

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY.

Voluntary - Public

Date: 7/8/2019

GAIN Report Number: RS1909

Russian Federation

Post: Moscow

Russian Epizootic Update

Report Categories:

Agricultural Situation Livestock and Products Poultry and Products Pest/Disease Occurrences

Approved By:

Deanna Ayala

Prepared By:

FAS/Moscow Staff

Report Highlights:

This report serves, first, as a reference document to understand the structure and scope of veterinary authorities and entities in the Russian Federation. Secondly, the report is a summary of animal health outbreaks in Russia from 2007 to date and efforts by the Russian authorities to eradicate or mitigate certain animal diseases.

I. Veterinary legislation, surveillance, and practice in the Russian Federation

With the growth in livestock and poultry production in Russia (see Gain RS1828), the likelihood of animal disease outbreaks has also grown. Many experts and industry sources report that the Russian veterinary infrastructure should be reexamined in order to meet the needs of this growing, dynamic sector. Indeed, at the Agricultural Forum in Krasnodar on March 12, 2018, President Putin heard from local industry who voiced concern about the low effectiveness of local veterinary services. President Putin initiated a change of federal legislation in order to create a single centralized veterinary structure in Russia. That initiative was put into two draft resolutions, submitted on May 20, 2019. Draft resolutions No. 990-p and 991-p are now with the Duma. They would lead to the elimination of the regional veterinary service and strengthening of the federal veterinary service's oversight in the regions. After endorsement by the State Duma, the amended veterinary legislation would come into force in January 2020. Until then, veterinary standards/requirements continue to be developed at the federal level (Please see Paragraph 1.1.) and surveillance is also provided at the federal level, particularly control at the borders and transport (Paragraph 1.2.). In addition, until the new veterinary regulations come into effect in 2020, the regional veterinary services will continue to operate relatively independently and will not report directly to VPSS but rather to regional authorities from whom they receive their budgets. Thus, they provide veterinary services to and exercise control over the livestock industry.

Perhaps in recognition of the need for enhanced veterinary education and services, veterinary education and veterinary science in Russia are also under restructuring. The restructuring will be managed by the newly created Ministry of Science and High Education in accordance with a Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation of June 15, 2018 N 682, amended on July 28, 2018 (see Addendum 1 for details).

Russian Veterinary Structures

Russian veterinary entities and general principals of their operation are outlined in the Federal Law "On Veterinary Practices" No. 4979-1 of May 14, 1993 (amended through July 3, 2016) and specified in supplementary regulations of the Russian Government and regional administrations. The Federal Law specifies three subordinate levels of veterinary structures that also define sources of their funding: Federal (1), Regional (2), Accredited private specialists and organizations (3). Levels 1 and 2 make up the State (National) Veterinary Service. As noted above, this structure could be changed when the proposed veterinary legislation comes into force in 2020.

1. Federal Structures

- 1.1. The **Veterinary Department** of the Ministry of Agriculture is the Federal body of the Government authorized to establish veterinary rules and national standards. The Department also develops official norms and regulations for pedigree livestock farming, keeps a federal register of animal breeds and accredited pedigree farms. The Department is responsible for the professional development of veterinary specialists who work in the state system.
- 1.2. The <u>Federal Service of Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance</u>, Rosselkhoznadzor (hereafter VPSS) is the Federal body of the Government authorized to provide veterinary control and surveillance along with other functions. In practice, the **Directorate of Veterinary Surveillance**

oversees both export and import and internal branches that operate together with the <u>85 subordinate</u> regional branches, <u>529</u> veterinary entry points at the federal border, two (veterinary) research institutes, and <u>18</u> interregional veterinary laboratories.

VPSS's tasks and authorities are defined by two principal documents. They are, first, the Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation of April 8, 2004 N 201 "Questions of Federal Service of Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance" (amended through December 29, 2017) and second, the "Status of the Federal Service of Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance" approved by the Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation of June 30, 2004 N 327 (amended through April 11, 2018). In compliance with these regulations, VPSS conducts, along with other federal control functions, federal veterinary surveillance, control of circulation of veterinary drugs and equipment, animal feeds and components of their production, and provides protection from common human and animal diseases (Please see the list of VPSS' authorities in Addendum 2). VPSS represent the national veterinary service of the Russian Federation as a member state of the Eurasian Economic Union (Please see Addendum 3 for details).

VPSS veterinary scientific research institutes:

- 1.2.1. **Federal Center of Animal Health Protection** (<u>ARRIAH</u>), Vladimir oblast. The Center monitors the epizootic situation in Russia and around the world and publishes annual reports. ARRIAH performs research projects aimed at the protection of animals from contagious diseases. The Industrial branch of the Center produces vaccines, veterinary drugs, and diagnostic kits.
- 1.2.2. In compliance with Federal Law, production and application of vaccines and other veterinary means, as well as feeds and feed additives, are regulated by the "All-Russian State Center for Animal Feed and Drug Standardization and Quality (VGNKI)", which reports to VPSS. These products may be manufactured and used if <u>VGNKI</u> concludes that their technical documentation complies with current veterinary rules. VGNKI is also charged with conducting inspections of domestic and foreign veterinary drug manufacturers and providing Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) certification.
- 1.3. **Veterinary (veterinary-sanitary) Services** of the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Troops of the National Guard, the Federal Penitentiary System, and the Federal Security Service.
- 1.4. **Customs Veterinary Body** that provides state veterinary surveillance on the entry points located at the **Free Port Vladivostok** (per Federal Law N 213-FZ of July 13, 2015).
- 1.5. **Chief Veterinary Officer** (Chief State Veterinary Inspector), the CVO is nominated by the Government of the Russian Federation. The CVO can participate in the development and signing of international agreements. The CVO office delivers regular notifications to the OIE. Imports, exports, and transit through the territory of Russia of products of animal origin, feeds and feed additives, drugs for animals can be conducted with written approval of the CVO.

2. Regional Structures

There are 90 official Veterinary bodies at the regional level, including: Veterinary Directorates, Veterinary Committee with State Vet Inspection, Veterinary Department in the regional Ministry of Agriculture, or Veterinary Surveillance Service of a Republic. These veterinary bodies are a part of the regional governments and are funded from the regional budget. Their subordinate entities include Stations for animal protection in the province, regional laboratories, inspection points at the retail markets, slaughtering houses, and meat-processing plants. In accordance with Russian legislation, the goals of the State (National) Veterinary Service on a regional level include: prevention and elimination of contagious and massive non-contagious animal diseases; providing safety of livestock products; defense of the human population from common human and animal diseases (Please see the list of authorities of Regional Veterinary Services in Addendum 2, and emergency actions in case of animal disease outbreak in Addendum 4).

3. Private veterinary specialists make up a segment of veterinary care in Russia. In most cases, private veterinarians work in industry, private vets, registered private veterinary clinics and drug stores, non-governmental professional associations, and veterinary magazines.

Addendum 1. Veterinary education and veterinary science

In compliance with the Resolution of the Russian Government N 682 of June 15, 2018, the newly established Ministry of Science and High Education, now has authority over veterinary education. Therefore, veterinary academies and universities in Russia as well as veterinary scientific organizations are now subordinate to this new Ministry. Note: the Ministry of Science and High Education has not started proper operation, yet, thus the regulations regarding the structure of veterinary education and the strategy of veterinary science is forthcoming. Currently, 57 departments (cathedra) offer veterinary medicine in different universities including Moscow State Academy of Veterinary Medicine and Biotechnology. Prior to June 15, 2018, five specialized scientific centers and institutes of veterinary medicine were managed by the Federal Agency of Scientific Organizations (FANO), which was recently annulled.

Below is a list of research institutes offering veterinary services:

All-Russian scientific research institute of <u>Veterinary Experiments</u>, Moscow, with a branch called the All-Russian sci-research institute of veterinary sanitary, hygiene, and ecology, Moscow

<u>Federal Research Center of Virology and Microbiology</u>, Pokrov, Vladimir oblast, with three branches: Saratov sci-research veterinary institute, Samara sci-research veterinary institute, Nizhni Novgorod sci-research veterinary institute

All-Russian Scientific-Research Veterinary Institute of Pathology, Pharmacy and Therapy, Voronezh

All-Russian Sci-Research Veterinary Institute of Poultry Breeding, St. Petersburg

Krasnodar Scientific Centre of Zoological and <u>Veterinary Technic</u>, with branch: Krasnodar Sci-Research <u>Veterinary Institute</u>, Krasnodar

Addendum 2. Authorities of the Federal Service of Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance (A) and the Regional Veterinary Services (B)

A) VPSS exercises the following authorities related to veterinary issues:

- Veterinary surveillance including veterinary control at federal border entry points and/or at the points of customs clearance of goods subject to veterinary control designed for export, import or transit through territory of the Russian Federation;
- Federal surveillance over veterinary drugs and equipment and their registration; maintenance of Federal Register of veterinary drugs;
- Federal surveillance over quality and safety of animal feeds and feed additives and their registration;
- Issue of Permits for export, import and transit of animals, products of animal origin, veterinary drugs and equipment, feeds and feed additives through the territory of the Russian Federation;
- Issue conclusions of compliance of producers and production processes of veterinary drugs and equipment with the requirements of Good Manufacturing Practice;
- Inspect regional veterinary bodies to check their compliance with approved principals and operational standards;
- Audits of veterinary surveillance systems of importing countries and inspection of producer establishments in third countries together with competent authorities of the Eurasian Economic Union member states
- Control measures aimed at protection of Russian territory from entry and expansion of contagious animal diseases, including imposing restrictions on the import and transit of goods subject to veterinary control.

B) Regional Veterinary Services have the following authority:

- Carry out inspection of products of animal origin during the production process;
- Conduct measures for prevention and eradication, as well as treatment of animal diseases, and protect population from common human and animal diseases on the controlled territory;
- Organize special commissions for coordination of public activity aimed at the prevention of spread and eradication of contagious animal diseases;
- Collect applications for the import of livestock products from the industry and pass them to the Central office of VPSS for approval and issue of Import Permits;
- Registration of private veterinary specialists and regulate their activity.

Addendum 3. Veterinary activity of the Russian Federation as a member of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU)

National veterinary services of the EAEU member states, including the Russian Federation, apply veterinary measures on the borders and the customs territory of the EAEU in compliance with the Chapter XI "Sanitary, Veterinary-sanitary, and Quarantine Phytosanitary Measures" of the "Treaty on the Eurasian Economic Union" of May 29, 2014. According to the Russian national legislation, the Federal Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance Service (Rosselkhoznadzor) is authorized to provide veterinary control and conduct veterinary measures at the federal borders. Article 56, 57, 58 of the Chapter XI of the Treaty and Annex No.12 stipulates that the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC),

working in the field of application of sanitary, veterinary-sanitary, and quarantine phytosanitary measures, provides coordination of joint policies and the following principal activities of the authorized national veterinary bodies:

- 1. Take measures to prevent penetration of animal diseases into the EAEU and immediately inform the EEC on such case and undertaken measures;
- 2. Follow the Unified list of goods subject to veterinary control and the Unified veterinary requirements during import and transit of the veterinary products in the EAEU;
- 3. EAEU member states establish entry points on their borders that are equipped with the appropriate means for providing veterinary control and operated by the authorized personnel;
- 4. Each shipment of veterinary products entering the EAEU must have an Import permit issued by the competent authority of the member state and be accompanied by the appropriate veterinary certificate¹;
- 5. The authorized veterinary bodies of the EAEU member states conduct audits of the official surveillance systems of the third countries and exporting establishments in accordance with the rules of implementation of joint inspections.

The principal measures listed above are conducted in compliance with the following regulatory EAEU documents:

- CU Commission Decision No. 317 of June 18, 2010 "On the Application of Veterinary-Sanitary Measures in the Customs Union" (as amended through May 30, 2017);
- Unified List of Goods Subject to Veterinary Control (supervision), approved by the CU Commission Decision No. 314 of June 18, 2010 (amended through May 17, 2017);
- Unified Veterinary (Veterinary-sanitary) Requirements for Goods Subject to Veterinary Control (supervision), approved by the CU Commission Decision No. 314 of June 18, 2010 (amended through May 30, 2017);
- Provision on the Unified Procedure of Veterinary Control (supervision) on the Customs Border
 of the Eurasian Economic Union and on the Customs Territory of the Eurasian Economic Union,
 approved by the CU Commission Decision No. 314 of June 18, 2010 (amended through
 November 23, 2015);

For more details please see GAIN report <u>RS1838 Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards Report</u>.

Addendum 4. Emergency procedures in the case of animal disease outbreak

In case of a threat of outbreak and expansion of contagious animal disease, the Head of a regional administration establishes quarantine or other protective measures on the controlled territory based on notification of the Head of Regional Veterinary Directorate/Department. If protective measures must be taken in two and more regions of the Russian Federation, the measures are imposed by the Director of Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Agriculture at the federal level. One day after the quarantine was imposed, the Regional Veterinary Directorate must notify the Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and the VPSS Directorate about the veterinary threat and undertaken measures.

¹ For the current list of veterinary certificates to be used for U.S. exports to Russia, please see GAIN report <u>RS1836 Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards Report</u>.

Local vets collect pathological material for detection of the infection agent, which conduct the regional or interregional laboratory. The identification of the infection agent must be confirmed in ARRIAH (VPSS), or in the Federal Research Centre of Virology and Microbiology (see Addendum 1). The regional administration conducts necessary protective measures in the infected zone in compliance with instructive documents established by the Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Agriculture. In the course of implementing the protective measures, animals in the infected zone may be taken with compensation to owners from regional budget.

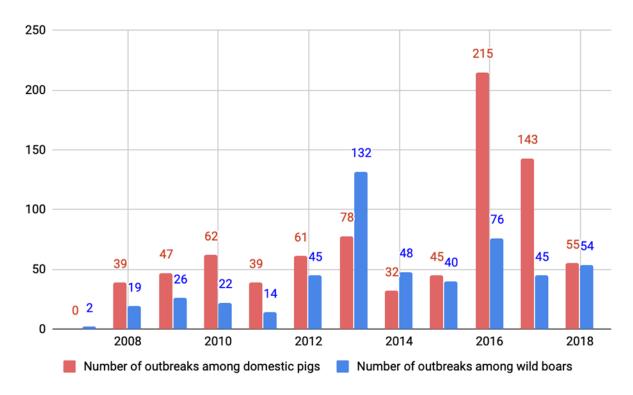
II. Epizootic Update

African Swine Fever

African Swine Fever (ASF) has been present in Russia since at least 2007 when a small outbreak among wild boars was reported. Today, Russian official vets reportedly consider the disease to be one of the main threats to Russia's swine population. In 2018, 55 ASF outbreaks were registered in domestic pigs, and 54 in wild boars (Chart 1). That represents a slight improvement from 2017 in terms of the number of registered outbreaks, but worsening concerning the total number of destroyed animals. In addition, the number of outbreaks among wild boars has been relatively consistent since 2014, perhaps indicating the challenges with eradicating this particular disease. The number of ASF outbreaks in domestic pigs was half than for the same period of 2017.

Since January 2019, eleven ASF outbreaks, including nine in wild boars and two in domestic pigs, have been reported. Seven regions were affected (Please see Table 2).

Chart 1. Number of African Swine Fever Outbreaks in the Russian Federation from January 1, 2007 - December 31, 2018.



Source: Federal Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance Service (VPSS)

From a regional perspective, the geographic distribution of the disease contracted. No ASF cases were found in the Urals, Siberia and the Far East in 2018 and 2019. However, Kaliningrad oblast unexpectedly reported a sharp increase in ASF outbreaks in 2018, between both domestic pigs and wild boars (see Chart 2). The Russian veterinary services have not provided an analysis of the root cause, yet, but preliminary conjecture is that it could indicate a high level of infection in the wild and insufficient barrier to prevent the virus from moving from wild boars to domestic pigs in the Kaliningrad region. The largest amount of cases were reported in private backyards. Three commercial farms also suffered, including "Pravdinskoe" farm with 128,000 pigs. The local administration conducts a regional program focused on elimination of pigs in private backyards. A reoccurrence of ASF in Belgorod region on July 16, 2018 hit 10 months after a previous outbreak at one "Rusagro" group facility, where 12,500 pigs were at risk. No ASF cases were reported in Siberia this year, as opposed to 2017 when 29 outbreaks were reported in Omsk.

Aside from Belgorod, the number of outbreaks decreased in several parts of the European part of Russia. Some say this is the result of enhanced enforcement measures by the local authorities who compensated owners for condemned animals and prohibited raising of pigs in households and small farms for 1.5 years in the buffer zones of a radius of no less than 5 km. The amount of compensation in Saratov region this year was equal to 44.00 U.S. dollars per piglet and 1.60 U.S. dollars per 1 kg of live weight.

As was the case in previous years, the majority (84%) of ASF outbreaks among domestic pigs were in private backyards. The rest affected both small and big farms. Approximately 194,000 pigs were destroyed in Russia due to ASF eradication measures this year, including 132,000 animals in

Kaliningrad. There is a high probability that the economic impact of ASF in 2018 will be higher than in 2017.

Epizootic situation for African Swine Fever in the Russian Federation in 2018 (Outbreak number is 109 on December 29, 2018) Finland Orel obl.: Belgorod obl.: Wild - 0 Wild - 8 Rostov obl.: Vladimir obl.: Wild - 0 estic - 1 Wild - 1 Kaliningrad oblast Saratov obl.: Volgograd obl.: Belarus Wild - 0 wild - 0 Tver obl.: Ivanovo obl.: Wild - 1 Wild - 0 Tula obl.: Kaliningrad obl.: Wild - 0 Leningrad obl.: Wild - 35 Wild - 6 Krasnodar krai.: Nizhni Novgorod obl.: Moscow obl.: Wild - 2 Lithuania Lipetsk obl.: Wild - 0 Novgorod obl.: Pskov obl.: ASF outbreaks: Domestic pigs (N=55) Wild boars (N=54) 600 Km

Chart 2. African Swine Fever in the Russian Federation in 2018.

Source: VPSS

According to the annual National Report on the Results of Implementation of the State Program of Agricultural Development, 94,650 pigs were destroyed during ASF eradication measures in 2017. The figure was significantly less than in 2016 when this number was reported as 217,375 head. As in previous years, most cases of ASF (87.9%) were reported in private backyards in 2017. However about a half of the pigs (41,504) were destroyed at two large industrial farms both located in Belgorod region: Tambov Bacon ("Rusagro" group) in September 2017 and MIRATORG-Belgorod in December 2017. The Ministry of Agriculture calculated the direct economic loss per compensation to the producers in 2017 was 758.4 million rubles (13.5 million U.S. dollars), 30% less than in 2016 or 1.137 billion rubles (19 million U.S. dollars).

Russian veterinary services implement control and eradication measures against ASF in compliance with guidance and regulations issued by the Government in different times:

- "<u>Instruction on the Measures for Prevention and Liquidation of African Swine Fever</u>", approved by the General Veterinary Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture of the USSR on November 21, 1980;
- Veterinary Rules of the Implementation of Prophylactic, Diagnostic, Restrictive, and Other Measures, Imposing and Lifting Quarantine and Other Restrictions Aimed at the Prevention of Spread and Liquidation of the Foci of African Swine Fever", approved by the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation Order N 213 of May 31, 2016;
- Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation of 26.05.2006 N 310 "On the Alienation of Animals and the Seizure of Livestock Products During the Elimination of Foci of Especially Dangerous Animal Diseases";
- "<u>The plan of action for African swine fever</u>", approved by the Ministry of Agriculture on October 25, 2012.

The Russian Federation is considered as a country not free from ASF; according to the OIE recommendations Chapter 15.1., importing countries may impose restrictions on the shipments of live pigs, fresh pork, hog semen, *in vivo* derived swine embryo, and other untreated pig products from the Russian Federation.

Avian Influenza

The Russian Federation became enzootic for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) starting in 2018 because the disease has been registered on domestic poultry since 2016 (see GAIN report "Avian Influenza in Russia 2016-2017"). In 2018, no HPAI cases were reported until June. From June until October 2018, the veterinary services reported 82 outbreaks of HPAI in 15 regions of Russia including six outbreaks on large commercial farms, which resulted in the most serious economic impact of this disease in Russian history. The situation was aggravated by the consolidation of the poultry industry over the past ten years into large operators. In accordance with figures published on the internet and officially reported to OIE by the Russian CVO, the total number of dead and destroyed domestic birds was 1.9 million in six large commercial farms and 9.5 thousand in private backyards and small farms in 2018. Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (LPAI) was reported in the Russian Far East in May 2018.

In January 2019, Russian vets registered two HPAI outbreaks in turkey parent flocks on the commercial farm URSDON, a part of EURODON group in Rostov-on-Don oblast. The loss was 21,000 birds of breeding stock. Russian veterinary service forecasts a new wave of Avian Influenza in 2019.

Russian vets found three serotypes of Avian Influenza among domestic birds in 2018 (see Chart 3). Almost all outbreaks in chicken and turkey were caused by HPAI H5N8, which was considered by <u>UN FAO</u> as a common strain of HPAI in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Middle East with pandemic potential. No transfer to human cases has been reported due to H5N8 globally. Another serotype HPAI H5N2, was reported in one instance in a commercial chicken farm in Kostroma oblast in August 2018.

Serotypes location Regions of the Russian Federation H5N2 of HPAI affected with Avian Influenza in 2018 H9N2 of LPAI Key: Rostov oblast No = 4 H5N8 HPAI Primorski kray No = 1 H9N2 LPAI No = 9 H5N8 HPAI Penza oblast Outbreaks in private backyards Samara oblast No = 13 H5N8 HPAI Kostroma oblast No = 1 H5N2 HPAI Mariy-El Repb. No = 1 H5N8 HPAI Saratov oblast No = 4 H5N8 HPAI Outbreaks in commercial fa Kursk oblast No = 6 H5N8 HPAI Tatarstan Repb. No =16 H5N8 HPAI Voronezh oblast No = 1 H5N8 HPAI Nizhni Novgorod No = 3 H5N8 HPAI Big cities Udmurtia Repb. No = 4 H5N8 HPAI Smolensk oblast No = 2 H5N8 HPAI Main roads No = 7 H5N8 HPAI Chuvashia Repb. No =10 H5N8 HPAI Ulyanovsk oblast No = 1 H5N8 HPAI Orel oblast

Chart 3. Avian Influenza in the Russian Federation in 2018.

Source: VPSS

May 2018, VPSS published the results of a detection of Avian Influenza H9N2 in sick birds during an outbreak at an industrial poultry farm, "Nadezhdinskaya Ptitsa" in Primorski krai. This virus was found to be Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza, which was also found in China and Japan in 2014-2017. During eradication measures for this outbreak, the local veterinary service destroyed and disposed 236,000 birds and recalled products delivered to retail from the affected farms. VPSS did not report this case to the OIE since the strain of virus was not considered a notifiable one.

On June 17, 2018, HPAI H5N8 was detected in Penza oblast on one of farm of the DAMATE Group, the biggest Russian turkey producer. The DAMATE Group has 27% of the turkey meat market in Russia and runs 400 farms in Penza and Tyumen oblast. The company destroyed 470,000 turkeys, which equaled 10% of the total company flock. According to the company, the economic loss to the DAMATE group was 400,000 million rubles (6.35 million U.S. Dollars).

In July 2018, the same strain of HPAI also damaged two facilities of <u>EURODON</u> group of companies, another of the biggest poultry producers in Russia. EURODON manages 24 turkey and duck industrial farms in Rostov-on-don oblast. According to a VPSS <u>publication</u>, about 300,000 birds were at risk. The company has suffered from two large HPAI outbreaks, one in 2016 and one in 2017, and total economic loss was <u>2.6 billion rubles</u> (43 million U.S. dollars). According to the <u>local mass media</u>, 2018's loss will be covered by insurance.

According to INTERFAX Information Agency and VPSS <u>Information-Analytic Centre</u>, the Cherkizovo Group chicken hatchery in Penza oblast was affected by HPAI H5N8 on June 19, 2018. Approximately 3000 birds reportedly died at the facility. Local vets and the company decided not to destroy the nearest flock of 291,000 at risk since the infected unit was considered to be isolated enough as to not pose a high risk. According to the company, it lost 100 million rubles (1.58 million U.S. Dollars) due to the outbreak. Source: https://www.interfax.ru/russia/618001

In the areas affected with Avian Influenza, the Russian veterinary services conducted control and eradication measures in compliance with the "Rules to Combat Against Avian Influenza" approved by the Order of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation N 90 of March 27, 2006. Chart 3, above, from the Federal Center of Animal Health Protection (ARRIAH, VPSS) shows a pattern of HPAI outbreaks along a network of main roads and near big cities. Some observers note that this picture seems to indicate that the virus is more likely to be transmitted by people who are carrying the infection, e.g. on their shoes or on vehicles, rather than by wild migrating birds.

Trade restrictions related to HPAI outbreaks in Russia

Starting June 2018, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food of the Republic of Belarus imposed restrictions on the import of live birds, hatching eggs, down and feather, poultry meat, poultry products, feeds and feed additives that were not heat treated, from Penza, Samara, Kursk, Orel, Rostov and some other regions of the Russian Federation on the base detection of HPAI. The restrictions are still in force.

On July 12, 2018, VPSS published <u>information</u> that Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety of the EU Commission (GE SANTE) imposed restrictions on the import of poultry meat, semi-semi-cooked poultry products, poultry products not heat treated according to B, C, and D EU standards, other poultry by-products and containing them materials from all establishments located on the territory of the Russian Federation. Eighteen Russian poultry processing establishments were approved for the export to the E.U.

Other diseases affecting export from the Russian Federation

Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD). In January 2019, an outbreak of FMD was reported in Primorskiy Krai and up to 125,000 animals destroyed. Nevertheless, in May 2019, the majority of the Russian Federation recovered its status as an "FMD-free zone without vaccination". In accordance with OIE recommendations in Chapter 8.8., an importing country may impose restrictions on the transportation of meat products of FMD susceptible animals, milk and milk products intended for human consumption and of products of animal origin (from FMD susceptible animals) intended for use in animal feeding or for agricultural or industrial use from the Russian Federation.

Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD). In 2018, 64 detections of LSD and one in 2019 were reported in the Russian Federation. The country does not apply a stamping-out policy for LSD. The Russian Federation is considered "not free from LSD". In accordance with OIE recommendations Chapter 11.9., an importing country may impose restrictions on the import of live bovines, bovine semen, bovine embryo, milk and milk products, meal and flour from blood, meat other than skeletal muscle, or bones from bovines from the Russian Federation.

In Tables 1 and 2, please, see the epizootic profile of the Russian Federation for notifiable animal diseases for 2018 and the period of January 1, 2019 - June 30, 2019 according to the Information-Analytic Center of the Federal Center of Animal Health Protection (ARRIAH).

Table 1. Epizootic profile of the regions of the Russian Federation for notifiable animal diseases for

January 1 - December 31, 2018

No	Disease	Species	Region of the Russian Federation	Outbreak Number
			Pskov oblast	1
1	African Swine Fever	Domestic Pigs and Wild Boars	Rostov oblast	1
			Lipetsk oblast	1
			Kaliningrad oblast	57
			Volgograd oblast	2
			Vladimir oblast	2
			Belgorod oblast	9
			Krasnodar kray	2
			Saratov oblast	8
			Ivanovo oblast	1
			Leningrad oblast	8
			Moscow oblast	3
			Nizhni Novgorod oblast	4
			Novgorod oblast	1
			Orel oblast	5
			Tver oblast	2
			Tula oblast	1
2	Classical Swine Fever	Domestic Pigs	Moscow oblast	1
3	Foot and Mouth Disease	Cattle	Zabaykalskiy kray	5
4	Lumpy Skin Disease	Cattle	Omsk oblast	5
			Samara oblast	32

			Kurgan oblast	21
			Chelyabinsk oblast	4
			Sverdlovsk oblast	1
			Saratov oblast	1
5	Sheep and Goat Pox	Sheep	Kalmykia Republic	1
			Moscow oblast	8
			Amur oblast	1
			Tula oblast	2
6	Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza	Poultry	Kursk oblast	6
			Penza oblast	9
			Samara oblast	13
			Saratov oblast	4
			Orel oblast	7
			Smolensk oblast	2
			Rostov oblast	4
			Nizhni Novgorod oblast	3
			Chuvashia Republic	10
			Tatarstan Republic	16
			Mariy El Republic	1
			Udmurtia Republic	4
			Ulyanovsk oblast	1
			Kostroma oblast	1
			Voronezh oblast	1
7	Anthrax	Cattle	Tuva Republic	2

Table 2. Epizootic profile of the regions of the Russian Federation for notifiable animal diseases for a period of January 1 - June 30, 2019

No	Disease	Species	Region of the Russian Federation	Outbreak Number
	African Swine Fever	Domestic Pigs and Wild Boars	Rostov oblast	1
1			Krasnodar kray	1
			Kaliningrad oblast	5
			Novgorod oblast	1
			Leningrad oblast	1
			Adygea Republic	1
			Kabardino-Balkaria Republic	1
2	Classical Swine Fever	Wild Boars	Primorskiy kray	1
3	Foot and Mouth Disease	Domestic Pigs	Primorskiy kray	15
		Cattle	Zabaykalskiy kray	1
		Domestic Pigs	Khabarovskiy kray	1
4	Lumpy Skin Disease	Cattle	Udmurtia Republic	1
5	Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza	Turkey	Rostov oblast	2
6	Newcastle disease	Poultry	Krasnodar kray	1
			Chechnya Republic	1
			Stavropol kray	3
			Primorskiy kray	1
			Saratov oblast	1