



Ref: VITT 1200/LPAI-Italy  
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## Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (type unknown) in poultry in Italy

**Note:** Defra's International Animal Health Division (IAHD) monitors outbreaks of high impact diseases around the world. Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) is among those diseases of major concern.

### 1 Disease Report

Italy has reported through ADNS that there has been a serological detection of low pathogenic avian influenza (H7) in a large flock of more than 2000 ornamental poultry (ducks, geese, pheasants, peacocks and ostriches, among others) in Rovigo in the north-east of Italy (see map). The detection was the result of routine surveillance. No clinical signs were observed. LPAI was confirmed on 19 July. Control measures are being carried out in compliance with EC Directives. While most birds were being destroyed the possibility of CITES listed and rare species being held in quarantine and retested was not ruled out (European Commission, 2007).



### 2 Situation Assessment

Italy previously reported an outbreak of LPAI in Venezia in May 2007 that was controlled by stamping out. The current outbreak is in an area with a low density of commercial poultry farms. Control measures have been implemented according to European Commission directives. A wider zone has also been established in which all commercial poultry flocks will undergo serological and virological testing.

### 3 Conclusion

LPAI is commonly found in wild birds. Occasional outbreaks in domestic poultry are to be expected and are of little significance if detected and stamped out quickly. The main concern would be if this LPAI type H7 became highly pathogenic. This does not appear to have happened in this case.

### 4 References

European Commission. (2007). Low pathogenic avian influenza in Italy. Urgent Fax 740 (20/07/2007 10:20). Brussels D1 (07) D/411722.