

H5 bird flu

For people who manage and care for land in South East Queensland.



What is H5 bird flu?

H5N1 bird flu (high pathogenicity avian influenza), a highly contagious disease that primarily affects birds and can occasionally infect other animals.

How does it spread?

The virus spreads through infected birds, their droppings and contaminated environments, and can survive for extended periods under favourable conditions.



Risks

While the risk to humans remains low, being aware of the signs and knowing what to do if you encounter sick or dead birds can help protect wildlife, livestock, and our environment.

What are the signs of H5 bird flu?

Birds affected by H5 bird flu may show signs such as:

- Unusual head or neck posture.
- Breathing difficulties.
- Loss of coordination.
- Swelling of the head, eyes or limbs.

Sudden death can also occur in affected animals.



What to do if you encounter a sick or dead bird?

AVOID



RECORD



REPORT



**Healthy
Land &
Water**

AVOID



Do not touch sick or dead birds.

Keep pets and people away.

RECORD



Note the location.

Take photos from a safe distance.

REPORT



Emergency Animal Disease Hotline

Biosecurity Queensland

How can you help?



Managing or caring for land?

- Wash your hands thoroughly after contact with birds, poultry, eggs, animal environments, or outdoor equipment used in bird habitats.
- Clean and disinfect cages, boots, equipment, and vehicles regularly.
- Stay informed through updates from Biosecurity Queensland and the Australian Government.
- Use netting or secure housing to keep wild birds away from your flock and their food and water.
- Avoid touching your face while working in areas where birds congregate and wash hands before eating or drinking.



Report to authorities

Reporting will alert authorities so they can evaluate the need for testing or other investigation.



Emergency Animal Disease Hotline
24/7 national service
1800 675 888

Biosecurity Queensland
Monday to Friday (8.00 AM to 5.00 PM)
13 25 23

