EFSA ACTIVITIES ON AVIAN INFLUENZA

Inma Aznar

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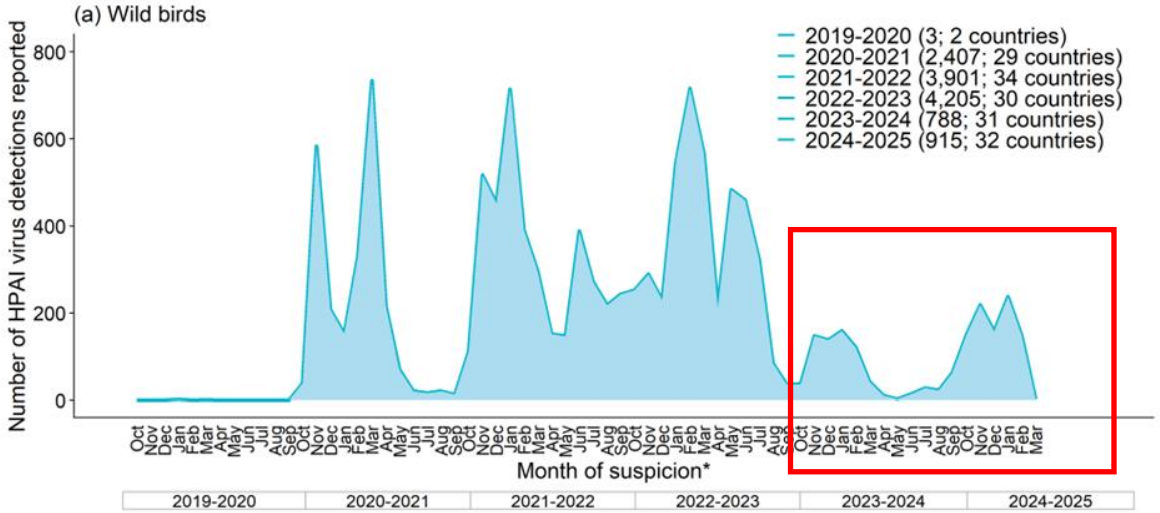
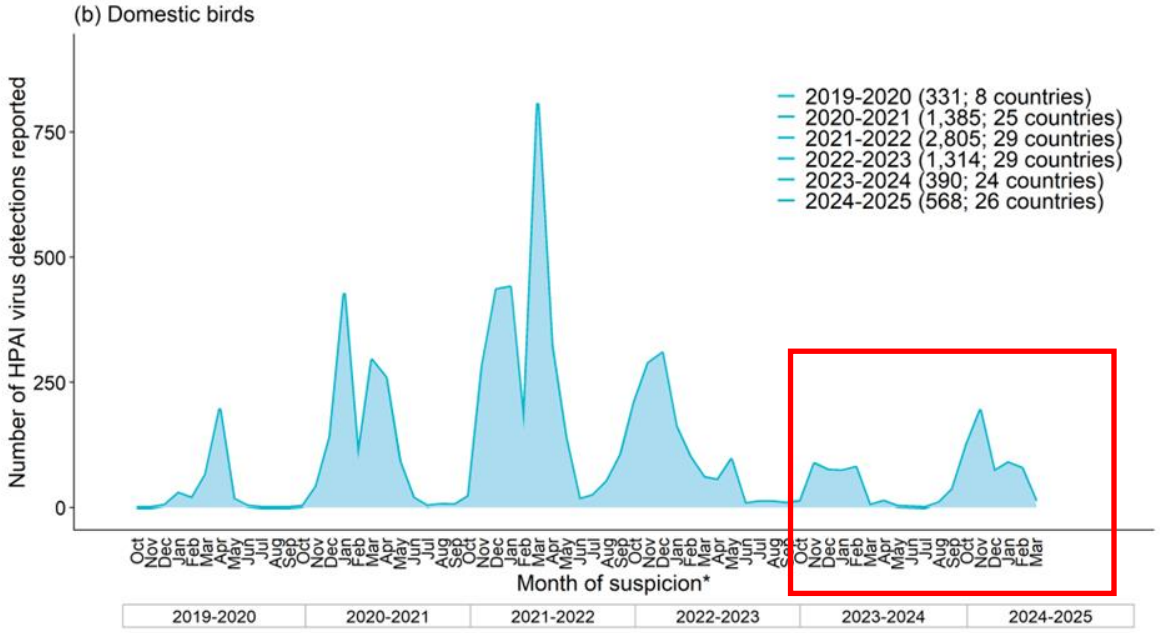
EUROPEAN FOOD SAFETY AUTHORITY

SUMMARY

- Latest update from the monitoring report on HPAI
- H5N1 B3.13 outbreak in US dairy cattle (NEW mandate)
- Active surveillance in wild birds (grants)
- New mandate on biosecurity in poultry

UPDATE ON HPAI IN EUROPE





Epidemic season

poultry (n=568)

wild birds (n=915)

already above the numbers for the full epidemic season last year

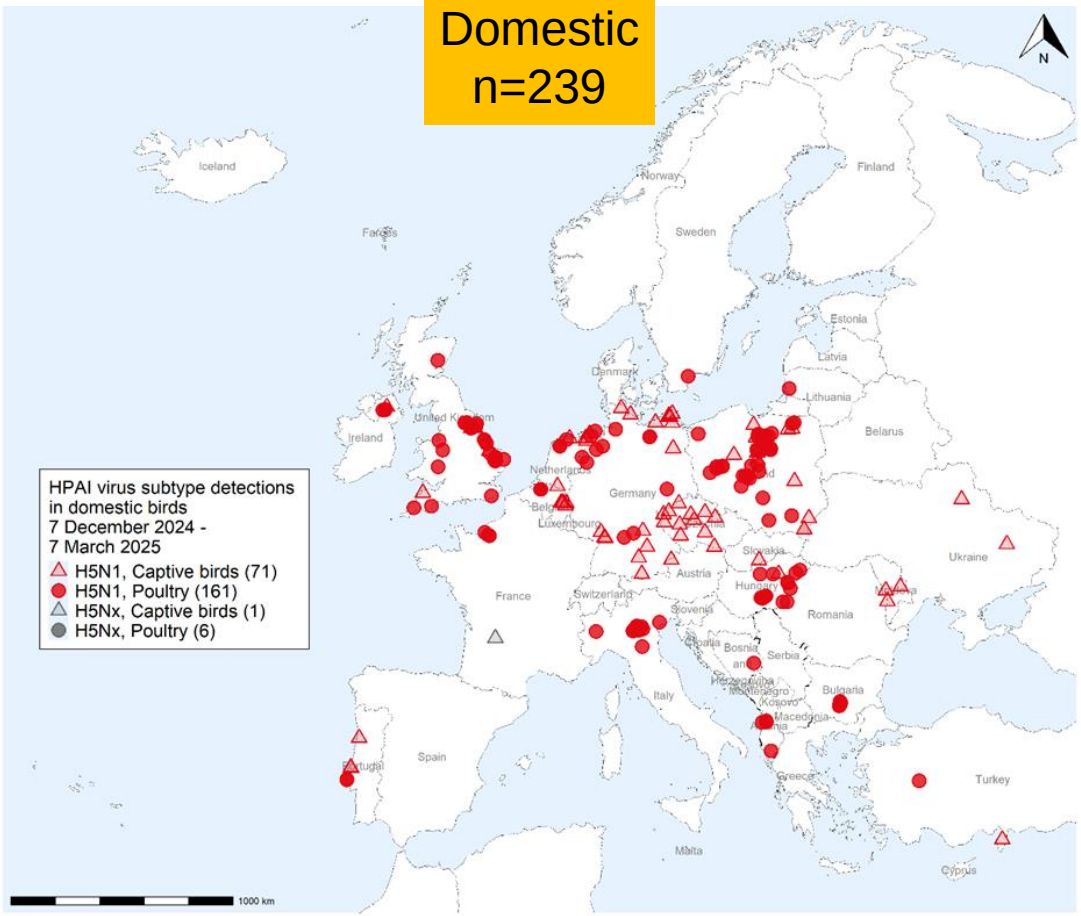
From the 7th of March to 1st of April:

-87 outbreaks in poultry

-131 reports in wild birds

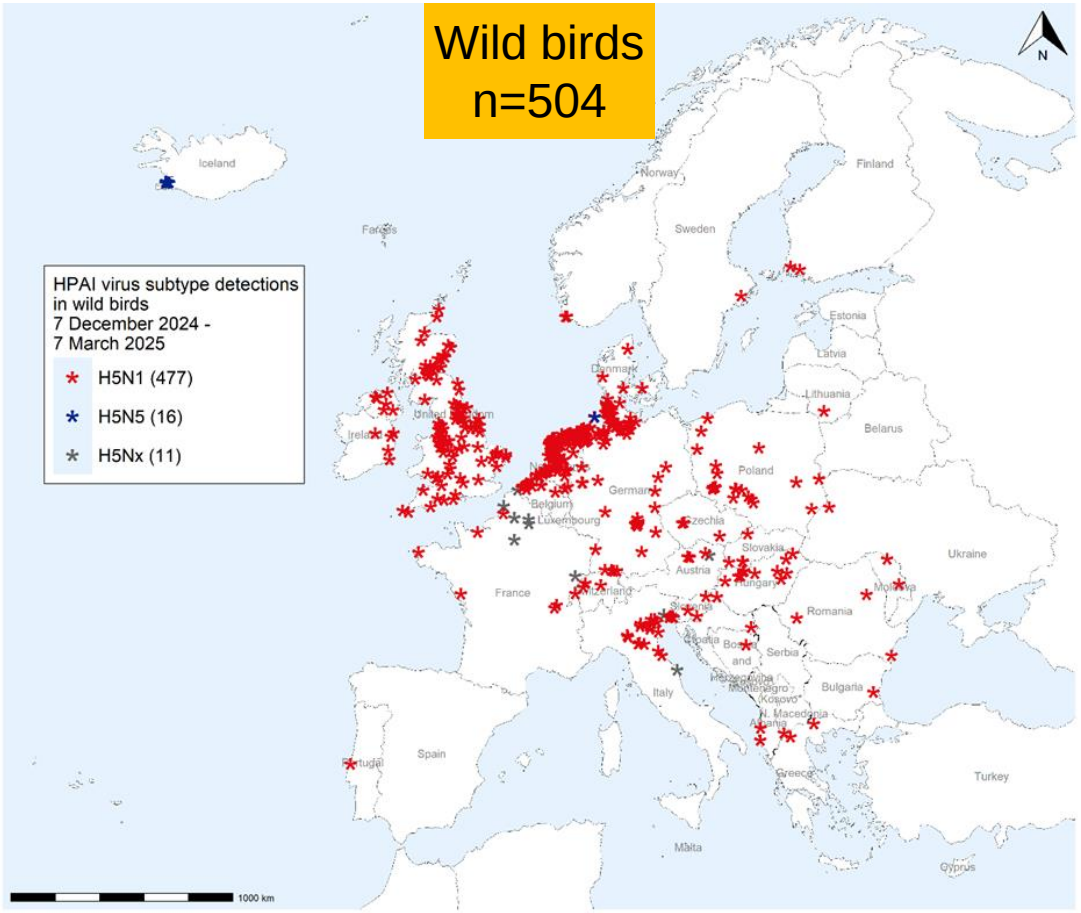
UPDATE ON HPAI IN EUROPE

Domestic
n=239



Author: EFSA
Data sources: ADIS, WOAH
Date updated: 07/03/2025

Wild birds
n=504



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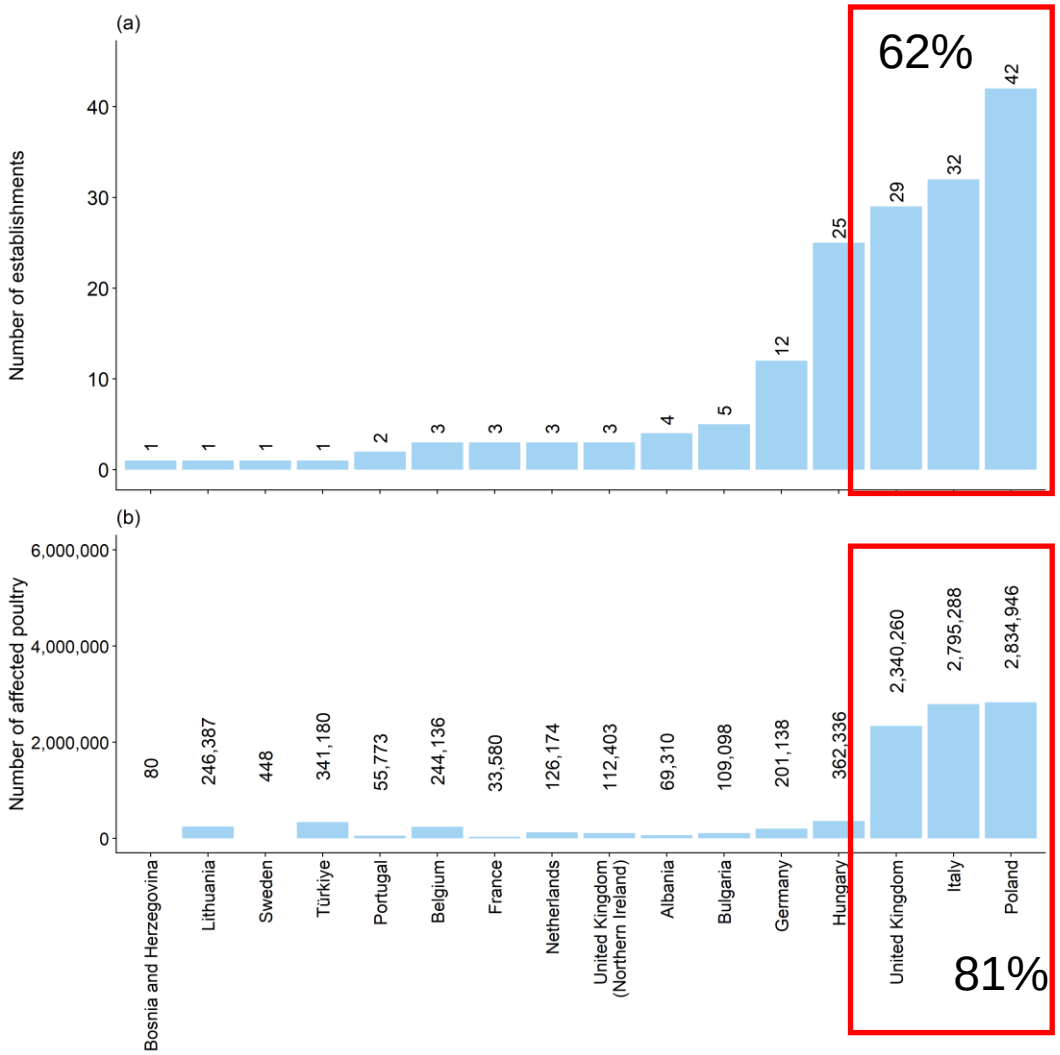
Waterfowl (285)
Colony-breeding seabirds (89)
Raptors (83)

UPDATE ON HPAI IN EUROPE

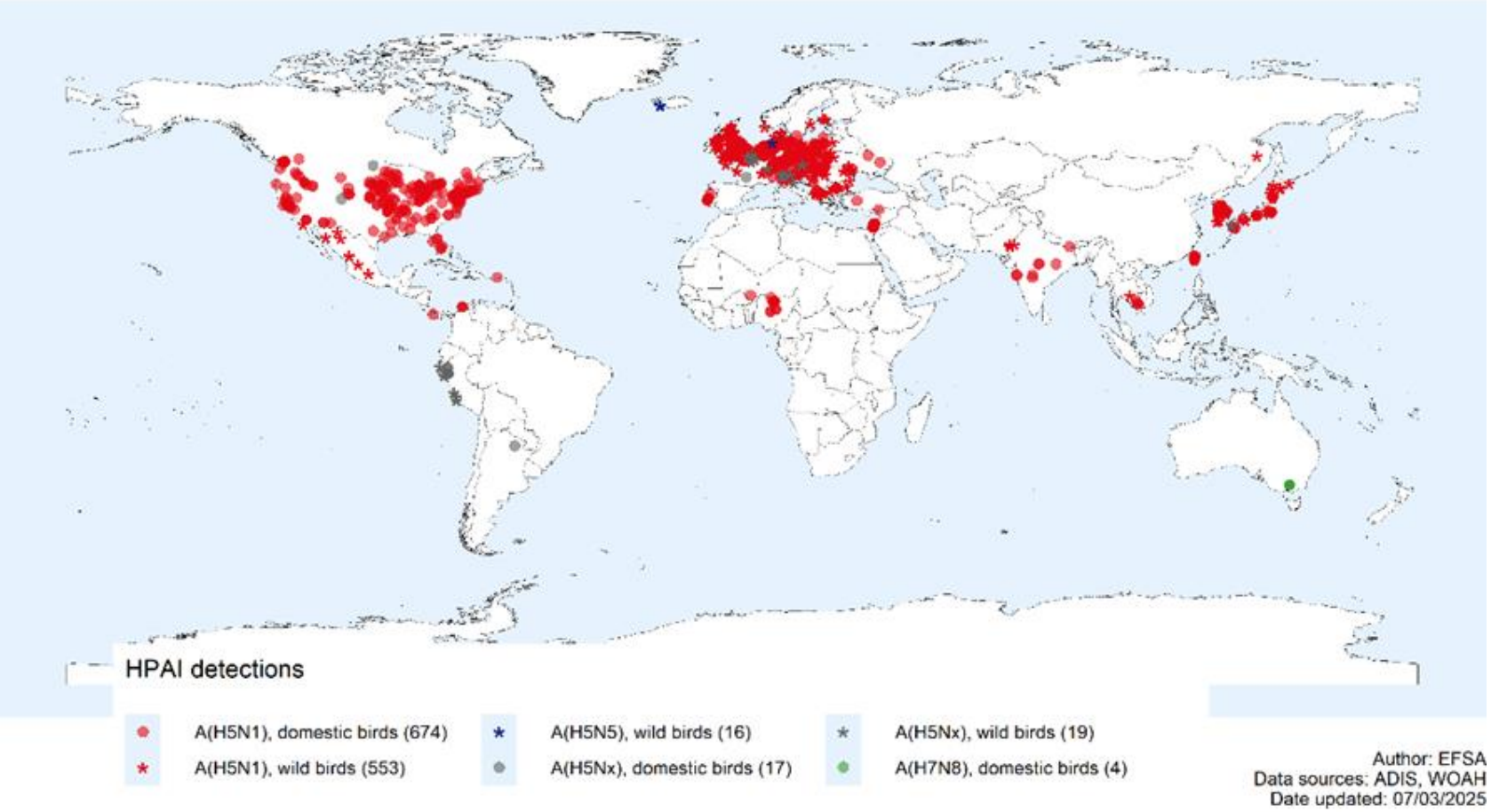


72 HPAI outbreaks in captive birds

Germany (19), Poland (14), Czechia (13), Belgium (5), United Kingdom (excluding Northern Ireland) (5), Moldova (3), Portugal (3), Netherlands (2), Ukraine (2), Austria (1), France (1), Hungary (1), Slovakia (1), and Türkiye (1)

The Netherlands had the highest number of HPAI virus detections in wild birds (135), yet only **three outbreaks in poultry** and two outbreaks in captive birds

UPDATE ON HPAI OUTSIDE EUROPE



A(H5N1) DOMESTIC	A(H5N1) WILD BIRDS
USA (n=292)	(n=0)
JAPAN (n=39)	(n=37)
SOUTH KOREA (n=27)	(n=22)
CANADA (n=25)	(n=0)

HPAI IN MAMMALS | DECEMBER 2024–MARCH 2025 H5N1

EUROPE

Domestic cats
- Belgium (2) and Italy (2)
- Associated with affected poultry establishments

Red foxes*
- Italy (2), Netherlands (2), Slovenia (1) and UK (Scotland) (1)

*Belgium (1) (**H5**)

WORLDWIDE

Dairy cattle
- USA (nearly 1,000 farms in 17 states)
- Second genotype (D1.1) with similar clinical picture detected

Domestic cats
- USA (around 60): exposure to raw pet food (based on poultry), raw milk or wild birds
- India: 2.3.2.1a clade

Large felines
- USA: bobcat, Canada lynx, caracal, cheetah, Eurasian lynx, Geoffroy's cat, lion, mountain lion, savannah cat, serval, tiger; hybrids
- India: leopard, tiger
- Mostly captive
- Exposure to raw poultry meat

Other wildlife
- USA: black rat, bottlenose dolphin, deer mouse, eastern gray squirrel, fox, harbour seal, house mouse, Norway rat, stoat**
- Canada: ringed seal**
- Antarctica: crabeater seal, southern elephant seal

**previous reporting period

H5N1 B3.13 OUTBREAK IN US DAIRY CATTLE (REPORT)

1a. provide a summary of the:

- virological information
- outbreaks in dairy cattle
- measures that have been recommended or applied by the US authorities

1b. describe the potential pathways for entry of the virus via:

- trade
- migratory birds, and timelines associated with the potential entry via migratory birds

DEADLINE: 31st May 2025

H5N1 B3.13 OUTBREAK IN US DAIRY CATTLE (OPINION)

2. Risk analysis of the infection of dairy cows in the EU with the HPAI virus H5N1, Eurasian lineage goose/Guangdong clade 2.3.4.4b. genotype B3.13:

a. assess the potential **impact of the infection of dairy cows in the EU**;

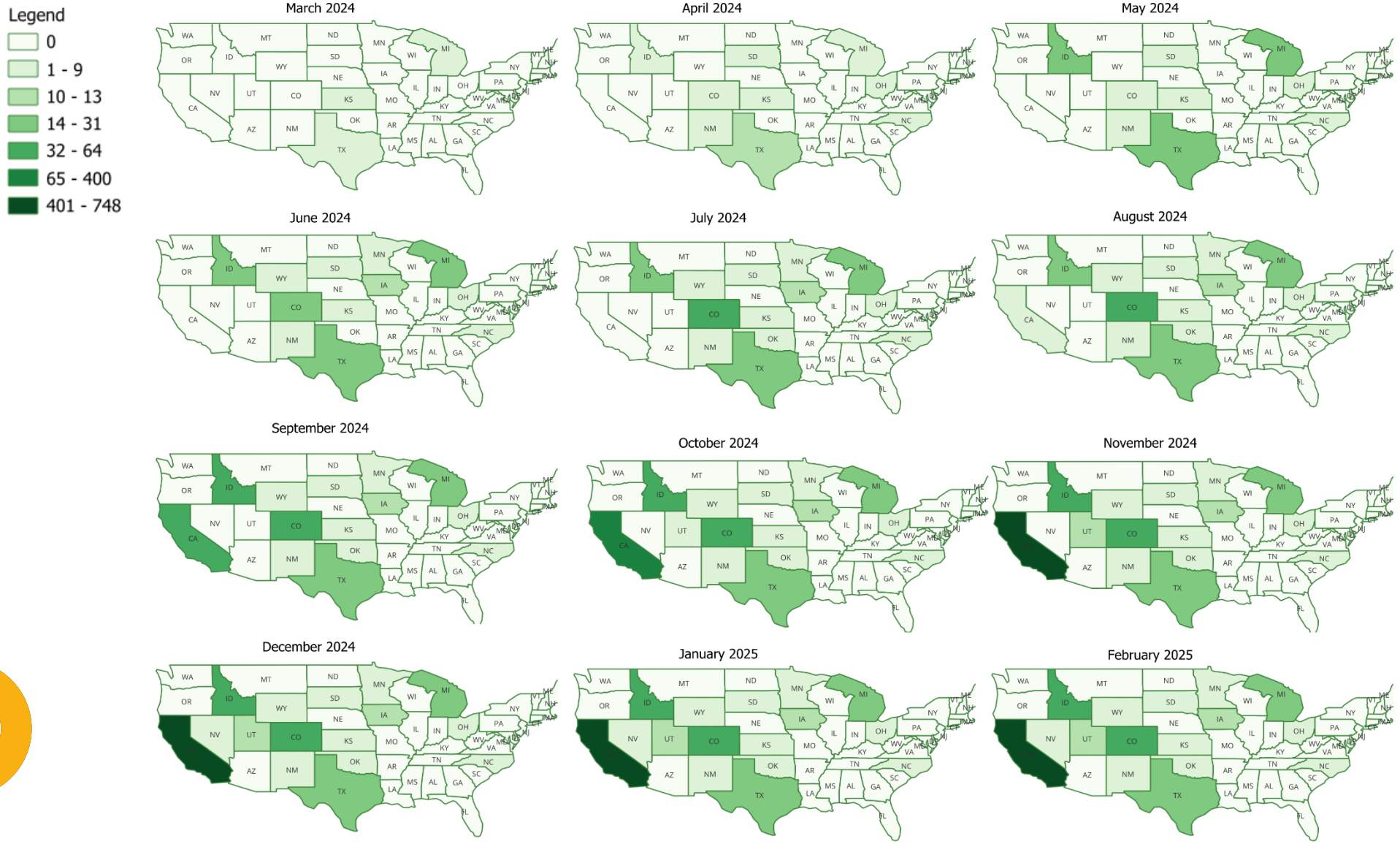
b. describe possible measures to **prevent the introduction** of the virus into **dairy cows and poultry** in the EU as well as possible risk mitigating measures to **prevent its spread** in the EU;

c. describe possible options for **adaptations of the current EU surveillance** for HPAI that would allow detection of an introduction into the EU dairy cows populations posing a significant animal or public health threat;

d. in a hypothetical scenario that **lactating dairy cows are found to be infected** with this virus, assess, taking into account the application or not of risk mitigating measures described above, the **likelihood of bulk milk to be contaminated**;

DEADLINE: 30th November 2025

OUTBREAKS IN DAIRY CATTLE IN THE US



HPAI H5N1 B3.13 genotype

State	Cases
California	748
Colorado	64
Idaho	36
Iowa	13
Kansas	4
Michigan	31
Minnesota	9
Nevada	1
New Mexico	9
North Carolina	1
Ohio	1
Oklahoma	2
South Dakota	7
Texas	27
Utah	13
Wyoming	1
Total	**967**

+ 10 confirmed cases in Nevada/Arizona, where the D1.1 genotype was found for which still unclear how many were D1.1 and how many B3.13

aphis.usda.gov

CONTROL MEASURES APPLIED BY US AUTHORITIES

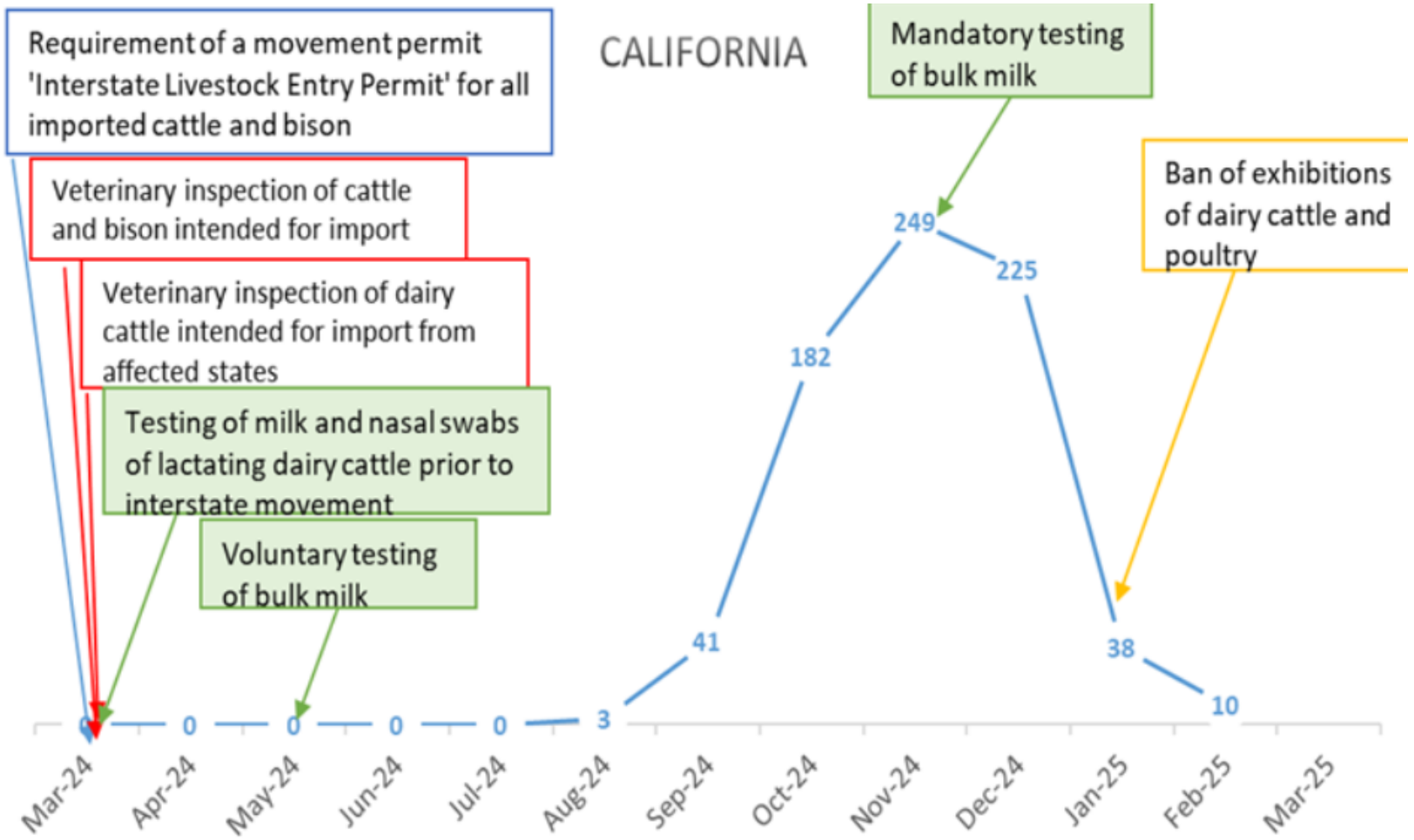
Legislative measures	States
Health certification	20 states
Testing prior to movement	Federal Order + 15 states
Movement restriction	16 states
Testing in the state	Federal Order + 7 states
Quarantine	7 states
Exhibition ban	4 states
Biosecurity measures	3 states

Official government websites (USDA and individual states) and media reports

HPAI H5N1 B3.13 genotype

State	Cases	Legal measures
California	748	4
Colorado	64	2
Idaho	36	4
Iowa	13	4
Kansas	4	1
Michigan	31	3
Minnesota	9	3
Nevada	1	1
New Mexico	9	0
North Carolina	1	1
Ohio	1	0
Oklahoma	2	3
South Dakota	7	2
Texas	27	1
Utah	13	1
Wyoming	1	0
Total	**967**	**30**

CONTROL MEASURES APPLIED BY US AUTHORITIES

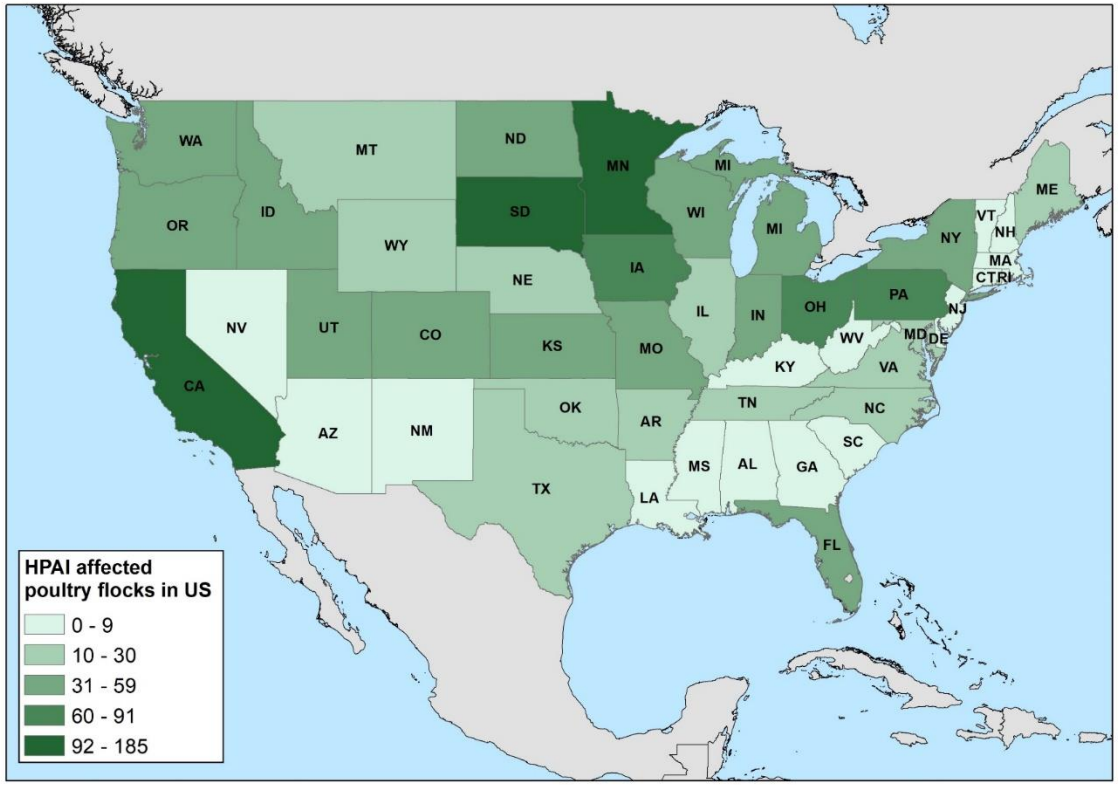


IN THE REPORT:

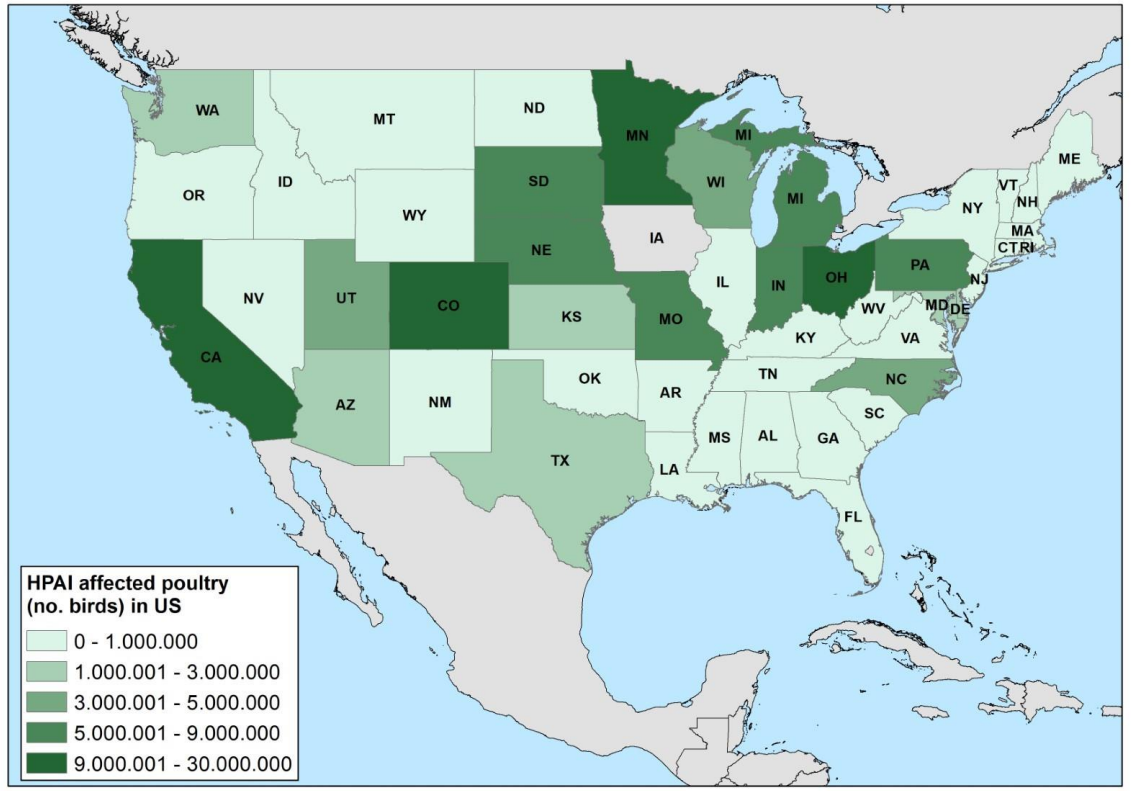
-Individual state graphs depicting the progression of outbreaks, the number of cases, and the timing of USDA or state-issued orders

-The rise in detections across most states appears to be closely linked to the implementation of bulk milk testing or nasal swab testing requirements before cattle movement, whether voluntary or mandatory

HPAI OUTBREAKS IN POULTRY IN THE US (SINCE FEBRUARY 2022)



Affected poultry flocks



Affected poultry (no. birds)

Unspecified genotype

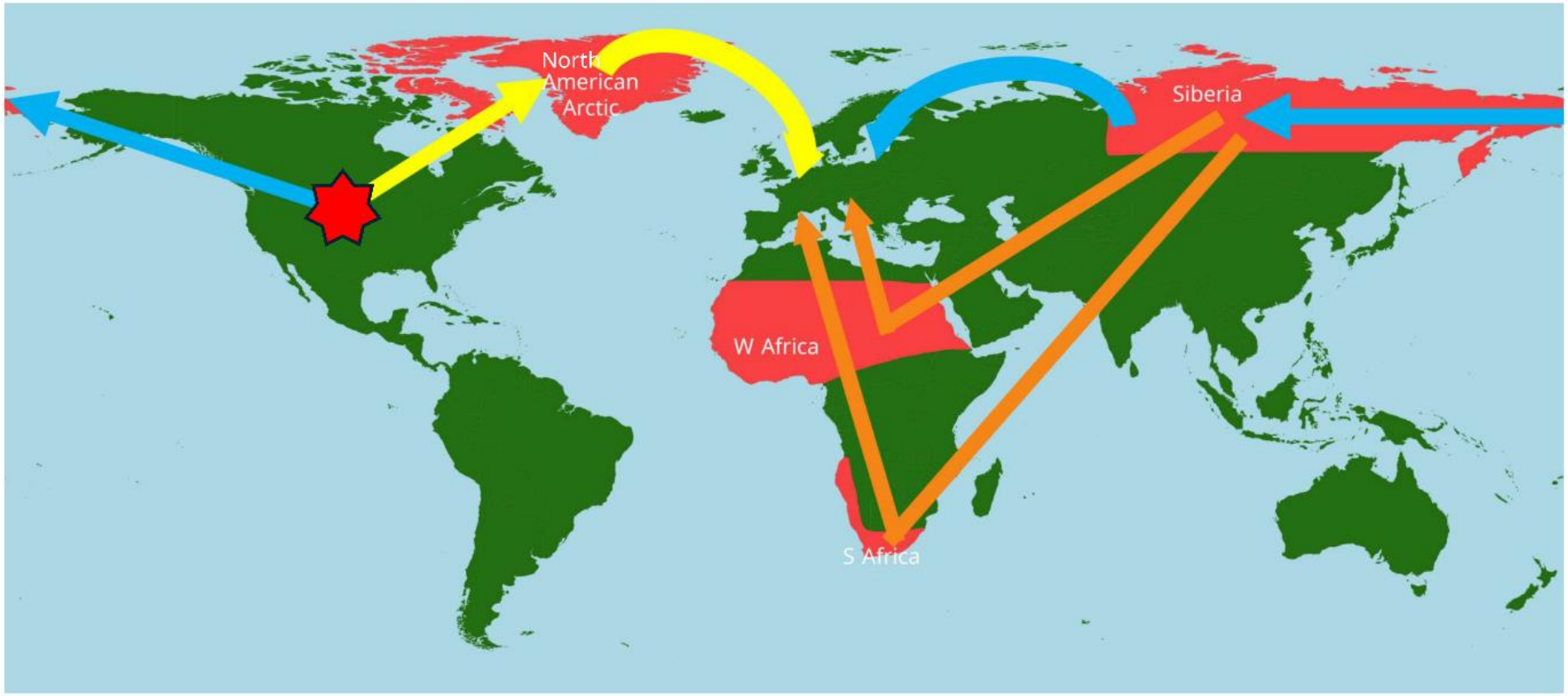
COMMODITIES IMPORTED FROM THE US BETWEEN 2023-2025 (TRACES/EUROSTAT DATABASE)

In preparation for the Risk Assessment to be delivered by November 2025:

- List of commodities that could potentially be traded from the US based on the legislation*
- Review of literature in terms of commodities where the virus has been found
- Review of the number of consignments of such commodities (if any) imported from the US between 2023 and 2025 using TRACES/EUROSTAT database
- Need for clarifications related to some of the commodities (e.g. in the info retrieved from TRACES/EUROSTAT is not always clear when milk / milk products refer to raw vs pasteurised/UHT… work in progress)

*Commission Implementing Regulation 2021/404[1] lays down the lists of third countries, territories or zones thereof from which the entry into the Union of animals, germinal products and products of animal origin is permitted in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and the Council, and Commission Regulation (EU) 2022/384 on animal by-products and derived products

RISK OF INTRODUCTION VIA WILD BIRDS

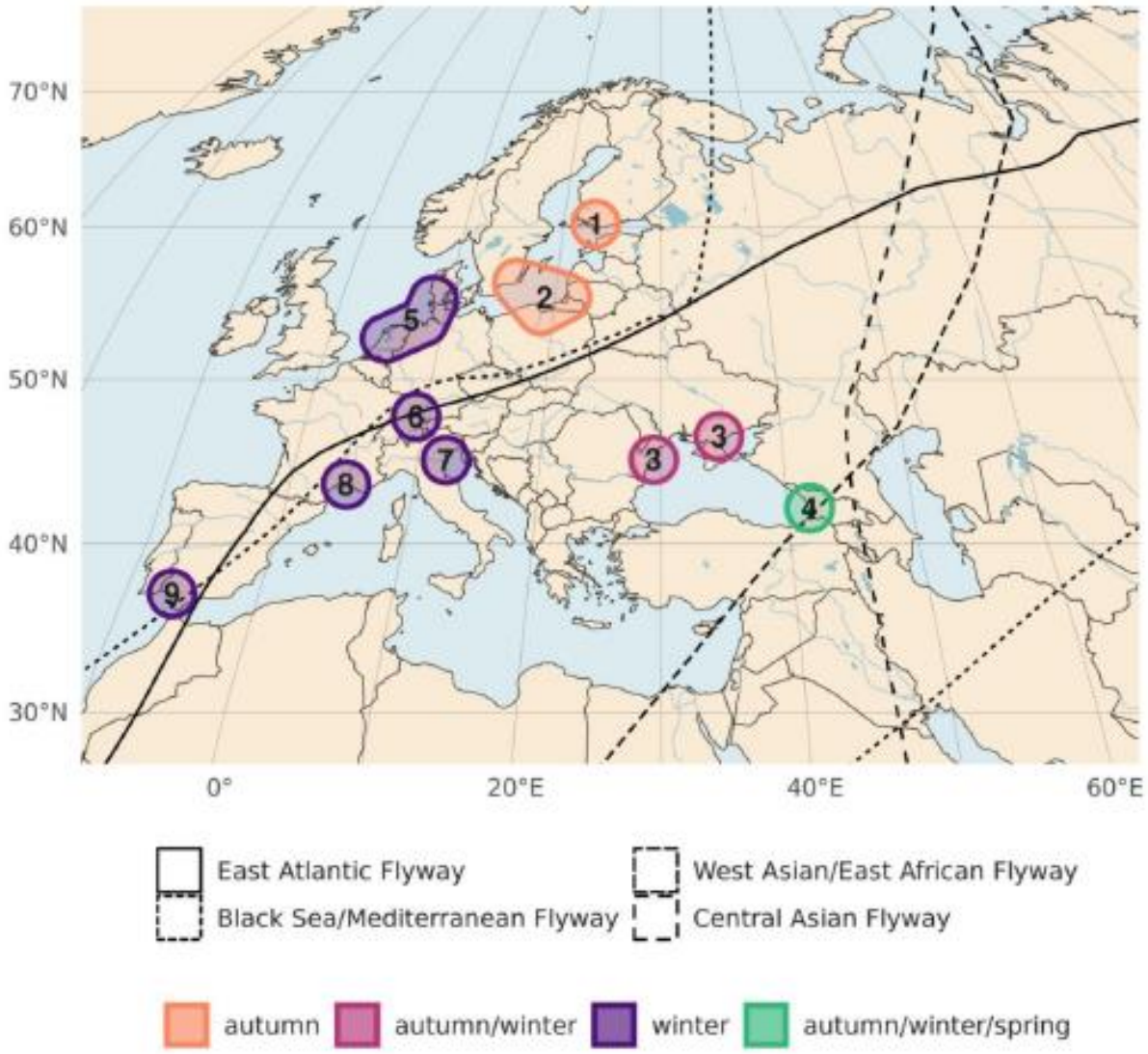


Birds infected in the Arctic would appear in Europe after 'southward' migration when the Arctic breeding season has ended. They would typically appear in Europe in large numbers in **August-September (shorebirds) or September-November (ducks and geese).**

Transmission of HPAI viruses from North American birds to Europe is **more likely and faster via the American route** than via the Siberian and indirect routes

Surveillance enabling an early detection in Europe should preferably be focused on areas with high concentrations of waterbirds **in Iceland, Britain and Ireland, and western Scandinavia (Norway)**

ACTIVE SURVEILLANCE (OUTPUTS/NEW CALL)



1) Building long-term capacities and partnerships for active surveillance of HPAI in wild birds

2) Pipeline for rapid detection and identification of AI viruses

3) Fuller picture of AI viruses circulating in Europe

SENTINEL Wild Birds project
new call for:

-**NODEs 3**: Western Black Sea Region

-**NODE 5**: Wadden Sea Region

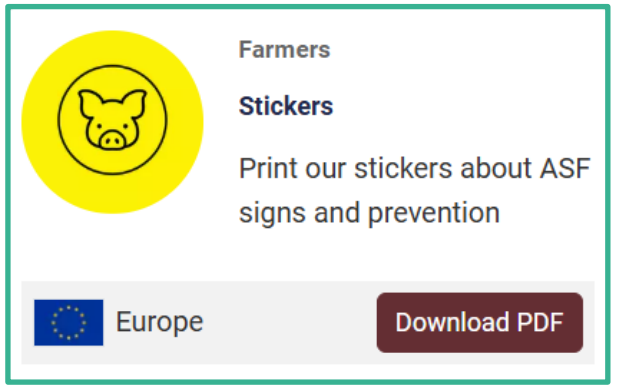
DEADLINE for submission of proposals: 22/05/2025

MANDATE ON BIOSECURITY IN POULTRY

TOR 1

- ❑ Visual factsheets/posters/stickers
- ❑ Dedicated webpage of the EFSA website

15 September 2025



TOR 2

- ❑ Report covering understandings, perceptions and recommendations for awareness-raising initiatives on biosecurity

15 December 2025

- ❑ Multi-year communication strategy:

-Situational analysis
-Outline of campaign objectives
-Timeline of the different phases
-Description of communication tactics
-Description of how the campaign will be monitored

1 March 2026

THANKS

QUESTIONS?