

Control Measures Avian Influenza

An avian influenza (AI) outbreak triggers a coordinated emergency response. Early actions focus on confirming the disease, restricting movements, and assessing how far it may have spread.

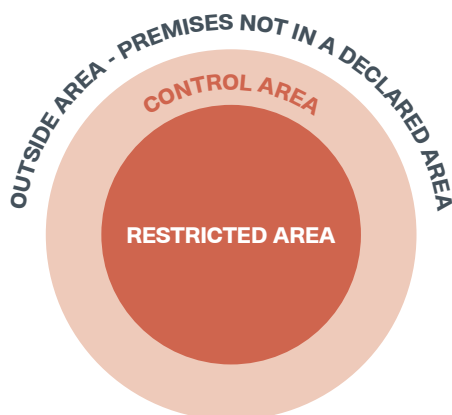
Control measures are the rules and actions used to contain and eliminate the disease. They reduce spread between properties and help protect the wider poultry industry. Your state or territory government manages the response in your area. You must follow their directions, otherwise penalties may apply.

Declared areas

During an outbreak, governments may set up 'declared areas' to limit disease spread. These areas enable specific areas to be required, restricted or prohibited under state or territory biosecurity law. Your premises may fall into one of these zones:

- **Restricted area (RA)** – includes infected properties, suspected infected properties, and nearby premises
- **Control area (CA)** – a disease-free buffer zone around the restricted area
- **Outside area (OA)** – areas outside declared areas, in which the emergency disease has not been detected.

There may be more than one restricted or control area.



Types of control measures

Authorities use a range of control measures to limit the spread of disease. These include:

Movement controls

Limit the movement of poultry, eggs, people, vehicles, equipment and other items that could spread the virus.

Biosecurity requirements for people

Require actions like changing clothing or disinfecting when entering or leaving a premises.

Tracing

Tracks movements of birds, people and items to identify possible spread.

Surveillance

Checks for signs of disease and tests samples if needed.

Destruction

Humanely destroys infected poultry or poultry at high risk of infection. Items that cannot be decontaminated may also be destroyed.

Disposal

Safely disposes of carcasses, waste and contaminated materials.

Decontamination

Cleans and disinfects premises, equipment and other items.

Control measures that may apply to you

The measures you face depend on your premises status and location. Premises include farms, processing sites, and other locations where poultry or poultry products are handled.

PREMISES STATUS	LOCATED IN	POTENTIAL CONTROL MEASURES
Infected premises (known or believed to be infected)	Restricted area	• Quarantine, strict biosecurity and movement controls (including for people) • Tracing • Surveillance • Destruction of all poultry (with valuation and compensation where applicable) • Disposal • Decontamination
Suspect or trace premises (premises that require investigation)	Restricted area	• Quarantine, biosecurity and movement controls (including for people) • Surveillance • Note: trace status is a temporary classification and is reviewed quickly.
Dangerous contact premises or facilities (high risk of infection)	Restricted area	• Quarantine, biosecurity and movement controls (including for people) • Surveillance • Destruction of poultry based on risk level (with valuation and compensation as appropriate) • Disposal • Decontamination
At-risk or relevant premises (other properties with poultry in declared areas)	Restricted or control area	• Movement controls, particularly in a restricted area • Surveillance
Premises outside declared areas (properties not in restricted or control areas)	Outside area	• Some movement controls may apply, particularly when moving to or from declared areas • Surveillance
Other facilities (processing sites, saleyards, etc.)	Outside area	• May be affected by movement controls • Surveillance

More information

Response updates

During a response, information on control measures will be available on the websites of your relevant state or territory department of agriculture and at birdflu.gov.au.

Industry bodies

Australian Chicken Meat Federation
chicken.org.au

Egg Farmers Australia
eggfarmersaustralia.org

Biosecurity resources

For free on-farm biosecurity manuals, tips and resources, visit farmbiosecurity.com.au

Chickens
farmbiosecurity.com.au/industry/chickens

Ducks
farmbiosecurity.com.au/industry/ducks

Eggs
farmbiosecurity.com.au/industry/eggs

