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DADF Publishes Surveillance Plan for Avian Influenza

Report Categories:

Poultry and Products

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Pest/Disease Occurrences

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Report Highlights:

The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DADF) published “Surveillance Plan for Avian Influenza”, which provides a detailed surveillance strategy to capture the warning signals of the disease. This surveillance strategy was not provided in previous surveillance plans.

Executive Summary:

On November 25, 2013, the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DADF) published “Surveillance Plan for Avian Influenza” to highlight surveillance measures to be followed before, during, and after an Avian Influenza (AI) outbreak. A few of the measures contained in the Surveillance Plan are already covered under the “[Action Plan of Animal Husbandry for Preparedness, Control and Containment of Avian Influenza](#).” However, the new Surveillance Plan specifically defines the detailed surveillance strategy to capture the warning signals of the disease.

General Information:

In mid-February 2006, India provided notification on its first AI outbreak. Later, outbreaks were reported in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, West Bengal, Tripura, Assam, Sikkim, Odisha and Meghalaya. The DADF initially prepared the “Action Plan of Animal Husbandry for Preparedness, Control and Containment of Avian Influenza” (including a [Revised Plan](#)) to address these outbreaks. The Action plan for AI also describes modes of surveillance for Avian Influenza, early detection, and prevention measures. However, the Surveillance Plan lays emphasis on detailed surveillance strategy, specifically targeting stages before, during, and after the AI outbreak. Additionally, it describes methods of surveillance, types of samples, sampling framework and methodology.

It also provides:

- 1) A methodology for surveillance and sampling of AI;
- 2) Planning and monitoring of disease control programs;
- 3) Provisions of sound animal health advice to farmers;
- 4) Certification of livestock for exports;
- 5) International reporting; and
- 6) Evidence for attaining disease freedom.

The surveillance plan also covers sampling for surveillance of H7N9.

The “Surveillance Plan for Avian Influenza” has been divided into three chapters:

Chapter 1: Surveillance in the Absence of AI

Chapter 2: Surveillance during an AI Outbreak

Chapter 3: Surveillance for 30 days after the completion of control and containment operation (Post-Operation Surveillance Plan)

The [Surveillance Plan for Avian Influenza](#) can be accessed on the [DADF](#) website.