

What is a FAD?

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A **Foreign Animal Disease, (FAD)**, is an important, transmissible disease believed to be absent or not native to Canada. Some of these diseases are of such importance to human or animal health or to the Canadian economy that animal owners, veterinarians and laboratories are required to immediately report the presence of these conditions to a district veterinarian from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). These diseases known as reportable diseases are outlined in the *Health of Animals Act and Regulations* (<http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/H-3.3/fulltoc.html>). Examples of FAD's include: Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), and Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD).

The Office International des Epizooties (OIE) http://www.oie.int/eng/en_index.htm is an intergovernmental organization responsible for the International Health Code and for the Manual of Standards for Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines. It sets the sanitary standards for the World Trade Organization and defines HPAI and Newcastle Disease as "reportable" diseases, which means that any identification of these diseases requires reporting it worldwide. OIE has also recommended response and control strategies to be used in the face of an HPAI outbreak. These include surveillance and early detection, rapid culling or depopulation, compensation, improved biosecurity, and vaccinations (when appropriate).

Reportable Diseases

In avian species, the following diseases are reportable:

- Notifiable Avian Influenza - (H5 or H7 Type)
- Exotic Newcastle Disease (END)
- Fowl Typhoid (*Salmonella Typhoid*)
- Pullorum Disease (*Salmonella pullorum*)

With confirmation of one of these diseases, CFIA will immediately institute control and eradication measures to protect other Canadian livestock and poultry producers as well as export markets. CFIA pays compensation for birds that are ordered destroyed during an FAD outbreak.



Symptoms such as swollen eyes and respiratory difficulties can occur with AI.

Neurological symptoms (neck twisting) from END.





In addition to Reportable Diseases there are other diseases that occur in Canada that are of sufficient importance to be designated as Immediately Notifiable or Annually Notifiable diseases. A complete list can be found on the Canadian Food Inspection Agency website <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/anima/disemala/guidee.shtml>

Relevance of a FAD

Each of the diseases listed above share a number of characteristics. They are all: highly contagious, easily transmissible, capable of causing high death losses, severe production losses and can potentially cripple the Canadian export market. For example the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, (HPAI), strains H5 and H7 outbreaks in poultry can cause 90-100% mortality. The HPAI outbreak (H5N2) in British Columbia in 2004 resulted in 18.9 million birds destroyed, severe international trade restrictions and economic losses exceeding \$370 million at the farm gate and \$850 million retail. Avian Influenza poses an additional threat in that it is capable of causing serious disease and even death in people. Failure to act responsibly when a FAD is diagnosed can result in disaster, not only for your own business, but also for the bird industry in general.

TAKE HOME MESSAGE

- FAD's are extremely important.
- Bird owners/producers should make every effort to develop an effective on farm health management and biosecurity programs to reduce the risk of a FAD, (or any disease), from entering their farm. Every producer should be prepared to cooperate with the Federal authorities in the event of an emergency.
- Every poultry group/association/club should work together to develop biosecurity programs and Emergency Response Plans. If you have an effective biosecurity program in place and a FAD is diagnosed, CFIA may consider not eradicating your flock.

SUGGESTED REFERENCES

Movement Control Following Confirmation of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza: (HPAI) in a Flock:
http://www.poultryindustrycouncil.ca/factsheets/fs_144.pdf

CFIA definition and description of Foreign Animal Diseases
http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/anima/heasan/man/avmmva/avmmva_mod12e.shtml
<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/anima/heasan/fad/privete.shtml>

List and definition of Notifiable Diseases
<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/anima/disemala/guidee.shtml>

Reportable Diseases Regulations
<http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/H-3.3/SOR-91-2/index.html>

Health of Animals Act: Compensation for Destroyed Animals Regulations.
<http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/H-3.3/SOR-2000-233/index.html>



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