

Information regarding highly pathogenic avian influenza

Updated Feb. 7, 2011

To the citizens of Kagawa ~We ask for your thorough cooperation to prevent the contamination of highly pathogenic avian influenza~

The outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza was confirmed in Shimane Prefecture on Nov. 29, 2010 and, to date, has spread to places such as Miyazaki, Kagoshima, and Aichi Prefecture.

In addition, infection has all been confirmed more and more in wild birds in several location in Japan, and so we are asking for the understanding and cooperation from Kagawa citizens to take measures that will prevent an outbreak (including disinfection of poultry farms).

Except for special cases, people are generally safe from avian influenza infection when coming into contact with infected birds. Furthermore, throughout the world, consumption of poultry (chicken, duck, turkey, etc.) or eggs has not been reported to lead to infection.

~Regarding avian influenza in dead or weak wild birds.~

Updated Jan. 26, 2011

From this year, various places in Japan, including Kochi Prefecture, have experienced an outbreak in highly pathogenic avian influenza, which is a livestock epidemic.

Except for special cases, people are generally safe from avian influenza infection when coming into contact with infected birds. If you come into contact birds in you daily life, there is no need to be excessively worried, so please remain calm, and wash your hands and gargle.

We ask that the residents have the correct understanding regarding avian influenza and the chances of human infection or the proper procedure if your pet bird should die.

○Avian influenza in humans

It is not believed that the avian influenza can spread to humans through daily activity. In addition, there are no reported cases the disease spreading from human to human. Furthermore, throughout the world, consumption of poultry (chicken, duck, turkey, etc.) or eggs has not been reported to lead to infection.

○If you find a dead or weak wild bird

Within Kagawa, avian influenza has not been found in wild birds, but there are things like bacteria and parasites in the feathers. If you do encounter a dead or weak bird, do not touch it with bare hands. If you come into contact with bird droppings, thoroughly wash your hands and there is no need for excessive worry.

○How to dispose of a dead bird

While avoiding coming into contact with the dead bird, put the bird in a plastic bag, seal it, and dispose of it with the burnable garbage.

○Wild birds die of various causes

Wild birds can become weak or die from things like lack of food or a changing environment. If you find a dead bird, you shouldn't immediately suspect avian influenza.

○Prevention of the spread of the virus

Wild bird droppings can transported on things like shoes or vehicles and so we ask avoid nearing wild bird and use plenty of caution not to step in bird droppings. Further, avoid things like chasing or catching wild birds.

○ If many birds die in the same place

If many birds die in the same place, please contact the Kagawa International Affairs Division.

Contact: Jan. 26, 2011

International Affairs Division

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