

Egg Farmer Checklist in the event of a positive result for Avian Influenza (AI)



CHIEF VETERINARIAN OFFICER (CVO) NAME AND NUMBER



INCIDENT CONTROLLER NAME AND PHONE NUMBER

(The Departmental Officer with overall responsibility for the State Co-ordination Centre and Local Control Centre)



LIAISON LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY (LLI) NAME AND NUMBER

(Liaison between Government, Industry organisations and impacted farm)

What are the aims of an Avian Influenza Response?

- Contain and prevent the further spread of avian influenza
- Eradicate the disease from known infected premises
- Conduct tracing and surveillance to determine the extent of the outbreak
- Implement quarantine and movement controls to prevent further spread of disease
- Return Australia to the status of "Country Freedom from either highly pathogenic avian influenza and/or OIE notifiable low pathogenic avian influenza in Domestic Poultry"

What is the process if I have Avian Influenza on my farm?

- My birds do not seem well
- Contact private poultry vet to undertake testing
- Contact the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888
- The Department of Agriculture will undertake testing
- If the property is a suspect property, take precautions such as keeping a track of vehicle movements
- A positive result is reported by the Department
- The property is quarantined and decisions around disease control are the responsibility of the CVO and/or the control centre. It is important that the property owner works closely with disease control officials to ensure the best outcome
- Movement and biosecurity controls will be put in place
- Information will be required by the Department as to a suitable area on property for burial of birds. If there is no suitable site then you may be able to provide local information on a possible disposal site

Quarantine – What happens when your property is quarantined?

- Egg movements from farms become suspended and materials are quarantined on farm. This includes materials such as raw, finished goods, packaging and transporting materials
- The authorities then work with the farm to organise disposal of birds, eggs, manure and any other materials. Birds and eggs may be buried on site or the authorities may work with the farm for offsite disposal and will be required to seek Environment Protection Authority (EPA) approval

What is the process if I have Avian Influenza on my farm? (cont.)

You may request copies from the CVO of:

- The positive test results from the lab for your property
- A copy of the Emergency Animal Disease Response Plan for your property
- Information on the disposal method eg. foaming safety sheet

The process at a Government level

- An incident centre is set up with divisions such as planning including surveillance, public information (communications), logistics, and operations
- A Liaison Livestock Industry (LLI) is appointed to facilitate constructive, two-way communications between industry and the control centre(s) about disease control measures, the response progress and their industry
- The LLI will make contact with you
- A restricted area and control area will be ascertained
- Mapping will be available publicly on the Department of Agriculture website
- Work that will commence includes an online permit system for the movement of eggs in the restricted and control area for those farms not impacted/infected by AI
- Department tracing and surveillance
- Destruction order and disposal
- Other control measures in addition to movement of poultry related materials and equipment relate to biosecurity requirements for people eg. changes of clothing for staff, tracing to review bird movements to identify the source of an infection, surveillance, destruction and disposal, valuation and compensation and treatment of the premises and any item linked to the contamination through decontamination
- The timeframe for decontamination and restocking will depend on a range of factors, particularly the time required to clean the farm facilities

What do I need to do on my farm?

Record Keeping

- It is important that records are kept of decisions made for your own record keeping. This may be in the format of a log
- For traceability keep records of the movement of birds, people and items (such as equipment and vehicles) on and off the infected property. You may be required to provide this information to the Department
- Keep records of any EADRA compensation and all destroyed and replacement stock

Movement Controls

- On and off premises
 - Poultry (livestock)
 - Poultry products and by-products (feed)
 - Litter
 - Eggs
 - Vehicles
 - Equipment
 - Any other items that may be contaminated

What do I need to do on my farm? (cont.)

Personnel biosecurity requirements

- Change of clothing when entering the property
- Property only footwear

Surveillance

- Understand that the department may need to take samples for laboratory testing (Surveillance may occur on surrounding properties)

Destruction/CVO

- Once quarantined under the control of the CVO
- Intent of Destruction Notice will be provided from the Department
- The Department may discuss options such as on farm burial of birds and products such as eggs and litter
- The Department will need to get EPA approval if depopulation and products are disposed of either on farm or at an alternate location
- The Department may also discuss logistical options for destruction and disposal such as engaging the owner to carry out some operations or use of the farm's normal contractors

Decontamination

- Chemical and manual treatment of:
 - Property
 - Equipment
 - Clothing
 - Footwear

Compensation and valuation

- Birds that are destroyed due to AI or destroyed as part of the official response may be eligible for compensation under EADRA or state and territory legislation
- NO payments of consequential losses are available

Method of valuation

(please note that criteria may differ dependent upon the state jurisdiction)

In the case of livestock the value is based on:

- the date the owner or owner's representative reports the disease or suspicion of disease to an inspector accredited under applicable legislation or a veterinary surgeon; or
- the date of detection of the disease by an inspector accredited under applicable legislation; or
- the date of imposition of a quarantine order relating to the disease, whichever is the earlier

Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement (EADRA) – Response and Compensation

- The Government, at the request of industry, underwrites the cost of the response. Industry has a 10 year period to pay the industry share of the costs for the response back to the government by a levy
- Costings vary for the funding available for high and low pathogenic responses. For high pathogenic, a government to industry split of 80:20. Low pathogenic 50:50 share based on the GVP of industry