

H5 bird flu



H5 bird flu has been detected in Australia

What is H5 bird flu?

H5 bird flu is a highly infectious viral disease that affects many bird species, including poultry. It is spread by close contact between birds or contamination of feed and water with faeces. Waterfowl, seabirds, shore birds and birds of prey are commonly affected. H5 bird flu can cause significant deaths in both wild birds and poultry.

Signs of bird flu:

- ☐ Typical 'sick bird' signs includes ruffled feathers, depression, closed eyes and discharge from the eyes.
- ☐ Sudden drop in egg production
- ☐ Lethargy or not eating and drinking
- ☐ Swollen head or limbs
- ☐ Bruising (purple) on comb, feet, or skin
- ☐ Breathing issues or runny nose and eyes, sneezing
- ☐ Unexplained sudden death
- ☐ Unusual head or neck posture
- ☐ Can't stand or walk properly.

What you can do

If you see sick or dead birds or other animals, do not touch them.

AVOID • RECORD • REPORT

1 AVOID



Do not touch sick or dead birds or other animals.

2 RECORD



Record your location and what you see. Take photos if safe.

3 REPORT



Report sick or dead wild birds using the online form at nt.gov.au/birdflu

4 CALL



Call the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888.

Poultry that are most susceptible



Chickens



Turkeys



Ducks



Guinea fowl



Geese

Protecting your family and pets

- ✓ Poultry, meat and eggs are safe to eat when cooked properly.
- ✓ Always follow good food hygiene practices when handling and preparing food.
- ✓ Human infection with H5 bird flu is rare, but severe illness can occur.
- ✓ There is currently no evidence of human-to-human transmission of this strain and no human case reported in Australia.
- ✓ Keep pets away from wildlife.
- ✓ Practice good hand hygiene by washing your hands and equipment after handling animals, eggs or raw meat.



Keeping your flock safe



- ✓ Contact with wild birds poses the most significant disease risk to poultry.
- ✓ Prevent wild birds from mixing with your poultry.
- ✓ Enclose poultry runs and check enclosure for any holes where smaller wild birds may enter. Place fine mesh or netting over any holes or gaps.
- ✓ Cover the roof of the enclosure to stop wild bird droppings from entering.
- ✓ Move all food and water undercover and out of reach of wild birds.
- ✓ Keep enclosures, feeders and equipment clean - regularly clean and disinfect.
- ✓ If your ducks/geese regularly swim in a pond visited by wild birds, consider providing an alternate, enclosed pond.
- ✓ Practice good hygiene, such as washing hands thoroughly with soap and water before and after handling birds.
- ✓ Avoid unnecessary contact with other people's poultry while H5 bird flu is a risk.
- ✓ Clean and disinfect footwear before entering your enclosure or leave designated footwear at the entrance/exit to the enclosure.
- ✓ Monitor birds for signs of disease or sudden death.
- ✓ Isolate new birds for at least 30 days before introducing to the rest of your flock and monitor for signs of illness.

Scan for more information:



nt.gov.au/birdflu



birdflu.gov.au

Information and resources about H5 bird flu are available at nt.gov.au/birdflu and birdflu.gov.au