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Czech Republic

Poultry and Products

Czech Republic Confirms 2nd Case of H5 Avian Influenza in a Dead Swan

2006

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Report Highlights:

On March 29, the Czech Republic confirmed the 2nd case of H5 Avian Influenza in a dead swan.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Vienna [AU1]
[EZ]

On March 29, 2006, the State Veterinary Administration (SVA) of the Czech Republic confirmed that a swan found dead on March 25 in Ceske Budejovice in Southern Bohemia had tested positive for Avian Influenza H5. SVA is still waiting for confirmation of the second test for N1 and confirmation of virus H5N1 from the EU reference laboratory in Weybridge in Great Britain. It is the second AI case this week.

The first dead swan was found in Hluboka nad Vltavou, a town 20 km down the Vltava river from Ceske Budejovice, where the second case appeared, on March 20 and announced by the State Veterinary Administration on March 27. On Wednesday, March 29, the virus H5N1 was confirmed in the first dead swan by the EU reference laboratory in Weybridge in Great Britain.

SVA is undertaking safeguard measures as required by the EU and as introduced by other EU countries that have been affected by the highly pathogenic H5N1 type virus:

Within 3 kilometers of where the birds were found:

- Control of traffic in the 3-kilometer radius.
- Live poultry or poultry meat may leave the area.
- All poultry and birds in captivity must be housed.
- Authorities will maintain increased animal health inspections and continuous communication with farmers.

Within 10 kilometers:

- Bird hunting is prohibited.
- Movement of live poultry and poultry products will be kept under increased surveillance.

Two weeks ago the Czech Ministry of Agriculture sent out a flyer to all households with information on avian influenza, what it is, what to do and not to do, how to protect oneself etc. The State Veterinary Administration set up a special web page with AI information.