EUROPEAN HEALTH AND DIGITAL EXECUTIVE AGENCY (HaDEA)

Department A Health and Food
Unit A2 EU4Health/SMP

Food Programmes for eradication, control and surveillance of animal diseases and zoonoses

submitted for obtaining EU financial contribution

Annex IV: Programme for the surveillance of Avian Influenza in poultry and wild birds

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Document version number: 2022 1.0

Member state : LATVIJA

Disease Avian Influenza

This program is multi annual : no

Request of Union co-financing from beginning : 2023 To end of 2023

Request year for multiannual programme : *2023*

1. Contact data

Name Phone

Email Your job type within the CA :

Submission Date

30/11/2022 23:08:55

Submission Number

1669842534036-18947

2. Description and implementation of the surveillance programme in poultry

2.1.1 Designation of the authorities in charge of supervising coordinating and implementing the programme. Please describe in details who designs, who implements, and who monitors the programme in poultry. (Roles of central authority, local authorities, vets, farmers, labs, hunting associations, etc.)

(max. 32000 chars) :

The Food and Veterinary Service (FVS) of the Republic of Latvia is a state administrative institution headed by the Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO) and supervised by the Ministry of Agriculture.
The FVS consists of the central body placed in Riga and territorial structural units (TSU - the local level) - totally 11 TSUs.
FVS is responsible for implementation of avian influenza (AI) surveillance programme.
The central body coordinates activities of the local level and ensure a unified implementation of legislation.
The local level caries out the official surveillance in accordance with the state surveillance programmes and reports to the central body.
The state authorized veterinarians report to the respective local veterinary office.
Sampling of all target poultry categories will be carried out by official veterinarians and/ or state authorized veterinarians.
All official samples – taken by the official veterinarians and/ or state authorized veterinarians on the purpose of active or passive surveillance will be tested in the Latvian National Reference Laboratory for Avian influenza - "Institute for Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment" (BIOR).

2.1.2 Description of System in place for the registration of holdings

(max. 32000 chars) :

Operators shall register all establishments were poultry are kept. Registration process is carried out by Agricultural Data Centre (ADC). In order to register an establishment the operator shall provide the ADC with the following information: the location of the establishment and geographical coordinates; the name, identification, address and contact details of the owner and the person responsible for the animals. The ADC allocates a unique identification number to each establishment. Data on establishments and poultry are recorded in a computer database maintained by the ADC.
Operators shall report to the ADC the number of poultry kept in the establishment twice a year.

Agricultural Data Centre registers all establishments regardless of the number of poultry as provided for in Article 18 of Regulation (EU) 2019/2035. The register of establishments/data base includes the species and numbers of poultry which are kept on the establishment. National legislation does not provide for specific registration criteria other than those referred to in Article 18 of Regulation (EU) 2019/2035.
In addition, Food and Veterinary Service registers food producing establishments keeping laying hens (Directive 1999/74) and other establishments producing poultry meat and eggs placed on the market for

human consumption.

National legislation on registration of establishments and kept animals: Regulation No 134 the of Cabinet of Ministers of 26 March 2019 on the registration of farmed animals and aquacultures, herds and holdings, and identification of farmed animals.

2.1.3 Design (risk based surveillance, or surveillance based on representative sampling taking into account criteria in Annex II of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689.

Provide justification for the choice of the design. Please refere also explicitly to the objectives of the surveillance programme as mentioned in section 2 of Annex II Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689.

(max. 32000 chars) :

The main objectives of Avian influenza (AI) surveillance program are:
- prevention of AI outbreaks in poultry establishments;
- early detection of AI viruses (HPAI and LPAI) in both wild birds and poultry;

To implement appropriate measures to prevent incursions of AI and control the spread of the disease when incursions may occur, Latvia implements surveillance programmes in poultry (both active & passive) and wild birds (passive), including serological and virological surveillance. These activities include sampling of birds to detect of Avian Influenza A viruses by various laboratory methods and typing of different antigenic subtypes based on their surface glycoproteins: haemagglutinin and neuraminidase.
The development and implementation of these surveillance programmes are supported by a legislative frame - new Animal Health Law, particularly Annex II of EC Delegated regulation 2020/689/EU, in force in Latvia since 21st April 2021.
Considering the criteria of the risk-based sampling method – poultry surveillance will be covered areas, regions, administrative territories of the country, where:
a) It is noticed the proximity of poultry establishments to water bodies (ponds, lakes, rivers) and other places where migratory birds, in particular water birds, may gather;
b) Within the period of increased movements of migratory wild birds – usually during the March-May in spring and September-October in fall;
c) poultry farming structure, where program will cover the poultry sector with different production systems, and establishments (poultry establishment , flocks) where different poultry species are present;
d) Representative number of backyard flocks will be sampled and tested to AI, and as much as possible of all commercial poultry establishments located in Latvia with different poultry species and production categories.
Annually, the CVO order is prepared by the Central Authority of the FVS, according to which certain number of poultry establishments will be included in the AI program and a certain number of samples will be taken under active surveillance, depending on the size of the establishment, housing type (number of sheds within the establishment).

2.1.3.1 Short description of predominant poultry population and types of poultry production.

Please provide also a table with the number of poultry holdings and birds existing for each poultry type, and map with the geographic distribution and density of poultry holdings.(If not available, please explain)

(max. 32000 chars) :

Predominant poultry population in the territory of Latvia is laying hens. There are two poultry production types - broilers (for meat) and laying hens for egg production. Commercial poultry farms of Latvia selling live poultry or their products. Total number of laying hens is slightly above two million birds.
*Please find attached pdf document with distribution of poultry holdings in Latvia.

2.1.3.2 Criteria and risk factors for risk based surveillance (1) Please describe the risk factors as regard the criteria set in Annex II of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689.

(max. 32000 chars) :

Risk-based surveillance for infection with HPAI in poultry establishments keeping ducks and geese, in Latvia - are based on the following risk factors:
a) epidemiological situation of the disease;
b) proximity of establishments to water bodies and other places where migratory birds may gather;
c) period when an increased movements of migratory wild birds is observed;
d) structure of poultry farming (different production systems, species, categories);
f) biosecurity practices at poultry establishments;

(1) Including maps showing target sampling sites identified as being particularly at risk for the introduction of avian influenza virus, taking into account criteria set out in Annex II of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689.

2.2 Target populations

Please explain:

1) The strategy of selection of the holdings to be sampled. (Random, risk based, geographic distribution)

2) The number of holdings sampled, with regard to the minimum requirements set in Annex II section 9 to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689.

3) The number of samples taken in each holding with regard to the minimum requirements set in Annex II section 9 to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689.

(max. 32000 chars) :

1. Laying hens: There are over twenty commercial laying hen establishments in Latvia, so we consider that all of them shall be subjected to the program. Five (5) samples per establishment will be taken, but

in case if several sheds presenting at the establishment, samples will be taken from five (5) birds/ samples per shed.
2. Fattening ducks, geese, and turkeys. As there are just a few small establishments in Latvia - we consider sampling each commercial duck, geese, and turkey farm; where 20 samples per duck& geese establishment will be taken, and 5 samples/ per each turkey establishment will be taken.
3. Chicken breeders: there are just two such kind of establishments in Latvia. Both will be sampled. One of the chicken breeder farms has a multi age breeder flock.
4. Backyards. Traditionally, few laying hens are kept in almost every backyard in Latvia, so, we consider that representative number of these establishments have to be included in a program. Considering the geographic distribution - to ensure that whole territory of Latvia is covered, totally 60 establishments will be randomly sampled. There will be 5 birds sampled in each backyard flock.

The samples will be taken from the number of animals that will ensure detection of AI with the 95% confidence and targeted prevalence 5%.

ANNEX 4 : Standard requirements for the submission of surveillance programmes for avian influenza in poultry and wild birds

2.2.1 POULTRY HOLDINGS [(a)] (except ducks, geese and farmed game birds (waterfowl e.g. mallards) to be sampled

Serological investigation according to Annex I to Commission Decision 2010/367/EU

Targets for year **2023**

Category : backyard flocks

delete this category

In the column "Total number of samples", please put 0 if the same samples have already been counted for another laboratory analysis (example : for HI-H5 and HI –H7 test, only 1 sample should be counted)

NUTS (2) (b)	Total number of holdings(c)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of samples	Total number of tests	Method of laboratory analysis	
Whole territory of Latvia	4 460	60	5	300	300	ELISA test	X
Whole territory of Latvia	0	0	0	0	15	HI-test (H5)	X
Whole territory of Latvia	0	0	0	0	15	HI-test (H7)	X
Whole territory of Latvia	0	0	0	10	10	PCR test	X
Total					340		

Add a new row

(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.
(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) can not be used, region as defined in the programme by the Member States is requested
(c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.

ANNEX 4 : Standard requirements for the submission of surveillance programmes for avian influenza in poultry and wild birds

Category : chicken breeders

delete this category

In the column "Total number of samples", please put 0 if the same samples have already been counted for another laboratory analysis (example : for HI-H5 and HI –H7 test, only 1 sample should be counted)

NUTS (2) (b)	Total number of holdings(c)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of samples	Total number of tests	Method of laboratory analysis	
LV007	2	2	10	160	160	ELISA test	X
LV007	0	0	0	10	10	PCR test	X
Total					170		

Add a new row

(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.
(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) can not be used, region as defined in the programme by the Member States is requested
(c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.

Category : fattening turkeys

delete this category

In the column "Total number of samples", please put 0 if the same samples have already been counted for another laboratory analysis (example : for HI-H5 and HI –H7 test, only 1 sample should be counted)

NUTS (2) (b)	Total number of holdings(c)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of samples	Total number of tests	Method of laboratory analysis	
LV007	1	1	5	5	5	ELISA test	X
LV008	1	1	5	5	5	ELISA test	X
Total					10		

ANNEX 4 : Standard requirements for the submission of surveillance programmes for avian influenza in poultry and wild birds

Add a new row

(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.
(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) can not be used, region as defined in the programme by the Member States is requested
(c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.

Category : laying hens

delete this category

In the column "Total number of samples", please put 0 if the same samples have already been counted for another laboratory analysis (example : for HI-H5 and HI –H7 test, only 1 sample should be counted)

NUTS (2) (b)	Total number of holdings(c)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of samples	Total number of tests	Method of laboratory analysis	
LV003	5	5	5	25	25	ELISA test	X
LV003	0	0	0	0	3	HI-test (H5)	X
LV003	0	0	0	0	3	HI-test (H7)	X
LV003	0	0	0	3	3	PCR test	X
LV005	1	1	5	15	15	ELISA test	X
LV007	10	9	5	45	45	ELISA test	X
LV007	0	0	0	0	3	HI-test (H5)	X
LV007	0	0	0	0	3	HI-test (H7)	X
LV007	0	0	0	3	3	PCR test	X
LV008	11	9	5	45	45	ELISA test	X
LV008	0	0	0	0	3	HI-test (H5)	X
LV008	0	0	0	0	3	HI-test (H7)	X

LV009	7	5	5	60	60	ELISA test	X
LV009	0	0	0	0	3	HI-test (H5)	X
LV009	0	0	0	0	3	HI-test (H7)	X
LV009	0	0	0	3	3	PCR test	X
Total					223		

Add a new row

(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.
(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) can not be used, region as defined in the programme by the Member States is requested
(c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.

Add a category

Totals	Total number of tests	Total number of samples
Total poultry 2023	743	689

2.2.2 DUCKS ,GEESE AND FARMED GAME BIRDS (WATERFOWL e.g. MALLARD) HOLDINGS (a) to be sampled.

Serological investigation according to Annex I to Commission Decision 2010/367/EU

ANNEX 4 : Standard requirements for the submission of surveillance programmes for avian influenza in poultry and wild birds

Targets for year **2023**

Category : fattening ducks

delete this category

In the column "Total number of samples", please put 0 if the same samples have already been counted for another laboratory analysis (example : for HI-H5 and HI –H7 test, only 1 sample should be counted)

NUTS (2) (b)	Total number of duck and geese holdings	Total number of duck and geese holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of samples	Total number of tests	Method of laboratory analysis	
LV009	1	1	20	20	20	ELISA test	X
LV009	0	0	20	20	20	PCR test	X
Total					40		

Add a new row

(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.
(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (2) code can not be used, region as defined in the programme by the Member State is requested

Category : fattening geese

delete this category

In the column "Total number of samples", please put 0 if the same samples have already been counted for another laboratory analysis (example : for HI-H5 and HI –H7 test, only 1 sample should be counted)

NUTS (2) (b)	Total number of duck and geese holdings	Total number of duck and geese holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of samples	Total number of tests	Method of laboratory analysis	
LV009	1	1	20	20	20	ELISA test	X
LV009	1	0	20	20	20	PCR test	X
Total					40		

Add a new row

ANNEX 4 : Standard requirements for the submission of surveillance programmes for avian influenza in poultry and wild birds

(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.
(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (2) code can not be used, region as defined in the programme by the Member State is requested

Add a category

Totals	Total number of tests	Total number of samples
Total ducks and geese and farmed game birds 2023	80	80

TOTALS for Poultry (2.2.1) + Ducks and Geese (2.2.2) and farmed game birds for year : 2023

Poultry + Ducks/Geese /farmed game birds	Total number of tests
Grand Total	823
Grand Total ELISA	700
Grand Total agar	0
Grand Total HI tests (H5)	27
Grand Total HI tests (H7)	27
Grand Total Virus Isolation test	0
Grand Total PCR test	69
Grand Total Samplings	769

2.3 Sampling procedures, sampling periods and frequency of testing taking into account criteria set out in Annex II of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689.

For each poultry category please detail the place of sampling (holding or slaughterhouse), the period and frequency of the testing, and who is in charge of the sampling.

(max. 32000 chars) :

Samples from the poultry in backyards will be taken in spring and autumn - during the farm inspections where also the biosecurity requirements of the establishment will be checked.
Sampling in the commercial poultry establishments will be carried out in autumn.
The passive surveillance both in kept and wild birds will be carried out continuously in whole territory of Latvia.
Sampling for all target populations will be provided within the establishment during the visits of the official veterinarian. Sampling in the commercial poultry farms (laying hens, chicken breeders, fattening turkeys, ducks, and geese) will be carried out in autumn, but backyard establishments – twice per year – in spring & autumn.
Sampling of all target poultry categories will be carried out by the official veterinarians and/ or state authorized veterinarians.

2.4. Laboratory testing: description of the laboratory tests used.

Please describe the tests to be used and their purpose (screening test or confirmatory test or follow-up investigations) for each category of poultry.

Please explain the number of tests calculation for each poultry category, and if it is in line with Annex II to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689.

Description of the used serological tests : (max 32000 chars)

All official samples – taken by the official veterinarians and/ or state authorized veterinarians on the purpose of active or passive surveillance will be tested in the Latvian National Reference Laboratory for AI - "Institute for Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment" (BIOR).

ANNEX 4 : Standard requirements for the submission of surveillance programmes for avian influenza in poultry and wild birds

In frame of active surveillance, the samples for serological investigation:
a) first by ELISA method (screening) for detection of antibodies against Avian Influenza (AI);
b) the samples with positive or suspicious result by ELISA (estimated - 5%) are further tested by hemagglutination - inhibition test (HI test) on presence of antibodies against AI H5 and H7 subtypes. This diagnostic flow chart for the AI serological surveillance is accepted by AI European Union Reference Laboratory.
c) The virological testing shall be performed on the establishment of poultry with the positive serological results and/ or on establishment with poultry or birds caused by disease or found dead (sudden deaths, increased mortality or dead birds which could have contacts with free-living birds).
Cloacal and oropharyngeal swabs and/ or organs shall be taken, and samples shall be tested virologicaly. The same sort of samples from an establishment shall be pooled (e.g. 5 cloacal swabs in one sample).

Sampling and diagnostic procedures as described in the diagnostic manual for AI can be considered efficient for gallinaceous poultry, whereas additional sampling is advised for Anseriformes. Revisions of EFSA and the AHAW Panel of experts are reported in the Scientific Opinion on the assessment of the control measures of category A diseases of Animal Health Law: Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.2903/j.efsa.2021.6372

Samples shall be tested by M-gene PCR and in case of positive result H5/H7 - PCR shall be performed.
In case of H5 and/ or H7 positive finding, analysis of the cleavage site shall be undertaken as soon as possible to determine whether or not it has a HPAI or LPAI motif and also virus isolation test on embryonated eggs shall/ may be performed.
The number of poultry establishments to be sampled and the number of poultry to be tested per establishment is calculated by FVS, as well the sample size is determined by the competent authority. Calculations are granted by risk assessment per each establishment, respected the representative sampling method used and considering estimated prevalence to be detected according to a pre-defined level of confidence.
The numbers of birds to be sampled in the poultry establishment are defined to ensure 95 % probability with > 30 % prevalence.
Blood samples for serological examination shall be collected from all poultry production categories (chicken breeders, laying hens, backyards etc.) and poultry species (hens, turkey etc.) from at least 5 to 10 birds per poultry establishment, and from the different sheds. In case of several sheds, samples shall be taken from at least 5 birds per shed.
At each selected poultry – duck and geese establishment - 20 blood samples shall be taken for serological testing and 20 cloacal swabs will be tested by RT-PCR (virological test).

3. Description and implementation of the surveillance programme in wild birds

3.1.1 Designation of the authorities in charge of supervising, coordinating , and implementing the programme and relevant collaborating partners (e.g. epidemiologists, ornithologists, nature bird observation and hunter organisations).

Please describe in detail who designs, who implements, and who monitors the programme in wild birds.

Please detail the system in place to detect the dead wild birds; please explain who delivers the wild birds to the laboratory.

(max. 32000 chars) :

The FVS is responsible for implementation of AI surveillance programme, however good collaboration is established between FVS and ornithologists (Ornitology laboratory of the Latvian University) who assists in defining the migration periods and also reports on dead wild birds found.
The passive surveillance of wild birds will be implemented in a whole territory of Latvia.
Targeted wild birds' species, in particular migratory water birds have shown to be at higher risk of becoming infected with AI and transmitting HPAI.
The FVS organize awareness campaigns and asks people for the reporting of dead wild water birds or wild birds that have died and found dead by calling the FVS hotline or informing the nearest FVS Territorial Unit. All reported found dead and suspected wild birds - mainly Anseriformes (waterfowl) and Charadriiformes (shorebirds and gulls) are the main sampling targets species – are collected and submitted to NRL for examination of AI (HPAI) by official veterinarians.
Delivery system:
1) All inhabitants in Latvia are asked to report on found dead wild bird. Also, the State authorised veterinarians report to the respective local FVS veterinary office.
2) The local level (TSU) caries out the official surveillance in accordance with the state surveillance programmes and do the reports to the central body, the local official veterinarian caries out sampling, respecting all biosafety measures and safe transportation, delivering samples to the national reference laboratory.

3.1.2 Description and delimitation of the geographical and administrative areas in which the programme is to be applied

max. 32000 chars) :

The surveillance program in wild birds will be implemented in the whole territory of Latvia.

3.1.3 Estimation of the local and/or migratory wildlife population

Please provide main species, number of birds, migratory routes, geographic distribution or risk areas.

(max. 32000 chars) :

The summary of Latvian bird populations, the assessment of bird species and trends in population changes are available at the web https://nature-art12.eionet.europa.eu/article12/, prepared by the Latvian Society of Ornithologists.
Unfortunately – detailed migratory wild birds' population distribution is not available.

3.2 Design, criteria, risk factors and target population(3)

(max. 32000 chars) :

All found dead and suspected wild birds - mainly Anseriformes (waterfowl) and Charadriiformes (shorebirds and gulls) will be the main target species for sampling in whole territory of Latvia.
The samples are taken in framework of passive surveillance.

ANNEX 4 : Standard requirements for the submission of surveillance programmes for avian influenza in poultry and wild birds

(3) Areas at risk (wetlands in particular where links with high density poultry populations), previous positive findings as referred to in Annex II to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689 should be taken into account and if possible complemented by a map.

3.2.1 WILD BIRDS focussed on target species

Investigations according to the surveillance programme set out in conformity with Annex II to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689

Targets for year **2023**

NUTS (2) code/region (a)	Total number of wild birds to be sampled	Estimated total number of wild birds to be samples for passive surveillance	Type of test	Number of tests	
Whole territory of Latvia	400	300	PCR test	300	X
Whole territory of Latvia	0	0	RT PCR for H5, H7, N1, N8	200	X
Whole territory of Latvia	0	0	Sequencing for patogenecity	100	X
Whole territory of Latvia	0	0	NGS full genome sequencing	5	X
					X
Total	400	300		605	

Add a new row

ANNEX 4 : Standard requirements for the submission of surveillance programmes for avian influenza in poultry and wild birds

(a) Refers to the place of collection of birds/samples. In case NUTS 2 (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) can not be used, region as defined in the programme by the Member State is requested. Please fill-in these values directly in the field.

	Total number of tests
Total number of tests	605
Total Virus isolation tests	0
Total PCR tests	300
Total Other tests	305
Total number of wild birds to be sampled for passive surveillance	300

3.3 Sampling procedures and sampling periods

Please also explain which samples are taken from wild birds

max 32000 chars :

The whole year is the sampling period for passive surveillance for AI in wild birds, with an increased frequency during the wild bird migratory period.
For wild birds:
1) Cloacal and oropharyngeal swabs (in case when the birds are injured and alive) will be taken in frame of passive surveillance to detect AI, or
2) Whole dead wild bird is taken and send to laboratory to be tested virologicaly.
Real-time RT-PCR (HA2 region of the H7 gene and N1 gene (according to VLA, 6th February 2007), M gene and H5 gene and may virus isolation test in embryonic fowls' eggs will be used for monitoring of wild birds.

3.4 Laboratory testing: description of the laboratory tests used .

Please explain also which laboratory do the tests for the wild birds, and which, and how many tests are planned for each wild bird

ANNEX 4 : Standard requirements for the submission of surveillance programmes for avian influenza in poultry and wild birds

max 32000 chars :

All samples collected in a frame of active or passive surveillance will be tested in the Latvian National Reference Laboratory for AI - "Institute for Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment" (BIOR).
Estimated sample size for wild birds is stipulated each following year by "An Animal Infectious Diseases Surveillance Plan" year by the Food and Veterinary service and includes all animal infectious diseases which to be monitored in certain year. This plan contains information on the type of samples that have to be taken and which and how many animals shall be sampled over the year. It also determines the laboratory methods used for testing.
~300 wild birds are estimated to be sampled and tested for AI on year 2021, accordingly:
a) 300 - real time PCR tests for M gene;
b) 200- real time PCR tests for H5, H7, N1, N8
c) 100 - sequencing for pathogenecity.
d) 5 - NGS full geneome sequencing.

4. Short description of the epidemiological situation of the disease in poultry during the last five years

max 32000 chars :

In the frame of AI surveillance programme number of poultry were tested following:
2021 - 780
2020 - 771;
2019 - 771;
2018 - 710;
2017 - 780.
Avian Influenza has never been detected in poultry in Latvia.

5. Short description of the epidemiological situation of the disease in wild birds during the last five years

(max. 32000 chars) :

Until the year 2021, HPAI viruses of H5 and H7 subtypes have never been detected in Latvia.

ANNEX 4 : Standard requirements for the submission of surveillance programmes for avian influenza in poultry and wild birds

In the frame of AI surveillance programme number of wild birds were tested as follow:
2017 - 11;
2018 - 16;
2019 - 15;
2020 - 4;
2021 –150 tested and 49 positive for H5N8 and 1 (one) positive for H5N1;

6. Measures in place as regards the notification of the disease

Please explain also briefly the measures implemented in case of suspicion or confirmation of the disease

(max. 32000 chars) :

In case of suspicion of Avian Influenza all measures according to Commission Implementation Regulation (EC) 2020/687 and Contingency Plan will be implemented without delay.
Notification
a) all measures according the Regulation (EU) 2016/429 (AHL), Article 18 – will be in force, from the operators and other relevant natural or legal persons.
i) immediately (or as soon as practicable) notify the competent authority where there are any reasons to suspect the presence of HPAI or where the presence of such a disease is detected in animals.
ii) notify a veterinarian of abnormal mortalities and other signs of serious disease or significant decreased production rates with an undetermined cause, for further investigation, including sampling for laboratory examination when the situation so requires.
b) according to the Veterinary Medicine Law (of the Republic of Latvia) animal owner/keeper is obligated immediately notify to the veterinarian on animal death, abortions, simultaneous illness of several animals and any other case, which arises suspicions that animal is affected by infectious disease.
c) According the Article 19 of Regulation (EU) 2016/429 The FVS will provide the Union notification when the Member States shall immediately notify the Commission and the other Member States of any outbreaks of HPAI.

In case on suspicion (farm) establishment will be under the supervision of the official veterinarian and several actions will be performed until the results from the laboratory will be received:
a) census of establishment;
b) restriction ban of movement of live animals (no live animals will entrance or leave the establishment) and production;
c) no any persons, vehicles or equipment will enter or leave the establishment;
d) the arrangements are put in place which permit the tracing of anything likely to spread the avian influenza virus including poultry, other captive birds, meat, eggs, carcasses, feed, litter, people who have been in contact with the infected poultry or other captive birds or vehicles with a link to the poultry

industry;
e) for the prevention matter – the disinfectants will be in use by the each entrance and exit of the establishment;
f) following the guidelines all suspected cases should notify to EC and other EU Member States.
g) there will be performed official investigation (by official veterinarian) at the spot, to confirm or rule out the AI. Therefore, representative size of the samples will be taken and send for laboratory investigation.

In case of confirmation, additionally to measures taken in case of suspicion all measures mentioned in legislation and Contingency Plan will be implemented without delay:
a) all poultry on the establishment shall be killed without delay under official supervision.
b) all carcasses and eggs on the establishment shall be disposed of under official supervision.
c) all substances and waste likely to be contaminated, such as feed, shall be destroyed or undergo a treatment ensuring the destruction of the avian influenza virus, in accordance with the instructions of the official veterinarian.
d) manure, slurry and bedding likely to be contaminated shall undergo effective cleaning and disinfected,
e) other domestic animals shall not enter or leave the establishment without the authorization of the competent authority.
f) zoning and control measures in in case of confirmation of HPAI.

All required information - may be conveyed through warning notices, media resources such as the press and television or any other appropriate means.

7. Costs

7.1 Detailed analysis of the costs

7.1.1 Poultry including ducks, geese and farmed game birds

Please also check the consistency between the numbers mentioned in tables 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 7.2.1, and the information provided in box 2.3 and 2.4. Please comment also the cost-efficiency aspects of the programme

(max. 32000 chars) :

C. Financial information

1. Identification of the implementing entities - financial circuits/flows

Identify and describe the entities which will be in charge of implementing the eligible measures planned in this programme which costs will constitute the reimbursement/payment claim to the EU. Describe the financial flows/circuits followed.
Each of the following paragraphs (from a to e) shall be filled out if EU cofinancing is requested for the related measure.

a) Implementing entities - **sampling**: who perform the official sampling? Who pays?
(e.g. authorised private vets perform the sampling and are paid by the regional veterinary services (state budget); sampling equipment is provided by the private laboratory testing the samples which includes the price in the invoice which is paid by the local state veterinary services (state budget))

(max. 32000 chars) :

a) Official sampling will be performed by the FVS State veterinary inspectors - official veterinarians and covered from the state budget. Equipment for official sampling will be provided by Food and veterinary service (State budget).

b) Implementing entities - **testing**: who performs the testing of the official samples? Who pays?
(e.g. regional public laboratories perform the testing of official samples and costs related to this testing are entirely paid by the state budget)

(max. 32000 chars) :

b) Official samples will be tested in the National Reference Laboratory - hereafter "BIOR". Expenditure of testing of official samples is funded from state budget.

c) Implementing entities - **compensation**: who performs the compensation? Who pays?
(e.g. compensation is paid by the central level of the state veterinary services,
or compensation is paid by an insurance fund fed by compulsory farmers contribution)

(max. 32000 chars) :

c) Expenditure of official actions and compensation in case of disease eradication measures is funded from state budget.
In Latvia administration of compensation system for looses of the outbreaks of infectious disease is in competence of state administration institution - Rural Support Service. Decision on payment of compensations to animal owner is usually taken within 10 days after introduction of request by animal owner. Since the positive decision is taken by the Rural Support Service, process of payment is initiated and animal owner receives money after application dossier has been agreed by the Ministry of Finances and approved by the Cabinet of Ministers. Compensations are paid according to requirements of the Regulation of Cabinet of Ministers No 199 (1 April 2021) "Rules for Compensation for Losses Occurred During an Outbreak of an Infectious Animal Disease or Epizootic Under State Supervision"

d) Implementing entities - **vaccination** : who provides the vaccine and who performs the vaccination? Who pays the vaccine? Who pays the vaccinator?
(e.g. farmers buy their vaccine to the private vets, send the paid invoices to the local state veterinary services which reimburse the farmers of the full amount and the vaccinator is paid by the regional state veterinary services)

ANNEX 4 : Standard requirements for the submission of surveillance programmes for avian influenza in poultry and wild birds

(max. 32000 chars) :

Vaccination against AI is not allowed in Latvia.

e) Implementing entities - **other essential measures**: who implements this measure? Who provides the equipment/ service? Who pays?

(max. 32000 chars) :

Other measures are organized also by the FVS and are paid form state budget.

2. Source of funding of eligible measures

All eligible measures for which cofinancing is requested and reimbursement will be claimed are financed by public funds.

☒ *yes*

☐ *no*

3. Additional measures in exceptional and justified cases

In the "*Guidelines for the Union co-funded veterinary programmes*", it is indicated that in exceptional and duly justified cases, additional necessary measures can be proposed by the Member States in their application.

ANNEX 4 : Standard requirements for the submission of surveillance programmes for avian influenza in poultry and wild birds

If you introduced these type of measures in this programme, for each of them, please provide detailed technical justification and also justification of their cost:

N/A

ANNEX 4 : Standard requirements for the submission of surveillance programmes for avian influenza in poultry and wild birds

Attachments

IMPORTANT :

1) The more files you attach, the longer it takes to upload them .
2) This attachment files should have one of the format listed here : jpg, jpeg, tiff, tif, xls, xlsx, doc, docx, ppt, pptx, bmp, pna, pdf.
3) The total file size of the attached files should not exceed 2 500Kb (+- 2.5 Mb). You will receive a message while attaching when you try to load too much.
4) IT CAN TAKE ***SEVERAL MINUTES TO UPLOAD*** *ALL THE ATTACHED FILES. Don't interrupt the uploading by closing the pdf and wait until you have received a Submission Number!*
5) Only use letters from a-z and numbers from 1-10 in the attachment names, otherwise the submission of the data will not work.

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