

# Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)

Current chapter of the WOA/ Terrestrial Code:

Standards for Safe Trade

Including trade from countries applying HPAI vaccination.

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GF-TADs Americas

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México



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animale  
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Mundial  
de Sanidad  
Animal  
Fundada como OIE



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## Overview

- Recently updated (2021, but it took four years to adapt!) on: epidemiology, trade, trends....
- Since then, the situation has evolved...including in the Americas.
- And the Code remains relevant, as it covers all situations and offers practical options to Veterinary Authorities for the prevention and control of HPAI, including trade aspects.
- Are further changes needed? It depends on the Members, but first: those changes need to be requested!





## Key aspects of the chapter

- **It's only about HPAI, but low pathogenicity AI H5 and H7 should be monitored and managed;**
- Case definition = test; no relation to clinical severity;
- Safe commodities
- Free status = self-declaration; comprehensive surveillance (specific if vaccinated) + outbreak management
- Trade = from HPAI free zones or compartments (or treated products); possible if vaccinated;
- Surveillance = "passive" + "active", even if free of the disease.



## Key aspects of the chapter regarding vaccination

1. Vaccination against HPAI is an effective complementary control tool when a stamping-out policy alone is not sufficient;
2. Vaccination does not affect HPAI free status if surveillance confirms the absence of infection;
3. The Veterinary Authority decides whether vaccination will be implemented based on the HPAI situation, as well as the capacity of the Veterinary Services to implement vaccination and the appropriate surveillance strategy;
4. Tests to ensure the absence of virus circulation should be conducted at a frequency consistent with the risk; the use of sentinel poultry may provide additional confidence.
5. Evidence of the effectiveness of the vaccination program should also be provided.



## Key aspects regarding trade

1. Trade from free zones and compartments,
2. Except "safe commodities" and treated products;
3. Vaccination does not affect the HPAI free status of a zone if surveillance confirms freedom from infection;
4. Surveillance must include all vaccinated flocks;
5. ONLY condition for trade:  
**Live birds in trade (including day-old birds and hatching eggs) must carry information on vaccines used (nature and date).**
6. No specific conditions for meat, eggs and other poultry products.

Other considerations

Complement between horizontal WOAH standards and disease-specific standards;

- Relevant chapters:
  - Chapters 3.1. to 3.5. on Quality of Veterinary Services
    - Fundamental Principles
    - Policy and Management
    - Personnel and resources
    - Performance of veterinary Services (PVS)
    - Legislation
    - Competent authorities
    - Stakeholders
  - Chapter 4.19. Official control programs
    - Legal framework,
    - Emergencies and outbreak management,
    - Surveillance,
    - Movement control,
    - Communication



## Other considerations

## Complement between horizontal WOAHA standards and disease-specific standards;

- Relevant chapters:
- Chapter 1.4. Animal Health Surveillance:
  - Objective;
  - Design of a surveillance system;
  - Methods and type;
  - Early warning system;
  - Surveillance for determining absence (freedom)
- Chapter 4.18. on Vaccination:
  - Objectives
  - Vaccination Programmes and Strategies
  - Choice of vaccine
  - Logistics of vaccination
  - Evaluation and Monitoring
  - Exit strategy
  - Impact on disease status.

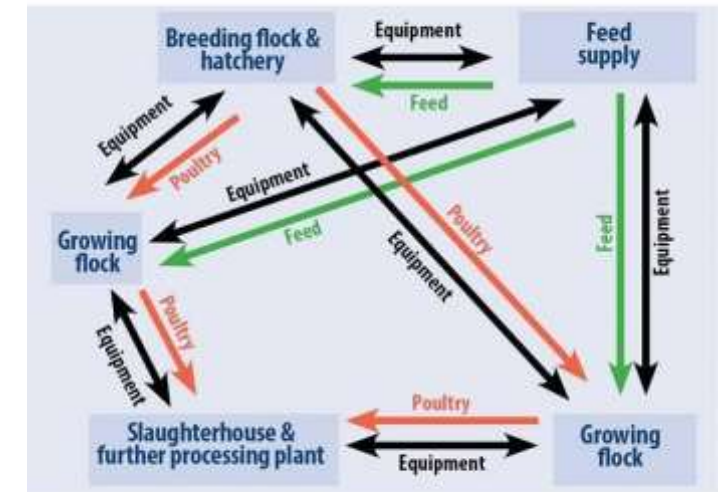
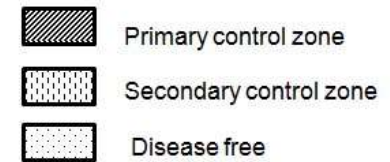
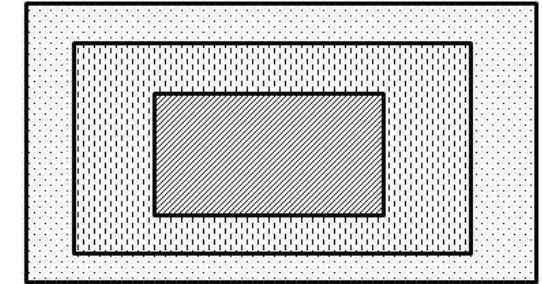




## Other considerations

## Complement between horizontal WOAHA standards and disease-specific standards;

- Relevant chapters:
- Chapters 4.4. Zoning and compartmentalization and 4.5. Application of compartmentalisation
- Separation of animals between subpopulations
- Zone: natural, artificial or legal boundaries,
- Protection zone,
- Containment zone,
- Compartment: Management and biosecurity,
- Biosecurity plan,
- Components,
- Traceability
- Role and functions,
- Bilateral recognition of trading partners (Chapter 5.3. SPS measures).



- Upcoming: New Chapter "Biosafety" (Roadmap of the Terrestrial Code Commission WOAHA)

# Thank you!

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