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## Thailand

### Poultry and Products

### Annual

### 2004

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**Report Highlights:**

The broiler industry is anticipated to grow slightly in 2005 after being hit by High Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) disease in 2004. As a result, exports and domestic consumption of broiler meat in 2005 will fall far short of the record high levels reached in 2003.

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**Section I: Situation and Outlook**

The Thai broiler production in 2005 is forecast to grow by 3 percent (950,000 tons) after a significant reduction in 2004. The slow growth is caused by the avian influenza disease and in the resulting international trade bans on the Thai broiler industry.

A recent reoccurrence of High Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in July 2004 warns that the disease may become endemic to Thailand. If the disease problem continues, international markets will close their doors to Thai frozen uncooked chicken meat for at least one or two years, posing a serious threat to some small or medium scale processing plants, which focus on producing uncooked poultry meat.

Average live broiler production costs in 2005 are forecast to decrease due to a likelihood of less expensive feed ingredients (especially soybean meal and corn) and anticipated improvements in overall disease control and surveillance.

After a sharp drop in domestic consumption in 2004, broiler meat consumption in 2005 is forecast to recover by 4-5 percent to 670,000 tons. Anticipated high stock levels (especially leg parts) will depress retail prices and stimulate demand. In addition, the implementation of improved disease controls should rebuild consumer confidence in the safety of chicken meat to some extent.

Thai broiler meat exports should grow by 10-20 percent in 2005 to about 300,000 tons, but this level still falls far short (by 245,000 tons) of record exports in 2003 (545,000 tons). Growth in 2005 is likely in line with increased cooked meat production. Trade sources foresee that total exports of 300,000 tons should belong to cooked products only because a likelihood of continued import suspension on uncooked chicken meat by the governments of importing countries.

## Section II: Statistical Tables

Table 1: Thailand's PS&amp;D Table for Poultry, Meat, Chicken – 16 wks.

**PSD Table**

Country Commodity	Thailand Poultry, Meat, Broiler						UOM
	2003		2004	2005	2005		
Market Year Begin	USDA Official	Revised Estimate	DA Official	Estimate	DA Official	Estimate [New]	MM/YYYY
		01/2003	01/2004	01/2005			
Inventory (Reference)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 (MIL HEAD)
Slaughter (Reference)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 (MIL HEAD)
Beginning Stocks	0	70	0	90	40	120	(1000 MT)
Production	1320	1340	1025	920	0	950	(1000 MT)
Whole, Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0	(1000 MT)
Parts, Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0	(1000 MT)
Intra EC Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0	(1000 MT)
Other Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0	(1000 MT)
TOTAL Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0	(1000 MT)
TOTAL SUPPLY	1320	1410	1025	1010	40	1070	(1000 MT)
Whole, Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0	(1000 MT)
Parts, Exports	528	545	300	250	0	300	(1000 MT)
Intra EC Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0	(1000 MT)
Other Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0	(1000 MT)
TOTAL Exports	528	545	300	250	0	300	(1000 MT)
Human Consumption	772	750	665	620	0	650	(1000 MT)
Other Use, Losses	20	25	20	20	0	20	(1000 MT)
Total Dom. Consumption	792	775	685	640	0	670	(1000 MT)
TOTAL Use	1320	1320	985	890	0	970	(1000 MT)
Ending Stocks	0	90	40	120	0	100	(1000 MT)
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	1320	1410	1025	1010	0	1070	(1000 MT)
Calendar Yr. Imp. from U	0	0	0	0	0	0	(1000 MT)

Table 2: Wholesale Prices for Live Broilers in Bangkok

## Prices Table

**Country** Thailand

**Commodity** Poultry, Meat, Broiler

Prices in  per uom

Year	<input type="text" value="2003"/>	<input type="text" value="2004"/>	% Change
Jan	<input type="text" value="23"/>	<input type="text" value="26"/>	13%
Feb	<input type="text" value="20"/>	<input type="text" value="14"/>	-30%
Mar	<input type="text" value="20"/>	<input type="text" value="26"/>	30%
Apr	<input type="text" value="27"/>	<input type="text" value="30"/>	11%
May	<input type="text" value="30"/>	<input type="text" value="28"/>	-7%
Jun	<input type="text" value="33"/>	<input type="text" value="26"/>	-21%
Jul	<input type="text" value="35"/>		-100%
Aug	<input type="text" value="32"/>		-100%
Sep	<input type="text" value="22"/>		-100%
Oct	<input type="text" value="24"/>		-100%
Nov	<input type="text" value="28"/>		-100%
Dec	<input type="text" value="25"/>		-100%

Exchange Rate  Local Currency/US \$

Date of Quote  MM/DD/YYYY

Source: Department of Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce

Table 3: Retail Prices for Skinless Boneless Broiler Meat in Bangkok

## Prices Table

**Country** Thailand

**Commodity** Poultry, Meat, Broiler

Prices in  per uom

Year	2003	2004	% Change
Jan	59	63	7%
Feb	58	54	-7%
Mar	53	62	17%
Apr	54	63	17%
May	62	63	2%
Jun	69	63	-9%
Jul	70		-100%
Aug	71		-100%
Sep	65		-100%
Oct	66		-100%
Nov	69		-100%
Dec	67		-100%

Exchange Rate  Local Currency/US \$

Date of Quote  MM/DD/YYYY

Source: Department of Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce

Table 4: Thailand's Chicken Meat Exports in 2003 (Jan-Dec)

Destination	Uncooked Meat	Further Processed	Total Exports
<b>ASIA</b>	<b>281,995</b>	<b>93,958</b>	<b>375,953</b>
Japan	188,115	83,780	271,895
Singapore	10,670	4,698	15,368
China	21,487	99	21,586
Hong Kong	5,695	3,484	9,179
South Korea	41,720	1,832	43,552
Malaysia	14,082	34	14,116
Others	226	31	257
<b>EUROPE</b>	<b>103,747</b>	<b>61,650</b>	<b>165,397</b>
The European Union	98,231	61,628	159,859
Belgium	805	876	1,681
Germany	59,308	5,862	65,170
Netherlands	21,784	17,676	39,460
United Kingdom	15,890	32,132	48,022
France	63	2,076	2,139
Others	381	3,006	3,387
Other Europe	5,516	22	5,538
<b>MIDDLE EAST</b>	<b>2,829</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>2,976</b>
Kuwait	687	0	687
Saudi Arabia	0	40	40
Dubai	0	0	0
Others	2,142	107	2,249
<b>AFRICA</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>98</b>
South Africa	75	23	98
Egypt	0	0	0
Others	0	0	0
<b>OTHERS</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>1,010</b>	<b>1,291</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>388,927</b>	<b>156,788</b>	<b>545,715</b>

Source: Thai Broiler Processing Exporters Association

Table 5: The Comparison of Chicken Meat Exports in 2003 and 2004 (Jan-May)

Destination	Uncooked Meat		Further Processed		Total Exports	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
<b>ASIA</b>	<b>105,355</b>	<b>14,653</b>	<b>29,734</b>	<b>26,549</b>	<b>135,089</b>	<b>41,202</b>
Japan	68,593	9,706	25,549	23,039	94,142	32,745
Singapore	3,821	576	2,244	1,993	6,065	2,569
China	8,474	603	24	0	8,498	603
Hong Kong	2,439	234	1,177	1,405	3,616	1,639
South Korea	18,539	2,897	736	112	19,275	3,009
Malaysia	3,465	637	0	0	3,465	637
Others	24	0	4	0	28	0
<b>EUROPE</b>	<b>46,064</b>	<b>11,007</b>	<b>25,546</b>	<b>30,656</b>	<b>71,610</b>	<b>41,663</b>
The European Union	45,858	10,075	25,537	30,648	71,395	40,723
Belgium	358	115	348	195	706	310
Germany	32,311	5,496	2,707	3,566	35,018	9,062
Netherlands	7,975	2,978	6,910	8,706	14,885	11,684
United Kingdom	5,034	1,474	12,849	16,145	17,883	17,619
France	39	0	1,872	182	1,911	182
Others	141	12	851	1,854	992	1,866
Other Europe	206	932	9	8	215	940
<b>MIDDLE EAST</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>612</b>	<b>357</b>
Kuwait	95	189	0	0	95	189
Saudi Arabia	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dubai	0	48	0	0	0	48
Others	478	120	39	0	517	120
<b>AFRICA</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>75</b>
South Africa	0	75	3	0	3	75
Egypt	0	0	0	0	0	0
Others	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>OTHERS</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>194</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>152,046</b>	<b>26,092</b>	<b>55,643</b>	<b>57,399</b>	<b>207,689</b>	<b>83,491</b>

Source: Thai Broiler Processing Exporters Association

## Section III: Supply and Demand, Policy & Marketing

### Production

The Thai broiler production in 2005 is forecast to grow by 3 percent (950,000 tons) after a significant reduction in 2004. The slow growth is caused by the avian influenza disease and in international trade bans based on Thai broiler industry.

A recent reoccurrence of High Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in July 2004 warns that the disease may become endemic to Thailand. If the disease problem continues, international markets will close their doors to Thai frozen uncooked chicken meat for at least one or two years, posing a serious threat to some small or medium scale processing plants, which focus on producing uncooked poultry meat.

HPAI hit Thailand in 2004. After a much delay, the Royal Thai Government on January 23, 2004, officially accepted the existence of HPAI in Thailand and struggled to minimize the damage caused by the disease. The Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra announced to use all government resources to resolve the disease problem as the first priority.

A joint ministerial meeting on January 26, 2004, set up four guidelines to tackle the problem, including:

1. The Ministry of Agriculture must inspect all poultry farms across the country and contain the disease outbreak according to established international standards;
2. The Ministry of Public Health must promptly educate people to better understand the situation and build up confidence in the safety of public health;
3. The Ministry of Commerce must promptly conduct negotiations with the governments of buying countries which have banned or suspended the imports of Thai chicken meat to relieve the export problem; and
4. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will host an international meeting with ministers or high-level officials from other Asian countries and major buying countries (like the EU and Japan) to brainstorm on proper measures to cope with poultry disease outbreak.

The Department of Livestock Development (DLD) also outlined its emergency response for the HPAI outbreak, called a "Stamping-Out" campaign, in the following steps:

1. Pre-emptive culling: Once any poultry farm/area is confirmed positive for HPAI disease, an area within a 5-kilometer radius from an infected farm/premise will be declared a "control zone". All chicken and other poultry animals in a control zone will be depopulated, followed by disinfection of the area;
2. Surveillance during the outbreak: The area within 50 kilometers from the infected farm/area will be declared a "surveillance zone", that is subject to intensive surveillance. All poultry animals in any positive farms in this zone will be depopulated and the area will be disinfected;
3. Movement control: Movement of avian species from the area within a 60-kilometer radius from an infected farm/premise is prohibited for at least 60 days;
4. Public awareness campaign: Information, recommendations and guidelines are distributed to facilitate cooperation and create better understanding from industry and community;
5. Post-outbreak operations: After eliminating the last known contaminated poultry population, the DLD will launch operations of tracing and monitoring as a surveillance process:

- A) Tracing: After repopulation of the affected areas, surveillance will be carried out for 5 months to confirm disease-free status of that area;
- B) Monitoring: After disease-free status is assured, the DLD will conduct both active and passive surveillance for HPAI to obtain epidemiological information for future prevention and control.

The Thai Department of Livestock recently reported that the cumulative figures of the first HPAI outbreak in Thailand from January 23 to July 2, 2004 were 190 cases in 89 Districts of 42 Provinces. The affected population included native chickens (58.5%), layers (12.4%), broilers (11.9%), ducks (6.7%), quails (4.7%), turkeys (1.6%), peacocks (1.0%), geese (0.5%) and others (2.6%). There were 12 human cases with 8 deaths during HPAI outbreak (H5N1 subtype) in February and March 2004. The official review on the first HPAI outbreak in Thailand is presented in Appendix A.

According to the DLD, it was claimed that none of HPAI cases was found during April-May 2004. After the reoccurrence of HPAI was rumored in late June, the DLD announced on July 3 its finding of a suspicious case in a layer farm in Ayudhaya Province. The DLD reported that, from July 3- 26, 2004, there were 108 suspected findings while only 50 cases were confirmed in 18 Provinces. About 206,000 poultry birds and 35,000 quail eggs were destroyed in this period. The official review on the re-occurrence of HPAI outbreak is presented in Appendix B.

HPAI is forcing the broiler industry and the Thai government to consider using vaccination as a tool to control or eradicate the disease. However, there is no consensus. The use of vaccine can deteriorate the export situation if the buying countries deny Thai poultry meat for entry – both uncooked and cooked products.

Average live broiler production costs in 2005 are forecast to reduce to some extent due mainly to the likelihood of less expensive feed ingredients (especially soybean meal and corn) and anticipated improvements in overall disease control and surveillance.

Production costs of live broiler in 2004 are estimated to soar by 15-20 percent as a result of increased feed costs and a high damage from HPAI. In line with the global market situation, prices for both soybean meal and corn in the first half of 2004 (Jan-Jun) increased equally by 33 percent from the same period in 2003 to 14.39 baht/kg (approx. US\$ 360/ton) and 6.22 baht/kg (US\$ 156/ton), respectively. It is also estimated that costs of day-old chick for integrated operations also increased sharply by 20-30 in the first half of 2004 due to HPAI problems. The disease destroyed 2-3 million birds of the parent broiler stock during the first outbreak in early 2004, and forced all integrated processors to scale down their chick production across the board.

The current cost in July 2004 is about 32-33 baht/kg (about 0.36-0.37 U.S. cents/pound), which is derived from day-old chicks (6 baht), feed (22 baht), vaccination and drugs (0.80 baht), labor (2.50 baht), and other costs (0.70 baht), respectively.

## Consumption

After a sharp drop in domestic consumption in 2004, broiler meat consumption in 2005 is forecast to recover by 4-5 percent from the 2004 level to 670,000 tons. Anticipated high stock levels (especially leg parts) will depress retail prices and stimulate demand. In addition, the implementation of improved disease controls should rebuild consumer confidence in the safety of chicken meat to some extent.

Broiler meat consumption in 2004 is estimated to reduce sharply by 20-30 percent due mainly to the HPAI outbreak and a lack of confidence in the safety of chicken meat and eggs. Many consumers, who believed that the government covered up the disease outbreak, stopped meat and egg consumption in the first few weeks of the initial outbreak, helping to force the government to accept the disease existence. Both the government and the private sector conducted a nation-wide campaign to lure consumers back to chicken meat and egg consumption through give-away campaigns, heavy public relations, and price discounting campaigns. Nevertheless, these campaigns have not normalized consumption. The latest reoccurrence of HPAI in many provinces is disturbing consumption again, but to a lesser extent than the first outbreak.

Domestic prices for live broilers are currently at 25-26 baht/kg (29-30 cents/pound), as opposed to 34-35 baht/kg (39-40 cents/pound) in July 2003. Retail prices for chicken boneless breast meat in Bangkok are 62-63 baht/kg (70-72 cents/pound), as opposed to 69-70 baht/kg (78-80 cents/pound) in July 2003. Trade sources reported that prices for bone-in-leg reduced sharply to 20-25 baht/kg (23-28 cents/pound) reflecting the high stocks of these chicken parts.

## Trade

Thai broiler meat exports should grow by 10-20 percent in 2005 to about 300,000 tons, but this level still falls far short of record exports in 2003 (545,000 tons). A growth in 2005 is likely to occur with increased production of cooked meat. Trade sources foresee that these total exports (300,000 tons) should belong to cooked products only because a likelihood of continued import suspension on uncooked chicken meat by the governments of importing countries.

Broiler meat exports are estimated to drop by 50-55 percent in 2004 from the record 2003 level as exports of uncooked chicken products disappeared after the Thai announcement of the HPAI outbreak on January 23, 2004. All importing countries reacted immediately by imposing import suspensions on chicken meat from Thailand – both uncooked and cooked products. In addition, some importing countries returned about 15,000 tons of pipeline products that were on the water or in ports to Thailand. The Thai government rushed into negotiations with these buying countries, including the EU, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, etc, and was able to get the ban on cooked products lifted.

The trade disruption by importing countries heavily troubled all integrated broiler producers. First, a few large integrated operations have recently completed full plant and farming capacity integration. Second, most small and medium scale operations had not focused on cooked products before the crisis. A ban on uncooked products forced these operations to switch to cooked products, but a lack of capital and product skills limit this effort. Third, all producers are forced to compete fiercely in selling cooked products while overseas demand for cooked products, especially high valued items, grows slowly. As a result of these struggles, frozen chicken meat stocks piled up sharply in the first half of the year.

As Thailand is not exporting uncooked chicken products, there are no export price quotations on basic uncooked items such as boneless leg (BL) and Skinless Boneless Breast (SBB) from Thailand. C&F price quotations for cooked products are in a wide range of US\$ 3,000-4,500/ton.

## Stocks

**Current stocks held by all poultry meat exporters are about 150-160,000 tons. This stock level fall further to about 120,000 tons due to a production scale-down and heavy sales of leg parts into the domestic market.**

## Policy

Thailand does not conduct price support and export subsidy programs. Because of the HPAI outbreak, the Royal Thai Government (RTG) launched several measures in order to cope with the disease and to support the poultry industry, from farmers to integrated poultry processors. These measures include:

1. HPAI Stamping-Out Campaign on poultry farms/areas (described earlier):
2. Compensation Scheme: On January 27, The Thai Cabinet agreed to approve a budget of 2.99 billion baht (approx. US\$ 767 million) to assist the poultry industry, which will be mainly used as compensation for animal depopulation. For example, layer farmers will be compensated at 40 baht/bird (about US\$ 1.00/bird), plus provided a 18-week-old layer, for any layer hen destroyed for disease control. Broiler farmers will be compensated at 20 baht/bird (about US\$ 0.50/bird), plus provided a 22-day-old broiler. The Government will cooperate with banks lending money to poultry farmers by compensating interest (only on loans used for poultry farming) on behalf of borrowing farmers for 6 months and extending the repayment period by 6 months. The Government will arrange low-interest-rate loans for farmers who want to improve their farm facilities from traditional open-aired barns to modern closed evaporative cooling system barns

To July 2004, the government has paid compensation of 2.999 billion baht (approx. US\$ 75 million) to affected farmers regarding the stamping-out policy through supplying poultry or breeding stock, suspending their institutional debt payment, providing soft loan provision, and other types of assistance. The Cabinet recently allocated an additional budget of 2.824 billion baht (US\$ 71 million) to the DLD for further rehabilitation aiming at improving farming bio-security management and administering a new poultry industry zoning system.

3. Fee Exemption: The Cabinet also agreed on January 27 to help chicken slaughterhouses by suspending all relevant factory fees for 5 years; and
4. Help Outreach to Unemployed Workers/Operators: The Labor Ministry is authorized to provide assistance to unemployed workers who are affected by the bird flu crisis through efforts to work with employers in retaining their laborers, and by providing assistance in training and job seeking.

Thailand is a protected poultry market through the government's use of non-transparent controls of the import permit requirement (potential importers are unable to

have them issued), high WTO bound rates of import tariff (currently 30 percent for chilled or frozen uncooked meat and 40 percent for cooked chicken meat), and a discriminatory import permit fee on uncooked products (approx. US\$ 250/ton).

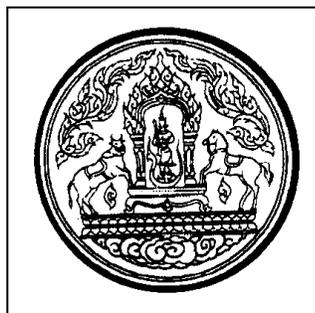
As a result of import control practices, the U.S. can only supply commodities that do not compete with domestic production, such as broiler breeding stocks and turkey meat, to Thailand. However, Thailand has taken other steps that disrupt the trade flow by reacting stringently to the findings of Avian Influenza cases in the United States. The Department of Livestock Development (DLD) imposed on February 12, 2004, import suspension on live poultry and poultry carcasses, cooked or uncooked, from the United States.

FAS/Bangkok, in cooperation with APHIS, has requested the Thai government to lift the ban or accept a regionalization concept to allow U.S. live poultry and poultry products for entry into Thailand. The Thai authorities disagreed with the proposed regionalization idea by claiming that they also receive the same reactions from their buying countries with regard to the emergence of the HPAI outbreak in Thailand. However, the Thai authorities recently agreed to accept U.S. cooked products for entry. FAS/Bangkok is asking them to provide official confirmation in writing.

### **Opportunities for U.S. Exporters**

Thailand is a U.S. potential market for chicken meat, including frozen chicken parts (especially leg quarters), mechanically de-boned meat (MDM), and value-added chicken meat (see details in TH3103). In fact, the current existence of HPAI outbreak in Thailand should increase market opportunities for U.S. poultry meats in Thailand.

## Appendix A



**Avian Influenza Control Operating  
Centre**  
**Department of Livestock Development**  
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**A Brief on  
Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)  
H5N1 Subtype Outbreaks in Thailand (23<sup>rd</sup> January-  
2<sup>nd</sup> July 2004)**

**Initial HPAI Outbreaks and Control Measures**

Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) of H5N1 subtype was firstly diagnosed in Thailand by the laboratory confirmation on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2004. Chronologically owing to the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) reports, the disease might be widely spread among Southeast Asian countries for some time before recognition i.e. in Indonesia, Vietnam, then, Thailand, Cambodia and Lao PDR.

The highly pathogenic avian influenza is one among 33 notifiable diseases in Thailand. The Department of Livestock Development (DLD) has routinely been conducting active and passive surveillance for the disease since 1997 after outbreaks in Hong Kong, SAR, PR China. All results revealed negative until the disease was confirmed in January 2004. Upon recognition, the DLD seriously implemented stringent and drastic measures in order to contain the outbreaks and to eventually eradicate the disease in the shortest period of time. The whole series of processes on disease control measures have been employed in accordance with the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) Terrestrial Animal Health Code. The national contingency plans on avian influenza of other countries having experiences with the disease were also observed. The implemented measures included the followings.

- Stamping-out all susceptible poultry and disposal of carcasses, their products, eggs, feedstuffs, beddings, wastes and manures from the infected farms including those contiguous farms within a radius of 5 km by burning or bury *in situ*. As the tangible results, about 30 million birds were destroyed over the past 5 months that the last case was on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2004.

- Disinfection of poultry houses, all equipment and vehicles of the infected holdings, including of those premises within a radius of 5 kms. In that, the DLD provided effective and suitable disinfectants for the virus to these affected farms through the Provincial Livestock Offices as well as sparing some stock to be available at the Regional Bureaus of Animal Health and Sanitation throughout the country.

- Quarantine the infected farms including those within the areas of 5 kms radius. Other stringent sanitary and biosecurity measures were compulsarily applied at the infected premises and those farms within that 5-km radius too.

- At the preliminary stage, animal movements were managed by the DLD veterinary inspectors in corporation with the local police and/or military task force to control the surrounding areas within a radius of 50 kms from the infected premises. A total of 65 checkpoints were set up for the purpose at the time.

- All poultry productions from such areas were prohibited for exportation during the 90 days after the stamping-out. However, after the 30 days period some of them could be used for local consumption only.

- The DLD promptly conducted an active surveillance nationwide to search for the HPAI cases or those potential in every single village. The activity was conducted in 3 phases during late January to March 2004. The serological samples and cloacal swabs sampling were collected from all epidemiological risk groups at 10 % prevalence and to provide 95 % confidence interval according to the OIE Guidelines. The standard tests in accordance with the OIE Manual were performed by the DLD veterinary laboratories (i.e. National Institute of Animal Health in Bangkok and the 7 Regional Veterinary Research and Development Centres throughout Thailand). A total of about 100,000 samples were collected and tested over the periods. Additionally, some virus isolates were submitted to a Reference Laboratory in Hong Kong for further genome sequencing as well as to the EU Reference laboratory in the United Kingdom and to the National Institute of Animal Health in Japan also. These have been the commitments of the DLD to Thailand poultry trading partners.

- The HPAI "case definition" was established at the very beginning stage for early detection of any HPAI potential cases during the initial outbreaks. The "case definition" criterion has further been revised for improving its sensitivity for better clinical observation and more effectively detection later in the post-active outbreak phase.

- The public awareness campaign has been continuously launched to the public for general disease knowledge, in particular to the consumers for their confidence in poultry and the products safety.

- The DLD has expanded and strengthened its coordination networking to all parties concerned in the country, not only to the public sectors such as the Ministry of Public Health, Universities and Veterinary Faculties or Provincial Governors etc. but also to the private sectors and Associations involving poultry raising, farming and food industries for achieving their active participation with regular and immediate cooperation on the disease matters.

- The DLD has participated in coordination and cooperation with international organizations i.e. OIE, FAO, JICA, WHO and other National Veterinary Authorities regarding the regional HPAI outbreaks through exchanges of information, consultations, meetings, conferences, training courses including visits by several experts which were overwhelmingly and harmonisely conducted over the period of time.

- Other accessory measures like the "Big Cleaning-up week" was launched in order to encourage relevant parties to be aware of the disease as well as to cleanse their premises such as in poultry houses, farm equipment and vehicles or poultry slaughterhouses and all facilities. There were also "Prohibitions" of poultry exhibition or any contests and cock fighting during the first quarter of 2004.

- Biosecurity measures that necessary for poultry raising and farming are being enhanced and induced to farmers, smallholders and villagers through trainings and distribution of pamphlets or leaflets or suitable media at all time. The purpost is to educate them for prevention of any disease occurrences.

- There was also an improvement of the traditional table egg collecting system that has continuously been attempted and encouraged to the layer farmers, egg collectors, middlemen or dealers to market retailers by all means.

- Poultry restocking could be resumed at least 21 days plus (another 39 or 69 days extra to ensure the infective agent free status and as a precautionary measure) after the stamping-out of that infected or suspicious poultry holdings, provided that the farms have meet the DLD currently revised sanitary standard requirements.

- To present, the Thai government is still having a very strong policy that none of any avian influenza vaccines shall be allowed for use in poultry for any purpose of disease prevention or eradication in the country. However, the issue is rather controversial among parties concerned though the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives in corporation with the Ministry of Public Health have had definite standing point in this matter.

## Conclusion

In the first HPAI case in January to the beginning of July 2004, the outbreaks were in peak within only a week at the end of January that 161 cases were diagnosed by laboratory findings in the initial surveillance. The cases were discovered in 71 Districts of 40 Provinces. Later in the second intensive surveillance in February, other 18 positive cases were sporadically disclosed in the previously affected areas with one new province i.e. Roi-et. During the third surveillance by clinical observation in March, there were 11 cases suspected and confirmed by laboratory diagnosis with one new infected province i.e. Ayudthaya.

The accumulative figures of the first HPAI outbreaks in Thailand in January to 2 July 2004 were 190 cases in 89 Districts of 42 Provinces. The affected population included native chickens (58.5%), layers (12.4%), broilers (11.9%), ducks (6.7%), quails (4.7%), turkeys (1.6%), peacocks (1.0%), geese (0.5%) and others including not reported species (2.6%, those were ostriches and felidae i.e. domestic cats, a white tiger and a clouded leopard in captivity due to feeding with non-suitable cooked meal or fresh infected poultry carcasses by epidemiological investigation on the most probable sources of infection.

There were 12 human cases with 8 deaths during HPAI outbreaks of H5N1 subtype in February and March 2004.

To present, the government has been paying compensation about Baht 2,999.2 million to affected farmers regarding the stamping-out policy. These farmers are to be supported by all means in order to resume their career e.g supply of poultry or breeding stock, suspending their institutional debt payment, soft loan provision etc. The DLD has recently been allocated an additional budget of Baht 2,824 million from the government for further rehabilitation aiming at improving farming biosecurity management and administration of poultry industry zoning system.

The DLD submitted the first Thailand Emergency and 17 Follow-up Reports to the OIE from the index case in late January up to midst May 2004 for 190 positive cases. Nonetheless on 24<sup>th</sup> May, the DLD submitted the second Emergency and another 5 Follow-up Reports for the single HPAI or 190<sup>th</sup> case in Chiangmai Province (i.e. Training Station of the Faculty of Agriculture, Chiangmai University, where there were a variety of 2048 poultry affected that 1575 in-contacts were destroyed) to the OIE and even more numbers of the reports to our poultry trading partners as committed.

## Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (H5N1) Affected Provinces and Districts in Thailand (Initial outbreaks during 23<sup>rd</sup> January – 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2004)

- Suphanburi -2
- Kanchanaburi -3
- Kampangetch -4
- Chainat -2
- Nakornpathom -1
- Pichit -2
- Pitsanuloke -5
- Ratchaburi -2
- Singburi -4
- Sukhothai -2
- Angthong -1
- Uttaradit -4
- Uthaitani -3

- Bangkok -2
- Kalasin -1
- Konkean -1
- Lampang -1
- Lamphoon -1
- Sakonnakorn -1
- Nongkhai -4
- Chaiyabhum -3
- Nakhonnayok -1
- Petchaboon -2
- Samutprakarn -2
- Samutsakorn -1
- Prachinburi -1
- Surin -1
- Chiangrai -1
- Chiangmai -6
- Nan -5
- Sisaket -1
- Nakhonpanom -1
- Pang nga -3
- Maehongsorn -1
- Tak -1
- Mahasarakham -1
- Udonthani -1
- Nakhonratchasima -1
- Petchaburi -3
- Chonburi -5
- Lopburi -1
- Roi-et -1
- Ayudthaya – 1

Total (last single case in Chiangmai on 24 May 2004) = 190 Cases in 89 Districts of 42 Provinces

*Source: Bureau of Disease Control and Veterinary Services, Department of Livestock Development*

## Appendix B

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Avian Influenza Control Operating Centre Department of Livestock Development</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">69/1 Phaya Thai Road, Ratchadheewe, Bangkok 10400, Thailand Phone : 662-653 4444 <a href="http://www.dld.go.th">http://www.dld.go.th</a></p>
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### Summary on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) H5N1 Subtype Re-occurrence in Thailand (3rd January- 26th July 2004)

The HPAI of H5 subtype was suspected on 3 July 2004 in a layer farm in Ayudthaya Province and later the virus was confirmed to be the H5N1, another case in a layer farm in Patumthani was on 7 July, and as the followings.

**9 July 2004** : 3 cases in 2 Districts of Sukhothai and one in Uttaradit Province.

**12 July 2004** : Total 6 cases, 3 cases in 2 Districts of Pathumthani, 1 case in each Province of Nakornsawan, Angthong and Supanburi

**13 July 2004** : Total 5 cases, 2 cases in 1 previous Districts of Sukhothai, 1 case in each Province of Angthong, Chiangrai and Kamphangphet.

**14 July 2004** : Total 4 confirmed cases, 2 cases in 2 Districts of Saraburi, 1 case in Lopburi and another 1 case in a new District in Pathumthani.

**15 July 2004** : There was 1 confirmed case in Uthaitani and 4 pending results in Bangkok (3) and Chiangrai.

**16 July 2004** : Total 2 confirmed cases in previously infected District of Pathumthani, new District of Supanburi and 1 case in new Province of Cholburi.

**17 July 2004** : There was 1 confirmed case in a layer farm in a new District of Ayudthaya Province.

**21 July 2004** : There was 1 confirmed case in the previous infected area of Nakornsawan.

**22 July 2004** : There was 1 suspicious case in bantams & destroyed in Patumthani

**23 July 2004** : There were 4 suspicions & destroyed in 4 Provinces

**24 July 2004** : There were other 4 suspicions & destroyed in 4 Provinces

**26 July 2004** : To date, there were 108 suspected findings while only 50 cases were confirmed in 18 Provinces. However, more than 206,026 poultry and 35,000 quail eggs were destroyed. It was based on a criterion that a discovering of 10% dead poultry in any premises, all birds, their products and potentially contaminated materials in such premises shall be get rid of due to the stamping-out policy.

There has been molecular biology evidence that re-occurrence of the disease caused by the HPAI virus of H5N1 subtype genetically similar to the first index case found in January 2004. Further epidemiological investigation is needed in depth, apart from a preliminary assumption of the current outbreaks caused by the virus that eluded from eradication measures conducted and still circulated in some poultry population. The DLD is being on a preparation to conduct an active surveillance in poultry nationwide. The programme is expected to commence at the beginning of August 2004 in order to evaluate the actual HPAI status in Thailand.

The Thai government is maintaining a strong policy on no avian influenza vaccines shall be allowed for use in poultry. The issue is rather strong controversial among parties concerned. The Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives and the Ministry of Public Health have had clear and consensus standing point in this regard. In conclusion, the re-occurrence of the HPAI, where the index case was in Ayudthaya and discovered on 3 July 2004, the third Emergency and Weekly Follow-up reports were submitted to the OIE and again more numbers to Thailand poultry trading partners, there were 50 cases which made up to the total of 240 cases from the definitely first case in

### **Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (H5N1) Affected Provinces and Districts in Thailand (Re-occurring outbreaks from 3rd – 26th July 2004)**

January 2004 to 26th July 2004.

- Ayudthaya -2
- Patumthani -4
- Sukhothai -2
- Uttaradit -1
- Nakornsawan-2
- Angthong -2
- Supanburi-2
- Kamphangphet -1
- Chiangrai-1
- Lopburi-1
- Saraburi-2
- Uthaitani -1
- Cholburi-1
- Bangkok-3
- Nonthaburi-2

- NongKhai-2
- Konkean-1
- Pitsanuloke-1

Total (First index case in Ayudhaya on 3 July 2004) = 50 Cases in 31 Districts of 18 Provinces (15.00 hr)

*Source: Bureau of Disease Control and Veterinary Services, Department of Livestock Development*

End of Report