



Update on highly pathogenic avian influenza in the EU

CDG poultry/eggs, 28 November 2017

DG SANTE, Unit G3
Official controls and eradication of diseases in animals
European Commission
Directorate General for Health and Food Safety

*Health and
Food Safety*

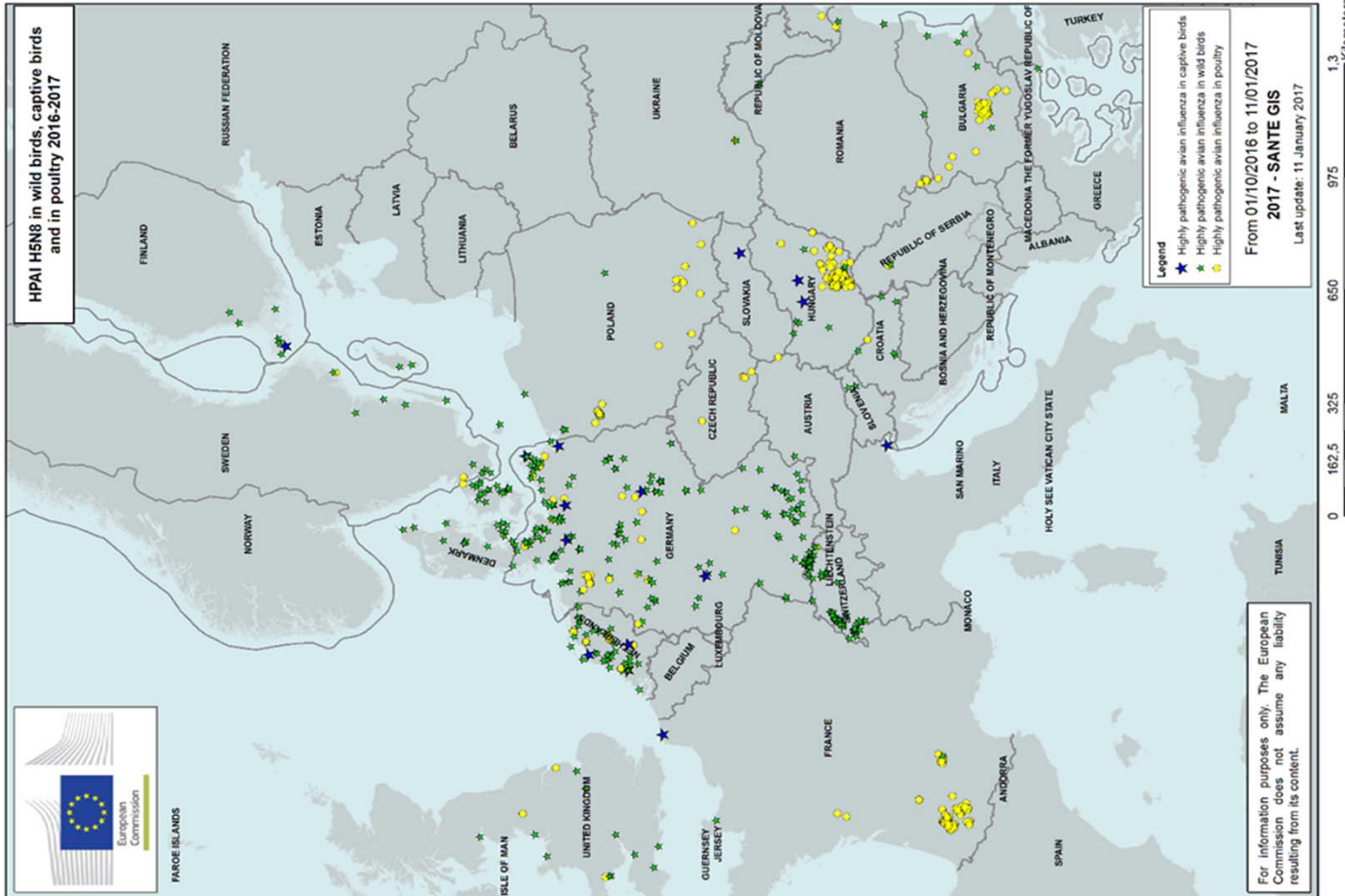
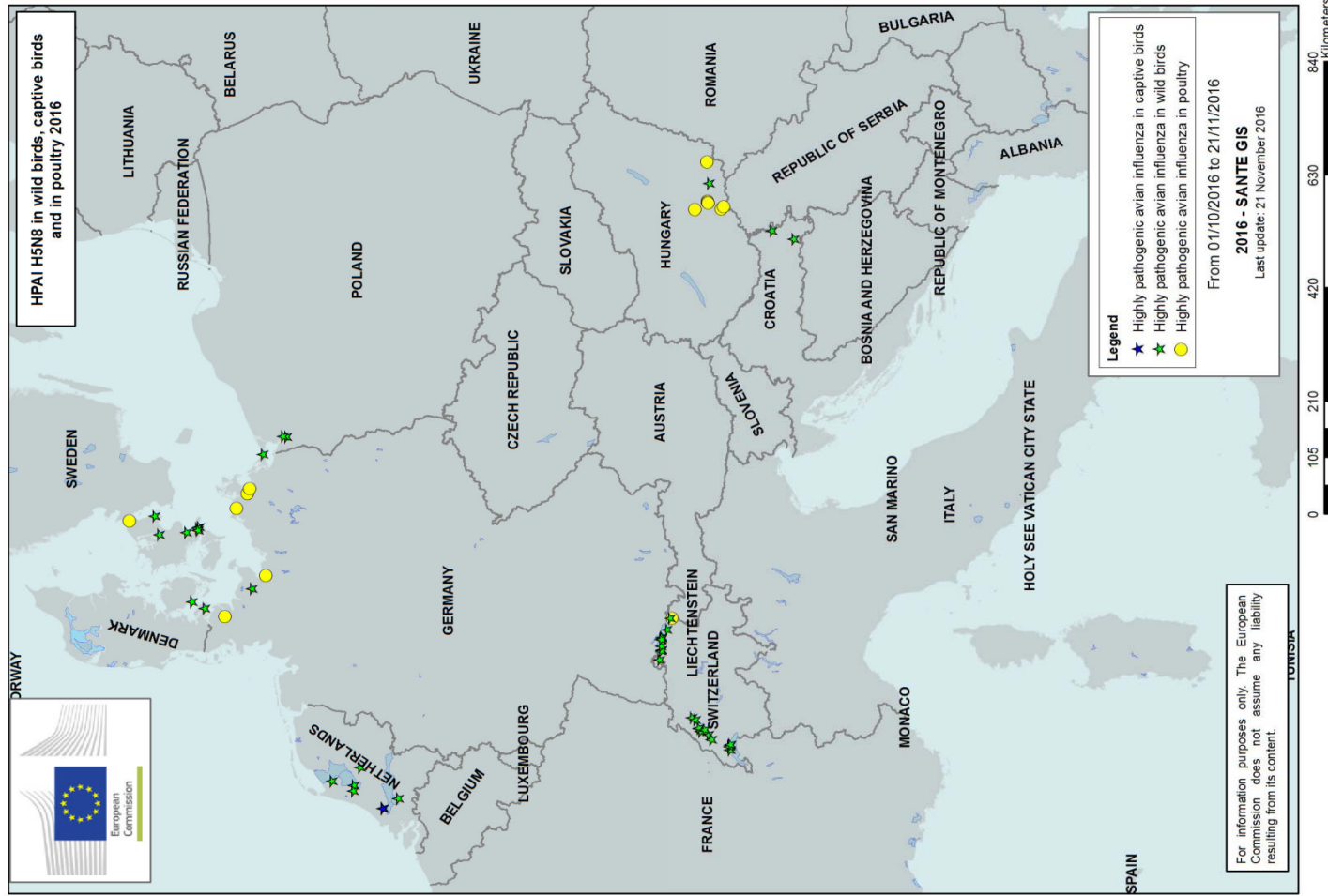


Highly pathogenic avian influenza 2016-2017

- **27/10/2016:** start of the HP H5N8 epidemic in Hungary
wild mute swan tested positive for H5N8
- **4/11/2016:** first poultry farm tested positive in HU
Virus detected in further 24 Member States
Six Member States infection only in wild birds
- **As of 07/2017:** only Italy and Bulgaria affected

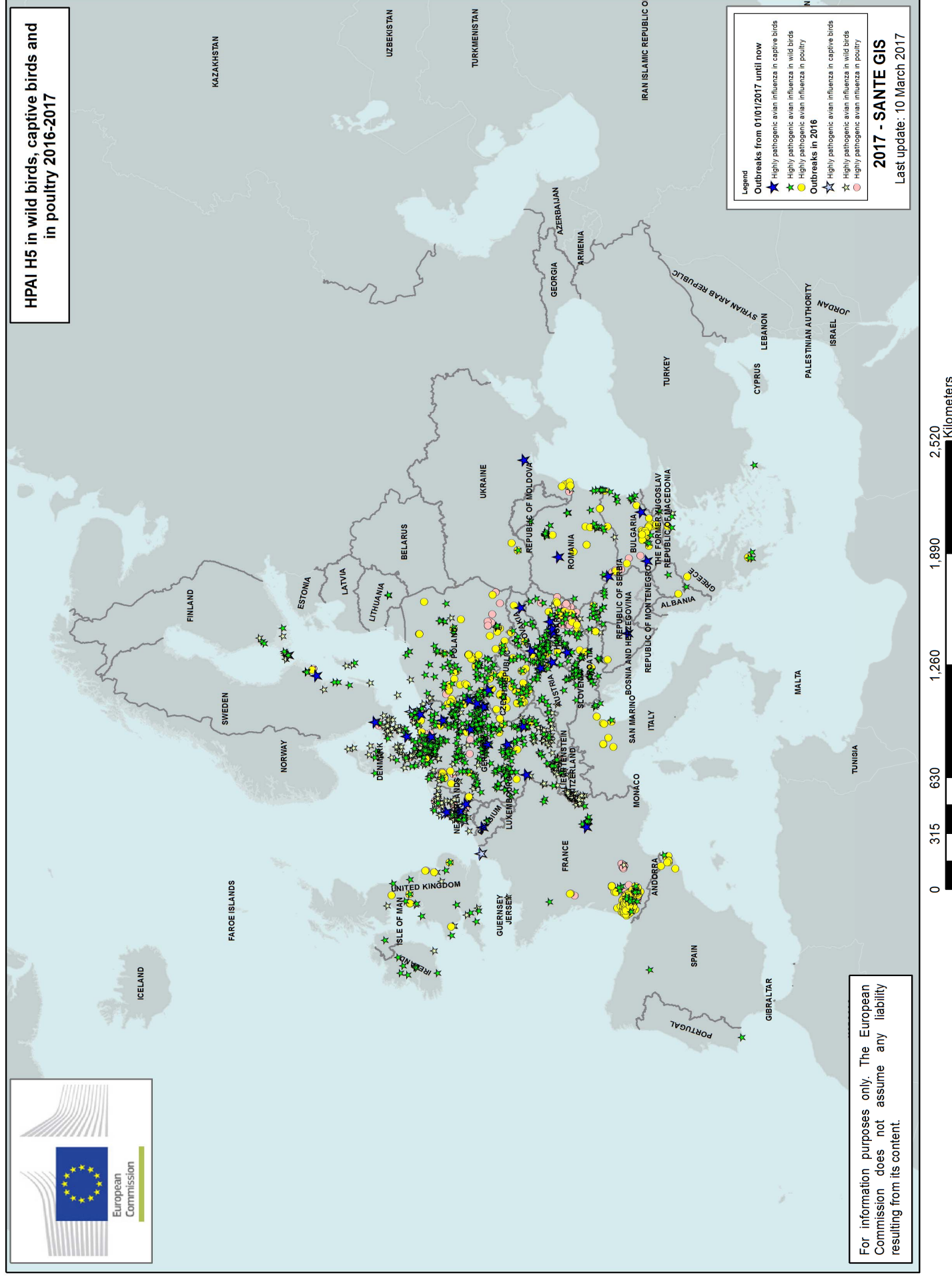
HPAI in poultry, captive birds & wild birds 01/10/2016 -28/11/2017

Member State	Wild birds	Poultry	Captive birds
GERMANY	1260	92	15
FRANCE	72	486	3
ITALY	24	81	
NETHERLANDS	174	9	10
BELGIUM	4	2	13
LUXEMBOURG			4
UNITED KINGDOM	43	13	
IRELAND	10		
DENMARK	77	1	1
GREECE	12	6	
SPAIN	3	10	
PORTUGAL	1		
AUSTRIA	21	2	1
FINLAND	14		1
SWEDEN	38	4	2
CYPRUS	1		
CZECH REPUBLIC	49	38	1
HUNGARY	196	240	5
POLAND	303	65	
SLOVENIA	273		
BULGARIA	20	76	2
LITHUANIA	13		
ROMANIA	143	45	2
SLOVAKIA	252	9	2
CROATIA	48	11	
Total	3051	1190	62





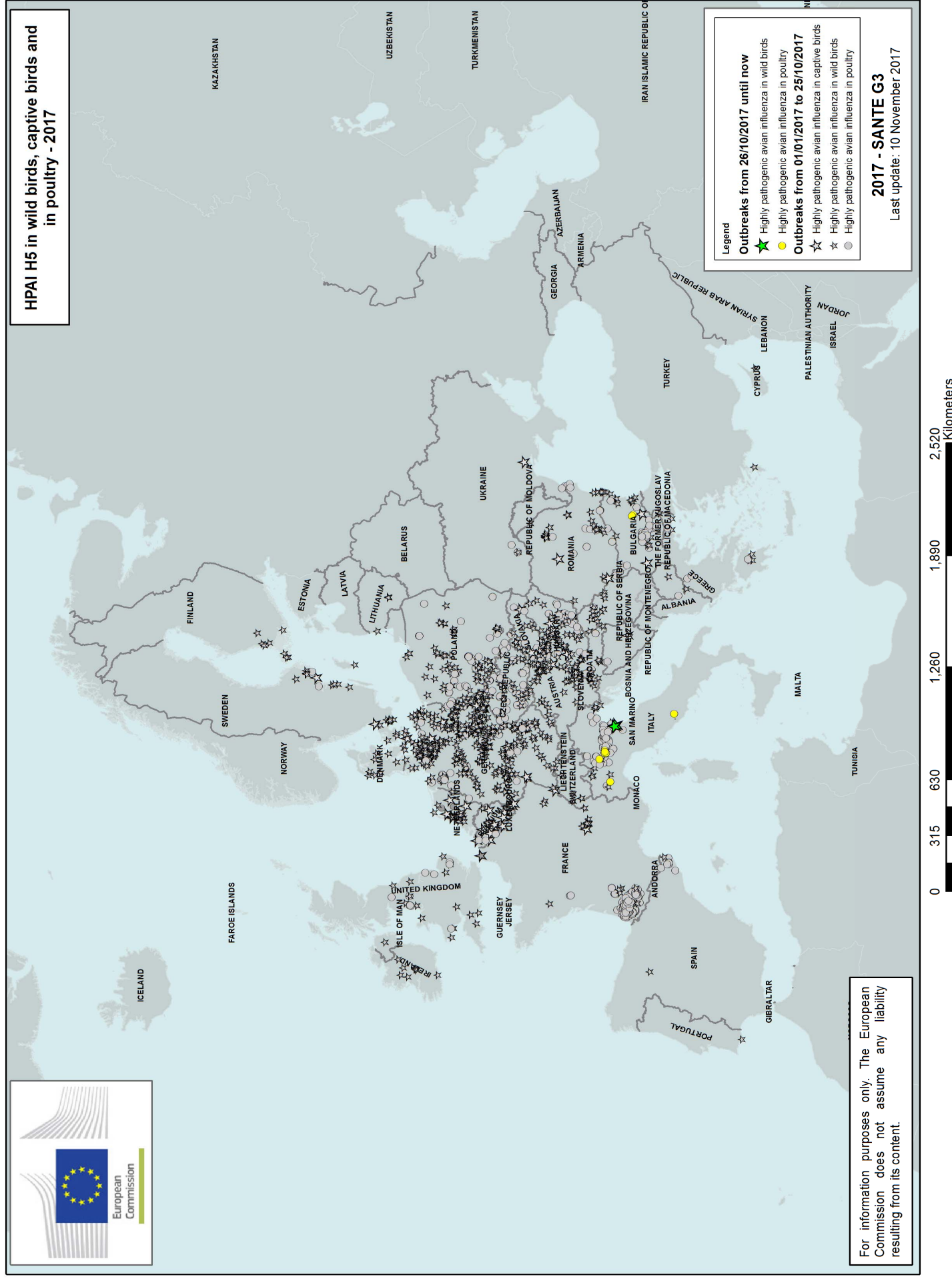
HPAI H5 in wild birds, captive birds and in poultry 2016-2017

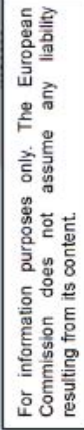


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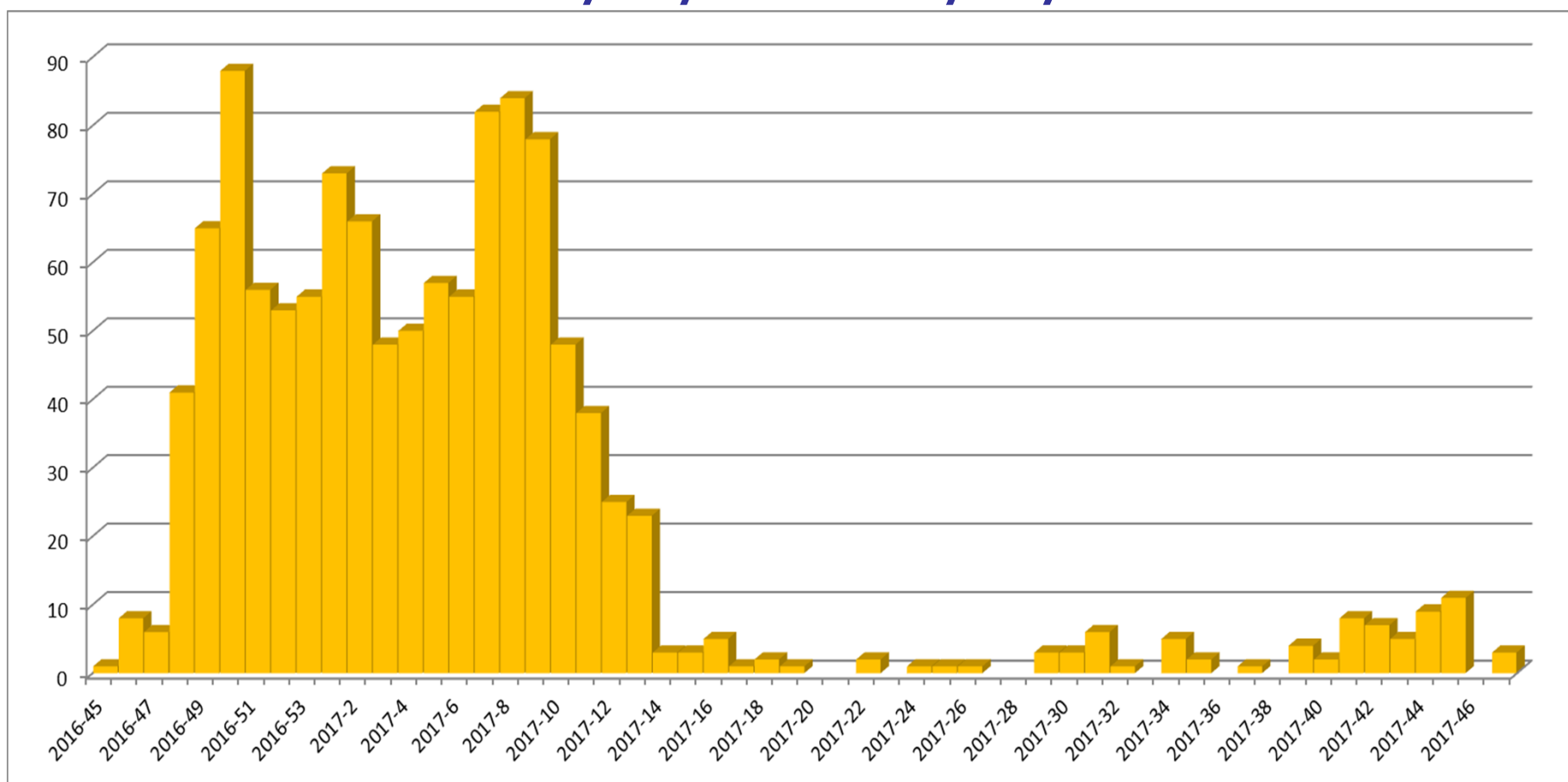


HPAI H5 in wild birds, captive birds and in poultry - 2017





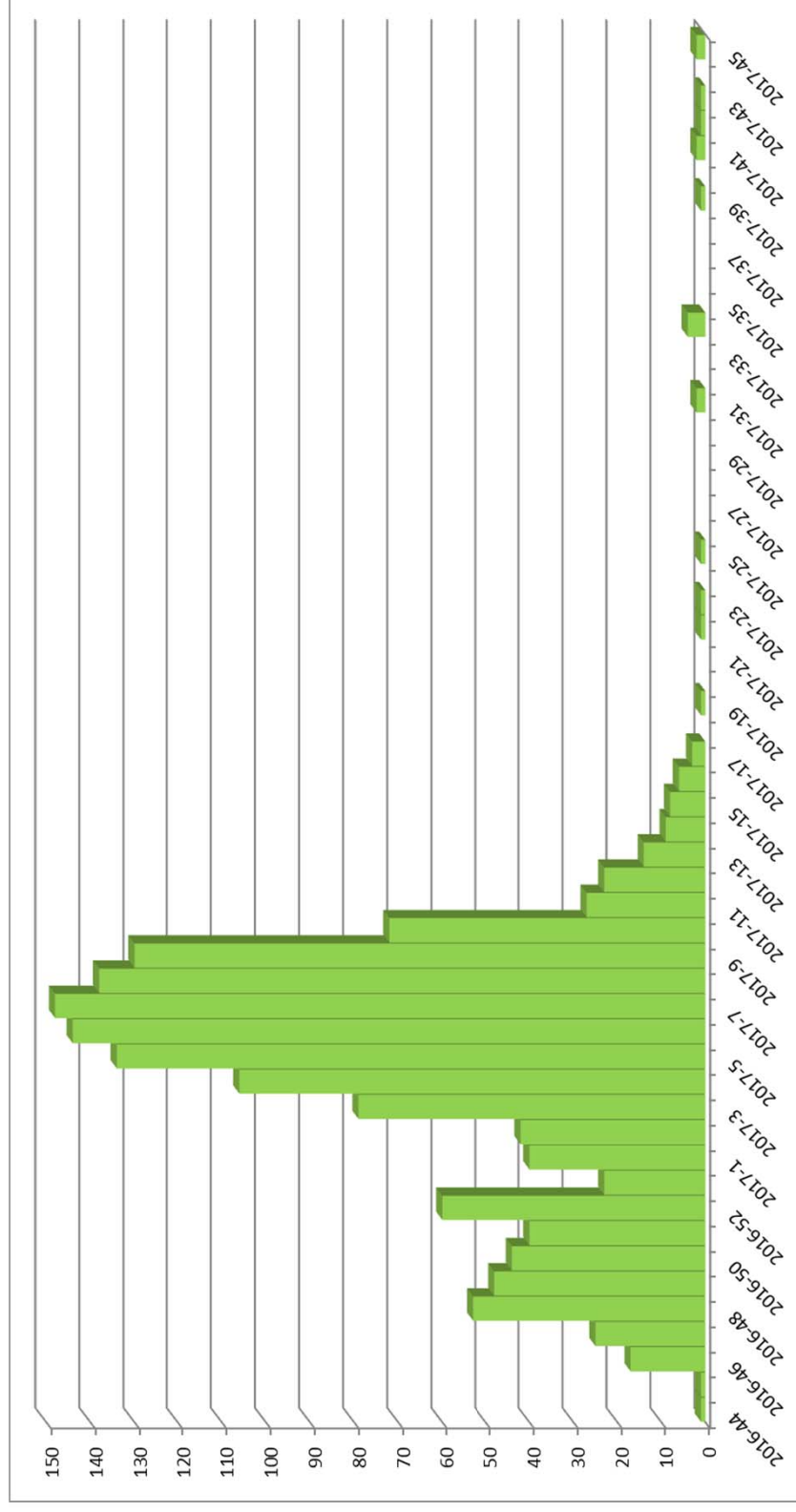
Weekly epidemic curve for HPAI H5 outbreaks in poultry 01/10/2016- 28/11/2017





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Weekly epidemic curve for HPAI H5 findings in wild birds (10/2016 - 28/11/2017)

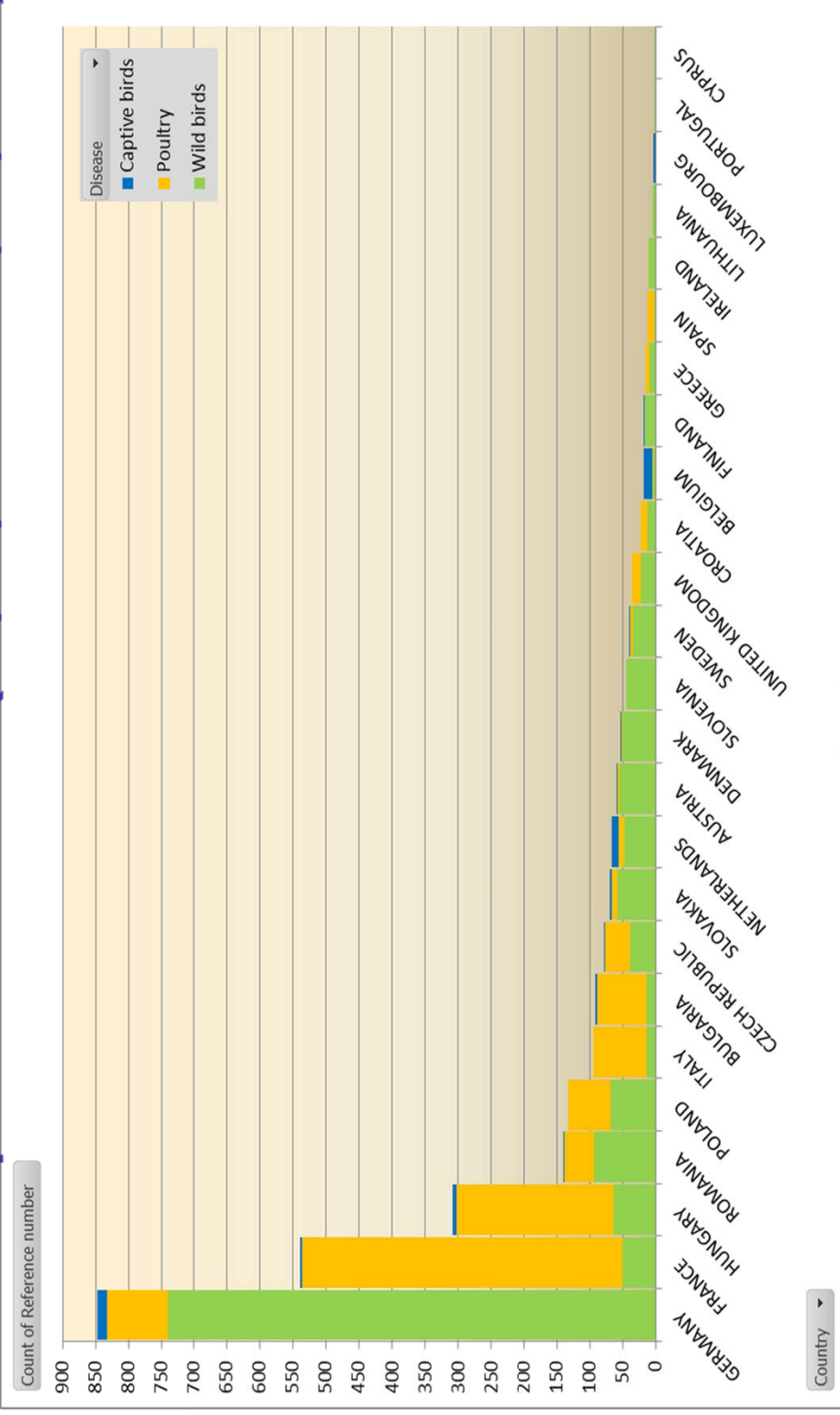


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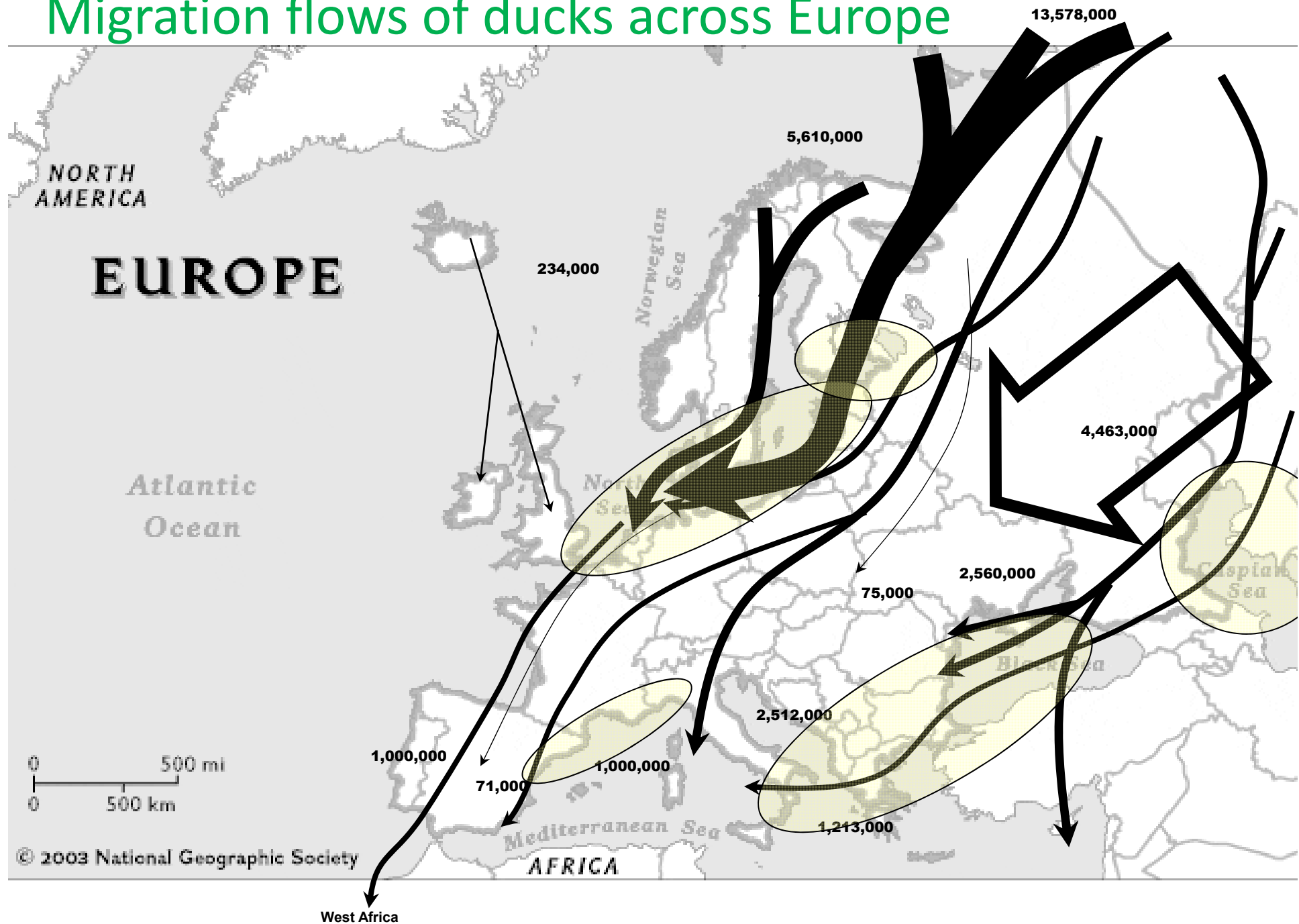


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Number of outbreaks in poultry, captive birds and detections in wild birds per Member State (01/10/2016 – 28/11/2017)

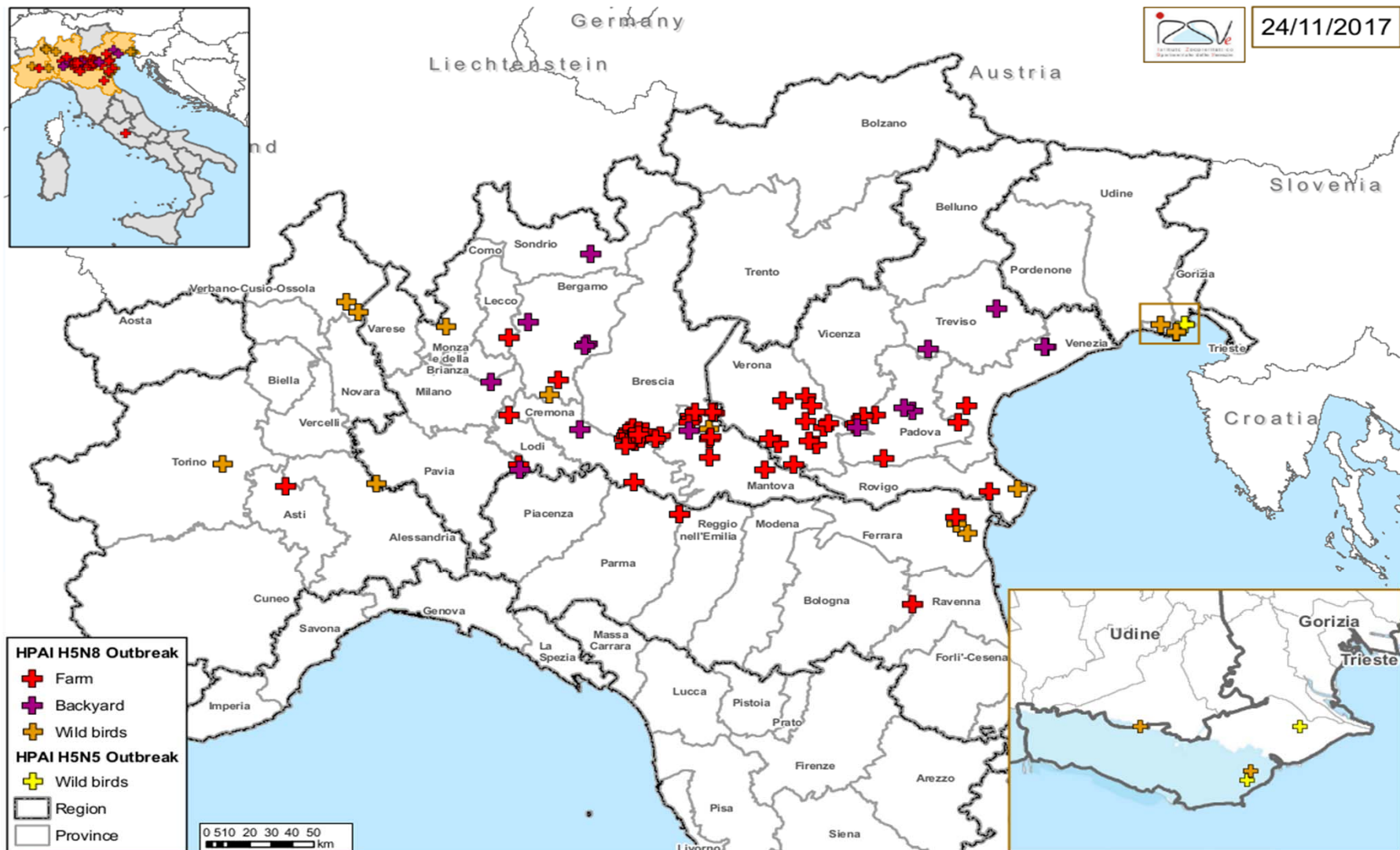


Migration flows of ducks across Europe

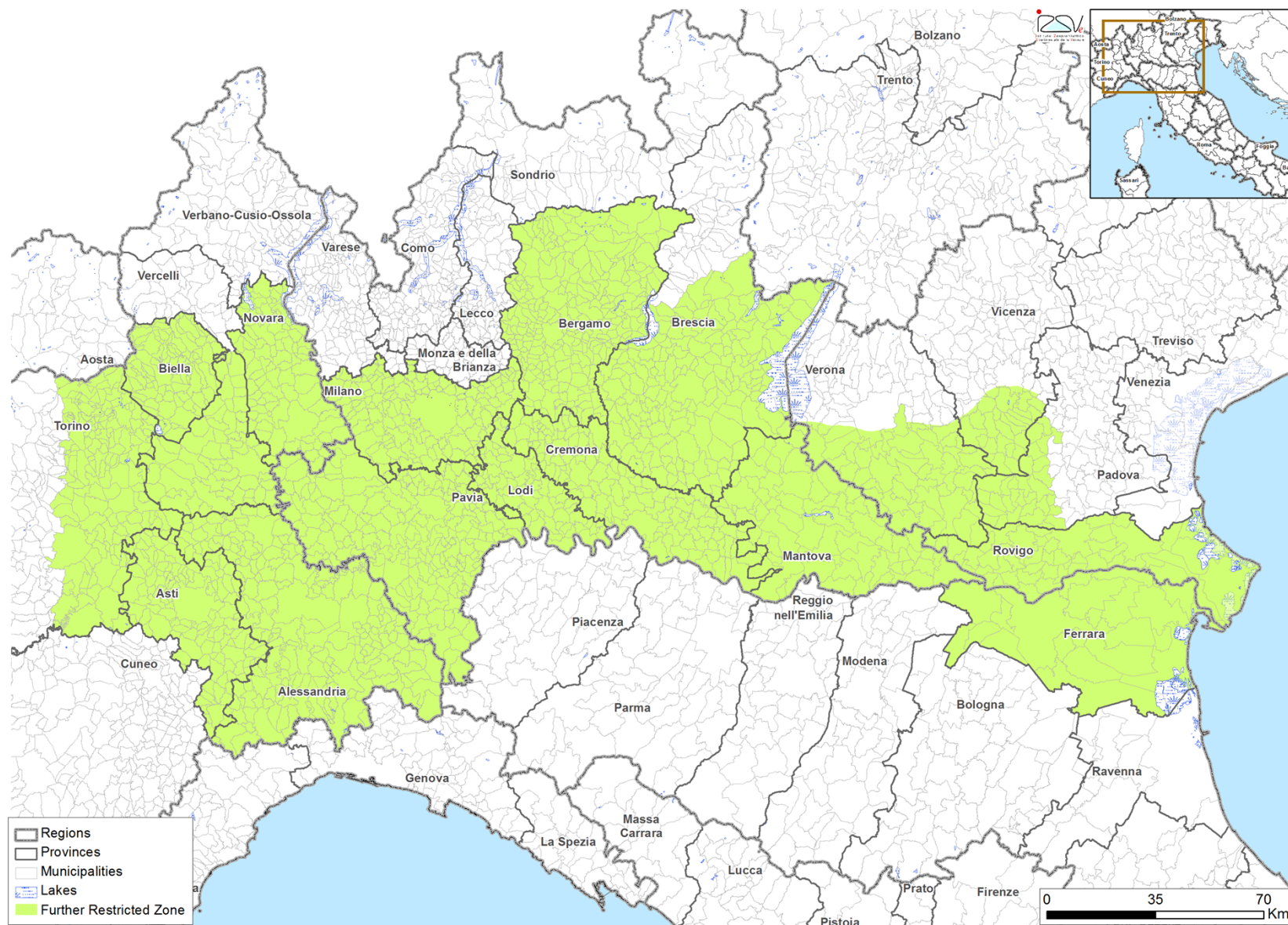


Italy 2017: 81 HP H5N8 outbreaks in total: Jan-Jun (16), Jul-Nov (65)

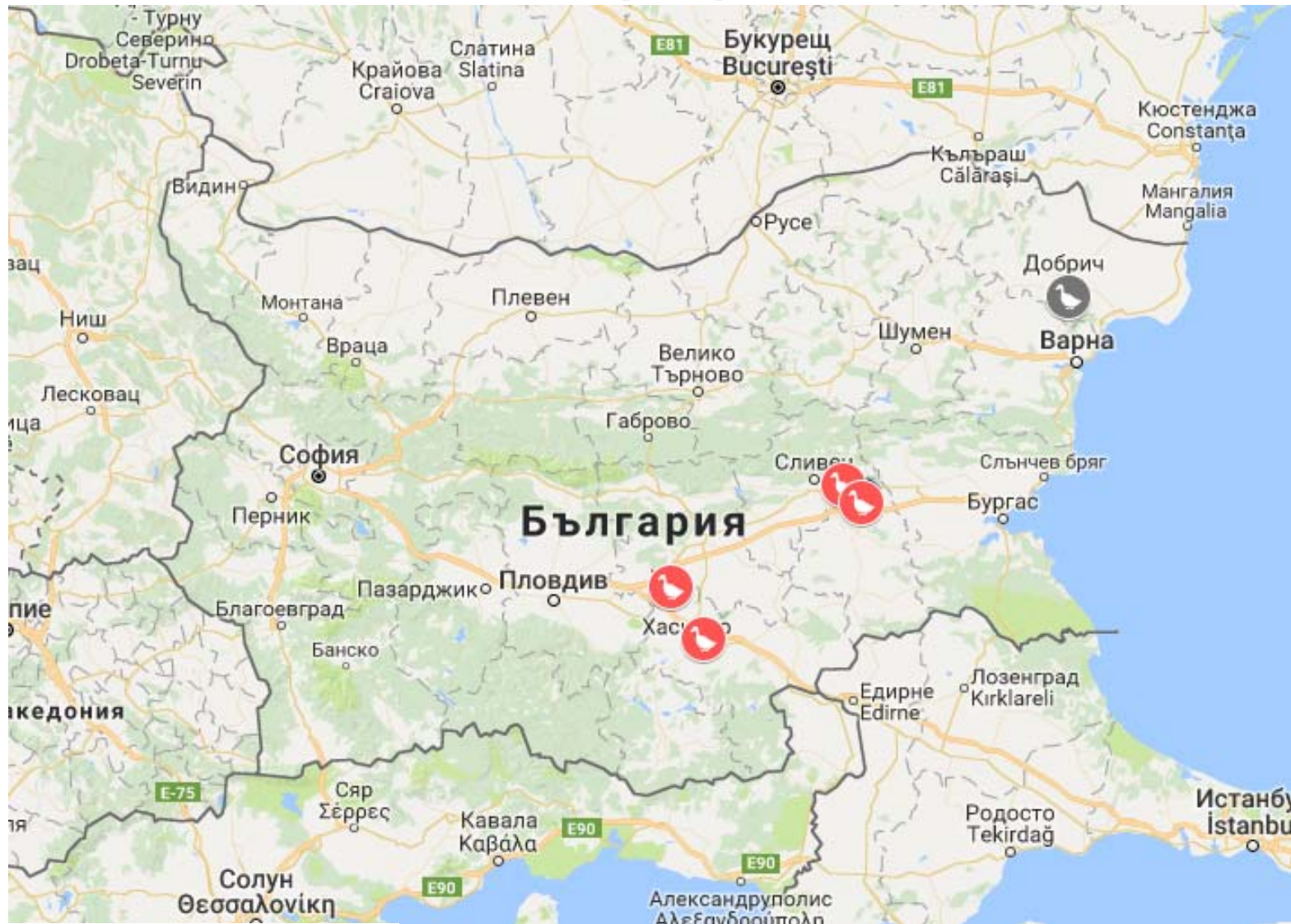
Map: Geographical distribution of H5N8 HPAI outbreaks from July – November 2017



Further restricted zone established in Italy



HPAI outbreaks in Bulgaria – 68 in total 5 since 17/10/2017



- The measures are still in force



- Measures are not maintained already

Ducks (3), turkey (1), backyard (1)

2016/17 HPAI epidemic - Key features(1)

- **Unprecedented** in extent & geographical range
- **Heavy infection pressure** by wild birds & environment
- **Biosecurity challenge**
- **Free range**
- **Farm structures and rearing practises**
- **Virus persistence** over the summer period – wild bird reservoir, the environment?

Key features (2)

- Mostly primary single point introductions into poultry
- **Principally rapid containment** of poultry outbreaks
- Challenge in **high density poultry areas** for lateral spread
- In particular for domestic waterfowl that cannot be effectively confined
- **No disease in humans**



Risk management by the Commission

- **Immediate information** to other countries and international institutions
- Adoption of **emergency measures**
- Technical support by CVET missions - **Veterinary emergency expert teams**
 - Italy (22-24/11)
 - Bulgaria (27/11-30/11)
- **Better Training for Safer Food** in Member States and third countries
- **Financial support** for emergency measures and surveillance



Scientific advice on avian influenza

Animal health:

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

10/2017: Publication of scientific opinion on AI and quaterly scientific reports on the situation in the EU and world-wide:

<https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/press/news/171016>

Human health:

European Center for disease prevention and control (ECDC)

<https://ecdc.europa.eu/en/avian-influenza-humans/threats-and-outbreaks/risk-assessments>



Current global threat viruses: H5 HPAI

- H5 HPAI viruses circulate widely and some strains are maintained in wild aquatic birds
- Current global **H5N8 HPAI epizootic** (3 continents) has during 2017 spread south of equator for first time (DRC, Uganda, Zimbabwe, South Africa)
- Prospects for eradication poor
- Risk to humans low (no recorded cases to date)
- Still essentially avian virus without increased affinity to humans
- continuously evolving, re-assorting H5N5, H5N6
- Autumn/winter 2017/8-will HP H5N8 return?

HPAI H5N6

- H5N6 in the East Asian flyway (now South Korea)
- Established in wild birds mediating spread
- Possibly the same paths/routes as H5N8
- Small number of human cases
- Potential for trans-continental spread?

Poultry-associated zoonotic avian influenza:H7N9 LPAI & HPAI

Human cases and positive findings in birds or the environment



Influenza A(H7N9) virus with pandemic potential.

Country: China; imported cases in Malaysia (1) and Canada (2).

Number of human cases: 1,622 confirmed; 619 deaths (since 02/2013)



Influenza : the human/animal interface – One health approach

- ***Second G7 CVOs Forum, Rome, Italy, 5/10/2017 - CVOs document on avian influenza:***

http://www.salute.gov.it/imgs/C_17_notizie_3118_listaFile_itemName_1_file.pdf

- ***DG SANTE meeting 23-24 October 2017***

Chief Veterinary Officers and Chief Medical Officers (CVOs/CMOs) with EU Agencies and international organisations (OIE, WHO, FAO) on intersectoral collaboration for enhanced flu preparedness:

https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-diseases/control-measures/avian-influenza_en

- ***Simulation exercises*** at EU/Member State level, COM, agencies, international observers



World Animal Health Organisation (OIE)

- Working group established for a possible review of the OIE chapter of the Terrestrial Code on avian influenza

- Terms of reference and information on progress to be published on the OIE website

<http://www.oie.int/en/animal-health-in-the-world/web-portal-on-avian-influenza/>



Thank you for your attention

DG Health and Food Safety

https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals_en

EFSA:

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/press/news/171016>

ECDC:

<https://ecdc.europa.eu/en/avian-influenza-humans>