



**LOW PATHOGENIC "NORTH AMERICAN" H5N1 AVIAN INFLUENZA STRAIN IN WILD BIRDS
PRESUMPTIVE AND CONFIRMED TEST RESULTS**



DATE SAMPLE COLLECTED	COUNTY, STATE	WILD BIRD SPECIES SAMPLED	SAMPLE STRATEGY ¹	COLLECTING ENTITY	NATIONAL VETERINARY SERVICES LABORATORIES <u>PRESUMPTIVE POSITIVE TEST RESULTS</u>			NATIONAL VERERINARY SERVICES LABORATORIES <u>CONFIRMATION TEST RESULTS</u>	
					POSITIVE ² H5	POSITIVE N1	INITIAL GENETIC SEQUENCING ³	VIRUS ISOLATION ⁴	PATHOGENICITY ⁵
10/28/06	Grundy County, IL	Mallard ducks	Hunter killed	IL Dept of Natural Resources/USDA	Yes	Yes	Not related to HPAI H5N1; Suspected LPAI	Testing underway	Testing underway
10/28/06	Grundy County, IL	Mallard ducks	Hunter killed	IL Dept of Natural Resources/USDA	Yes	Yes	Not related to HPAI H5N1; Suspected LPAI	Testing underway	Testing underway
10/21/06	Niagara County, NY	Mallard ducks	Hunter killed	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation/USDA	Yes	Yes	Not related to HPAI H5N1; Suspected LPAI	Testing underway	Testing underway
10/21/06	Niagara County, NY	Mallard ducks	Hunter killed	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation/USDA	Yes	Yes	Not related to HPAI H5N1; Suspected LPAI	Testing underway	Testing underway
10/21/06	Grundy County, IL	Mallard ducks	Hunter killed	USDA/IL Dept of Natural Resources	Yes	Yes	Not related to HPAI H5N1; Suspected LPAI	Testing underway	Testing underway
10/19/06	St. Claire County, MI	Mallard ducks	Hunter killed	USDA/MI Dept of Natural Resources	Yes	Yes	Not related to HPAI H5N1; Suspected LPAI	Testing underway	Testing underway
10/15/06	Tuscola County, MI	Green-winged teal	Hunter killed	USDA/MI Dept of Natural Resources	Yes	Yes	Not related to HPAI H5N1; Suspected LPAI	No virus isolated	Not applicable
10/8/06	Ottawa County, OH	Northern pintail ducks	Hunter killed	USDA/OH Division of Wildlife	Yes	Yes	Not related to HPAI H5N1; Suspected LPAI	No virus isolated	Not applicable
9/24/06	Fulton County, IL	Green-winged teal	Hunter killed	USDA/IL Dept of Natural Resources	Yes	Yes	Not related to HPAI H5N1; Suspected LPAI	H6N2	Not applicable
9/21/06	Cascade County, MT	Northern pintail ducks	Live birds	USDA/MT Dept of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks	Yes	Yes	Not related to HPAI H5N1; Suspected LPAI	H5N3	LPAI
8/28/06	Crawford County, PA	Mallard ducks	Live birds	USDA/PA Game Commission	Yes	Yes	Not related to HPAI H5N1; Suspected LPAI	H5N1	LPAI
8/8/06	Monroe County, MI	Mute Swans	Hunter killed	USDA/MI Dept of Natural Resources	Yes	Yes	Not related to HPAI H5N1; Suspected LPAI	H5N1	LPAI
8/2/06	Queen Annes County, MD	Resident wild Mallard ducks	Environmental	USDA/Avian Influenza Coordinated Agricultural Project (AICAP)	Yes	Yes	Not related to HPAI H5N1; Suspected LPAI	H5N1	LPAI

¹ Testing for the presence of avian influenza (AI) requires that samples be taken from live birds, dead birds or the environment birds inhabit. The Departments of Agriculture and Interior are working collaboratively with States and academic institutions to sample wild birds throughout the United States for the presence of highly pathogenic avian influenza. The interagency plan outlines five specific strategies for early detection of the virus in wild migratory birds, including: investigation of disease-outbreak events in wild birds; expanded monitoring of apparently healthy live wild birds; monitoring of hunter-killed birds; use of sentinel animals; and environmental sampling of bird feces.

² A series of AI rapid screening tests are performed that cannot differentiate between highly pathogenic AI (HPAI) and low pathogenic AI (LPAI) viruses. The initial rapid screening tests are highly sensitive and can detect active and inactive viruses in samples. Because these rapid screening tests are highly sensitive, it is not uncommon to have positive results for a specific subtype on the initial screen test and yet not be able to isolate a virus of that subtype.

³ This test involves identifying the genetic sequence or key parts of the sequence, of the virus grown and comparing it to known AI genetic sequences. These known sequences, such as that of the highly pathogenic H5N1 AI virus circulating overseas, are stored in databanks. If the genetic sequence matches that of a known highly pathogenic AI virus, the sample is considered to be highly pathogenic.

⁴ Virus isolation is the gold standard test used to diagnose AI virus infections. The virus is grown and isolated in chicken embryos (eggs). A series of tests follow to specifically identify H and N subtypes of the AI virus. These tests cannot determine pathogenicity.

⁵ This test involves the inoculation of 4- to 8-week old disease-free chickens and observation for signs of AI for 10 days. According to the USDA and World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), highly pathogenic AI is defined as any AI virus that is lethal for 6 or more of 8 chickens (75% mortality). Pathogenicity is confirmed 10 days from when the chickens are inoculated with the virus grown from the gold standard virus isolation test. Only H5 and H7 subtypes undergo chicken pathogenicity testing because of their potential to become HPAI, all others are considered to be LPAI.

For additional information about Avian Influenza Testing and Diagnostics and Avian Influenza Low Pathogenic H5N1 vs. Highly Pathogenic H5N1, go to www.usda.gov/birdflu and click on fact sheets.