

**Future updates will be posted on the TAHC web site as soon as information becomes available. To access the site:  
<http://www.tahc.state.tx.us>**

## **Update from the Texas Animal Health Commission**

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### **Avian Influenza in Hopkins County, Texas Latest available information: June 4, 2004**

As of Friday, June 4:

Personnel from the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Texas are in Hopkins County, conducting disease surveillance for avian influenza. (See TAHC press release from Friday, May 28, 2004, for background information.)

- **A commercial flock of breeder chickens on a farm within 10 miles of the initial—or index—flock has tested negative for avian influenza.** A total of three commercial operations were sited within the 10-mile test area. These include:
  1. The index flock of breeding chickens that had positive blood tests for avian influenza and was depopulated and disposed of on site May 27.... approximately 24,000 birds. The avian influenza virus has not been isolated from this flock.
  2. Breeder flock with preliminary screening tests positive for avian influenza. The owners voluntarily depopulated the flock and disposed of the birds on site as a prudent, preemptive measure...approximately 24,000 birds. Virus has not been isolated from samples collected from this flock.
  3. Breeder flock that tested negative for avian influenza. Test results were available Friday, June 4. This flock will remain intact, but birds will be sampled again in 14 to 21 days, as part of the intensive disease surveillance effort within the 10-mile testing area.
- Additional noncommercial flocks have been identified within 10 miles of the index flock in Hopkins County, and they are being tested. The total now stands at 168 noncommercial flocks within the 10-mile area.

Samples have been collected from 62 of the 65 noncommercial flocks identified within five miles of the index flock. Samples also have been taken from 78 of the 103 identified noncommercial flocks in the area situated five to 10 miles from the index flock. Test results still are pending from the Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL) in Gonzales, College Station and Center.

All flocks will be re-sampled in 14 to 21 days as part of the disease surveillance protocol.