Sub-Saharan Africa HPAI situation update

14 March 2018, 17:00 hours; Rome

Disclaimer

Information provided herein is current as of the date of issue. Information added or changed since the last Sub-Saharan HPAI situation update appears in red. For poultry cases with unknown onset dates, reporting dates were used instead. FAO compiles information communicated by field officers on the ground in affected countries, from regional offices, and from World Organization for Animal Health [OIE], as well as peer-reviewed scientific articles. FAO makes every effort to ensure, but does not guarantee, accuracy, completeness or authenticity of the information. The designation employed and the presentation of material in the map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal or constitutional status of any country, territory or sea area, or concerning the delimitation of frontiers.

Overview

Situation: Highly pathogenic avian influenza virus (H5N1 and H5N8 subtypes) with pandemic potential in countries of Sub-Saharan Africa.


Animal/environmental findings: Please see reports from individual countries below.

Number of human cases: None reported to date.

Map 1. Officially reported HPAI outbreaks (H5N1 and H5N8 subtypes) in Sub-Saharan Africa, by onset date (1 October 2016 – 14 March 2018)

Note: Map A shows confirmed H5N8 HPAI events observed since 01 October 2017; Map B shows confirmed H5N1 and H5N8 HPAI events observed between 01 October 2016 and 30 September 2017.

Situation update

South Africa H5N8 HPAI
- Number of outbreaks* to date: 164
- Regions affected: Eastern Cape, Free State, Gauteng, Limpopo, Kwazulu-Natal, Mpumalanga, North West, Western Cape
- Outbreaks reported since last update: 26
- Most recent outbreaks: Observed on 21 February 2018 in Western Cape Province
Dem. Rep. of the Congo H5N8 HPAI

- Number of outbreaks* to date: **35**
- Regions affected: **Ituri**
- Outbreaks reported since last update: **5**
- Most recent outbreaks: **Observed on 01 December 2017 in Ituri Province**

* Both domestic and wild birds have been affected

### Table 1. Summary of countries with no new H5N1 HPAI events reported

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>1° Administrative regions affected</th>
<th>Date of last observed outbreak</th>
<th>Date of last outbreak report</th>
<th># reported outbreaks to date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>Bazéga, Boulkiemde, Houet, Kadiogo, Poni, Sanguié, Comoe, Kourweogo, Boulgou, Ioba, Nayala, Nahouri*, Yatenga</td>
<td>21/07/2015</td>
<td>02/10/2015</td>
<td>68*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>Adamaoua, Centre, South and West</td>
<td>31/03/2017</td>
<td>31/03/2017</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Côte d’Ivoire</td>
<td>Abidjan, Bassam, Belier, Bouaké, Comoe, Gontougo, Lagunes</td>
<td>27/08/2016</td>
<td>03/10/2016</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Greater Accra, Ashanti, Central, Eastern, Volta, Western</td>
<td>26/10/2016</td>
<td>23/11/2016</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>Maradi, Niamay</td>
<td>21/02/2016</td>
<td>02/07/2016</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>Abia, Adamawa, Anambra, Bauchi, Bayelsa, Benue, Delta, Ebonyi, Edo, Enugu, Gombe, Imo, Jigawa, Kaduna, Kano, Katsina, Kebbi, Lagos, Nassarawa, Ogun, Oyo, Plateau, Rivers, Sokoto and Zamfara</td>
<td>29/05/2017</td>
<td>02/06/2017</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Togo</td>
<td>Maritime</td>
<td>07/06/2017</td>
<td>03/07/2017</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Please note that the administrative regions affected and the total number of confirmed H5N1 HPAI outbreaks in Burkina Faso has been revised based on information received from the country.

### Table 2. Summary of countries with no new H5N8 HPAI events reported

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>1° Administrative regions affected</th>
<th>Date of last observed outbreak</th>
<th>Date of last outbreak report</th>
<th># reported outbreaks to date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>Extreme North</td>
<td>02/01/2017</td>
<td>14/02/2017</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>Kano, Nasarawa, Ogun</td>
<td>25/01/2018</td>
<td>02/02/2018</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>Tillaberi</td>
<td>23/01/2017</td>
<td>13/04/2017</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>Budaka, Kaangala, Masaka and Wakiso Districts</td>
<td>16/01/2017</td>
<td>06/02/2017</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>Mashonaland</td>
<td>17/05/2017</td>
<td>01/06/2017</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 1. Phylogenetic tree of H5N8 viruses isolated from outbreaks in countries of Sub-Saharan Africa

- From the phylogenetic tree the main ancestor for the HPAI H5N8 viruses is Eastern China
- In South Africa we have four clusters, all four share a recent common ancestor with viruses from Egypt, Korea and Siberia.
- The Zimbabwean isolate is genetically similar to one of the South African clusters.

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Figure 2. Case counts of reported H5N1 HPAI poultry outbreaks in Sub-Saharan African countries by MONTH based on onset date

Note: Where onset date was not available, reporting date was used (source: EMPRES-i).
FAO’s support to countries

Global level

- HQ (AGAH/EMPRES), ECTAD-Accra and RAF liaising with affected countries and those at risk;
- **USD 6.2 million** mobilized from FAO internal resources (SFERA and TCP), AfDB, ROK and USAID (under GHSA funding and the EPT2 program) to support assessments and immediate response;
- FAO issued a press release on H5N8 HPAI in Uganda on 1 February 2017, the first time that HPAI was confirmed in the East Africa region;
- FAO issued a Qualitative Risk Assessment addressing H5N1 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza spread in the Central African region.
- FAO issued a Risk Assessment addressing H5N8 HPAI in Uganda and the risk of spread to neighbouring countries.
- FAO issued a Quarterly Bulletin produced by the FAO Sub-regional Office for Southern Africa (SFS) which highlights, among other transboundary threats to food and nutrition security, the outbreaks of Avian Influenza in the region and FAO’s role in assisting affected countries or those at risk. [link]
- FAO South Africa commissioned a socio-economic impact study following the Zimbabwe H5N8 HPAI Outbreak as a means of supporting evidence based policies and decisions.
- FAO South Africa has supported a Consultancy and Validation workshop to review and update the Southern African Development Community (SADC) HPAI strategic plan.

Peer-reviewed Publications

- World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE). 2018. **OIE Situation Report for Avian Influenza.** [reference]. The objective of this report is to provide the historical background of HPAI epidemiology since 2005 as well as context to the current situation, and consider what might happen next.