HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA POLICY UPDATES

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Introduction
The Avian Influenza (AI) Status Report summarizes the preparedness measures, response activities, and documentation of the 2014–2015 highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) outbreak in the United States as well as the 2016 events, excluding those in the live bird marketing system (LBMS).

Report Section Guide
- Introduction
- 1. Background
- 2. 2015 Response
- 3. 2016 Response
- 4. Financial Status
- 5. AI Vaccine
- 6. Corrective Actions
- Conclusion

Referenced Documents
- 2015 Fall HPAI Preparedness Plan
- 2015 HPAI Final Report
- 2015 HPAI After Action Report
- 2016 Indiana Final Report
- 2016 Indiana After Action Report
- Corrective Action Program
Overview

• **2014–2015 HPAI outbreak**: Led to improvements in VS response policy and processes
  — Final Report, After Action Report completed in 2016; Corrective Action Program implemented
  — Collaboration with State and industry partners

• **August 2015**: Updated *HPAI Response Plan: The Red Book*

• **Fall 2015**: All stakeholders continued planning

• **January 2016**: *Revised HPAI Preparedness and Response Plan*
  — Renewed focus on biosecurity
  — Increased HPAI wild bird surveillance
  — Expanded response capabilities
  — Streamlined payment process for indemnity and virus elimination activities
  — Enhanced communication
  — Explored options for future AI vaccine use

• **2016 Indiana HPAI/LPAI outbreak**: Revised policies put into action and refined as the outbreak progressed
  — Final Report, After Action Report completed
  — Collaboration with Indiana State Board of Animal Health and industry partners
## Timeline of Policy Document Releases and Updates

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<td>Job Aid: Overview of the Composting Process updated May 2016</td>
<td>Mortality Composting Protocol for Avian Influenza Infested Flocks&lt;br&gt;updated New State Checklist&lt;br&gt;updated Cleaning and Disinfection Basics: Virus Elimination</td>
<td>updated Surveillance Sampling for Commercial Premises in Control Area&lt;br&gt;updated Timeline, Eligibility, and Approval for Restocking&lt;br&gt;Job Aid: Carbon Sources for Windrow Construction updated May 2016&lt;br&gt;Job Aid: Calibration of Analog Thermometers</td>
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**Notes:**
- Updated dates are noted for each document.
## Timeline of Policy Documents Releases and Updates (Continued)

<table>
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<th>May 2016</th>
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<td><em>Job Aid: Pre-Compost Windrows for Avian Influenza Infected Flocks</em></td>
<td><em>Initial Contact Epi-Report</em></td>
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<td><em>Job Aid: Windrow Construction Protocol for Avian Influenza Infected Flocks</em></td>
<td><em>Commercial Flock Plan for H5/H7 Avian Influenza</em></td>
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<td><em>Job Aid: Temperature Monitoring Protocol of Avian Influenza Infected Flocks</em></td>
<td><em>Backyard Flock Plan for H5/H7 Avian Influenza</em></td>
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<td><em>Compost Windrow Construction Approval Checklist for Avian Influenza Infected Flocks</em></td>
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<td><em>Phase 1 &amp; Phase 2 Checklists for Windrow Evaluation</em></td>
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Highlights

• 2015 HPAI Response Plan: The Red Book
  — new HPAI Case Definition
  — example epidemiological questionnaires
  — revisions on appraisal and vaccination sections

• Revised guidance
  — Finance and Administration Procedures
    ▪ appraisals
    ▪ split owner/grower payments
    ▪ flat rate payments for virus elimination
  — Stamping-Out and Depopulation Policy
    ▪ 24-hour goal
    ▪ ventilation shutdown
  — Permitting
    ▪ EMRS Customer Permit Gateway
  — Surveillance
Updated Finance and Administration Guidance

• Overview of Finance and Administration Procedures
• Details for Bird and Egg Appraisal and Indemnity Procedures
• Details for Virus Elimination Financial Processes
• Details for Materials Destroyed Financial Processes
• Appraisal and Indemnity Request Forms
  — Poultry Owner
  — Contract Grower
• Appraisal and Indemnity Request Procedures
  — Contract Grower Worksheet for Meat Birds
  — Contract Grower Worksheet for Layers
  — DUNS and SAM

All available [www.aphis.usda.gov/fadprep](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/fadprep)
Updated Finance and Administration Guidance
Flat Rate for Virus Elimination

• Flat-rates calculated by Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health (CEAH) based on 2014–2015 outbreak data:
  — per bird and
  — by production type.

• Cost effective:
  — Producers choose (between effective options) how they want to conduct virus elimination.
  — Reduces the need for federal contractors.
  — Producers get paid directly.

• Result: Faster and more straightforward way to pay for and conduct these activities.
Efficient and Effective Finance and Administration Processes

• Faster and more straightforward:
  — one signed form required before depopulation
  — no more Cooperative Compliance Agreement; direct way to pay producers for depopulation and disposal activities

• APHIS Interim Rule, “Conditions for Payment of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Indemnity Claims:”
  — splits indemnity payments from APHIS between poultry owners and growers
  — requires owners and growers to affirm that they had biosecurity plans in place at the time the outbreak occurred

• Result: Producers (owners and growers) were paid rapidly for indemnity and virus elimination; administrative burden was reduced.
Depopulation Guidance

• Affirmation of 24-hour goal:
  — depopulation upon presumptive positive, or suspect positive (as deemed appropriate by Federal and State officials)
  — depopulate quickly to avoid further disease transmission

• $\text{CO}_2$ and foam primary methods considered:
  — ventilation shutdown considered if no other method can achieve a sufficiently timely measure of assurance that virus will not spread
  — decision tree available for deciding to implement ventilation shutdown

• Result: Birds were depopulated rapidly, through a variety of methods in Indiana.
Permitting and Permitted Movement

• EMRS Customer Permit Gateway:
  — live and available for use in an HPAI outbreak
  — streamlines all data entry and requests for continuity of business permits

• Permitted Movement (FAD PReP Manual 6-0) released:
  — circulated for comment
  — defines EMRS permitting process

• Result: Work continues on developing common definitions and concept of operations for permitting with States and industry.
Additional HPAI Updates

• Avian Sample Collection for Influenza A and Newcastle Disease
  — Replaces WI-AV-0020
• Surveillance Sampling for Commercial Premises in Control Area
• Surveillance of Backyard Flocks Around Infected Premises
• Testing Requirements for Movement from the Control Area
• HPAI in Live Bird Marketing System
• Disposal Guidance
  — Job Aids
  — Composting Checklists
  — Landfill Information
Summary

• Federal, State, and industry officials continued to work on lessons learned in the 2014–2015 outbreak.
• Policy guidance and procedures were adapted and revised.
• January 2016 HPAI/LPAI outbreak tested new processes and procedures—showed significant progress had been made in many areas.
• January 2016 outbreak also highlighted key challenges, including logistical issues with depopulation equipment.
• Policy guidance and procedures continue to be adjusted as needed; preparedness continues for fall and winter.