



## International Animal Health Division

International Animal Disease Monitoring

## Preliminary Outbreak Assessment



Ref: VITT 1200/AI (H5) - TURKEY

Date: 13 February 2007

# Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in Turkey

**Note:** Defra's International Animal Health Division (IAHD) monitors outbreaks of high impact diseases around the world. Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) is among those diseases of major concern.

## Disease Report

An outbreak of disease was detected in poultry in Batman province, south-eastern Turkey on 5 February and confirmed as avian influenza on 8 February (OIE, 2007). Preliminary laboratory information on 9 February indicates that HPAI (H5N1) is involved (European Commission, 2007). Turkey has implemented control measures including stamping out and control zones.

## Situation Assessment

Turkey experienced a number of outbreaks of H5N1 throughout the country in 2006, the last outbreak occurred at the end of March 2006.



Turkey is currently not allowed to export live poultry, fresh poultry meat or heat treated poultry meat products to the EU.

Imports to the EU of avian products such as feathers are permitted from Turkey. Feathers are normally processed in a way which would remove or inactivate avian influenza virus. Imports of unprocessed feathers have been banned.

## Conclusion

The information available suggests that there is negligible direct risk to the UK from the suspected outbreak of avian influenza in Turkey.

## References

- European Commission (2007). Avian Influenza – Turkey: results of laboratory investigations. Urgent Fax 663 (9/2/2007 17:00). D1BVG(07)D/410EEL. (Received 16:26 09/02/2007)
- OIE (2007). Highly pathogenic avian influenza, Turkey. TUR 09-02-07 OIE Alert Message (Received by e-mail 09 Feb 2007)