



The meeting of the WeCAHN poultry network was held May 13, 2022.

Report Contents:

1. Dataset Overview
2. HPAI Overview
3. Syndromic Data:
 - a) Broilers
 - b) Broiler-breeders
 - c) Layers
 - d) Turkeys
 - e) Smallholders
4. CFIA abattoir condemnations
5. Scan

FYI:

Excellent CAHSS Podcast on Avian Influenza, including discussion of airborne transmission, impacts of climate change in the current HPAI outbreak, and what industry can do to prepare for the fall migration.

<https://cahss.podbean.com/e/preventing-avian-influenza-with-dr-jean-pierre-vaillancourt/>



1. Dataset Overview

- i. **HPAI data:** Publicly available wild bird testing
- ii. **Veterinarians: Clinical Impressions Survey**
- iii. **Laboratory Data:** Animal Health Centre, UCVN DSU, Prairie Diagnostic Services, Manitoba VDS Laboratory
- iv. **Scan:** Promed

Clinical Impressions Survey:

The purpose of the clinical impressions survey is to be a simple, quick overview of diagnoses by practitioners, which does not require practitioners to extract data from their information management systems to complete. It asks practitioners to report, for a list of selected pathogens/syndromes how frequently (never/rarely/commonly/very frequently, as defined within the survey) they have diagnosed these pathogens over the time period in question (for this meeting, Jan—Mar 2022). Additionally, they are asked whether, compared to the previous time period (for purposes of this meeting, Oct—Dec 2021) their diagnosis of these pathogens is increasing/decreasing/ or stable.

Laboratory Data:

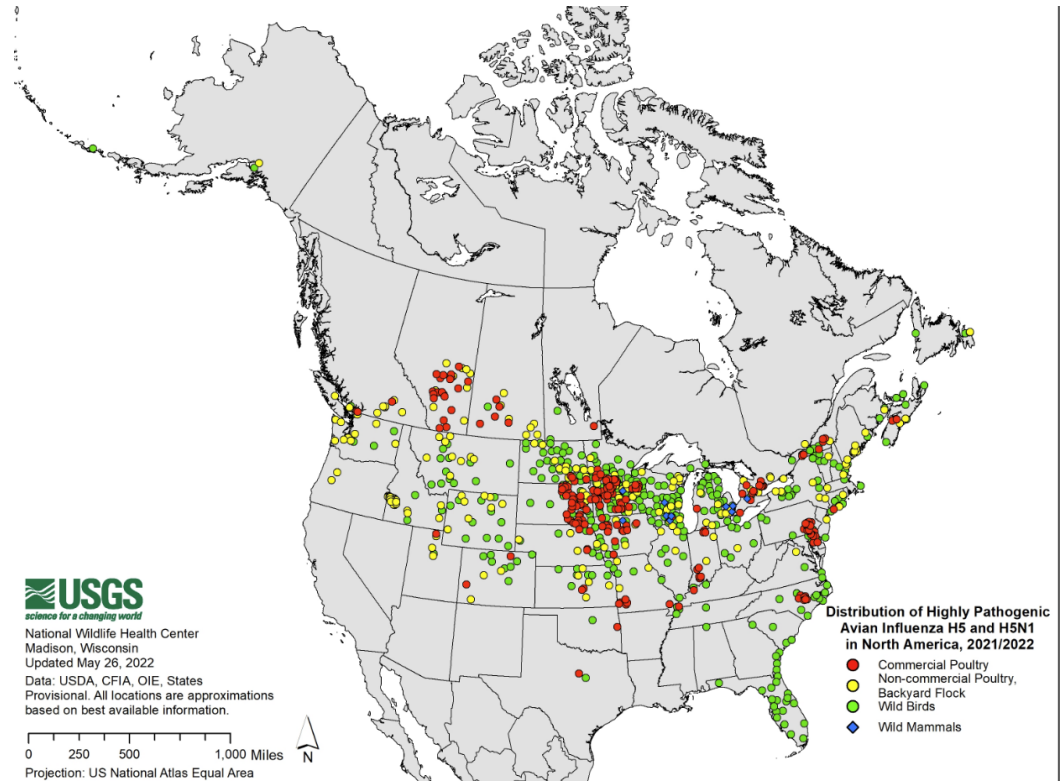
Recap on ‘control charts’: For each of the following graphs, each data point reflects the number of positive samples or cases reported, over a 3 month period. The upper and lower horizontal lines, called control limits, are similar to statistical confidence intervals.

Control charts are a simple way of presenting data collected over time. Apparent trends (e.g. increasing or decreasing frequencies of detection) over time, or individual points lying outside the control limits, suggest a need for investigation to determine whether/how significant a signal they represent.

2. HPAI

i. Overview

As of May,, HPAI detections continue to be reported in birds in western Canada, including poultry in BC, Alberta, and Saskatchewan.



ii. Wild bird

testing: Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative

For more information:
Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative
www.cwhc-rccsf.ca/

Report				
Date	Province	Tested	H5 pos	HPAI pos
15-Feb	AB	28	0	0
15-Feb	SK	0	0	0
15-Feb	MB	0	0	0
04-Mar	AB	0	0	0
04-Mar	SK	0	0	0
04-Mar	MB	0	0	0
18-Mar	AB	0	0	0
18-Mar	SK	0	0	0
18-Mar	MB	0	0	0
04-Apr	AB	14	0	0
04-Apr	SK	8	0	0
04-Apr	MB	0	0	0
19-Apr	AB	19	10	0
19-Apr	SK	57	2	1
19-Apr	MB	0	0	0
4 May	AB	35	34	
4 May	SK	9	7	
4 May	MB	0	0	6*



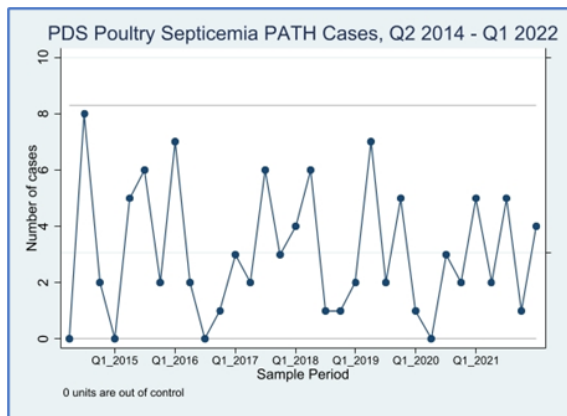
2. Syndromic Data

a) Broilers:

Clinical Impressions Survey and Laboratory Data:

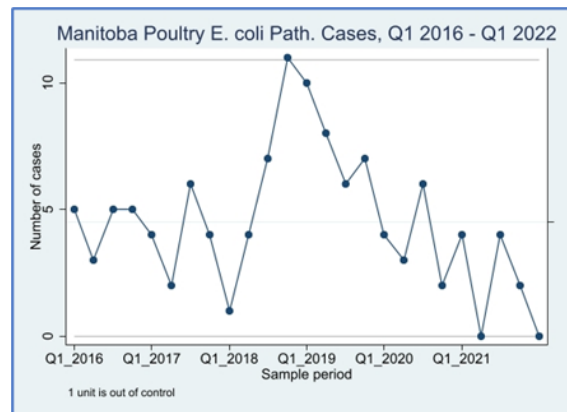
Commonly reported conditions:

- **Early systemic bacterial infection:** Rated increasing by 2 veterinarians, stable by 3, associated with *E. coli*.
- **Late systemic bacterial infection:** reported commonly or very frequently by 4 of 5 practitioners, and rated increasing by 1, stable by 4.
- Across a relatively small number of cases, numbers of septicemia (blood poisoning) cases



diagnosed fluctuate by quarter, still with no obvious trend over time.

- Continuing trend to decreasing number of cases of *E. coli* septicemia (blood poisoning) diagnosed in Manitoba VDSL from 2019 on.



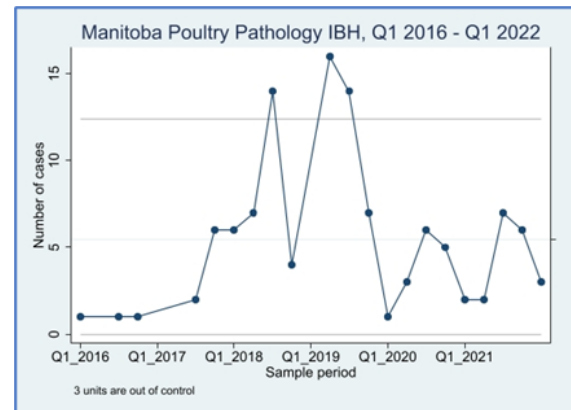
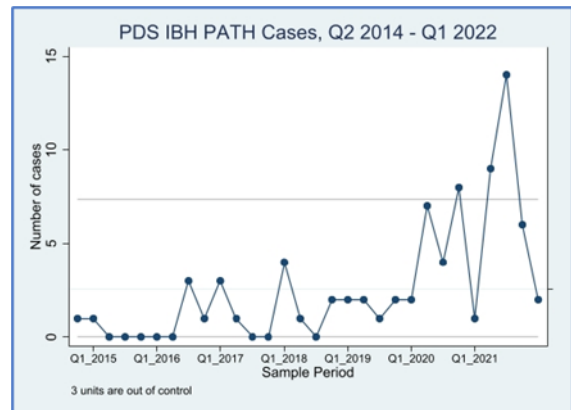
- At UCVM, 7 chicken and 2 turkey cases of colibacillosis were reported in Q1 2022.



Bacterial lameness: Reported commonly to very frequently by 3 practitioners, associated with *E. coli*, *Staph. aureus*, and *Enterococcus*, and rated Stable by all practitioners.

- At UCVM, two cases of bacterial osteomyelitis (bone infection), and one case of bacterial arthritis (*S. aureus*), were reported.

Inclusion Body Hepatitis: Rated stable (n = 4 practitioners) to decreasing (n = 1).



- Slightly different time trend reported from Manitoba VSDL relative to PDS.
- At UCVM four cases of IBH were reported this quarter.

b) Broiler-breeders:

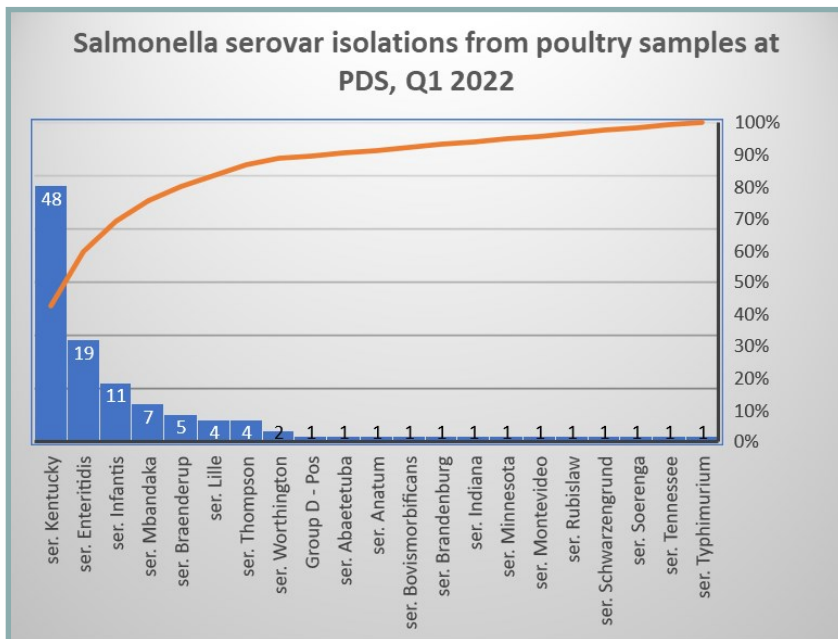
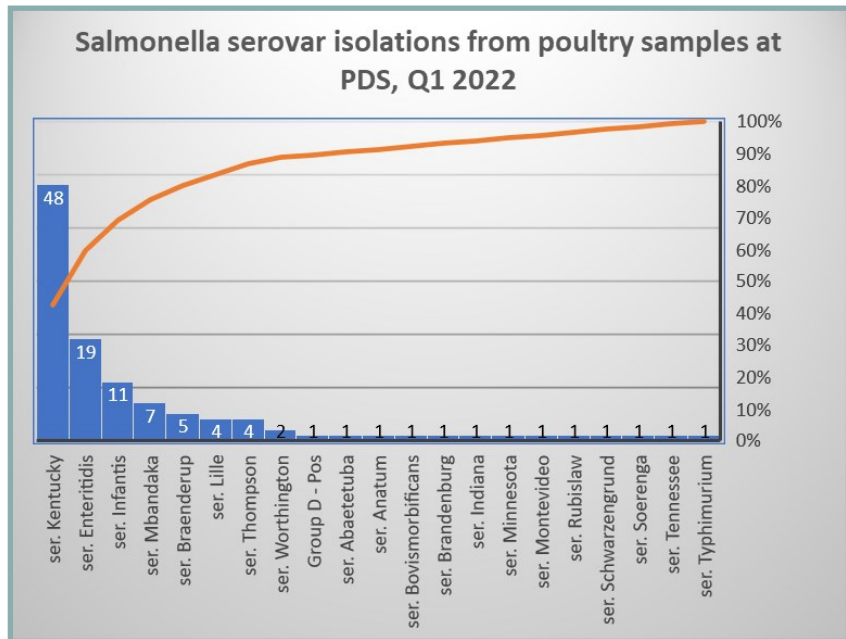
Clinical Impressions Survey and Laboratory Data:

Following were diagnosed commonly (defined in this section as 3 or more individual practitioners out of 5 responding, reporting a syndrome diagnosed once or twice a month, or more frequently) by practitioners:

- **Early bacterial systemic infection:** Associated with antimicrobial resistance (AMR) by 1 veterinarian, and specifically associated with *E. coli* by 2. This was rated increasing by 1, decreasing by 1, and stable by 3 practitioners.
- **Bacterial lameness:** Associated with *E. coli* by 1 veterinarian, and *Staph. aureus* by 2.
- **Infectious Laryngotracheitis (ILT)** was reported rarely by one practitioner, and rated decreasing by 1, and stable by 4 practitioners. Manitoba reported one case of ILT via pathology, with no ILT cases reported at UCVM. Two ILT cases were reported in PDS pathology data, and similarly 2 of 9 samples assayed via PCR were positive.

c) Layers

The types of *Salmonella* isolated continues to differ between the two laboratories, with *S. Kentucky* most frequently isolated at PDS and *S. Mbandaka* most frequently reported in Manitoba.



d. Turkeys:

Clinical Impressions Survey and Laboratory Data:

Commonly reported conditions:

- **Early systemic bacterial infection:** reported commonly to very frequently by 3 practitioners.
- **Late bacterial infection:** reported commonly to very frequently by 3 practitioners.
- **Other early mortality:** e.g. starveouts, and impactions, reported commonly to very frequently by 3 practitioners

- **Roundheart:** reported commonly to very frequently by 3 practitioners.

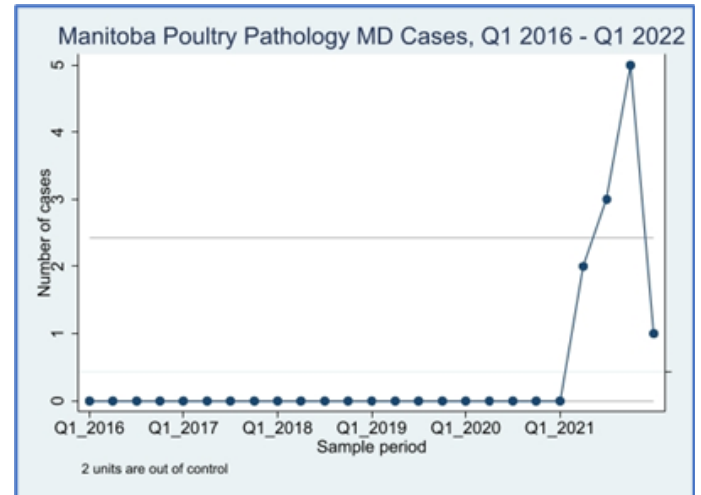
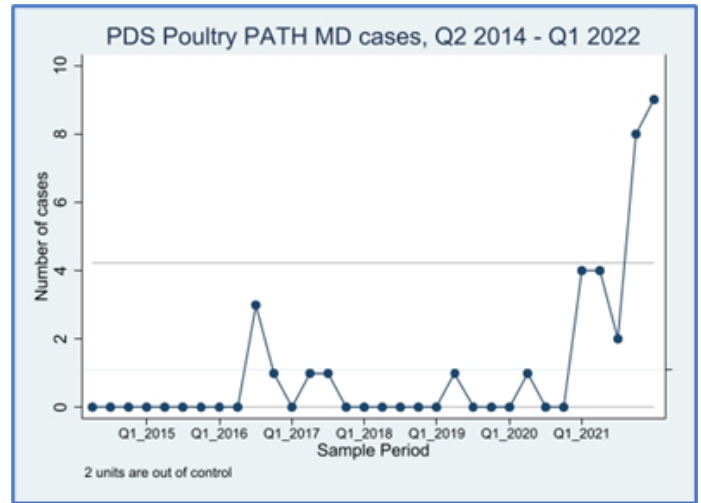
All of these conditions were rated as stable by all practitioners.

e) Smallholders:

Clinical Impressions Survey and Laboratory Data:

Commonly reported syndromes:

- **Marek’s Disease (MD):** reported commonly by 3 practitioners; rated Stable by all completing this part of the survey.



Slightly differing lab data, as the uptick in MD cases continued at PDS, but not at the Manitoba VSDL.

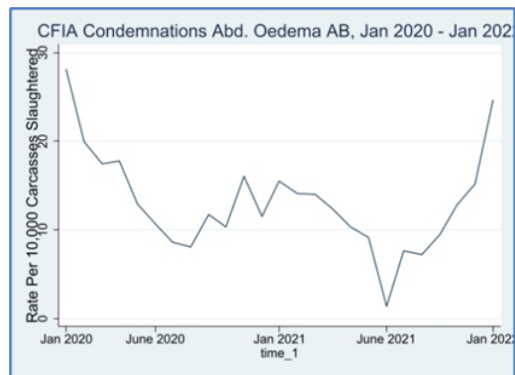
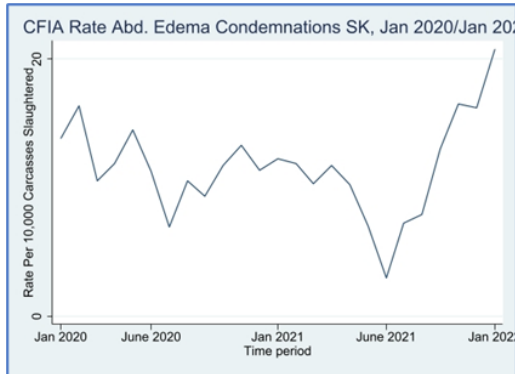
CFIA

- CFIA shares monthly condemnation rates at federally inspected abattoirs at their website: <https://agriculture.canada.ca/en/canadas-agriculture-sectors/animal-industry/condemnations>
- Following are condemnations for selected conditions, in chickens reported from western federally inspected abattoirs for the period January 2020- January 2022, across provinces/regions. BC = British Columbia; AB = Alberta, SK= Saskatchewan-Manitoba

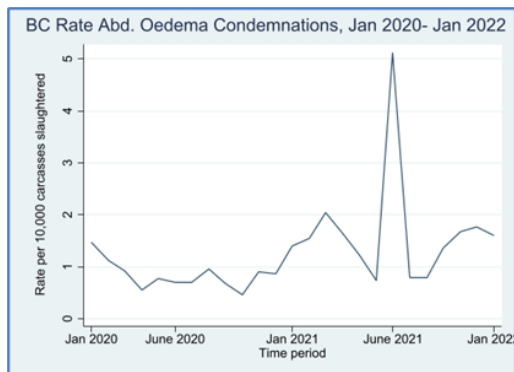


CFIA condemnations continued:

- **Abdominal oedema** condemnation trends varied across the three provinces for which data are publicly available:



- The provincial/regional variation in condemnation rates may be partly a reflection



of differences in weather across the three areas.

5. SCAN

Promed:

Human bird flu cases:

- The 1st human case associated with the H5 bird flu in the United States was detected in a Colorado man [involved in culling birds infected with H5N1]. The Centers for Disease Control [and Prevention] (CDC) shared information on the case with the public on Thursday [28 Apr 2022], adding the "public health risk assessment remains low." The CDC adds people who have job-related or recreational exposures to infected birds are at a higher risk of infection and should take appropriate precautions.
- "This is the 2nd human case associated with this specific group of H5 viruses that are currently predominant, and the 1st case in the United States," part of a news release from the CDC reads. "The 1st case internationally occurred in December 2021 in the United Kingdom in a person who did not have any symptoms and who raised birds that became infected with H5N1 virus. More than 880 human infections with earlier H5N1 viruses have been reported since 2003 worldwide, however, the predominant H5N1 viruses now circulating among birds globally are different from earlier H5N1 viruses."
- The 40-year-old man who tested positive was isolating as of Thursday [28 Apr 2022], as he was only experiencing fatigue. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) is reporting the positive result is due to direct exposure to infected poultry at a commercial farm in Montrose County. The person, who is an inmate at a state correctional facility in Delta County, was working with poultry as part of a pre-release employment program where participants have the opportunity to work for private employers and be paid a prevailing wage. The affected flock has been euthanized and disposed of under the guidance of the USDA and CDA. All members of the response team, including other inmate workers, were provided personal protective equipment while working on the farm.
- For more information: <https://promedmail.org>

