



JOINT WEBINAR

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Preparedness

Join us online on Zoom



6th April, 2023



10h00 - 11h30 CET



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BACKGROUND

Recently, there has been a significant impact of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) on both wild bird and domestic avian populations in Europe and the Americas. The spread of HPAI has occurred during both winter and summer months, indicating a shift away from typical seasonality. The consequences of HPAI on the poultry industry and farmers have been significant, both financially and in terms of animal welfare.

AIMS

- Recap the current knowledge on epidemiology and control options of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) with a special emphasis on vaccination strategies.
- Address barriers to International Trade in poultry and poultry products.
- Call on the regulators and Industry to open science-based applications on future long-term strategies for the prevention of HPAI in clearly defined poultry populations at risk, such as layers for the upcoming season 2023/2024.

PROGRAM

- Introduction – Rens van Dobbenburgh
- Field situation, surveillance & control methods – Timm Harder
- EFSA opinion on vaccination strategies – Francesca Baldinelli
- Different vaccine scenarios imagined by the French poultry industry – Léni Corrand
- Panel discussion - Birthe Steenberg (AVEC), David John (AhE), Jane R. Clark (EASVO), Estelle Hamelin (WOAH)

SPEAKERS



Timm Harder

Timm graduated as a veterinarian from the Hannover Veterinary School in 1989. He is currently affiliated with the Friedrich-Loeffler-Institute in Germany, where he serves as the head of the National Reference Laboratory for Avian Influenza. The laboratory is a member of international networks such as the WOA and FAO for animal influenza research and diagnosis. Timm's research focuses on developing better diagnostic tools, molecular epidemiology, and the pathogenesis of influenza virus infections in animals, with a particular emphasis on avian hosts such as wild birds and poultry.



Francesca Baldinelli

Francesca graduated as a veterinarian in 2005 from the Università degli Studi di Perugia, Italy. She completed a PhD in Epidemiology and Zoonoses Control and a postgraduate diploma in Veterinary Public Health. She then went on to work as an epidemiologist for several years before becoming a scientific officer at the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) in 2015, where she currently works.



Léni Corrand

Léni is a poultry veterinarian and resident of the European College of Poultry Veterinary Sciences (ECPVS) and member of PVSG-EU. He graduated from Toulouse Veterinary University (France) in 2008. He is very active in different poultry production schemes, from parental flocks to commercial flocks, including strong experience in free-range birds and duck farming, thus has many years of experience with HPAI.

PANEL MEMBERS



Birthe Steenberg - AVEC

Birthe graduated as a veterinarian from the University of Copenhagen in 1992 and is currently the Secretary General of AVEC EU Poultry. AVEC serves as the representative body of the European poultry meat industry, aiming to foster communication and dialogue between international organisations and decision-makers. The organisation places particular emphasis on animal welfare and health, as well as food safety and quality, trade, and sustainable development.



David John - AnimalhealthEurope (AhE)

David graduated in Agricultural Chemistry from Leeds University in 1988. He moved to Brussels in 2011 to join the technical group at AnimalhealthEurope and he is currently Senior Technical Manager responsible for research and development topics including immunologicals and biologicals. Prior to joining AhE, he spent many years working for Covance initially responsible for conducting livestock metabolism and residue studies before moving to ecotoxicology to conduct both aquatic and terrestrial studies.



Jane R. Clark - European Association of State Veterinary Officers (EASVO)

Jane is currently the Food Standard Agency's Director of Veterinary Services. She has had an interesting and varied veterinary career, working in international clinical settings, and then as a Temporary Veterinary Inspector for the State Veterinary Service during the 2001 foot and mouth disease outbreak. She held roles in the operations, policy, veterinary and science directorates of Defra and the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA). This has included working as the UK's Head of EU Relations for Animal Health and Welfare, the APHA Veterinary Lead for Avian Virology in the UK's National Reference Laboratory and, most recently, one of APHA's Veterinary Leads in Wales.



Estelle Hamelin - World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)

Estelle joined WOAH (founded as OIE) in 2022 and is the Sub-Regional Representative in Brussels. Her role is to promote WOAH values and mandate, facilitating the active participation of Members in WOAH activities and strengthening collaboration with relevant public and private partners so as to ensure that regional needs are well addressed. The main activities of WOAH in the region are organised around three main topics - Animal Health, Animal Welfare and One Health. She is a veterinarian and was previously working as a veterinarian inspector for the French administration with the main topics being emergency management and international trade.