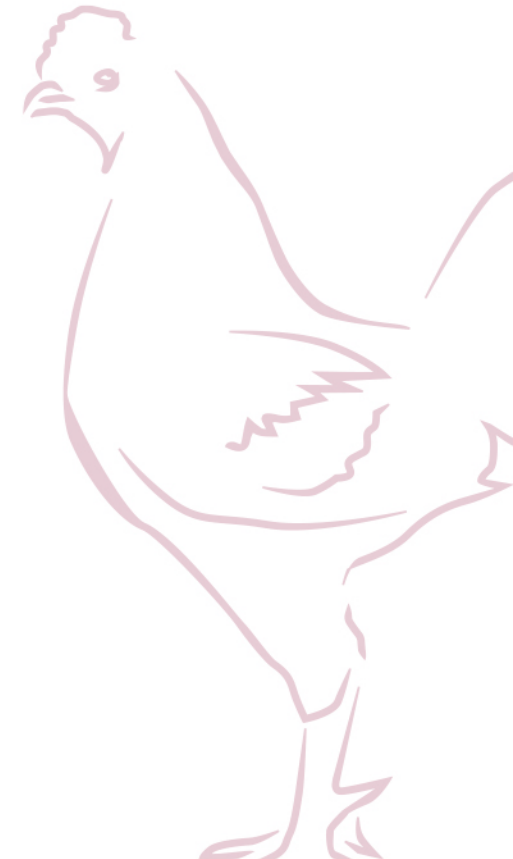


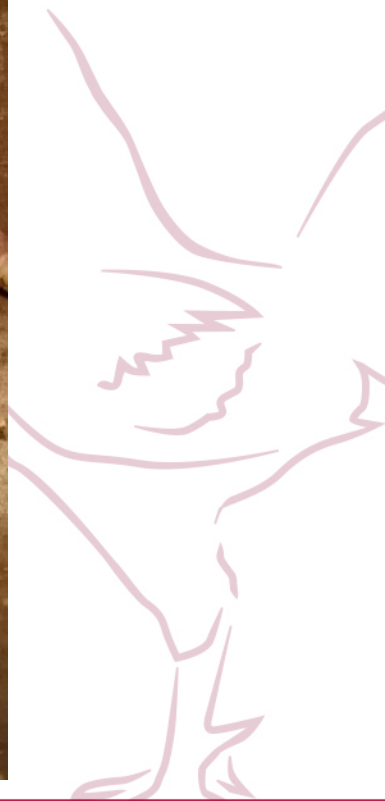


What is HPAI?

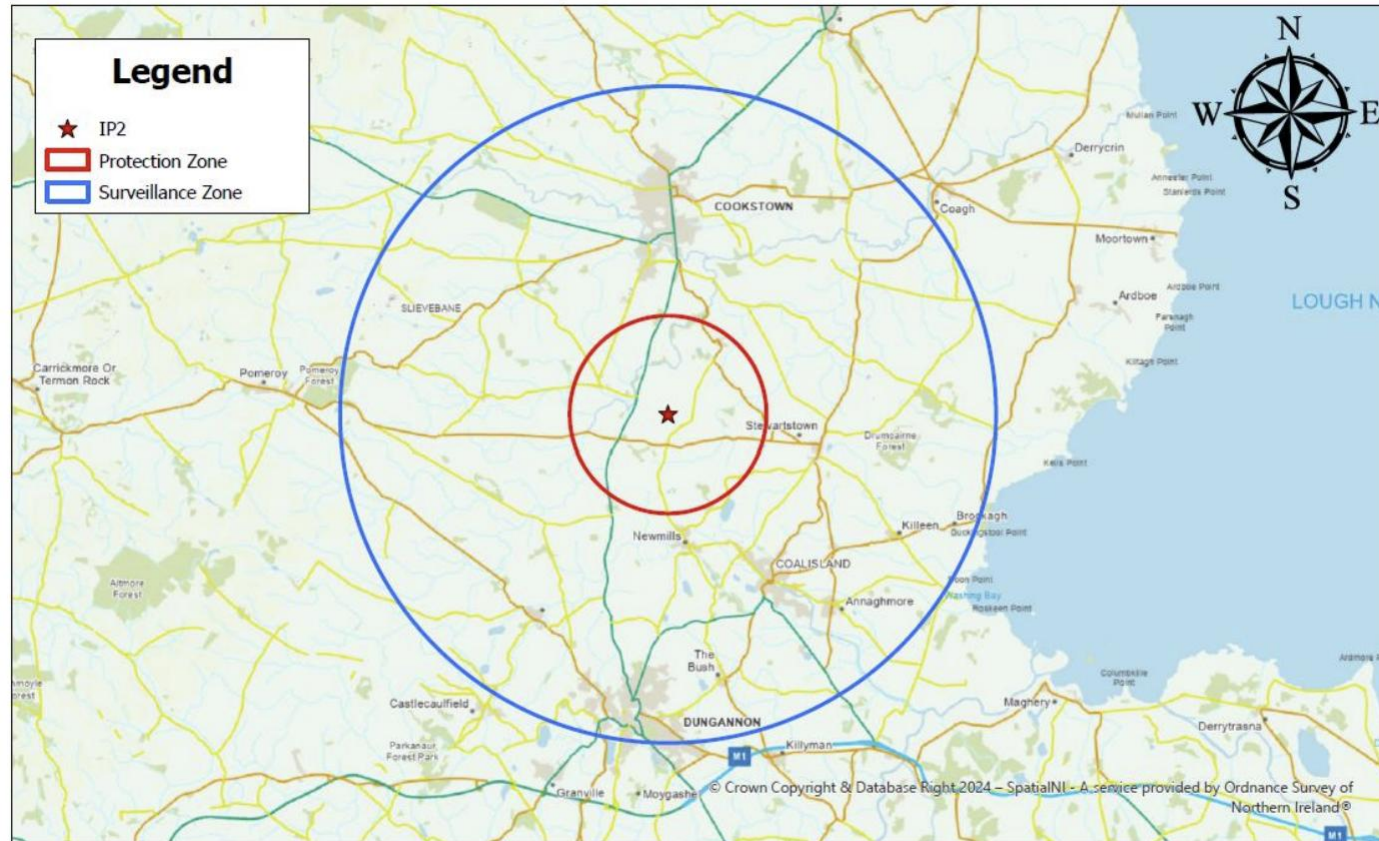
- Highly pathogenic = severe disease
- Symptoms:
 - Sudden mortality, up to 100%
 - Sudden drop in egg production +/- change in shell
 - Water / Feed intake drop
 - Respiratory symptoms
 - Oedema and subcutaneous haemorrhage (“blue discoloration / bruising”)
 - Diarrhoea
 - Neurological signs
 - Change in behaviour – inactive

Highly contagious – small infectious dose





Protection and Surveillance Zone around Infected Premises, 2025



0 2.75 5.5 11 Kilometers

Produced by the Veterinary Epidemiology Unit - February 2025

Zones:

Protection Zone = 3km

Surveillance Zone = 10km (3-10km)



Visitor Book – Flock keepers' requirement

Maintain records

Movement of poultry, captive birds, mammals restricted to/from premises with poultry

Biosecurity

Egg/ Chick / Litter Movements – under licenced

Carcases – direct to render and under licence

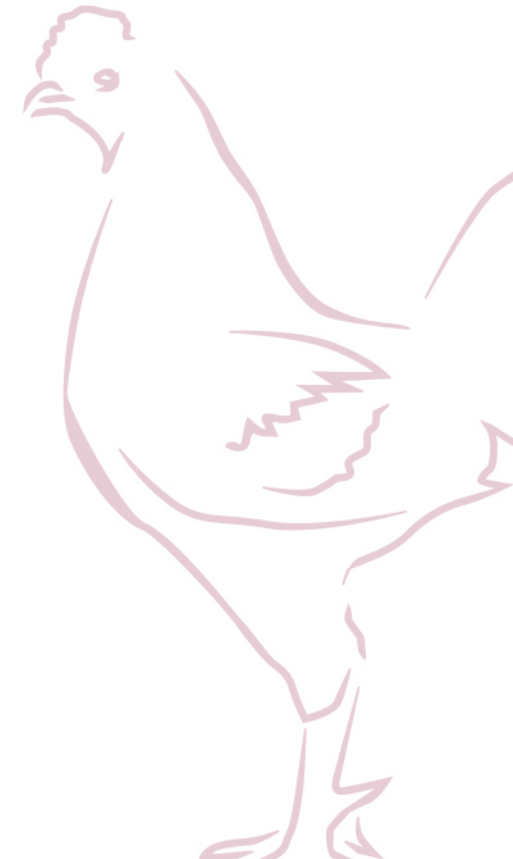
Poultry for slaughter – Inspected by veterinary inspector within 24 hours of movement, load sealed.

No entry onto restricted sites

Cleansing and disinfection (immediate) – vehicles which enter premises within a zone.

Historic Case Investigations

- Direct / indirect contact with infected wild birds
 - Indirect = walked into houses – faeces / feathers
- Components of biosecurity are there but not consistently carried out
- Disinfection point may be present but no cleaning station



Biosecurity

- Point of entry to poultry specific site

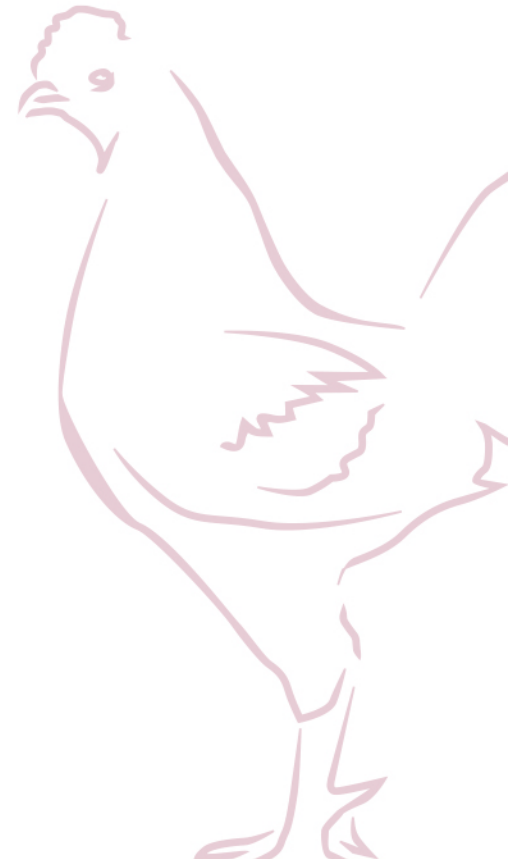


Biosecurity

- Point of entry to poultry specific site



Biosecurity



Biosecurity

C&D

Clean & Disinfect

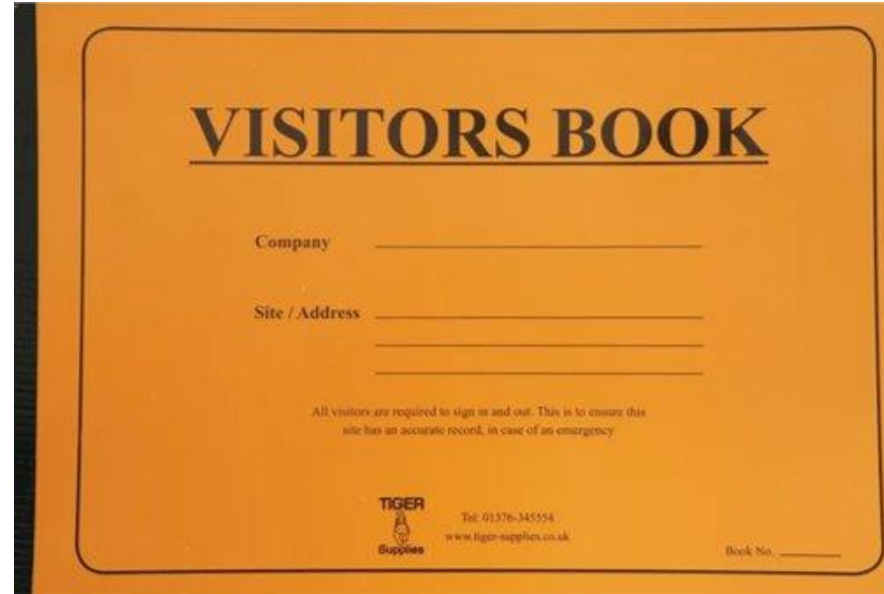
These **must** go together



Biosecurity

Visitor Book

- Date
- Person Name
- Company
- Previous poultry site and date
- Purpose of visit
- Time on / off



VISITORS BOOK

Company _____

Site / Address _____

All visitors are required to sign in and out. This is to ensure this site has an accurate record, in case of an emergency

TIGER
Supplies
Tel: 01376-345554
www.tiger-supplies.co.uk

Book No. _____

Biosecurity



Biosecurity

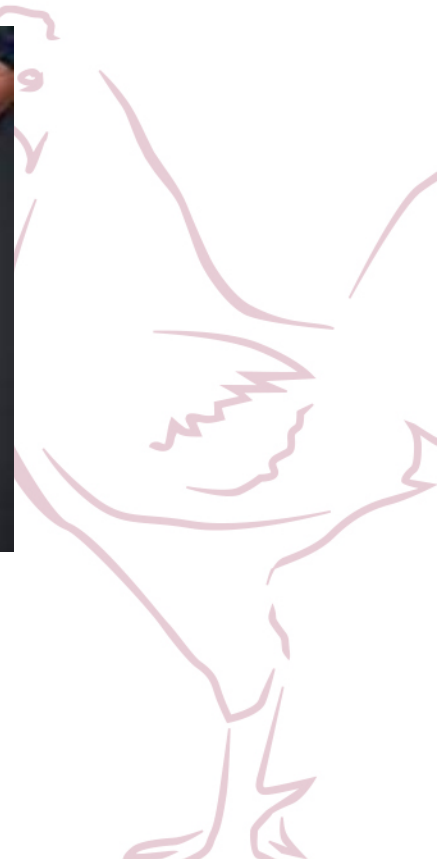
- Entering the poultry house





Biosecurity

- Hand washing / sanitation facilities



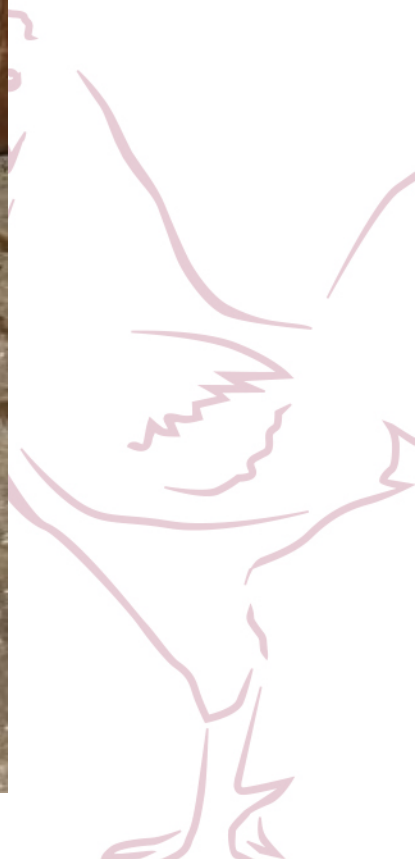
Biosecurity

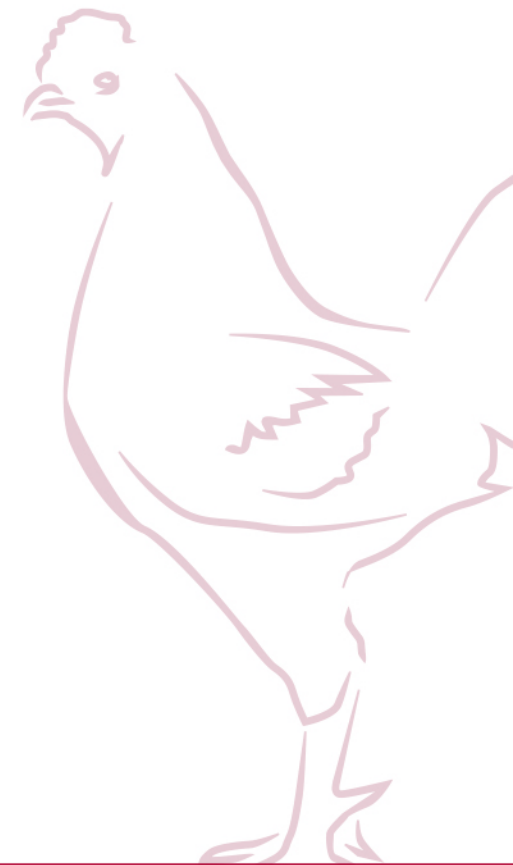
- Poultry designated area



Biosecurity

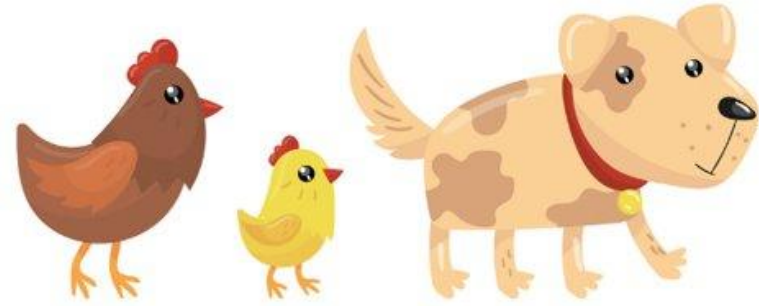
- Water ingress / structural integrity / design



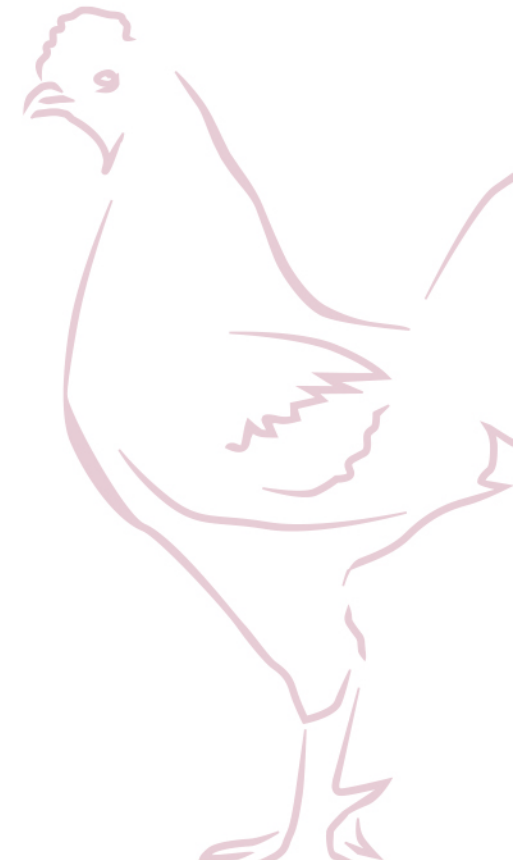


Biosecurity

- Control of vermin, wild birds, pets



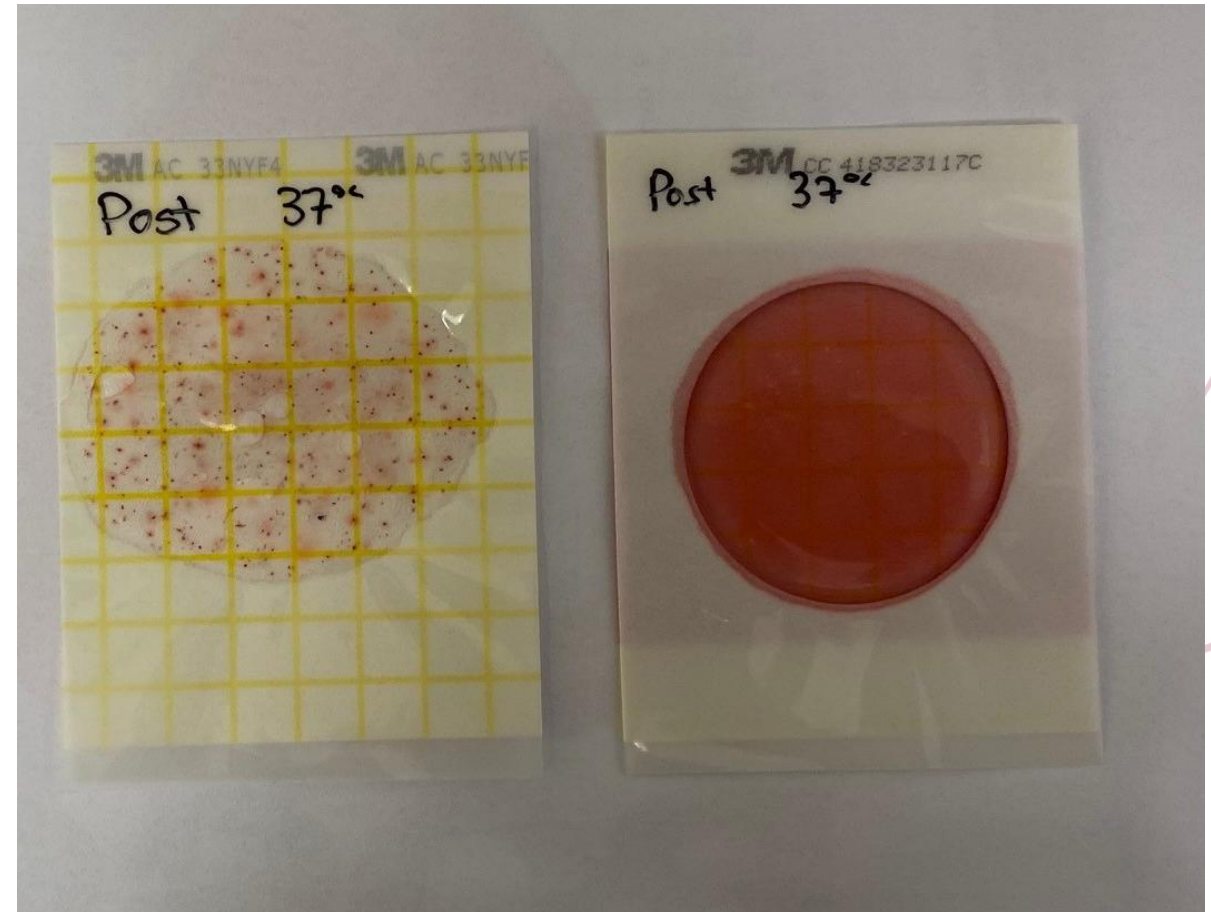
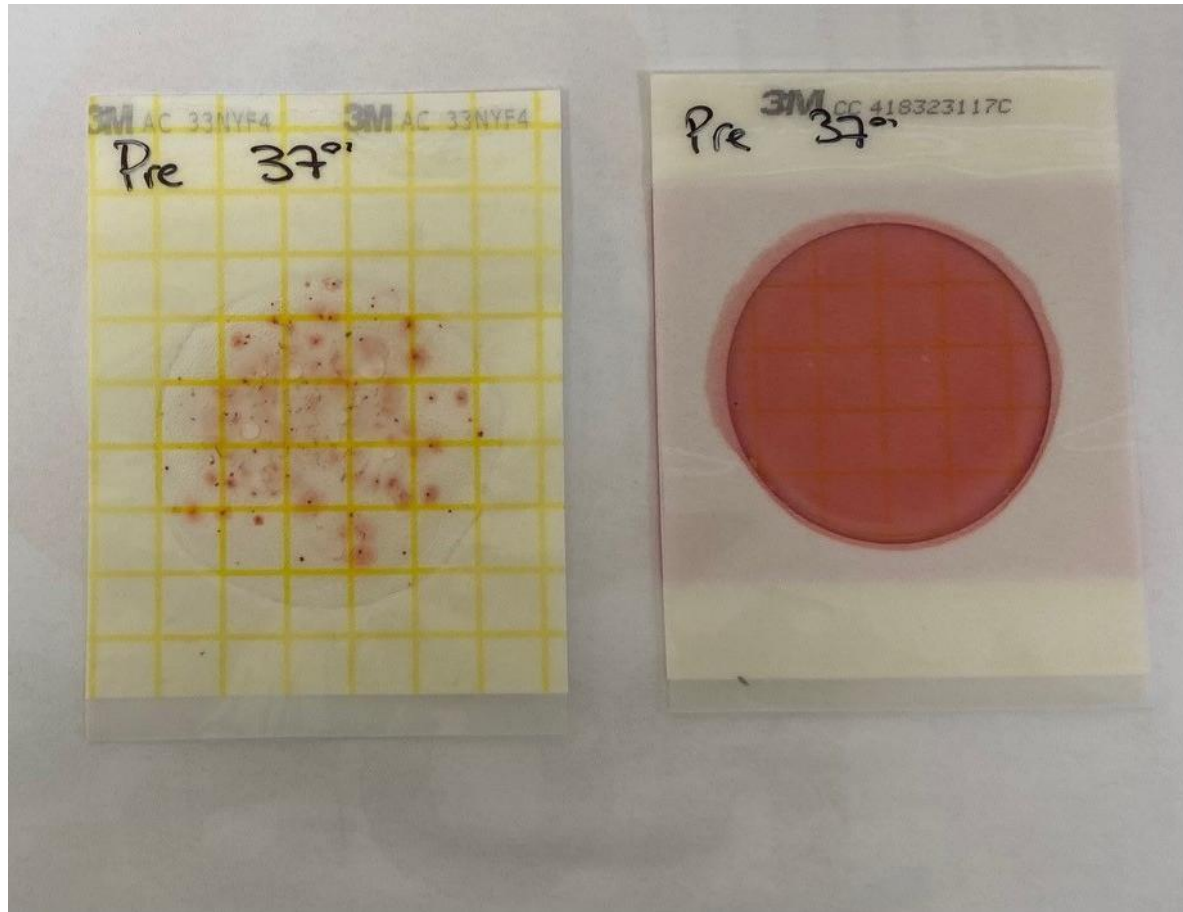
CASE STUDIES



Case Study # 1



Case Study # 1



Case Study # 1 Results

	TVC 22°C	Coliforms 22°C	TVC 37°C	Coliforms 37°C
Dirty / Pre disinfection	68	0	164	0
Dirty / Post disinfection	97	0	382	2
Clean / Pre disinfection	15	0	9	0
Clean / Post Disinfection	2	0	3	0

Outcome: DIRT CANNOT BE DISINFECTED!

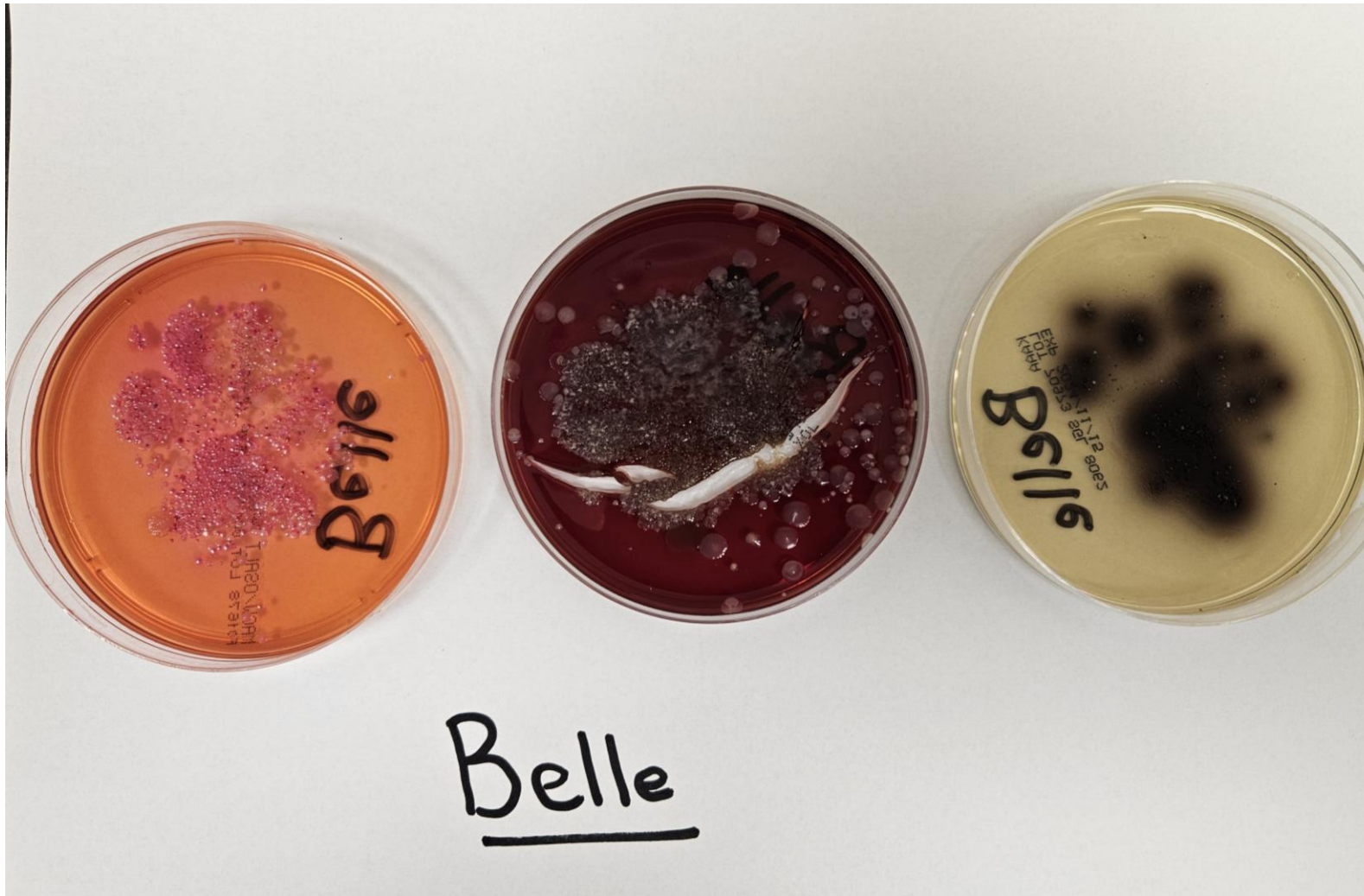
Case Study # 2

What does this tell us?

- Our hands are a source of contamination
- Washing of hands is key to contamination reduction
- Sanitation of hands should form part of this process
- Just because you cannot see it, doesn't mean its not there!



Case Study # 3



Family Dog showing high bacterial loads, equally these bacterial could be virus!



Biosecurity Tips

Access & People

DFAM

Regular DAFM Avian
Influenza Updates

Avian Check Wild Bird App

Notifiable



 Dept of Agriculture, Food and the Marine 
@agriculture_ie

#BirdFlu is now circulating in wild birds.

Do not touch or pick up any dead or sick birds that you find.

 Report sick or dead wild birds to :
Avian Influenza Hotline: 076 1064403
Out of hours: 1850 200456

 Check out more on our #avianinfluenza app: ...
iancheck.apps.rhos.agriculture.gov.ie

Bird flu has been confirmed in wild birds in Ireland

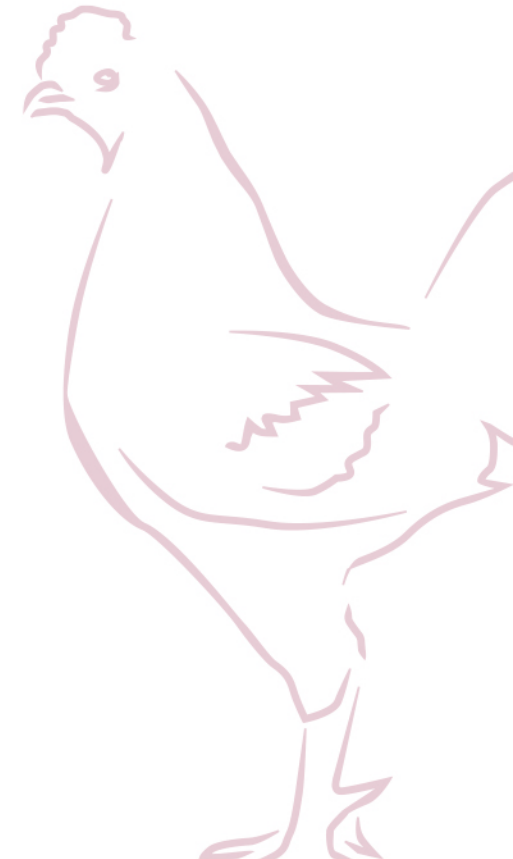


- Prevent contact with wild birds
- Feed and water birds undercover
- Good biosecurity is the best defence
- Register your premises

 An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

Conclusion

- **Do the basics and do it well**
- Risk factor correlation
 - Tiny dose required, only need to infect one bird and this will then amplify.
 - Don't rely on a hard outer shell, closed gate / record keeping alone.
 - Good biosecurity at the shed door, internal/external clothing needed – everyday business practice.
 - Value of doing biosecurity when you don't have disease – salmonella / campylobacter.



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VETERINARY SURGEONS

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