

**REPUBLIC OF TURKEY  
MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL  
AFFAIRS (MARA) and HEALTH (MOH)**

**AVIAN INFLUENZA (AI)**

**SITUATION IN TURKEY AND LESSONS LEARNED**

**July 12, 2006**

**Ankara-TURKEY**

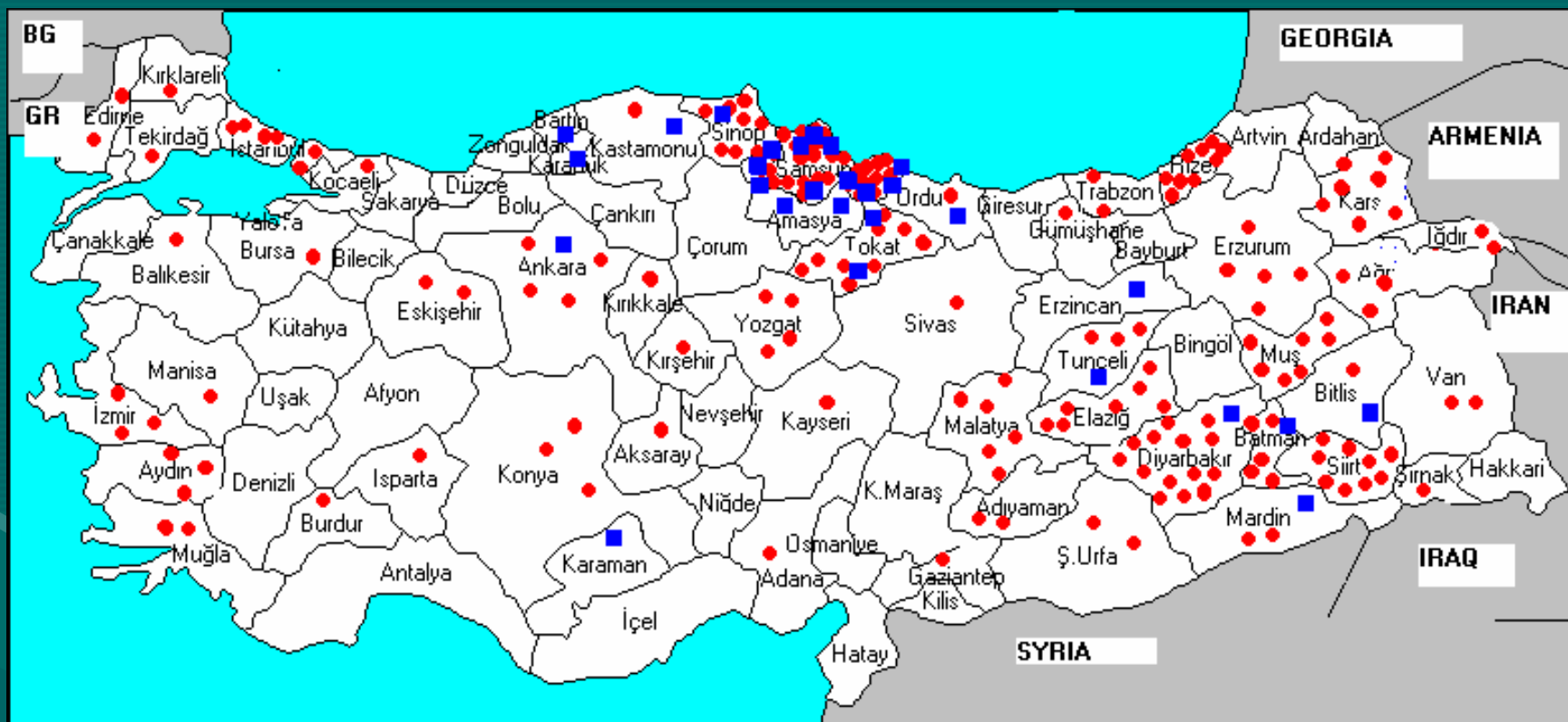
**MARA**  
**General Directorate of Protection and Control**

**ANIMAL HEALTH**  
**LESSONS LEARNED**



# AI BACKYARDS AND WILD BIRD OUTBREAKS IN TURKEY

27.04.2006



201 Backyards outbreaks  
30 Wild Birds outbreaks

# OUTBREAKS

- ✿ Occurred in a privately owned free range (backyard) turkey holding in Manyas-Balıkesir and notified to the OIE on October 8, 2005.
- ✿ In the second outbreak that occurred in Aralık-Iğdır in December 2005, the H5 strain was detected by the Bornova Veterinary Control and Research Institute and the agent was confirmed as HPAI H5N1 by the Weybridge Institute.
- ✿ Except for one case detected in a small scale commercial broiler farm, all outbreaks have occurred in backyard poultry.
- ✿ In addition to HPAI H5N1, LPAI H7N1 has also been detected.

## LABORATORY RESULTS

- ✿ Number of tested samples: 14,934
- ✿ Positive results: 389
- ✿ Negative results: 13,039

## CULLING

- ✿ 906,648 animals culled in quarantine areas,
- ✿ 1,619,855 animals culled outside quarantine areas,
- ✿ Total number of culled animals 2,526,503,
- ✿ Number of culled spent hens 13,417,511.

# **MEDIUM TERM STRATEGY FOR COMBAT WITH AI**

- **Contingency Plan**
- **Definition of the Disease and Identification of the Pathogen**
- **Commission Studies**
- **Laboratory Studies**
- **Field Surveys**
- **Training and Publication**
- **Vaccination**
- **Holding Structure & Economic Measures**

# EXPERIENCES (I)

- ✿ Increase in public awareness has led to increase in disease notification,
- ✿ Decrease has occurred in the consumption of poultry meat and eggs,
- ✿ The flow of samples to laboratories has increased,
- ✿ The bio-safety of laboratories may be at risk,
- ✿ The social status of veterinarians has evolved due to the animal welfare aspect of culling practices,

## EXPERIENCES (II)

- ✿ **Commercial establishments may take advantage of outbreaks for sales of vaccines and biological substances,**
- ✿ **Lack of personnel specialised in information and communication may cause difficulties,**
- ✿ **Emergency funds must be put in place to compensate for the economic loss of the poultry sector.**

**MOH**  
**General Directorate of Primary Health Care**

**HUMAN HEALTH**  
**LESSONS LEARNED**

A faint, semi-transparent image of two hands shaking is visible in the background, centered behind the text. The hands are rendered in a lighter shade of the teal background color, creating a subtle watermark effect.

# **Avian Influenza**

## **Activities of Ministry of Health**

- **Seasonal influenza disease monitoring has been set up for the last two years.**
- **Refik Saydam Hygiene Centre and the laboratories of Istanbul University Faculty of Medicine are determined as National Reference Laboratories.**
- **The Circular on Avian Influenza dated 16 March 2004: General information about the disease,**
  - **Global situation and**
  - **Necessary actions****are advised to the Provincial Health Directorates.**

# **Avian Influenza**

## **Activities of Ministry of Health**

- **National Influenza Pandemic Plan studies were finalized in October 2005 and revised in April 2006**
- **As a requirement of this Plan, urgent drug (Tamiflu) provision was realized and other infrastructural activities were initiated.**
- **A website has been activated related to Influenza.**

**([www.grip.saglik.gov.tr](http://www.grip.saglik.gov.tr)).**

# Avian Influenza

## Activities of Ministry of Health

- **December 27, 2005:** Detection of avian influenza among winged animals in Aralık District of Iğdır.
- **On December 31, 2005,** in Doğubayazıt District of Ağrı, referral and hospitalization of 4 siblings (ages between 6-15) to Van Province University Hospital due to suspicion of avian influenza.

## Distribution of Cases Based on Cities\*

Name of the City	Number of Cases	Death
Ağrı	8	4
Van	2	-
Eskişehir	1	-
Şanlıurfa	1	-

\* WHO lab. confirmed cases

# ACTIVITIES

- **04.01.2006:** Coordination centre working on 24 hours basis has been established,
- WHO and EU was informed about the matter,
- Posters and brochures were published and disseminated,
- TV spots were forwarded to national television channels,
- Attendance to various TV programs by Scientific Advisory Board member academicians and experts of our Ministry have been realized,
- Through Coordination Centre, national and international community was informed on regular basis,
- The pharmaceutical and supply demands of cities were fulfilled in the most rapid way,
- Samples taken from suspicious cases were sent to laboratories rapidly and cities were informed about the results,
- Experts from international institutions led by WHO were invited to Turkey.

# ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT

- **Educational activities for public.**
  - **Avoiding contact of children with winged animals,**
  - **Hygiene (Washing hands thoroughly),**
  - **Consuming meat and eggs of winged animals by cooking them thoroughly,**
  - **Applying to hospital in case of risky contact.**

THANK YOU

The image features a solid teal background. In the center, the words "THANK YOU" are written in a white, serif, all-caps font with a thin black outline. Behind the text, there is a faint, semi-transparent graphic of two hands shaking, rendered in a lighter shade of teal.