



Europeiska jordbruksfonden för
landsbygdsutveckling. Europa
investerar i landsbygdsområden

Outbreak checklist

In the event of a suspected contagious disease, and immediately after an outbreak is confirmed, many actions must be carried out. Use this checklist during the first few days to avoid missing anything important.

You are required to contact a veterinarian if you suspect a contagious disease. First contact your flock veterinarian, and secondly the on-call veterinarian in your district, or alternatively the veterinarian at your sector organisation. They will assist you with the veterinary aspects and are responsible for contacting the Swedish Board of Agriculture (Jordbruksverket), the County Administrative Board (Länsstyrelsen) and the National Veterinary Institute (SVA).

You will then be contacted by SVA or the Swedish Board of Agriculture. Together with the veterinarian, they will help you with how to send animals to SVA for post-mortem examination and sampling. In most cases, a courier vehicle is used. If Newcastle disease or avian influenza is suspected, the layers must be examined in a laboratory. On-farm post-mortem examinations involve a risk of spreading infection.

Retrieve your pre-filled Contingency Plan and use the information already prepared. Also use it as an additional checklist.

To reduce the risk of spreading infection, do not remove dead animals from the affected house. Instead, collect the animals and place them in plastic bags outside the animal area, within the same building.

Keep manure, litter, products and other material that may contain infection isolated from pests as far as technically and practically possible. However, do not move it out of the poultry house.

Assign a single member of staff to work only in the infected house to reduce the risk of spreading infection to other houses, buildings and facilities. Use protective equipment such as a mask, disposable gloves and a disposable coverall.

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Consider how you move within the facility to reduce spread. Also plan egg collection/transport so that eggs from the infected house are handled separately and collected last.

A veterinarian will be sent out by the Swedish Board of Agriculture for a farm visit. They will help you with barrier tape and stop signs at the facility entrances.

Contact and inform everyone concerned about the suspicion of an epizootic disease, including any planned transports to and from your facility over the next few days. See the separate Phone List.

If applicable, contact the egg packing station to inform them about the suspected epizootic disease. Eggs already at the packing station that originate from your farm will likely have to be destroyed once infection is confirmed. It is important that the packing station immediately stops packing the eggs and forwarding them to the next operator.

Contact people who have recently been on the farm. They should be informed about the infection to prevent possible further spread.

Immediately close any farm egg shop. Put up signs to prevent customers from driving onto the farm and communicate the closure in any relevant media channels.

Keep a diary/log of all work from the very first day of suspicion. Preferably use the document "Outbreak log". Then transfer this into the sanitation plan that will form the basis for any compensation. What work was carried out and by whom? Number of working hours? Use of machinery? What is discarded and why? What is purchased and why?

Ensure gas preparedness. Use the document "Checklist for euthanasia with carbon dioxide".

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Bring sealing materials to the farm in preparation for gassing (see “Checklist for euthanasia with carbon dioxide”).

Remove cold-sensitive equipment from the animal area before gassing. This equipment may be damaged during carbon dioxide euthanasia.

Calculate manure storage capacity.

Compile how many animals are present in each house.

Calculate how many staff are needed to remove euthanised/dead animals. Can you arrange staff for this yourself? If not, inform the Swedish Board of Agriculture that you need assistance.

Calculate egg storage capacity. Check how many eggs are currently in the egg storage and how many eggs are produced per day. Also check how long packaging supplies will last. As the farm will be under restrictions, a transport permit from the Swedish Board of Agriculture is required for egg collection and replenishment of packaging. Notify the Swedish Board of Agriculture as soon as possible if a packaging shortage is expected or if the storage room is expected to become full.

If there are several layer groups on the farm, check how long the feed will last. As the farm will be under restrictions, a transport permit from the Swedish Board of Agriculture is required for feed deliveries. Notify the Swedish Board of Agriculture as soon as possible how long the feed is expected to last.

Apply to the Swedish Board of Agriculture for transport permits for all transports necessary in the near future. This also applies to transports for the farm’s other activities.



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