

### **New Infected Premises**

There have been new detections of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in British Columbia since our last industry update on November 20, 2023. The new detections are BC-IP-144 (ducks, Abbotsford), BC-IP-145 (ducks, Chilliwack), BC-IP-146 (broilers, Chilliwack), BC-IP-147 (layers, Abbotsford), and BC-IP-148 (breeders, Abbotsford). In addition, there is one turkey farm in Aldergrove pending confirmation this morning.

The EOC continues to communicate IP information to the allied trades as it is provided to ensure they have current information to plan their movements and activities to prevent spread of disease and manage risk in their activities. Allied trades that require this information can reach out to the EOC, if they are not already on this list.

**Please continue to report any unusual or unexpected mortality to the CFIA's sick bird line. The phone number is 403.338.5225.**

### **Changes to Dead Bird Surveillance**

CFIA has prioritized farms in the 0-3 km zone for dead bird surveillance (DBS). If you are in a 0-3 km zone, you must participate in DBS using your blue bins.

Farms in the 3-10 km zone ONLY need to provide DBS samples prior to any movements. These samples are required 24 hours before a movement is scheduled to take place. DBS bins will NOT be provided for this type of sampling. CFIA has requested that all mortality be placed in garbage bags and then put the bags in a 5-gallon bucket or other lidded container. CFIA staff know to look for these containers when conducting pre-movement sampling.

### **How to Speed Up Your Compensation Claim**

The CFIA Compensation Unit recently provided the Poultry Association with some advice for producers/growers to speed up their compensation claim. We are all aware of the compensation backlog so we are sharing these tips to in an effort to help you get your compensation as quickly as possible. If CFIA has a complete, error-free package, they will be able to process it much faster.

Compensation is calculated per flock, which for BC poultry farms is based on sub-premise locations. Basing compensation on each flock has significant implications for calculations, but is also sensible based on differing ages and the variety of farms in the province, especially with multiple commodities on a single site.

If you are an IP, especially early in the process of detection and depopulation, remember the following:

- You will be provided a questionnaire shortly after detection. Be careful filling in this questionnaire because returning it incomplete or lacking supporting documentation will create significant lags in processing.
- Split your receipts by sub-premise or allocate by proportion. This includes staff salaries, phone costs, energy, and input costs.

- Submitted, verifiable costs MUST NOT include any tax. Tax is not eligible for cost recovery in compensation. If CFIA is required to remove tax from claims, it adds substantial time to processing as it must be done for every single receipt.
- Submit ONLY the previous 12 months of receipts as supporting documentation. Some producers have submitted 16 to 18 months of documentation, which then must be removed and filtered down to the most recent 12 months. Again, this documentation must be split out per sub-premise.
- Feed contracts and/or feed slips must be provided. Lack of contracts or reports of feed use by sub-premise creates significant delays.
- When providing your General Ledger (GL) to support cost claims, ensure that the amounts align with the amounts provided in the receipts and invoices. This has been an ongoing issue with cost verification. Remember, tax must be removed.
- If you are an egg or hatching egg producer, your egg production data must also be provided and split per flock for the prior 12-month period.

In summary, consider your compensation submissions based on each flock on your farm at the time of detection. If you can allocate those costs and production data and provide them in a complete package for each flock, you will be far ahead of a 200-page scan with unallocated receipts that don't align with the GL. Remember, the more prepared you can be ahead of time, the faster the process can proceed and the faster you receive your payment.

## **Resources & Reference Materials**

### **Take Care of Yourself**

All producers/growers are under a tremendous amount of stress right now. If you, or one of your colleagues, friends, or family members are feeling anxious or stressed, don't hesitate to visit the [AgSafe](#) mental health website. They have valuable resources that you may find helpful.

### **Movement Permits**

Have a question about what permit you need? Visit the [permit page](#) on the CFIA website or call your commodity board.

### **Primary Control Zones (PCZs)**

Do you want to know how close you are to a Primary Control Zone? Use the CFIA's [PCZ page](#). Remember, if your farm is touched by a control zone, your premise would normally be considered to be included. Control zones are established around infected farms to ensure that the poultry within the zone remain healthy and free of HPAI and to control the spread of the disease.

### **Red Biosecurity Resources**

All poultry farms across British Columbia are extremely vulnerable to HPAI at this time. The best way to mitigate your risk is to ensure you're implementing all of the red biosecurity protocols at all times. Please refer to the [BC Poultry Biosecurity Program Reference Guide](#).

