

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## Israel

**Post:** Tel Aviv

### **New Avian Influenza (H5N1) Outbreaks in Israel**

**Report Categories:**

Pest/Disease Occurrences

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**Report Highlights:**

On May 8, 2015, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development confirmed a case of avian influenza (AI) in a turkey farm near Nahariya city in the northern Israel near the border with Lebanon. In addition, on May 19, 2015, another AI turkey outbreak was also confirmed in the same area.

## General Information:

On May 8, 2015, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) confirmed a case of avian influenza (AI) in a turkey farm near Nahariya city (Moshav Betzet) in northern Israel (40 minute drive north of Haifa, and a few km. south of the border with Lebanon). See annex 1.

Of the 13,000 birds in the farm, clinical signs were observed in a pen of 2,000 10-week-old turkeys. About 1,000 of them died and the remaining 12,000 birds on the farm were culled and buried.

MARD implemented the following control measures: stamping-out, quarantine, movement controls, and zoning. There is no vaccination or treatment of the affected animals. Farms in the vicinity of the infected site or within a 10 km radius are being monitored and tested for AI.

In addition, on May 19, 2015, another AI turkey outbreak was also confirmed in Moshav Betzet. It is estimated that the second outbreak affected about 14,000 turkeys. All the 14,000 are being culled and will be buried in the next few days. MARD has also implemented the same measures as above, and is also monitoring and testing for AI on all farms in the vicinity of the infected site or within a 10 km radius.

No suspected AI human cases have been reported in Israel.

The last outbreak of avian flu in Israel had been in February, 2015. Since the beginning of 2015, four avian flu outbreaks have been reported in Israel.

## Annex 1: AI Site in Israel

