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Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Outbreak Update in Turkey

Report Categories:

Poultry and Products

Pest/Disease Occurrences

Approved By:

Kimberly Sawatzki

Prepared By:

Sinem Duyum

Report Highlights:

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) outbreaks have been confirmed in Ikizciler, Kastamonu Province; Edincik, Balikesir Province; and Moralilar, Manisa Province since late April 2015. Local media reports suggest that there have been unconfirmed outbreaks in neighboring provinces.

A Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) outbreak was confirmed in Ikizciler, Kastamonu Province on April 2015. This is the first confirmed outbreak of HPAI in Turkey since 2008, when the last final report was published at World Organization of Animal Health (OIE) declaring Turkey free from HPAI.



Protection and surveillance zones have been established in this area surrounding the outbreak. Roughly 92 backyard poultry were destroyed in a 3 km radius area. All holdings containing backyard poultry were cleaned and disinfected after depopulation process. Monitoring activities continue in the 10 km radius surveillance zone surrounding the 3 km radius protection zone.

On May 11, 2015, a new HPAI case was detected in poultry farm in Edincik, Balikesir Province, as confirmed by a Ministry of Food, Agriculture, and Livestock (MinFAL) report.



Protection and surveillance zones have been established and all poultry animals were destroyed in

protection zone. Holdings were cleaned and disinfected after the destruction process. Egg production farms are mostly located within this region. According to the officials, the number of culled animals including losses is approximately 70,000. The total poultry animal population within the region was 1.2 million.

MinFAL published a report on May 18, 2015, indicating that a new HPAI case was detected in poultry farm in Moralilar, Manisa Province.



Protection and surveillance zones have been established and all poultry animals were destroyed in protection zone. Holdings and pens were cleaned and disinfected after the destruction process. Manisa Province is significantly important for poultry breeding in Turkey. Roughly 1,800 holdings (breeding, laying hens, broiler and turkey) and 65 million poultry are in this region.

Reports are being published on the OIE website for the aforementioned outbreaks. The announcements stated that biosecurity protocols in the affected areas have been carried out and instructions have been established to prevent further infections.

On the other hand, local media have reported that the new outbreaks have been occurring in neighboring provinces of the outbreaks. The poultry sector is highly developed in the Aegean region in the provinces where outbreaks were detected.

After notifications of HPAI outbreaks, Iraq and Israel stopped importing poultry and poultry products from Turkey. MinFAL has been carrying out the negotiations with Iraq due to its importance as an export market. Russia has been continuing to import poultry and poultry products from the establishments declared free from HPAI by MinFAL.

The first Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) case was seen in turkey breeding establishment in Balıkesir Province on October 2005. Turkey also confronted HPAI cases mostly in the Western part of Black sea region and Marmara region in 2007 and 2008. After these AI cases, the Turkish Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (MinFAL) published legislation regarding the control and eradication

of HPAI in line with EU legislation and funding of World Bank, including:

- Prime Ministry Circular on preparation for Avian Influenza outbreaks seen among poultry species.
- Circular on Avian Influenza Disease (2007-17).
- Instruction on regionalization of Avian Influenza or/and Newcastle Disease.
- Instruction on paying compensation with scope of the Preparation and Struggling with Avian Influenza project (AIHP).
- Instruction on paying compensations for Avian Influenza.
- Legislation on protection and struggling with Avian Influenza disease.

Total poultry meat production in Turkey was 1,923,500 MT in 2013, with 19.39 kg per capita consumed in 2013 and 21 kg per capita in 2014. Iraq accounts almost 50 percent of the value of Turkey's poultry exports. Israel, Saudi Arabia, Azerbaijan and Uzbekistan are other leading export destinations. According to Turkish Statistic Institute (TUIK), the export value of poultry meat (fresh/chilled or frozen) was \$608 million in 2013. In 2014, Turkey exported 430,544 MT of poultry and poultry products, mostly to Iraq, worth \$700 million. According to poultry sector in Turkey, there is no decrease of domestic consumption because of the HPAI outbreaks.