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HPAI Outbreak Update- Jalisco and Guanajuato Vaccinating and Culling

Report Categories:

Agricultural Situation

Agriculture in the Economy

Agriculture in the News

Pest/Disease Occurrences

Poultry and Products

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

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Report Highlights:

Mexico continues struggling with its latest bout of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) as the disease has been found at 46 commercial facilities and in 2 backyard operations. The Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fishery and Food (SAGARPA) indicates that things are getting under control as vaccination programs ramp up and culling continues. The Secretariat of Economy (SE) is looking to manage prices and sanction violators found to be gouging consumers.

General Information:

Press reports from March 14, 2013, are quoting Mexican Secretary of Agriculture Martinez y Martinez as indicating that the HPAI outbreak currently gripping the nation's poultry sector is controlled. Reportedly, as of March 12, 2013, the industry and government had culled around 3.9 million birds; including almost 2.2 million broilers, almost 1 million layers, and almost 800,000 breeders. The article quotes the Secretary as indicating this should not have a significant impact on Mexican supply or egg prices (Mexico holds the greatest per capita egg consumption in the world as eggs are considered a low-cost protein source) as there are reportedly 140 million layers in the nation and only 1 million had been culled.

Previously, on March 8, 2013, the National Service of Health, Food Safety, and Food Quality (SENASICA), under the Animal Health Emergency National Campaign (DINESA [1]), had reported that the HPAI outbreak in the States of Jalisco and Guanajuato, had been controlled inside the quarantined area and that there was no possibility of the disease spreading to neighboring states. Also, at that time, SENASICA had inspected 93 farms and 78 backyard locations in the State of Guanajuato and had detected the HPAI virus presence on 25 farms and two backyard facilities. In the State of Jalisco, 523 farms and 131 backyard locations had been inspected and SENASICA detected the virus on 21 farms. Unofficial figures from the National Poultry Association (UNA) estimate that the 2013 HPAI outbreak has cost the sector approximately U.S. \$32.1 million.

As part of the effort to prevent the HPAI virus from spreading, SENASICA and the Mexican industry are undertaking a massive vaccination program with the goal of administering around 210 million doses per month. SENASICA reported that 4 million vaccine doses have been administered in Guanajuato; 661,000 in Aguascalientes; and, 39 million doses had been applied in Jalisco since January 2013. In addition, SENASICA has authorized the application of 57 million vaccine doses for long-life birds in 9 other states. This is to prevent the contamination of flocks that are the mainstay of domestic poultry production. As a priority, progenitor birds (producing breeder hens), breeders (producing broiler chicks and layer chicks for table eggs), and layers will be administered the vaccine. In the States of San Luis Potosi, Mexico, Hidalgo, Tlaxcala, Michoacán and Morelos the vaccination will cover breeder hens, in Coahuila progenitors and breeders will receive vaccine doses. SENASICA reports the entire breeder and layer inventory in Puebla and Queretaro will be vaccinated.

Previously, on February 25, 2013, SAGARPA published in Mexico's Diario Oficial (Federal Register) the enforcement of the DINESA emergency campaign which grants SENASICA the authority to coordinate, with other government institutions, the appropriate measures to efficiently address the HPAI outbreak. These measures comprise the diagnosis, prevention, control and eradication of the HPAI H7N3 virus in the States of Jalisco and Aguascalientes and enlarge the campaign scope to the entire Mexican territory (i.e., 8 regions as defined in Article 134 of the [Regulations of the Federal Animal Health Law](#)).

Price Increases Remain a Concern

On February 25, SE reported that as an effort to prevent domestic market price distortions, the compensatory duties on imported U.S. chicken leg quarters (CLQ) would remain in abeyance. As previously reported, Mexico decided not to impose compensatory duties issued in its final determination

of August 6, 2012, as June 2012 outbreak in the state of Jalisco had destabilized the market. Other measures SE has undertaken to control Mexican price increases was to halt the export of poultry meat. In addition, SE is surveying the market and threatening to prosecute price speculators with fines. Press reports from March 14, 2013, indicate that 13 retail establishments and 29 other businesses have been fined by the Mexican Consumer Protection Agency (PROFECO) under SE with amounts ranging from 600 pesos to 3.45 million pesos for allegedly unjustified price increases on eggs. Further, these establishments cannot further sell eggs until the fines are paid and, as such, cannot move their inventory.

^[1] SAGARPA published the DINESA provisions in the Mexican Federal Register ([DOF](#)) on Monday February 25, 2013.

Author Defined:

Additional Information

FAS/Mexico Web Site: We are available at www.mexico-usda.com or visit the FAS headquarters' home page at www.fas.usda.gov for a complete selection of FAS worldwide agricultural reporting.

Other Relevant Reports Submitted by FAS/Mexico:

Report Number	Subject	Date Submitted
MX3013	HPAI H7N3 Outbreak in Guanajuato	2/20/2013
MX3011	Poultry and Products Semi-Annual	2/13/2013
MX3003	HPAI H7N3 Outbreak Erupts Again in Jalisco	1/18/2013
MX3002	High Path Avian Influenza Outbreak in Aguascalientes	1/10/2013
MX2087	Poultry and Egg Prices and Trade Snapshot	11/29/2012
MX2069	Eggcellent Industry and Government Cooperation Facilitates Trade	10/19/2012
MX2067	Egg Import Tariffs Eliminated	9/14/2012
MX2059	Mexico Announces Import Quotas for U.S. Eggs	8/17/2012
MX2058	Chicken AD Final Resolution	8/6/2012
MX2053	SENASICA Delivers Vaccines to Control AI Outbreak	8/2/2012
MX2049	Poultry, Meat and Broiler Annual	7/18/2012
MX2046	Economia Opens 221K Metric Ton Egg Quota Due to Market Speculation	7/11/2012
MX2044	Avian Influenza Outbreak Hits More Farms in Jalisco	7/6/2012
MX2043	Emergency Management System Activated to Combat Avian Influenza	7/6/2012
MX2040	High Pathogenic Avian Influenza Outbreak in Jalisco	6/29/2012

Useful Mexican Web Sites: Mexico's equivalent to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (SAGARPA) can be found at www.sagarpa.gob.mx, equivalent to the U.S. Department of Commerce (SE) can be found at www.economia.gob.mx and equivalent to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (SALUD) can be found at www.salud.gob.mx. These web sites are mentioned for the readers' convenience but USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with, the information contained on the mentioned sites.

