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## Newcastle disease in Sweden (in laying hens)

**Note:** Defra's International Animal Health Division (IAHD) monitors outbreaks of high impact diseases around the world. Newcastle disease (ND) is among those diseases of major concern.

### Disease Report

Sweden has reported an outbreak of Newcastle disease (ND) in laying hens. The outbreak is in the province of Östergötland, in the Götaland region. The affected flocks have been destroyed. Control measures including surveillance and protection zones have been



instituted in accordance with EC directives.

### Situation Assessment

Similar outbreaks were reported from Östergötland in December 2005 and July 2004.

Sweden does not practise vaccination against ND.

Sweden has applied disease control measures in the affected area in accordance with EU rules. These rules prevent trade in poultry and other commercial or pet birds

from areas under restriction or meat derived from such birds. Poultry meat products can be traded only if they are first subjected to treatment sufficient to destroy the virus. Table eggs can be traded from holdings not under suspicion of being infected, subject to normal community hygiene rules. Trade in hatching eggs between EU member states and the UK is subject to an official health certificate including veterinary inspection of the flocks of origin.

### Conclusion

The above information suggests that this outbreak of ND in laying hens in Sweden presents a negligible risk to the UK. IAHD will continue to monitor the situation and may review this assessment if necessary.

### References

- European Commission (2006). Newcastle disease in Sweden. Urgent Fax (16/11/2006 19:00) D1 BVG(06) D/41. Received on 16 November, 2005.
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