

Applied prevention and control measures on avian influenza in the Czech Republic

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1. Scope

1.1. Highly pathogenic avian influenza in the Czech Republic – outbreaks

In total 39 highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) outbreaks in poultry and captive birds were confirmed in 11 regions of the Czech Republic in period from 5th January to 22nd March. In period from 5th January to 24th February HPAI H5N8 virus in 51 wild birds found dead (40 swans, 7 ducks, 2 geese, 2 heron) was confirmed in 13 regions at 32 location in the Czech Republic.

Only five HPAI H5N8 outbreaks in poultry concerned commercial holdings. Others 33 HPAI H5N8 outbreaks were confirmed in back-yard flocks. One HPAI H5N5 outbreak has occurred in Zoological garden in captive bird (swan, pelican).

1.2. Measures

All obligatory measures including culling of birds, disposal of carcasses and products, cleaning and disinfection were applied in all affected holdings and back-yards flocks according to the EU legislation. In the case of outbreak in ZOO all swans and geese were culled. Other pelicans, which lived together with positive dead pelican and without clinical signs of the disease, were isolated and tested by virological test (negative).

In compliance with EU legislation restricted zones were established in the case of all outbreaks. In connection with three outbreaks in Southern Moravian Region the preventive culling of all poultry in the protection zone was applied (see point 6).

The State veterinary administration (SVA) decided on 10th January for application of national extraordinary veterinary measures, which ordered to commercial bird breeders to keep animals inside and to take necessary biosecurity measures for protection against avian influenza. The extraordinary measures prohibited the organisation of exhibition, sales or other gathering of birds.

The SVA also established restricted zones in Region of Hradec Králové and Moravian-Silesian Region due to the outbreak confirmation in Poland near the Czech border. Established restricted zones around five outbreaks in the Czech Republic (Orlová, Žofina Huť, Doubrava, Klest, Poustka) were interfering the neighbour states (Germany, Austria, Poland). The SVA informed all these states about outbreaks confirmation (see attachment No 1 and 2).

1.3. Provided information

Information concerned HPAI occurrence in EU and outbreaks and measures in the Czech Republic was regularly provided and updated on the SVA website, by press release published and by official letters to general public and involved organisation.

2. Timing of the applied prevention and control measures

Table 1 provides a timeline on the main events that triggered actions in relation to the selected prevention and control measures. More information on the actions taken is provided in the sections below.

Table1: Overview of main communication actions

Date	Event that triggered action	Type of action taken	Target audience (if applicable)
The second half of the year 2016	disease situation in Europe	special official biosecurity checks in poultry holdings	Poultry breeders
8.11.2016	disease situation in Europe	SVA official letter to poultry breeders association and to Regional veterinary administration with information about HPAI occurrence	Poultry breeders association and Regional veterinary administration
10.11.2016	disease situation in Europe	press release about AI situation in Europe and about necessity prevention measures with information	General public including breeders
24.11.2016	disease situation in Europe	letter to all regional authority to published the letter about AI situation in Europe and the preventive measures to official boards	Breeders
30.11.2016	disease situation in Europe	SVA official letter to breeding associations about HPAI situation in Europe and possible preventive measures	Breeders associations
2.1.2017	First suspicion in wild birds (two swans) in Němčice u Ivančic	sampling and laboratory testing of dead wild birds	
2.1.2017	First suspicion in poultry flock (Moravský Krumlov)	on the spot check, measures to prevent spread of the virus, sampling, laboratory testing, epidemiological investigation	Affected farm
5.1.2017	Confirmation HPAI H5N8 in poultry flock (Moravský Krumlov)	veterinary measures for outbreak in Moravský Krumlov and restricted zones - information published by press release, on SVA website, SVA official letter to organisations concerned	Breeders in the restricted zones, general public, involved organisations
5.1.2017	Confirmation HPAI H5N8 in poultry flock (Němčice u Ivančic)	veterinary measures for outbreak in Němčice u Ivančic and for restricted zones - information published by press release, on SVA website, SVA official letter to organisations concerned	Breeders in the restricted zones, general public, involved organisations
6.1.2017	Confirmation HPAI H5N8 in poultry flock (Letkovice)	veterinary measures for outbreak in Letkovice and for restricted zones - information published by press release, on SVA website, SVA official letter to organisations concerned	Breeders in the restricted zones, general public, involved organisations

6.1.2017	Evaluation of disease situation in the Southern Moravian Region – other suspicion notification from the nearest villages, two positive wild swans in the proximity	decision for preventive birds culling in the established protection zone around first three outbreaks performed from 7.1. to 11.1.2017 – information published by press release, SVA official letter to organisations concerned, SVA website	Breeders in the protection zone, general public
9.1.2017	Disease situation evaluation (in total five outbreaks confirmation in Moravský Krumlov, Němčice u Ivančic, Letkovice, Brod nad Dyjí, Lázně Toušeň) and 40 suspicion notification of suspicion from various regions of the Czech Republic	decision for publication of national veterinary measures aimed to control the spread of HPAI. The national measures was published on 10.1.2017 – information published by official letter to organisation concerned	general public including breeders
12.1.2017	ADNS information about outbreak in Poland near to the Czech border – Kudowa Zdroj	establishing protection and surveillance zone in Region of Hradec Králové – information published on SVA website	Breeders in the protection and surveillance zones, general public
From 12.1. to 4.2.2017	11 HPAI H5N8 outbreaks (Chotčiny, Libějovice, Sedlečko u Soběslavě, Lověšice, Blatenská ryba – Řitovíz, Kadeřavec, Ostrava – Svinov, Bílence, Ledenice, Vlachovo Březí, Kostelec nad Labem)	veterinary measures publication for all outbreaks and restricted zones - information published by press release, on SVA website, SVA official letter to organisations concerned	Breeders in restricted zones, general public, involved organisations
5.2.2017	HPAI H5N8 outbreak confirmation in backyard flock in Orlová in Moravian-Silesian Region	surveillance zone intervened Poland - e-mail information to Poland sent on 5.2.2017	Competent authority of Poland
5.2.2017	HPAI H5N8 outbreaks (Koldín, Janův Důl, Hlásná Třebáň)	veterinary measures publication for all outbreaks and restricted zones - information published by press release, on SVA website, SVA official letter to organisations concerned	Breeders in restricted zones, general public, involved organisations
from 6.2. to 8.2.2017	HPAI H5N8 outbreaks (Blatenská ryba – Mačkovská, Záryby, Horní Lhota, Blažejovice)	veterinary measures publication for all outbreaks and restricted zones - information published by press release, on SVA website, SVA official letter to organisations concerned	Breeders in restricted zones, general public, involved organisations

9.2.2017	HPAI H5N8 outbreak confirmation in back-yard flock in Nová Ves nad Lužnicí in Southern Bohemian Region	surveillance zone intervened Austria - e-mail information to Austria sent on 10.2.2017	Competent authority of Austria
from 10.2. to 13.2.2017	HPAI H5N8 and H5N5 outbreaks (Žďár nad Orlicí, ZOO Liberec, Volyně)	veterinary measures publication for all outbreaks and restricted zones - information published by press release, on SVA website, SVA official letter to organisations concerned	Breeders in restricted zones, general public, involved organisations
14.2.2017	ADNS information about outbreak in Poland near to the Czech border – Ustron	establishing surveillance zone in Moravia-Silesian Region of Hradec Králové – information published on SVA website	All breeders in surveillance zone, general public
15.2.2017	HPAI H5N8 outbreak in Ochoz	veterinary measures publication for all outbreaks and restricted zones - information published by press release, on SVA website, SVA official letter to organisations concerned	Breeders in restricted zones, general public, involved organisations
21.2.2017	HPAI H5N8 outbreak confirmation in back-yard flock in Doubrava in Moravian-Silesian Region	surveillance zone intervened Poland - e-mail information sent to Poland on 23.2.2017, e-mail information about disinfection sent on 28. 2. 2017	Competent authority of Poland
23.2.2017	HPAI H5N8 outbreaks (Dačice, Bohy)	veterinary measures publication for all outbreaks and restricted zones - information published by press release, on SVA website, SVA official letter to organisations concerned	Breeders in restricted zones, general public, involved organisations
24.2.2017	HPAI H5N8 outbreak confirmation in two back-yard flocks in Bernartice in Region of Hradec Králové	protection and surveillance zones intervened Poland - e-mail information sent to Poland on 23.2.2017, e-mail information about disinfection sent on 28. 2. 2017	Competent authority of Poland
25.2.2017	HPAI H5N8 outbreak (Božičany)	veterinary measures publication for all outbreaks and restricted zones - information published by press release, on SVA website, SVA official letter to organisations concerned	Breeders in restricted zones, general public, involved organisations
28.2.2017	HPAI H5N8 outbreaks confirmation in back-yard flock in Klest and Poustka in Region of Karlovy Vary	Surveillance zone intervened Germany - e-mail information to Germany sent on 1.3.2017, e-mail information about disinfection sent on 8. 3. 2017	Competent authority of Germany

7.3.2017	Evaluation of disease situation	cancellation of national veterinary measures (duration from 10.1 to 7.3.2017) – information published by press release, SVA website, SVA official letter to organisations concerned	general public including breeders, involved organisations
10.3.2017	HPAI H5N8 outbreak (Dobrá)	veterinary measures publication for all outbreaks and restricted zones - information published by press release, on SVA website, SVA official letter to organisations concerned	Breeders in restricted zones, general public, involved organisations
22.3.2017	HPAI H5N8 outbreak (Poseč)	veterinary measures publication for all outbreaks and restricted zones - information published by press release, on SVA website, SVA official letter to organisations concerned	Breeders in restricted zones, general public, involved organisations

3. Increasing awareness of the stakeholders and the general public

Increasing awareness was performed since the first HPAI occurrence in Hungary in October 2016 and continues as required.

Providing of detailed information related to HPAI and implementation of appropriate measures was carried out by publishing on SVA web, press releases, sending of official SVA letter, publishing articles in breeders magazines and professionals journals.

Organisations and persons concerned were: the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Health, breeding associations, the Chamber of veterinarians, privat veterinarians, the Veterinary and pharmaceutical university, the Army of the Czech Republic, the Policy of the Czech Republic, the Firefighters of the Czech Republic, the Central disease commission, the Unie of Czech and Slovak zoological garden, regional offices, Rescue station for handicap animals, various breeder organisation etc.

In addition meetings with breeder of poultry, ornamental birds and pigeons have taken place.

The general public was very interested in HPAI occurrence and implementing of measures. Everyone had the possibility to ask about HPAI situation through simple web form. SVA responded immediately all the queries and there were a lot of them.

The media also has showed high interest about disease situation. SVA actively communicated with all media on central and regional level.

4. Housing order

The ban of keeping poultry and other captive birds outside was applied for commercial breeders from 10th January 2017 to 7th March 2017.

5. Strengthening biosecurity measures (other than housing order)

In the second half of the year 2016 SVA carried out special biosecurity official controls to verify the level of biosecurity standards in poultry farms and to increase awareness of the HPAI disease situation in Europe. To increase the effectiveness of official controls, a special Checklist for Hygiene Practice on Holdings Keeping Poultry was used. The document includes questions about bio-security measures

applied in buildings, during cleaning, disinfection, feed handling, loading and transport. For farmers to be certain about adequate bio-security standards, they may implement a voluntary Guide of good hygiene practice for poultry farmers. This Guide is available on State Veterinary Administration website.

Information and recommendations on prevention of HPAI introduction and spreading for back-yard breeders are on the SVA website too.

From 10th January 2017 to 7th March 2017 was applied national extraordinary veterinary measures aimed to control the spread of HPAI has been issued by SVA CR. National extraordinary veterinary measures included also for commercial breeders obligatory protection/covering of all openings (windows, doors, ventilation etc.) by nets in order to prevent wild bird penetration.

The commercial breeders had to keep proper records about his farm (mortality, transport, treatment etc.).

Ban of all bird gatherings (fairs, exhibitions, sales etc.) was applied from 10th January to 7th March 2017.

6. Preventive culling

Preventive culling was performed in the protection zones established around first three outbreaks (Moravský Krumlov, Němčice u Ivančic, Letkovice). Mentioned three HPAI H5N8 outbreaks were confirmed on 5th January (Moravský Krumlov, Němčice u Ivačic) and 6th January (Letkovice u Ivančic). The preventive culling in the area of established protection zone around this three outbreaks was performed in the period from 7th to 11th January.

Criteria and risk factors considered for this decision to apply depopulation were in line with Annex 4 of Council Directive 2005/94/EC. Especially outbreaks location in area with high density of poultry and waterfowls were taken account.

7. Regional stand still (beyond the restriction zones specified in the EU Regulation)

Regional stand still beyond the restriction zone was not applied in the Czech Republic.

8. Derogations on restriction zone implementation after risk assessment

Derogations for transport of live poultry for slaughter processing or for breeding was allowed by Regional veterinary administration (RVA) in compliance with EU legislation.

All derogations were applied based on risk assessment and on the spot check results on farm concerned.

9. Hunting

The measures concerning wild waterfowls hunting were not applied. In compliance with Act No 449/2001 (Hunting Act) most of the waterfowls were not allowed to hunt at the time of the occurrence of HPAI in the Czech Republic.

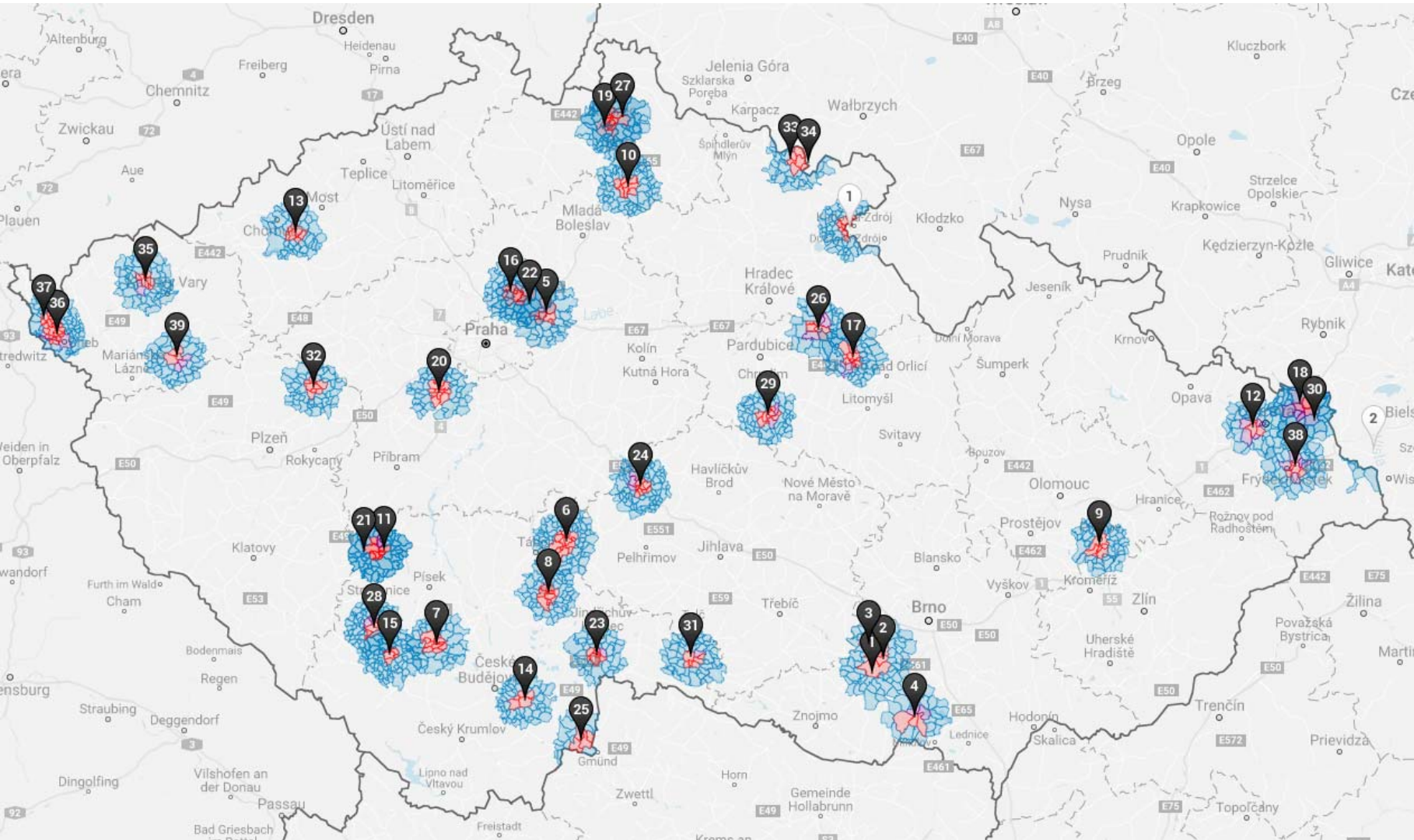
According to the Czech Republic national extraordinary veterinary measures releasing mallard for restocking was forbidden.

HPAI H5N8 in the Czech Republic - Summary table - in total 39 outbreaks (1x HPAi H5N5 - captive birds, 38 HPAI H5N8 - poultry farms) in 11 Regions

Order number	Region	City / Village	Type of breeding	Suspicion date	Date of confirmation AI H5	Date of confirmation HPAI H5N8	Date of culling in outbreak	Preventive culling in protection zone date	Final disinfection date	Surveillance zone applicable until
1.	Southern Moravian Region	Moravský Krumlov (district Znojmo)	back-yard	2.1.2017	4.1.2017	5.1.2017	4.1.2017	7. - 9.1.2017	12.3.2017	13.3.2017
2.	Southern Moravian Region	Němčice u Ivančic (district Brno country)	back-yard	3.1.2017	4.1.2017	5.1.2017	5.1.2017	7. - 11.1.2017	25.2.2017	
3.	Southern Moravian Region	Letkovice u Ivančic (district Brno country)	back-yard	4.1.2017	5.1.2017	6.1.2017	5.1.2017	7. - 11.1.2017	25.2.2017	
4.	Southern Moravian region	Brod nad Dyjí (district Břeclav)	back-yard	6.1.2017	7.1.2017	8.1.2017	8.1.2017	-	21.1.2017	13.3.2017
5.	Central Bohemian Region	Lázně Toušev (district Praha - East)	back-yard	7.1.2017	7.1.2017	8.1.2017	9.1.2017	-	21.1.2017	3.3.2017
6.	Southern Bohemian Region	Chotčiny (district Tábor)	back-yard	12.1.2017	12.1.2017	13.1.2017	13.1.2017	-	20.1.2017	21.2.2017
7.	Southern Bohemian Region	Libějovice (district Strakonice)	back-yard	15.1.2017	16.1.2017	16.1.2017	17.1.2017	-	20.1.2017	20.2.2017
8.	Southern Bohemian Region	Sedlečko u Soběslavě (district Tábor)	back-yard	17.1.2017	18.1.2017	19.1.2017	19.1.2017	-	31.1.2017	3.3.2017
9.	Region of Olomouc	Lovčice (district Přerov)	back-yard	20.1.2017	20.1.2017	23.1.2017	21.1.2017	-	7.2.2017	3.3.2017
10.	Southern Bohemian Region	Blatenská ryba, s.r.o. (district Strakonice)	commercial CZ 31047577	25.1.2017	25.1.2017	26.1.2017	26.1.2017	-	7.2.2017	10.3.2017
11.	Region of Liberec	Kadeřavec (district Semily)	back-yard	24.1.2017	25.1.2017	26.1.2017	26.1.2017	-	13.2.2017	3.3.2017
12.	Moravia - Silesian Region	Ostrava - Svinov (district Ostrava)	back-yard	28.1.2017	28.1.2017	29.1.2017	29.1.2017	-	23.2.2017	6.3.2017
13.	Region of Ústí nad Labem	Bílence (district Chomutov)	back-yard	30.1.2017	30.1.2017	31.1.2017	31.1.2017	-	17.2.2017	3.3.2017
14.	Southern Bohemian Region	Ledenice (district České Budějovice)	back-yard	30.1.2017	31.1.2017	1.2.2017	1.2.2017	-	9.2.2017	13.3.2017
15.	Southern Bohemian Region	Vlachovo Březí (district Prachatice)	commercial CZ 31117137	30.1.2017	31.1.2017	1.2.2017	1.2.2017	-	8.2.2017	13.3.2017
16.	Central Bohemian Region	Kostelec nad Labem (district Mělník)	back-yard	3.2.2017	3.2.2017	4.2.2017	4.2.2017	-	14.2.2017	13.3.2017
17.	Region of Pardubice	Koldín (district Ústí nad Orlicí)	back-yard	3.2.2017	4.2.2017	5.2.2017	5.2.2017	-	9.2.2017	10.3.2017
18.	Moravia - Silesian Region	Orlová (district Karviná)	back-yard	4.2.2017	4.2.2017	5.2.2017	5.2.2017	-	20.2.2017	13.3.2017
19.	Region of Liberec	Janův Důl (district Liberec)	back-yard	3.2.2017	4.2.2017	5.2.2017	5.2.2017	-	14.2.2017	10.3.2017
20.	Central Bohemian Region	Hlánská Třebáň (district Beroun)	back-yard	4.2.2017	4.2.2017	5.2.2017	6.2.2017	-	17.2.2017	10.3.2017
21.	Southern Bohemian Region	Blatenská ryba, s.r.o., farm Mačkovská (district Strakonice)	commercial CZ 31047555	5.2.2017	5.2.2017	6.2.2017	7.2.2017	-	11.3.2017	e 13.3.2017
22.	Central Bohemian Region	Záryby (district Praha - východ)	back-yard	5.2.2017	6.2.2017	7.2.2017	8.2.2017	-	21.2.2017	13.3.2017
23.	Southern Bohemian Region	Horní Lhota (district Jindřichův Hradec)	back-yard	6.2.2017	6.2.2017	7.2.2017	7.2.2017	-	10.2.2017	13.3.2017
24.	Central Bohemian Region	Blažejovice (district Benešov)	back-yard	7.2.2017	7.2.2017	8.2.2017	8.2.2017	-	23.2.2017	13.3.2017
25.	Southern Bohemian Region	Nová Ves nad Lužnicí (district Jindřichův Hradec)	back-yard	7.2.2017	8.2.2017	9.2.2017	9.2.2017	-	13.2.2017	16.3.2017

26.	Region of Hradec Králové	Žďár nad Orlicí (district Rychnov nad Kněžnou)	back-yard	8.2.2017	9.2.2017	11.2.2017	10.2.2017	-	10.3.2017	14.3.2017
27.	Region of Liberec	Ruprechtice - ZOO Liberec (district Liberec)	captive birds	9.2.2017	10.2.2017	13.2.2017 - HPAI H5N5 in dead swan, 16.2.2017 - HPAI H5N5 in pelican	10.2.2017	-	17.3.2017	22.3.2017
28.	Southern Bohemian Region	Volyně (district Strakonice)	back-yard	11.2.2017	13.2.2017	13.2.2017	13.2.2017	-	21.2.2017	20.3.2017
29.	Region of Pardubice	Ochoz (district Chrudim)	back-yard	13.2.2017	14.2.2017	15.2.2017	14.2.2017	-	21.2.2017	20.3.2017
30.	Moravia - Silesian Region	Doubrava (district Karviná)	back-yard	18.2.2017	20.2.2017	21.2.2017	21.2.2017	-	8.3.2017	30.3.2017
31.	Southern Bohemian Region	Dačice (district Jindřichův Hradec)	back-yard	21.2.2017	22.2.2017	23.2.2017	23.2.2017	-	1.3.2017	31.3.2017
32.	Region of Plzeň	Bohy (district Plzeň - sever)	back-yard	21.2.2017	22.2.2017	23.2.2017	22.2.2017	-	6.3.2017	24.3.2017
33.	Region of Hradec Králové	Bernartice 1 (district Trutov)	back-yard	21.2.2017	23.2.2017	24.2.2017 (u kachny virus nezjištěn - jen u slepic)	23.2.2017	-	1.3.2017	27.3.2017
34.	Region of Hradec Králové	Bernartice 2 (district Trutov)	back-yard	22.2.2017	23.2.2017	24.2.2017	23.2.2017	-	1.3.2017	27.3.2017
35.	Region of Karlovy Vary	Božíčany (district Karlovy Vary)	back-yard	24.2.2017	24.2.2017	25.2.2017 (u kachny virus nezjištěn - jen u slepic)	25.2.2017	-	6.3.2017	3.4.2017
36.	Region of Karlovy Vary	Poustka (district Cheb)	commercial CZ 41007967	27.2.2017	27.2.2017	28.2.2017	2.3.2017	-	20.3.2017	3.4.2017
37.	Region of Karlovy Vary	Klest (district Cheb)	commercial CZ 41007956	27.2.2017	27.2.2017	28.2.2017	2.3.2017	-	9.3.2017	
38.	Moravia - Silesian Region	Dobrá (district Frýdek-Místek)	back-yard	8.3.2017	9.3.2017	10.3.2017	10.3.2017	-	23.3.2017	10.4.2017
39.	Region of Karlovy Vary	Poseč (district Karlovy Vary)	back-yard	21.3.2017	21.3.2017	22.3.2017	23.3.2017	-	4.4.2017	

Attachment No 2 - HPAI outbreaks and established restricted zones map of the Czech Republic



1	Moravský Krumlov	Southern Moravian Region
2	Němčice u Ivančic	Southern Moravian Region
3	Letkovice u Ivančic	Southern Moravian Region
4	Brod nad Dyjí	Southern Moravian Region
5	Lázně Toušeň	Central Bohemian Region
6	Chotčiny	Southern Bohemian Region
7	Libějovice	Southern Bohemian Region
8	Sedlečko u Soběslavě	Southern Bohemian Region
9	Lověšice	Region of Olomouc
10	Kadeřavec	Southern Bohemian Region
11	Blatná – commercial holding	Southern Bohemian Region
12	Ostrava -Svinov	Moravia-Silesian Region
13	Bílence	Region of Ústí nad Labem
14	Ledenice	Southern Bohemian Region
15	Vlachovo Březí – commercial holding	Southern Bohemian Region
16	Kostelec nad Labem	Central Bohemian Region
17	Koldín	Region of Pardubice
18	Orlová	Moravia-Silesian Region
19	Liberec - Janův Důl	Region of Liberec
20	Hlásná Třebáň	Central Bohemian Region
21	Blatná (farm Mačkovská) – commercial holding	Southern Bohemian Region
22	Záryby	Central Bohemian Region
23	Horní Lhota	Southern Bohemian Region
24	Blažejovice	Central Bohemian Region
25	Žofina Huť - Nová Ves nad Lužnicí	Southern Bohemian Region
26	Žďár nad Orlicí	Region of Hradec Králové
27	ZOO Liberec, Ruprechtice	Region of Liberec
28	Volyně	Southern Bohemian Region
29	Ochoz	Region of Pardubice
30	Doubrava u Orlové	Moravia-Silesian Region

31	Dačice	Southern Bohemian Region
32	Bohy	Region of Plzeň
33	Bernartice 1	Region of Hradec Králové
34	Bernartice 2	Region of Hradec Králové
35	Božičany	Region of Karlovy Vary
36	Klest	Region of Karlovy Vary
37	Poustka	Region of Karlovy Vary
38	Dobrá	Moravia-Silesian Region
39	Poseč	Region of Karlovy Vary
1	Outbreak HPAI in Poland – 12. 1. 2017	Region of Hradec Králové
2	Outbreak HPAI in Poland – 14. 2. 2017	Moravia-Silesian Region