

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION OF HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA IN PORTUGAL – 2024/2025

The following information describes the current epidemiological situation of highly pathogenic avian influenza in Portugal.

1. DGAV organization and contingency plan chain of command

The contingency plan chain of command is shown on figure 1.

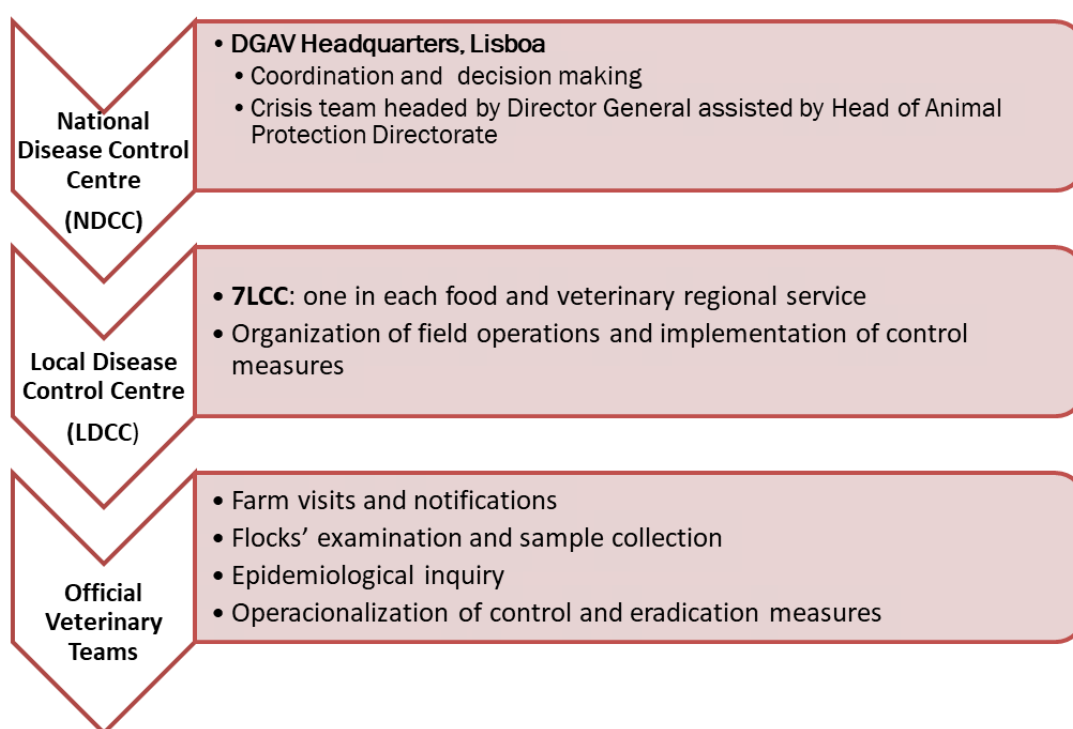


Figure 1 – Contingency plan's chain of command

2. Outbreaks confirmed in the 2024/2025 season

All outbreaks mentioned below were confirmed by the Portuguese National Reference Laboratory, INIAV, I.P., by real time reverse transcriptase PCR assays. Determination of virus subtype and level of pathogenicity was also carried out.

2.1 – POULTRY AND OTHER KEPT BIRDS

On January 3rd an outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza, subtype H5N1, was confirmed in a poultry farm keeping laying hens. On January 17th another outbreak was detected on a small poultry establishment located within the protection zone of the first.

This farm had been inspected and tested after confirmation of outbreak n° 2025/01, and tests results were negative for the presence of AI virus. Two new outbreaks were detected on January 23rd, both in the municipality of Caldas da Rainha, one in a non-commercial backyard flock and the other in a small group of captive birds in a city park. On January 31st another HPAI H5N1 was confirmed in a small farm in Angeja, county of Albergaria-a-Nova, district of Aveiro. After several months, on August 4th, one outbreak, again H5N1, was detected in a backyard flock in the district of Setúbal and a few weeks later, on September 2nd, another outbreak was confirmed in a commercial establishment keeping fattening ducks, in the district of Santarém. Following this event, [Edict n.º 32](#), determining control measures, was published.

Table 1 shows all outbreaks confirmed in domestic birds until September 5th, 2025:

Outbreak	District	County	Parish	Probable Origin	Confirmation date	Holding type	Species	Number of birds
2025/01	Lisboa	Sintra	São João das Lampas e Terrugem	Possible direct/indirect contact with wild birds	03/01/2025	Commercial	Laying hens	55427
2025/02	Lisboa	Sintra	São João das Lampas e Terrugem	Possible direct/indirect contact with wild birds	17/01/2025	Small farm	Ducks, geese and chicken	346
2025/03	Leiria	Caldas da Rainha	Tornada e Salir do Porto	Possible direct/indirect contact with wild birds	23/01/2024	Backyard flock	Chickens, turkeys and geese	26
2025/04	Leiria	Caldas da Rainha	U.F. de Caldas da Rainha (Nossa Senhora do Pópulo, Coto e São Gregório)	Direct contact with wild birds	23/01/2024	City Park	Peafowl and swans	15
2025/05	Aveiro	Albergaria-a-Velha	Angeja	Possible direct/indirect contact with wild birds	31/01/2025	Small farm	Ducks, geese and chicken	166
2025/16	Setúbal	Alcácer do Sal	U.F. de Alcácer do Sal	Possible direct/indirect contact with wild birds	04/08/2025	Backyard flock	Chickens, ducks and turkeys	54
2025/21	Santarém	Benavente	Santo Estêvão	Possible direct/indirect contact with wild birds	02/09/2025	Commercial	Fattening ducks	257650

Table 1 – Poultry and other kept birds outbreaks confirmed in 2024/25

2.1.1. Measures to control and eradicate the outbreaks – domestic birds

Upon confirmation of the outbreaks, control and eradication measures were immediately implemented according to Delegated Regulation (EU) n.º 2020/687 of 17 of December 2019.

These measures include:

- Quarantine and epidemiological enquiry;
- Stamping out (please see table 2 for details);

Outbreak	Killing date	Nº animals eliminated	Date preliminary clean&desinf	Conclusion of final clean&desinf (foreseen)
2025/01	06-09/01/2025	55427	10/01/2025	07/02/2025
2025/02	17/01/2025	346	18/01/2025	10/02/2025
2025/03	24/01/2024	26	24/01/2024	03/02/2025
2025/05	01/02/2025	166	01/02/2025	10/02/2025
2025/16	04/08/2025	54	04/08/2025	12/08/2025
2025/21	3 a 05/09/2025	257650	05/09/2025	29/09/2025*

*Foreseen

Table 2 – Stamping out and cleaning and disinfection details

- Disposal of carcasses, by-products (manure) and waste;
- Cleaning and disinfection;
- Traceability of poultry, poultry products and by-products;
- Implementation of restriction zones:
 - Protection zone – area within a circle of a 3 km radius centred on the infected premises;
 - Surveillance zone - area within a circle of a 10 km radius centred on the infected premises.

The map below (Figure 2) shows the location of the poultry and backyard outbreaks as well as the restriction zones implemented.

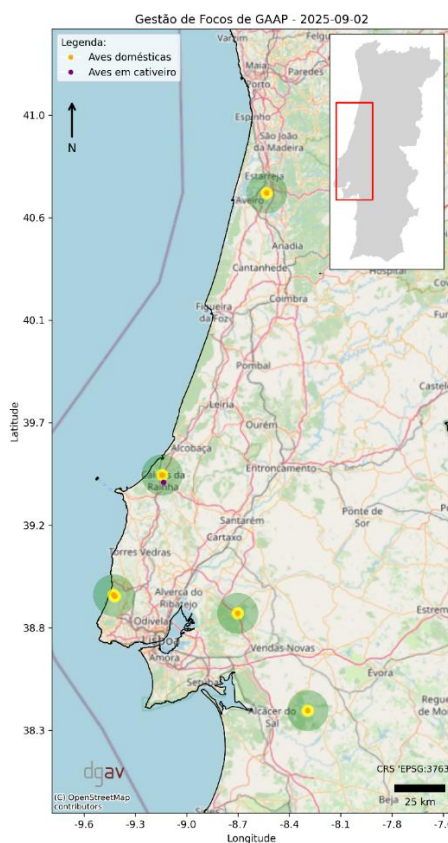


Figure 2 – Location of outbreaks in domestic and captive birds, including restriction zones. (orange dots – domestic birds; purple dot – captive birds)

The following table shows the areas included within the protection and surveillance zones:

Outbreak	District	Protection zone (3 km radius)		District	Surveillance zone (10 km radius)	
		Municipality	Parish		Municipality	Parish
2025/01	Lisboa	Sintra	São João das Lampas e Terrugem	Lisboa	Mafra	Mafra
						Ericeira
						Igreja Nova e Cheleiros.
						Carvoeira
					Sintra	Malveira e São Miguel de Alcaíça.
						União das freguesias de Sintra (Santa Maria e São Miguel, São Martinho e São Pedro de Penaferrim)
						Almargem do Bispo, Pêro Pinheiro e Montelavar
2025/02	Lisboa	Sintra	São João das Lampas e Terrugem	Lisboa	Mafra	Colares
						Mafra
						Ericeira
						Igreja Nova e Cheleiros.
						Carvoeira
						Malveira e São Miguel de Alcaíça.
					Sintra	Santo Isidoro
União das freguesias de Sintra (Santa Maria e São Miguel, São Martinho e São Pedro de Penaferrim)						
Almargem do Bispo, Pêro Pinheiro e Montelavar						
2025/03	Leiria	Caldas da Rainha	Tornada e Salir do Porto	Leiria	Caldas da Rainha	Vidais
			Caldas da Rainha, Santo Onofre e Serra do Bouro			Carvalhal Benfeito
						Santa Catarina
						Nossa Senhora do Pópulo, Coto e São Gregório
			Nadadouro			
			Foz do Arelho			
			Salir de Matos		Alcobaça	Alfeizerão
					Vimeiro	
					São Martinho do Porto	
					Óbidos	Gaeiras
			A dos Negros			
			Santa Maria, São Pedro e Sobral da Lagoa			
			Vau			

Outbreak	District	Protection zone (3 km radius)		District	Surveillance zone (10 km radius)	
		Municipality	Parish		Municipality	Parish
2025/05	Aveiro	Albergaria-a-Velha	São João de Loure e Frossos	Aveiro	Albergaria-a-Velha	Albergaria-a-Velha e Valmaior
						Alquerubim
						Branca
						Ribeira de Fráguas
		Aveiro	Angeja		Aveiro	Eixo e Eirol
						Oliveirinha
						Glória e Vera Cruz
						Santa Joana
						Requeixo, Nossa Senhora de Fátima e Nariz
						São Bernardo
		Estarreja	Aradas		Estarreja	Salreu
			Esgueira			Beduído e Veiros
			Cacia		Murtosa	Murtosa
		Estarreja	Canelas e Fermelã		Águeda	Travassô e Óis da Ribeira
						Macinhata do Vouga
						Trofa, Segadães e Lamas do Vouga
2025/16	Setúbal	Alcácer do Sal	Santa Maria do Castelo e Santiago e Santa Susana	Setúbal	Alcácer do Sal	Santa Maria do Castelo e Santiago e Santa Susana
						Torrão
	Évora	Viana do Alentejo	Alcáçovas	Évora	Viana do Alentejo	Alcáçovas
					Montemor-o-Novo	São Cristóvão
2025/21	Santarém	Benavente	Santo Estevão	Santarém	Benavente	Benavente
						Santo Estevão
						Samora Correia
			Samora Correia	Setúbal	Montijo	Canha
				Santarém	Coruche	Biscainho
						Branca

Table 3 – Areas included in the restriction zones (within the 10 km radius centred on the affected premises)

2.1.3. Measures implemented within the restriction zones:

2.1.3.1 – Protection zone

- Inventory of all poultry establishments;
- All poultry establishments are visited by official veterinarians for clinical examination of the poultry and other captive birds and sampling for laboratory testing for HPAI virus as foreseen in the contingency plan;
- Poultry keepers must immediately report any increased morbidity or mortality or significant drop in production to allow timely and appropriate investigations by DGAV;
- Movement restrictions and prohibitions:
 - no poultry or other captive birds as well as eggs, for incubation or consumption, may enter or leave poultry establishments except if authorised by DGAV;
 - removal or spreading of used litter, manure or slurry from holdings is prohibited. Removal of manure and used litter may be carried out when authorised by DGAV;
 - transport of poultry meat from slaughterhouses, cutting plants and cold stores is prohibited unless authorised by DGAV;
 - fairs, live birds market, shows or other gatherings of poultry and captive birds are prohibited.
 - Release of poultry for game birds restocking is prohibited.
- Reinforced biosecurity measures for poultry keepers:
 - Preventing contacts with wild birds;
 - Entrance in the establishments of staff and visitors only when strictly necessary;
 - Records of each visit must be kept by poultry operators;
 - All staff and visitors entering or leaving poultry establishments must strictly follow disinfection procedures;
 - All parts of vehicles entering or leaving poultry establishments must be cleaned and disinfected;
 - Dead birds (normal daily mortality) must be promptly disposed according to Regulation (EC) n.º 1069/2009;
 - All vehicles and equipment used for transporting live poultry or other captive birds, meat, feed, manure, slurry and bedding and any other material or substances likely to be contaminated are cleaned and disinfected after each transport and allowed to completely dry before any subsequent use.

Measures within the protection zone are lifted, at least, 21 days after the conclusion of the preliminary cleaning and disinfection of the infected holdings. At the end of this period, protection zone is then included in the surveillance zone for 9 days.

2.1.3.2 - Surveillance zone:

- Inventory of all poultry holdings;
- A sample of holdings are visited by official veterinarians for clinical examination of the poultry and other captive birds and, if necessary, sampling for laboratory testing for HPAI virus;
- Poultry keepers must immediately report any increased morbidity or mortality or significant drop in production to allow timely and appropriate investigations by DGAV;
- Movement restrictions and prohibitions:
 - no poultry or other captive birds as well as eggs, for incubation or consumption, may enter or leave a poultry establishment except if authorised by DGAV;
 - removal or spreading of used litter, manure or slurry from establishments is prohibited. Removal of manure and used litter may be carried out when authorised by DGAV;
 - transport of poultry meat from slaughterhouses, cutting plants and cold stores is prohibited unless authorised by DGAV;
 - fairs, live birds market, shows or other gatherings of poultry or other captive birds are prohibited.
 - Release of poultry for game birds restocking is prohibited.
- Reinforced biosecurity measures for poultry operators:
 - Preventing contacts with wild birds;
 - Entrance of staff and visitors only when strictly necessary;
 - Records of each visit must be kept by establishments;
 - All staff and visitors entering or leaving poultry establishments must strictly follow disinfection procedures;
 - All parts of vehicles entering or leaving poultry holdings must be cleaned and disinfected;
 - Dead birds (normal daily mortality) must be promptly disposed according to Regulation (EC) n.º 1069/2009;
 - All vehicles and equipment used for transporting live poultry or other captive birds, meat, feed, manure, slurry and bedding and any other material or substances likely to be contaminated are cleaned and disinfected after each transport and allowed to completely dry before any subsequent use.

These measures are enforced for at least 30 days after the date of completion of preliminary cleansing and disinfection on the infected holding. Please see table 4 for details regarding duration of control measures within restriction zones.

Outbreak	End of restriction zones
2025/01	10/02/2025
2025/02	17/02/2025
2025/03	23/02/2025
2025/05	03/03/2025
2025/16	05/09/2025
2025/21	13/10/2025

Table 4 – Restrictions' lifting dates

2.1.3.3 – Reinforced surveillance within the restriction zones

As part of the reinforced surveillance, official veterinarians teams carry out visits to poultry establishments, including backyard flocks, in the areas under restriction, for clinical inspection and, if needed, sampling.

The criteria recommended by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), in its scientific opinion on control measures for outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza, available [here](#), are taken into account regarding the testing of birds kept in these establishments.

- Birds of the order Galliformes (chickens, turkeys, quails, etc.) - only flocks showing mortality and/or clinical signs compatible with avian influenza are sampled. In this case, 5 dead birds (or all dead birds if there are fewer) and/or 20 oropharyngeal swabs and 20 cloacal swabs shall be taken from sick birds.

- Birds of the order Anseriformes (geese, ducks) - In case of mortality and/or clinical signs compatible with avian influenza, 5 dead birds (or fewer if there are fewer) and/or 20 oropharyngeal swabs and 20 cloacal swabs must be taken from sick birds. In the absence of mortality or clinical signs compatible with avian influenza, oropharyngeal and cloacal swabs shall be taken from 20 healthy birds.

In addition to this surveillance, domestic mammals present in establishments where outbreaks have been confirmed are also monitored. By 5 September 2025, 20 bovines, 2 goats and one dog had been tested and found to be negative for avian influenza virus.

The following tables show the data regarding this surveillance until 05/09/2025.

Reinforced surveillance	Nº of establishments in the Protection Zone		Nº of establishments in the Surveillance Zone			
Outbreak	Large farms	Small farms & backyard flocks	Large farms	Small farms & backyard flocks	Nº of empty establishments	Nº of visited establishments (data available until (15/09/2025))
2025/01	0	18 (backyard flocks)	6	133 (backyard flocks)	12 (9 backyard flocks and 3 farms)	13
2025/01	1	21	5	205	15 (9 backyard flocks and 6 farms)	0*
2025/03	0	42 (backyard flocks)	6	205	9 (backyard flocks)	8
2025/05	0	37	13	234	15	24
2025/16	0	0	0	1 (Backyard)	0	0
2025/21	0	1	3	15	Data not yet available	Ongoing

*The restriction zones of this outbreak coincide for their most part with the zones of outbreak 2025/01.

Table 5 – Nº of poultry establishments located within the restriction zones

Avian Influenza Contingency Plan/2025 (data available until (15/09/2025))				
Surveillance type	Nº of tested establishments (including captive birds and backyard flocks)	Nº of tested birds	Nº of positive establishments (including captive birds and backyard flocks)	Nº of positive birds
Clinical suspicions	18	127	5	22
Protection zone	49*	467	1	5
Surveillance zone	0	0	0	0
Epidemiologically linked estab.	2	58	0	0
Total	73	768	6	27

* Includes the establishment of outbreak 2025/02 that was tested twice.

Table 6 – Avian Influenza Contingency Plan /2025 - Nº of tested establishments and birds

2.1.4. Avian Influenza Surveillance Programme – Active surveillance in poultry

Portugal implements an annual active surveillance plan in poultry, in accordance with Annex II of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 2020/689. This surveillance is risk based, and all establishments located in areas at high risk for avian influenza are tested. In the remaining territory, testing is carried out through representative sampling, considering an expected prevalence of 5% and 95% confidence level, with a particular focus on areas of higher poultry density.

Within the scope of this programme, between 1 January and 15 September 2025, 214 sampling events were carried out and 2,440 birds were tested, as shown in the table below:

Active surveillance/2025	Nº of tested birds	Nº of sampling events	Nº of negative sampling events	Nº positive establishments
Laying hens	600	60	60	0
Free range laying hens	340	34	34	0
Fattening turkeys	670	67	67	0
Ducks (breeders and fattening)	460	23	23	0
Game birds - gallinaceous	190	19	19	0
Game birds - ducks	60	3	3	0
Quails	80	8	8	0
Total	2440	214	214	0

Table 7 - Active surveillance in poultry – results from January 1st to September 15th 2025

2.2 – WILD BIRDS

Since October 1st, 2024, and until September 15th 2025, 20 outbreaks of HPAI H5N1 were detected in wild birds.

Information regarding these outbreaks is shown on the following table:

Outbreak	District	Municipality	Parish	Confirmation date	Species
2024/10	Faro	Loulé	Quarteira	23/10/2024	Yellow-legged-gull
2024/11	Aveiro	Aveiro	São Jacinto	06/11/2024	Lesser Black-backed Gull
2024/12	Faro	Olhão	Olhão	11/12/2024	Yellow-legged-gull
2025/06	Leiria	Caldas da Rainha	Tornada e Salir do Porto	31/01/2025	Great cormorant
2025/07	Faro	Lagos	São Gonçalo	04/07/2025	Yellow-legged-gull

Outbreak	District	Municipality	Parish	Confirmation date	Species
2025/08	Faro	Faro	Sé e São Pedro	04/07/2025	Yellow-legged-gull
2025/09	Leiria	Peniche	Peniche	09/07/2025	Yellow-legged-gull
2025/10	Faro	Albufeira	Albufeira	16/07/2025	Yellow-legged-gull
2025/11	Faro	Lagos	São Gonçalo	16/07/2025	Yellow-legged-gull
2025/12	Faro	Vila Real de Santo António	Monte Gordo	16/07/2025	Lesser Black-backed Gull
2025/13	Faro	Portimão	Portimão	18/07/2025	Yellow-legged-gull
2025/14	Faro	Albufeira	Albufeira	18/07/2025	Yellow-legged-gull
2025/15	Coimbra	Figueira da Foz	São Julião	18/07/2025	Yellow-legged-gull
2025/17	Setúbal	Almada	Costa da Caparica	05/08/2025	Yellow-legged-gull
2025/18	Aveiro	Ílhavo	Gafanha da Encarnação	13/08/2025	Yellow-legged-gull
2025/19	Aveiro	Ílhavo	Gafanha da Nazaré	13/08/2025	Yellow-legged-gull
2025/20	Faro	Olhão	Quelfes	18/08/2025	Gadwall
2025/22	Lisboa	Lourinhã	Santa Bárbara	12/09/2025	Seagull (<i>Larus sp.</i>)
2025/23	Leiria	Caldas da Rainha	Santo Onofre e Serras do Bouro	12/09/2025	Seagull (<i>Larus sp.</i>)
2025/24	Leiria	Marinha Grande	Marinha Grande	12/09/2025	Herring gull

Table 8 – HPAI cases confirmed in wild birds 2024/2025

Whenever HPAI cases are confirmed in wild birds, an inventory of poultry establishments located within a radius of 1 kilometre of the place where the birds were collected is carried out, for the purposes of reinforced surveillance. As part of this surveillance, no outbreaks of infection have been recorded to date.

2.2.1 – Geographical distribution of HPAI outbreaks in wild birds

The geographical distribution of the above-mentioned outbreaks is shown in the following map:

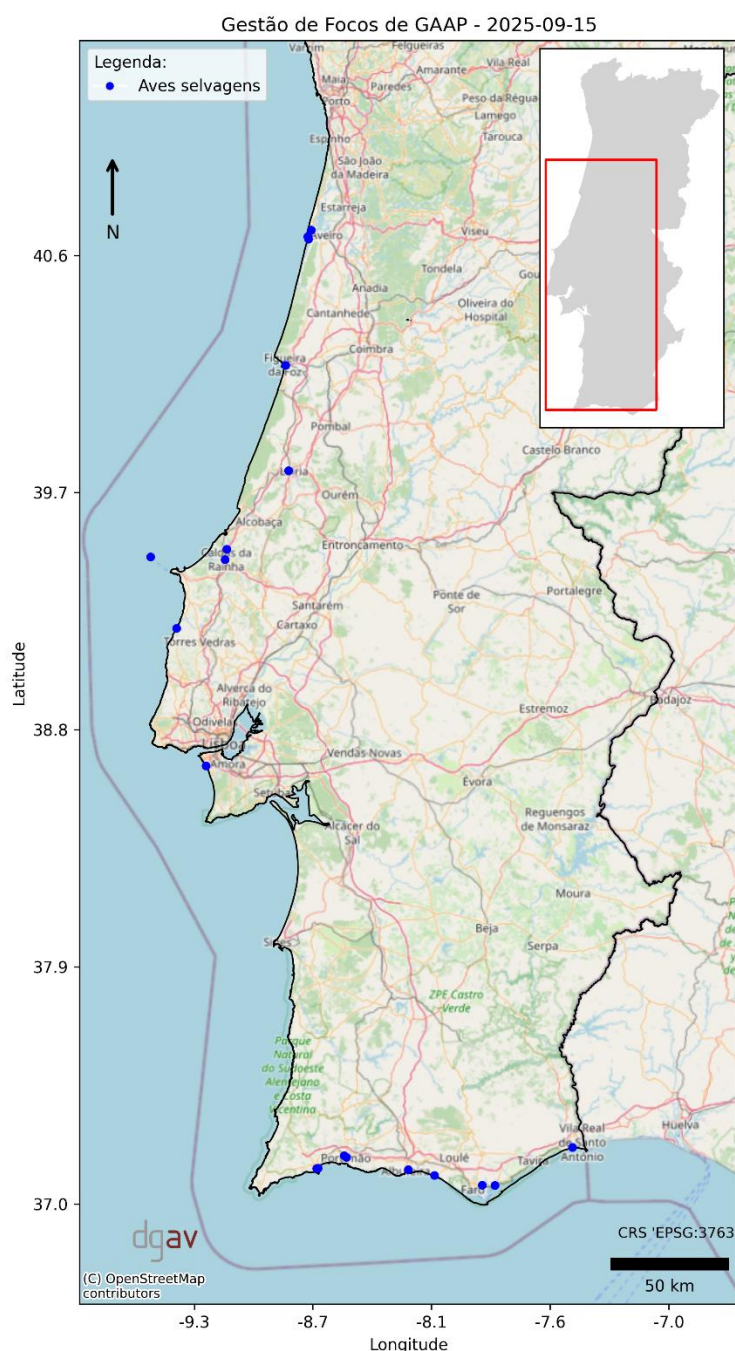


Figure 3 – HPAI outbreaks in wild birds in 2023/2024 (until January 15th, 2025).

2.2.2 – AI passive surveillance in wild birds

The avian influenza surveillance plan implemented annually by the DGAV includes passive surveillance in wild birds, the aim of which is to monitor the circulation of viruses to assess the risk of disease dissemination.

In this context, until 15 September 2025, 99 birds had been tested, 21 of which were positive, giving rise to 17 outbreaks of HPAI, all H5N1 subtype. The following table summarises the data from this testing.

Common name	Latin name	Nº tested birds	Nº positive birds
Cory's shearwater	<i>Calonectris borealis</i>	5	0
White stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	4	0
Barn owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	3	0
Great cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	2	1
Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>	1	1
Gull (unspecified)	<i>Larus spp.</i>	12	2
Lesser black-backed-gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	4	4
Audouin's gull	<i>Larus audouinii</i>	2	0
Herring gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	4	3
Yellow-legged-gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	27	10
Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	1	0
Common moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	1	0
Northern gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	1	0
Grey heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	2	0
Little egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	1	0
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	2	0
Manx shearwater	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	2	0
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	1	0
Red partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>	2	0
Budgerigar	<i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i>	1	0
Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	14	0
Eurasian hoopoe	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	2	0
Dove	<i>Streptopelia sp.</i>	2	0
Eurasian collared dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	3	0
Common shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	1	0
Total		99	21

Table 9 – AI surveillance programme in wild birds – from January 1st to September 15th 2025

3. Information and communication

In addition to measures mentioned above, official information regarding the outbreaks was sent to the Ministries of Agriculture, Health and Environment and Climate Action as well as to counties, law enforcement and civil protection authorities.

Information concerning the outbreaks were also sent to all stakeholders, namely: poultry industry associations, racing pigeons associations, hunters associations, zoos and wildlife rescue centres, including instructions regarding preventive measures and biosecurity.

Press notes about the outbreaks and public information and awareness leaflets including advice on biosecurity and HPAI preventive measures are available on DGAV webpage at:

- <https://www.dgav.pt/>
- <https://www.dgav.pt/animais/conteudo/animais-de-producao/aves-de-capoeira/saude-animal/doencas-das-aves/gripe-aviaria/>.
- Prevention and biosecurity video - <https://youtu.be/NqdEeNNAPPk>

Lisboa, September 15th, 2025