Avian Influenza "AH7N3" found in 15 grounds in Mexico

The National Service for Agri-Food Health, Safety and Quality (SENASICA), under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (SADER), has reported to the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) that the AH7N3 High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza virus was found in 15 grounds in the country. Among those grounds, 11 of them are backyard grounds, and 4 spots are chicken farms. All are in areas that have already been obtained permission for vaccination against such disease.

After the discovery of the disease, SENASICA begun implementing measures to control the disease by requiring the quarantine of animals in the affected area and implement anti-epidemic measures in accordance with national and international regulations. Also, the poultry farmers were recommended to increase the level of biological safety measures within their farms, vaccinate properly, and inform the authorities when there is an unusual death in the herd, in order to prevent problems and avoid the spread of the virus.

In order to protect domestic poultry farming business, which is the basic food production business of the country that creates jobs and a source of income for millions of people, SENASICA has been continuously implementing programs to monitor and contain the high pathogenicity diseases, like the avian influenza. The programs encourage farmers to follow the biological safety regulations for poultry farms, in order to increase the level of biological safety and avoid integrating disease agents to the domestic production areas. This measure is one of the ongoing processes, combined with surveillance and auditing, to develop and prevent security vulnerabilities in the domestic poultry industry and to prevent the biological threats, such as the both species of avian influenza, namely H5 and H7.

At present, both species of avian influenza are still under control, and the Mexican government and farmers have been dedicated their efforts to eradicate this disease. In order to achieve this objective, the assessment of the biological safety and compliance verification of basic biological safety measures will be conducted.

Sources: *https://agronoticias.com.mx/2019/06/12/detectan-focos-de-influenza-aviar-ah7n3/* *and* *https://www.razon.com.mx/salud/influenza-ah7n3-aviar-influenza-aviar-de-alta-patogenicidad-senasica-vacunas-granjas-aves-gripa-ssa-secretaria-de-salud-onu/*

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