



Context

On the 26th November 2021, an outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) at H5N1 was detected on a production 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 chapter 10.4 of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

Sanitary situation

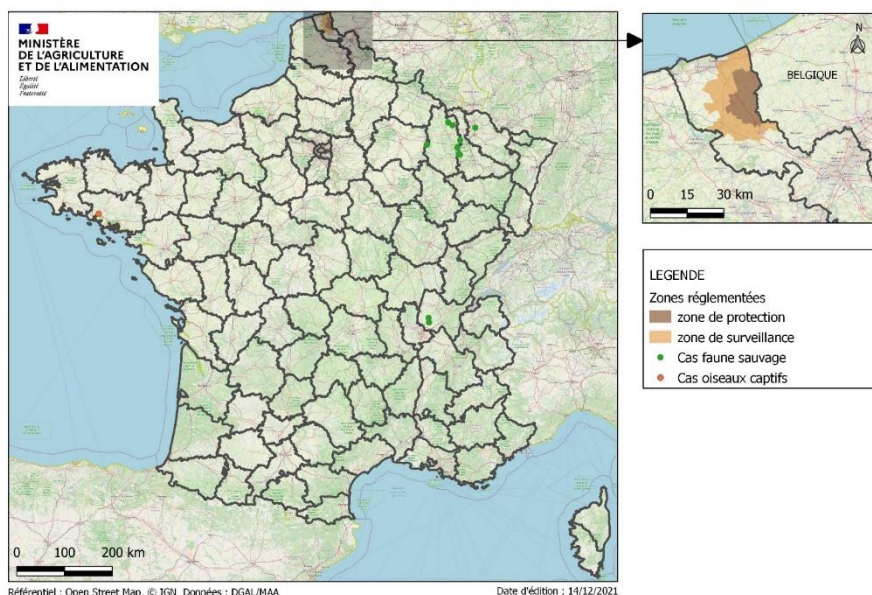
- Department of Nord (59)

Since the confirmation of the first outbreak on the 26th of November 2021, six more outbreaks of HPAI were detected in the same department of the “Nord” (59). This brings the number of outbreaks to 7 in this single department. All of these outbreaks have been notified to the OIE in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 1.1 of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

The surveillance measures put in place as part of the control and sanitary management following the first outbreak enabled the French veterinary services to detect the four other outbreaks in the same department. The epidemiological investigation to determine the origin of this contamination and whether the connection between these seven outbreaks is currently being consolidated. All the poultry on six outbreaks were culled, their carcasses destroyed and an initial disinfection was carried out. The elimination of the last outbreak is in progress

French Influenza restriction zones

Zones réglementées liées aux foyers et cas sauvages IAHP détectés en France



- Department of Gers (32)

In addition, an outbreak has just been declared on 16 December 2021 in the department of Gers (32) in a duck farm. This outbreak has no epidemiological connection with the episode in the North department but is located in an area very close to wetlands located on the migration route of wild birds. The poultry in the outbreak were culled, their carcasses destroyed and an initial disinfection was carried out. A preventive depopulation of the farms with an epidemiological link to the outbreak farm and of the farms located around the outbreak is in progress

In both departments, since the stage of suspicion and even before the laboratory confirmation, sanitary management measures have been triggered with the establishment of regulated zoning (3 and 10km) around the farms, strengthening of biosecurity measures, inventory of livestock and prohibition of poultry movements in the restricted areas.

Since September 2, sporadic backyard cases have been detected in France in the departments of "Ardennes"(08) and "Aisne" (02). They have been notified to the OIE under the category "other than poultry". These backyards belonged to individuals without any commercial activity related to the poultry sector. All birds have been culled and sanitary measures put in place. In addition, since the end of September 2021, 14 cases in wildlife have been detected in ponds and lakes in the departments of "Meuse", "Moselle", "Meurthe-et-Moselle" "Morbihan", "Nord", "Ain", "Marne" and "Aude".

Way forward for export and HPAI status

In accordance with Chapter 10.4 Article 10.4.6 of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code in its revised version, voted on May 29, 2021 and published on the OIE website, and in the absence of a new outbreak, France will recover its free status 28 days after the completion of stamping-out, cleaning and disinfection operations of the last outbreak.