



agriculture, land reform & rural development

Department:
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

CHIEF DIRECTORATE: STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION

Private Bag X250, PRETORIA, 0001 • Tel.: +27 12 319 7319 • Fax 012 319 6681 Private Bag X9087, CAPE TOWN, 8000 • Tel.: +27 21 467 4502 • Fax 021 465 6550 • Web: www.dalrrd.gov.za

Media Statement

30 May 2023

UPDATE ON HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA OUTBREAK

The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural development would like to update the nation on the outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI). To date a total of five HPAI outbreaks were confirmed in commercial chickens farms in the Western Cape Province.

All affected farms have been immediately placed under quarantine and no live animals/birds and eggs are allowed to be removed from the farm. The Department would like to reassure consumers that commercial poultry meat and eggs are safe to eat. Care should however be taken when preparing food to avoid other food-borne pathogens.

Birds infected with HPAI get sick fairly quickly and die. Generally the first sign of sick animals, including birds, is drop in production, meaning that sick birds will produce very few (if any) eggs. This, together with the added mitigation of placing farms under quarantine, means no eggs from infected properties will make their way to shelves.

“We strongly encourage all poultry farmers including those with birds kept as a hobby or for zoo purposes to adhere to strict biosecurity measures to prevent the introduction of HPAI”

We also urge farmers and individuals to report any suspect outbreak must be to the responsible private or state veterinarian.

-END-

Issued by the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development:

Media Liaison Officer and Spokesperson: Mr Reggie Ngcobo, 0662980980 or

MLO.Minister@dalrrd.gov.za

Eviction Toll-free Number: 0800 007 095

Follow us on:



@DALRRDgov_ZA,



Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural

Development or  DALRRDgov_ZA



Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development. Departement van Landbou, Grondhervorming en Landelike Ontwikkeling. Muhasho wa zwa Vhulimi, Mbuedzedzo ya Mavu na Mveledziso ya Mahayani, uMnyango Wezolimo, Izinguquko Kwezomhlaba. Nokuthuthukiswa Kwezindawo Zasemakhaya. Ndzawulo ya Vurimi, Antswiso wa Misava na Nhluvukiso wa Matikoxikaya. Litiko Letekulima, Tingucuko Kutemhlaba. Nekutfutukiswa Kwetindzawo Tasemaphandleni. UmNyango wezokuLima, ukuBuyiselwa kweNarha nokuThuthukiswa kweNdawo zemaKhaya. Kgoro ya Temo, Peakanyoleswa ya Naga le Tihabollo ya Dinaga- magae. Lefapha la Temothuo, Kabobotiba ya Naba le Tihabollo ya Dibaka tsa Mabae. Lefapha la Temothuo. Pusetso dinaga le Tihabollo ya Metsemagae. ISebe lezolimo.

