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Germany

Post: Berlin

Avian Influenza Outbreak in Northern Germany

Report Categories:

Pest/Disease Occurrences

Livestock and Products

Agriculture in the News

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Report Highlights:

Germany confirmed the outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) of the subtype H5N6 in a poultry holding in Northern Germany on Mar, 21 2018. The veterinary authorities placed restrictions on poultry establishments in the affected areas immediately.

General Information:

Germany confirmed the outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) of the subtype H5N6 in a small poultry holding with 35 chickens, 7 geese, 13 ducks and 2 turkeys on the island of Süderoog in the North Sea on Mar 21, 2018. The responsible authority has taken the measures provided for in directive 2005/94/EC. A protection zone with a radius of three kilometers and a surveillance zone with a radius of ten kilometers were established. The findings have been confirmed by the Friedrich Löffler Institute (FLI), the national reference laboratory.

Since the outbreak farm is a holding with rare and endangered breeds, the restriction areas mentioned would not have had to be established. However, the competent authority wants to prevent any secondary outbreaks and therefore decided to take this measure.

This is the first time that the subtype H5N6 was detected on a poultry farm in Germany. Since the beginning of the year, there have been a number of HPAI H5N6 detections in wild birds and poultry holdings, especially in northern Europe. Cases were reported in England, the Netherlands, Sweden, Bulgaria, Denmark, and Ireland.