

## USEFUL LINKS AND REFERENCES



JohnsonDiversey EMA  
WTC Amsterdam Airport  
Tower B 8th Floor  
Schiphol Boulevard 209  
1118 BH, Schiphol, The  
Netherlands  
+31 20 316 4531  
+31 20 316 4593  
www.johnsondiversey.com

For further information on Avian Influenza, please contact your local JohnsonDiversey representative.

Other useful sources:

### World Health Organisation (WHO)

[http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian\\_influenza/en/](http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/en/)

### European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

[http://www.efsa.eu.int/press\\_room/1193\\_en.html](http://www.efsa.eu.int/press_room/1193_en.html)

### European Commission

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/press\\_room/presspacks/avianflu/index\\_en.html](http://europa.eu.int/comm/press_room/presspacks/avianflu/index_en.html)

### Food and Agricultural organization of the United nations (FAO)

[http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/subjects/en/health/diseases-cards/avian\\_safety.html](http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/subjects/en/health/diseases-cards/avian_safety.html)

### World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)

[http://www.oie.int/eng/press/en\\_040121.htm](http://www.oie.int/eng/press/en_040121.htm)

References:

[1] World Health Organization, Avian Flu website: Fact sheets & updates

[2] Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Animal Health cards, Avian Influenza website

[3] Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Avian Influenza website Q&A

[4] United States Department of Agriculture, Avian Influenza Fact Sheet website

JohnsonDiversey  Our Advantage

### The JohnsonDiversey Advantage

Beyond clean, we are dedicated to being the best at simplifying the lives of our customers.

We are committed to doing this by:

- investing time to listen, understand and respond to our customers' unique cleaning and hygiene needs
- taking a personal interest to ensure the facilities they care for are consistently clean, safe and attractive
- pursuing innovation in every form likely to make the lives of our customers simpler and more profitable
- partnering with our customers to exceed their expectations every day, everywhere



Avian Influenza

Cleaning and hygiene recommendations for producers, processors and institutions

avianflu\_general.INT v1 JAN 17 2006



## Avian Flu: cause for concern?

So far, no people have been infected after handling or eating poultry meat



Good hygiene practices reduce infection risk

### What is Avian Influenza?

Avian Influenza, also known as Bird Flu, is a contagious viral infection of birds. It is caused by a virus from the Orthomyxoviridae family and classified as a type A Influenza [1]. The virus is excreted from infected birds in faeces and nasal or ocular secretions and spreads easily from bird to bird. The virus has also been isolated from feed, water and soil as a result of cross contamination. Airborne transmission is also a possibility [2].

The H5N1 variant of the virus, currently endemic to Asia and parts of Europe, is especially virulent and has proved to be highly contagious and fatal. In flocks where infection is seen, the death rate can be up to 100%.

The Avian Influenza agent is an enveloped virus of RNA character. While sensitive to high temperatures (>70°C), low and high pH, and drying, the virus can survive for extended periods in tissues and faeces from infected birds, especially in cold and humid environments. It can also survive in water [1]. However, the virus can easily be inactivated, for example with detergents and disinfectants which destroy the fat-containing outer wall of the virus [2].

### Risk to domestic poultry

Avian Influenza viruses can infect chickens, turkeys, pheasants, quail, ducks, geese and guinea fowl, as well as a wide variety of other birds. Migratory waterfowl have proved to be a natural reservoir for the virus and may spread the illness to domestic birds if they intermingle with them. For H5N1 Avian Influenza, domestic ducks may be possibly resistant to the disease and can serve as a reservoir for the virus that can then be spread to other domestic birds [4].

Once the virus has been identified within a flock, not only is the disease itself rapidly lethal to many birds, but the primary control measure is often culling of the entire flock, which can represent a significant financial impact on farmers and poultry processors.

### Concerns for human health

The virus normally infects only birds, but on rare occasions it crosses the species barrier to infect animals (e.g. pigs and cats) and humans. The H5N1 variant is of particular concern for human health.

It poses two main risks. The first is the risk of direct infection when the virus passes from poultry to humans causing potentially fatal illness. Mortality rate is high in the human cases that have occurred (approximately 50%).

The second risk, of even greater concern, is the spread from human to human. Up till now (early 2006) this has been rare, but scientists fear that the virus may mutate into a form that is highly infectious between humans. This could lead to a global outbreak (pandemic).

### Minimizing the spread of the virus

Controlling the threat of Avian Flu means ensuring the virus does not spread, and the primary site for controlling the disease is the farm. This includes following "stringent sanitary measures on the farm, including disinfection of contaminated farm equipment, transport vehicles, and cages" and practicing a good biosecurity program. Unfortunately, it may also mean "quarantining infected farms and destruction of infected or potentially exposed flocks and feed" [1].

Besides poultry growers and processors, everybody else should follow good hygiene and food safety practices to minimize the spread of the virus and risk of infection.

Contact with wild and domestic birds and their droppings should be avoided.

### General recommendations

This document is intended as an introduction to Avian Influenza. More detailed information both on recommended practices and products available for decontamination of surfaces, objects, hands and the environment as well as food hygiene are attached.

These recommendations have been compiled from guidelines issued by major international disease control agencies. They should be viewed as complementary to requirements issued by local health authorities.

The tables provide recommended products and dosages to achieve safe, hygienic conditions. The products described here are registered in the various EU member states and effective against Avian influenza.

### What if an outbreak does occur?

In the case a local outbreak occurs, and in particular when it is confirmed that there is a risk that the virus will spread from person to person, the World Health Organization (WHO), World Health Organization for Animal Health (OIE), Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), and local health authorities will likely issue further strict requirements and procedures to minimize the risk of human cross-infection in closed as well as public areas.

**If a formal notice is issued, JohnsonDiversey will update the recommendations in line with local health authority instructions.**

**Please contact your JohnsonDiversey representative, or visit [www.johnsondiversey.com](http://www.johnsondiversey.com).**



### Infection risk

The majority of human Avian Flu cases have been among people who live or work on or near poultry farms. For people, the current risk of catching Avian Flu is from being in close contact with live birds that have the disease. The risk is clearly less where there is no direct exposure or contact.

According to the WHO, Avian Flu is not transmitted through cooked food, and so far there is no evidence that anyone has become infected from handling poultry meat or eating well cooked poultry or eggs. Everyone should however be aware of the risk of cross-contamination and the hygiene and cleaning practices necessary to reduce the risk of spreading the virus.

### Good hygiene and food safety practices

Premises should be thoroughly cleaned, with particular attention to surfaces frequently touched by hands and hand washing itself.

Good hygiene measures related to preparation, handling and serving of foods should continue to be observed. Again, particular attention should be given to hand hygiene, as well as disinfection of hand and food contact surfaces, especially where raw poultry products have been exposed. Food should be fully cooked to 70°C as this will kill the virus.

Healthcare institutions should follow extra measures when dealing with (suspected) Avian Flu patients.

