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# GAIN Report

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## Poland

### Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

### Current Status of AI Outbreaks in Poland

**2006**

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**Report Highlights:**

Since April 4, 2006, there have been no additional outbreaks of HPAI (H5N1) in Poland. There have been no outbreaks at all of HPAI in domestic poultry. Following a 30 day quarantine zone rule, the Polish Veterinary Service has closed two out of the eight AI quarantine zones established in Poland to date.

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Unscheduled Report  
Warsaw [PL1]  
[PL]

From March 2 to April 4, 2006 there were eight outbreaks of HPAI (H5N1 strain) in Poland. Since April 4, 2006, there have been no new outbreaks and there have been no outbreaks of AI in domestic poultry flocks. The majority of outbreaks have occurred in wild swans in two large cities, Torun and Bydgoszcz, 50 kilometers apart, located on the banks of the Vistula River in the northern central part of Poland.

In response to each outbreak, local veterinary authorities took prompt and effective action to prevent the spread of the disease. Their actions included:

- Carried out contingency plans established in advance;
- Created three kilometers radius (2 miles) infected area and 10 kilometers (6 miles) radius surveillance zones;
- Created special patrols to count poultry and police compliance with a ban on free-ranging birds in the surrounding countryside; and
- Placed disinfectant mats at entrances to quarantine zones.

On April 18-22 in Tarnow (southern Poland), the Veterinary Service carried out training for 170 participants from all over the country (veterinary, police, fire, military and local authorities). During the training, there was a simulation of an outbreak of AI in a commercial laying flock. During this exercise, 400 birds were put to sleep using carbon dioxide. The dead birds were rendered and the poultry house and all equipment and participants were disinfected. The Veterinary Service reportedly were very satisfied with this training. The simulation was conducted despite protests from animal welfare organizations.

Veterinary officials have closed two quarantine zones, one in Swinoujscie (April 10, 2006) and the other in Torun (April 18, 2006) because there were no new cases of AI in these areas for 30 days. Both areas are now considered AI free.

There are six AI quarantine zones remaining in Poland: three in Bydgoszcz, two in Grudziadz and one in Kostrzyn. The threat of AI from migrating wild birds is expected to last until the end of May. Below is a table summarizing HPAI outbreaks in Poland to date:

HPAI Outbreaks in Poland.

Number of case	Type of animal	Date of outbreak	Location
1	5 swans  32 swans	March 2 to March 20	Torun – Kujawsko Pomorskie Province - 150 kilometers North West from Warsaw; Vistula River bank; center of the city After testing entire flock of swans kept in quarantine the CVO decided to put to sleep 32 swans infected with HPAI and the rest was set at liberty.
2	2 swans  hawk heron	March 8 and March 17  n/a March 31	Kostrzyn- Lubuskie Province; Warta River bank Kostrzyn lies at the edge of the Mouth of the Warta National Park, one of Europe's largest wetland nesting areas of migratory waterfowl.

3	goosander	March 8	Swinoujscie at the Wolin Island in North Western Poland – West Pomerania Province
4	4 swans	March 8,16,19	Bydgoszcz City – Kujawsko Pomorskie Province; on the bank of Brda River; 200 kilometers North West from Warsaw
5	13 swans	March 14,19,21,23,24	Bydgoszcz City – Kujawsko Pomorskie Province; on the bank of Brda River; 200 kilometers North West from Warsaw
6	2 swans	March 24 and 6 April	Bydgoszcz City – Kujawsko Pomorskie Province;
7	swan	March 27	Grudziadz City – Kujawsko Pomorskie Province; Lake Rządź
8	swan	4 April	Bialachowo near Grudziadz City – Kujawsko Pomorskie Province

