

CAHSS PODCAST PEARLS

"PREVENTING AVIAN INFLUENZA"

WITH DR. JEAN-PIERRE
VAILLANCOURT



ANIMAL HEALTH
INSIGHTS

Dr. Jean-Pierre Vaillancourt is an expert in poultry health and biosecurity and focuses on developing strategies to help to control the risk of infection with diseases such as Avian Influenza (AI). He joins us in this episode to review actions and essential biosecurity steps to help maintain healthy flocks and minimize the chance of Avian Influenza infections on farm. **The recommendations below can be useful for other poultry related infectious diseases and not just AI.**

Listen to "Preventing Avian Influenza" [here](#). Our other podcast episodes are found [here](#).



Biosecurity Best Practices

- Keep wildlife and rodents away from the farm.
- Clean up feed spills.
- Protect feed and bedding from contamination
- Cover outdoor areas with a loose netting that discourages wild birds from landing.
- Have a **3-Zone "Danish" Entry** into the barn
- Only allow essential visitors and supervise their visits.
- Know who is coming onto your farm: where else do the feed trucks or deadstock trucks visit?
- Report unusual clinical signs or changes in the birds' feed/water intake or behavior to **your vet** or **local CFIA District Office**.
- Plan for an emergency ahead of time to understand your local environmental regulations for carcass disposal.



Common Biosecurity Mistakes

- **Don't** share equipment or tools with other farms.
- **Don't** leave standing water that could attract wildlife.
- **Don't** leave uncovered feed on the yard.
- **Don't** use a footbath: these provide a false sense of security. They are usually ineffective within a few hours due to contamination and are often in the wrong location, so people skip over them or don't stand in them long enough.

Anatomy of a 3-Zone "Danish Entry"

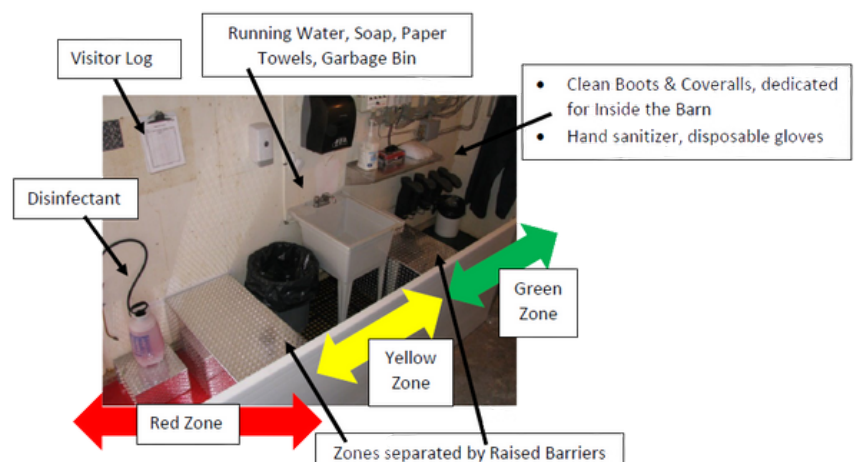


Photo Credit: Dr. Jean-Pierre Vaillancourt

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How to use a 3-Zone "Danish Entry" effectively



Red Zone

- Remove outerwear
- Disinfect any supplies
- Sign the Visitor Log



Red Zone

- Remove your shoes, but do not touch your socks to the floor
- A raised barrier provides a place to sit



Red Zone

- Without touching your socks to the floor, swing your feet over the barrier into the Yellow Zone.



Yellow Zone

- Wash your hands with soap and hot water, including under the nails
- Dry your hands with disposable towels



Green Zone

- Put on clean coveralls & boots dedicated to inside the barn
- Sanitize your hands once more before entering the room with the live birds

Photo Credit: Dr. Jean-Pierre Vaillancourt

Links of Interest

- [CFIA: Response to detections of avian influenza \(H5N1\) in Canada, and Information for Producers and Bird Owners](#)
- [CFIA: Avian Influenza Fact Sheet](#)
- [CFIA: Status of Avian influenza response by province](#)
- [Chicken Farmers of Canada: Avian Influenza Information and Resources](#)
- [Turkey Farmers of Canada: Avian Influenza, Just the Facts](#)
- [British Columbia \(Centre for Disease Control\): Avian influenza summary](#)
- [Alberta: Avian influenza in domestic birds, Updates](#)
- [Saskatchewan Health Authority: Avian influenza/Bird flu](#)
- [Manitoba: Avian influenza and your small flock FAQ](#)
- [Manitoba: Avian influenza updates](#)
- [Western Canadian Animal Health Network: Avian influenza resources and CAHSS/WeCAHN: Webinar for small flock producers and veterinarians](#)
- [Ontario \(OMAFRA\): Avian influenza updates, control zones, and webinar](#)
- [Ontario \(Ministry of Health\): Highly pathogenic avian influenza in people, FAQ](#)
- [Ontario Animal Health Network: Avian Influenza resources 2022](#)
- [Québec: Grippe aviaire](#)
- [MAPAQ: Grippe aviaire surveillance](#)
- [New Brunswick: Avian flu advisory in the Atlantic Provinces](#)
- [Nova Scotia: Avian influenza](#)
- [PEI: Avian influenza information and updates](#)