

# Avian Influenza Update

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10<sup>th</sup> International Pheasant Management Seminar

# 2015 US Avian Flu Outbreak

- Largest avian disease event in US history
- 49,700,000 bird affected
- 221 Commercial Turkey and Layer Chicken Flocks
- 21 Backyard Flock
- Only 1 flock of Commercial Gamebirds

# Current Situation - 2016

## January 15<sup>th</sup> 2016

- Dubois Co. Indiana - H7N8 – a low pathogenic AI strain appears to have mutated to high pathogenic AI

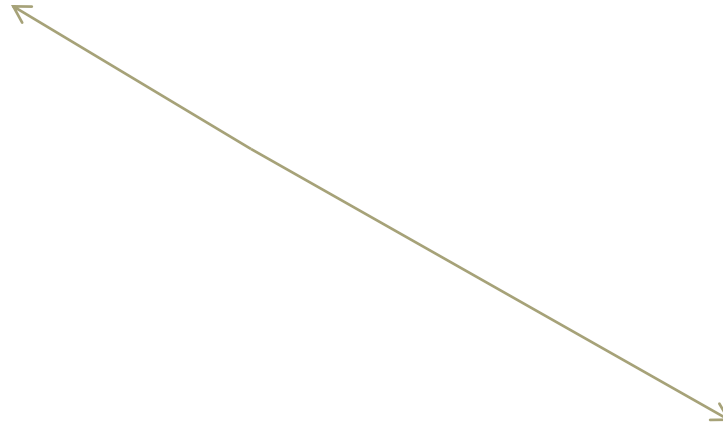
## January 17<sup>th</sup> 2016

- 8 additional farms are confirmed positive for low pathogenic H7NA
- – 400,000 Chickens and Turkeys Euthanized



# Why not Gamebirds?

- Birds are outdoors
- Daily contact with live wild birds
- Airborne!



- Immunity in gamebirds
- Virus can't survive outdoors

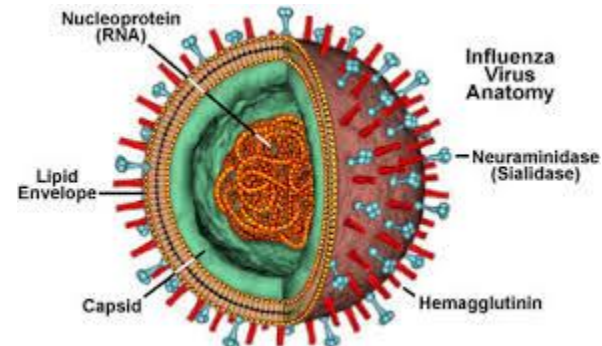
# No Bullcrap.....

- "Bullcrap" is commonly used to describe statements made by people more concerned with the response of the audience than in truth and accuracy, such as goal-oriented statements made in the field of politics or advertising.



# So what are the facts.....

- AI virus is a fragile.
- Does not survive well in the presence of sunlight.
- Or above 70 degrees F
- Or in a dry environment
- Typically spread from saliva, nasal secretions, and feces
- Constantly changing and resorting
- Similar to human flu



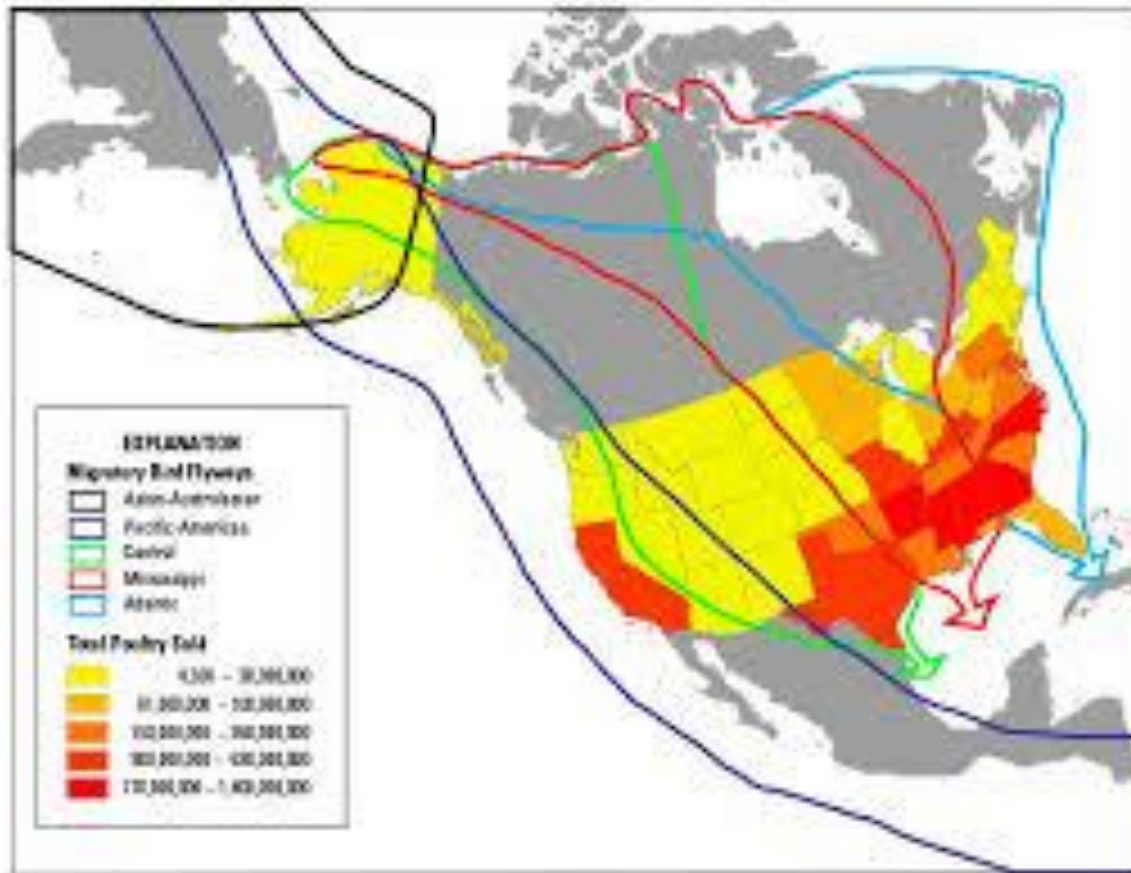


# Waterfowl

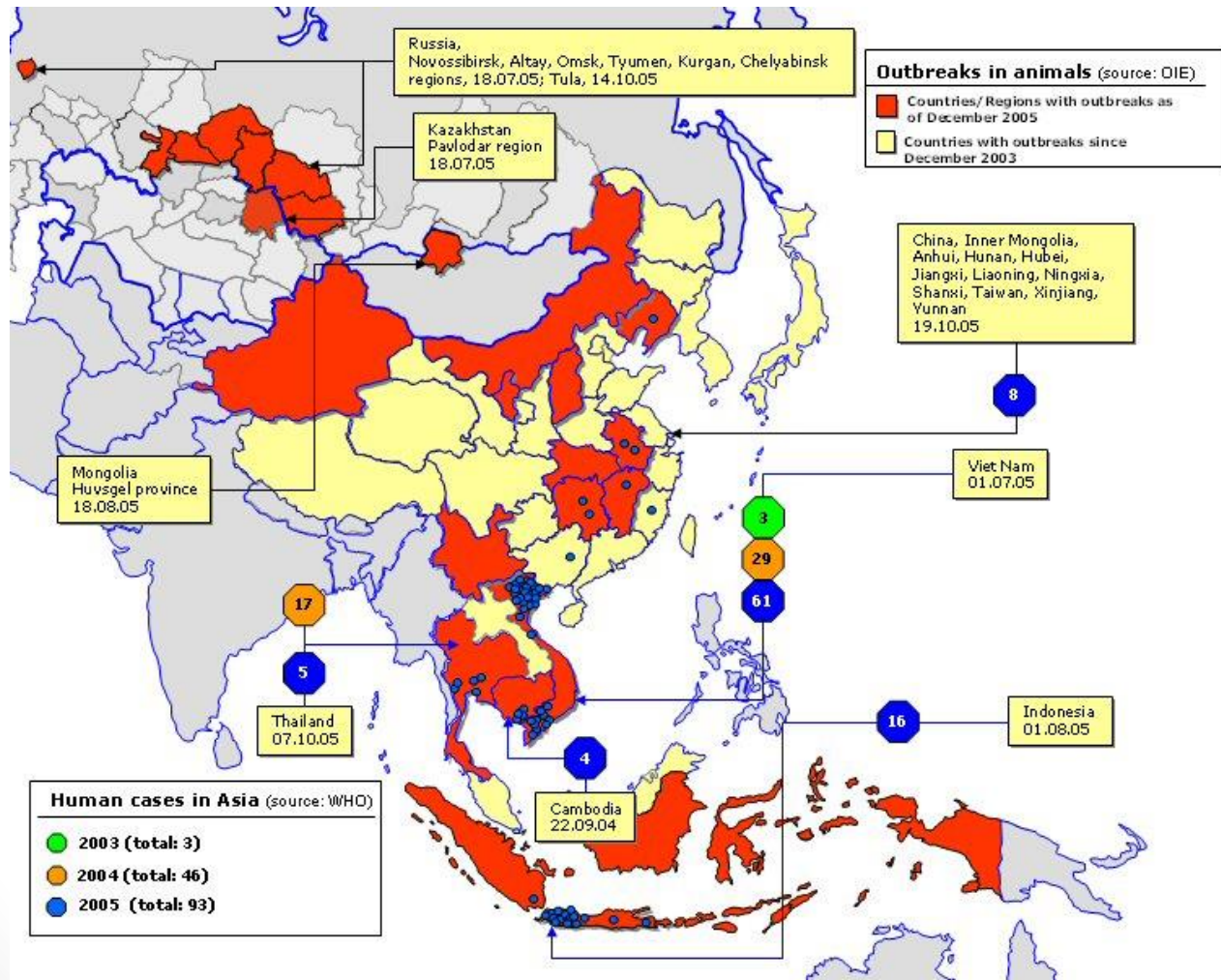




# Where does it come from?

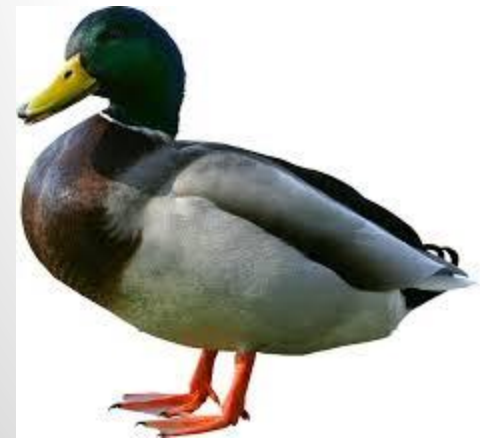


# China, South East Asia – H5NX variant



# Some other AI facts

- Positive via antibody test – means the bird was exposed at some point and may or may not be infectious.
- Infections – with typical AI, birds are infectious for about 14 days.
- Ducks are the 10X more susceptible to infection than Turkeys
- Turkeys are 2X more susceptible to infections than Chickens
- Pheasants and Quail are somewhere in between Ducks and Turkeys



# Immunity

In biology, **immunity** is the balanced state of having adequate biological defenses to fight infection, disease, or other unwanted biological invasion



Legal immunity, the concept of a person or entity being immune from legal liability due to a special status

# We're not Immune.....

FRIDAY, JAN. 30, 2015, 9:57 A.M.

Bird flu strikes Washington game farm; pheasants to be destroyed

An outbreak of avian influenza in a private game farm in Okanogan County is forcing federal and state agriculture officials to kill up to 5,000 ducks, geese, chickens, pheasants and turkeys. About 40 birds at a game farm for private hunting and bird-dog training in Riverside, Washington, were sick and died over the weekend. The birds tested positive for bird flu on Tuesday.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture and the state of Washington announced it would kill birds from the flock and establish a six-mile quarantine around it to contain the disease.

# What's at Stake.....

- Your farm and your birds.
- Quarantine of your birds.
- Your ability to ship your birds across state lines.
- The ability to export your birds outside the US.
- The shut down of all commercial export of poultry products from the US.





# Stakeholders – BIG POULTRY



Upland Gamebird Industry





# So What Can We Do.....

## ***Biosecurity***

- ***Control*** what you can
- ***Isolate*** your farm
- ***Identify*** potential gaps
- ***Regulate*** traffic on and off the farm

***Be Smart – Use Common Sense***

# Specific to Gamebirds.....

1. Don't raise ducks in the same facilities as other birds
2. If you or your employee's hunt waterfowl – be very careful
3. Don't stress your birds
4. Get to know you state Veterinarian
5. Be proactive, not reactive
6. Learn as much as you can – Teach as much as you learn
7. Chances are vaccines will not be allowed
8. Use pelleted feed
9. Use a proper water source – consider treatment
10. Don't be fooled