



Protecting Your Health and Business from Avian Influenza

Action manual for farmers and poultry workers



Tsuyoshi Kawakami
Laddawalaya Ratananakorn



Protecting Your Health and Business from Avian Influenza

Action manual for
farmers and poultry workers

Tsuyoshi Kawakami
Laddawalaya Ratananakorn

Copyright © International Labour Organization 2009
First published 2009

Publications of the International Labour Office enjoy copyright under Protocol 2 of the Universal Copyright Convention. Nevertheless, short excerpts from them may be reproduced without authorization, on condition that the source is indicated. For rights of reproduction or translation, application should be made to ILO Publications (Rights and Permissions), International Labour Office, CH-1211 Geneva 22, Switzerland, or by email: pubdroit@ilo.org. The International Labour Office welcomes such applications.

Libraries, institutions and other users registered in the United Kingdom with the Copyright Licensing Agency, 90 Tottenham Court Road, London W1T 4LP [Fax: (+44) (0)20 7631 5500; email: cla@cla.co.uk], in the United States with the Copyright Clearance Center, 222 Rosewood Drive, Danvers, MA 01923 [Fax: (+1) (978) 750 4470; email: info@copyright.com] or in other countries with associated Reproduction Rights Organizations, may make photocopies in accordance with the licences issued to them for this purpose.

Kawakami, Tsuyoshi; Laddawalaya, Ratananakorn

Protecting your health and business from avian influenza: action manual for farmers and poultry workers/Tsuyoshi Kawakami and Laddawalaya Ratananakorn; Avian and Human Influenza in the Workplace (Thailand) Project, ILO Subregional Office for East Asia; Department of Livestock Development, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives. – Bangkok: ILO, 2009

24 p.

ISBN: 9789221219521; 9789221219538 (pdf)

ILO Subregional Office for East Asia, Avian and Human Influenza in the Workplace (Thailand) Project; Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Department of Livestock Development

trainers manual / occupational health / occupational safety / occupational disease / infectious disease / farmer / agricultural worker / poultry / checklist

13.04.2

ILO Cataloguing in Publication Data

The designations employed in ILO publications, which are in conformity with United Nations practice, and the presentation of material therein do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the International Labour Office concerning the legal status of any country, area or territory or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers.

The responsibility for opinions expressed in signed articles, studies and other contributions rests solely with their authors, and publication does not constitute an endorsement by the International Labour Office of the opinions expressed in them.

Reference to names of firms and commercial products and processes does not imply their endorsement by the International Labour Office, and any failure to mention a particular firm, commercial product or process is not a sign of disapproval.

ILO publications can be obtained through major booksellers or ILO local offices in many countries, or direct from ILO Publications, International Labour Office, CH-1211 Geneva 22, Switzerland, or ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, 11th Floor, United Nations Building, Rajdamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand, or by email: bangkok@ilo.org. Catalogues or lists of new publications are available free of charge from the above address, or by email: pubvente@ilo.org

Visit our website: www.ilo.org/publns or www.ilo.org/asia

Printed in Thailand

Table of Contents

	<i>Page</i>
Preface	5
Action Checklist	6
Checkpoint 1: Collect Avian Influenza information to protect your health	14
Checkpoint 2: Handle your poultry safely	16
Checkpoint 3: Use safe methods of poultry slaughtering	18
Checkpoint 4: Practice hygienic disposal methods and waste management.....	20
Checkpoint 5: Report diseases swiftly	22
Annex 1: Information sources	24

PREFACE

The outbreak of avian influenza and the ongoing incidences of infected cases have prompted worldwide concern. The International Labour Organization (ILO), realizing the significance of preventing the spread of avian influenza, initiated a pilot project entitled “Avian and Human Influenza in the Workplace (Thailand) Project”. This project is funded by the UN Central Fund for Influenza Action (CFIA).

One of the key activities of this project is to develop training materials to promote safe practices at the workplace. This training manual is a product of several field visits (where good practices of avian influenza prevention measures in the poultry industries were observed) in Thailand and consultations with Thai Ministries of Public Health, Labour, and Agriculture & Cooperatives, and FAO, WHO, UNSIC (UN System for Influenza Coordination) and other UN agencies. These observations formed the basis of the illustrations and contents of the training manual.

The manual is user-friendly and practical, providing an action-checklist on various prevention measures including explanations and descriptions. The unique participatory training methods of the ILO, Work Improvement in Neighbourhood Development (WIND) and Work Improvement in Small Enterprises (WISE), were used to promote understanding and encourage behaviour changes amongst the target population.

The scope of the project’s training manual and action checklist will not be limited to Thailand. Instead, they will serve as a model, which can be adapted to different countries’ contexts and needs to further promote avian influenza awareness.

The ILO project team and Dr Laddawalaya Ratananakorn of Department of Livestock Development, Ministry of Agriculture & Cooperatives of Thailand, prepared the text and the checklist, and supervised the development of the illustrations. The ILO team consisted of: Dr Tsuyoshi Kawakami, Senior Occupational Safety and Health Specialist of the ILO Subregional Office for East Asia; Ms Duanne Punpiputt & Ms Suttida Chaikitsakol, National Project Coordinators; and Ms Monrudee Sucharitakul, Project Secretary. We are grateful to Mr Donato Kiniger-Passigli, Senior Specialist, ILO CRISIS and Ms Jittima Srisuknam, Programme Officer of the ILO Subregional Office for East Asia for their valuable advice.

The ILO extends special acknowledgement to all that have contributed to the development of the manual and action checklist and hopes that the training manual will help improve the working conditions of farmers and workers to prevent avian influenza.



Bill Salter
Director
ILO Subregional Office for East Asia
Bangkok, Thailand
January 2009

Avian Influenza

ACTION CHECKLIST for Improving Your Preparation for Avian Influenza

HOW TO USE THE CHECKLIST

1. Read each item carefully. Look for a way to apply the measure. If necessary ask some questions to managers and workers in your company.
2. If the measure has been applied or it is not needed, mark **NO** under “Do you propose action?”. If you think the measure is worthwhile, mark **YES**. Use the space under **REMARKS** to put a description of your suggestion or its location.
3. After you have gone through all the items, look again at the items you have marked **YES**. Choose a few items where the benefits seem likely to be the most important. Mark **PRIORITY** for these items.
4. Before finishing, make sure that you have marked **NO** or **YES** for each item, and that for some items marked **YES** you have marked **PRIORITY**.



I. Collect information

1. Collect information on Avian Influenza through agriculture, veterinary or health offices and on TV and radio news.

Do you propose action?

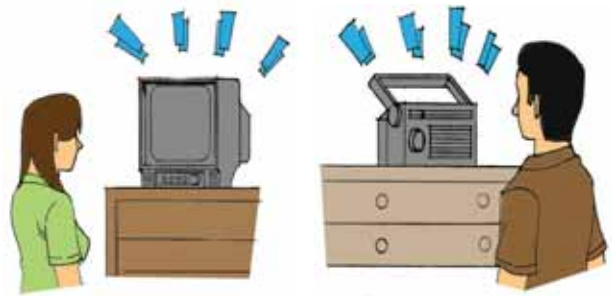
No

Yes Priority

Remarks:

.....

.....



2. Share the updated information with your family and neighbours.

Do you propose action?

No

Yes Priority

Remarks:

.....

.....



3. Teach your children not to touch and eat sick or dead poultry and their remains.

Do you propose action?

No

Yes Priority

Remarks:

.....

.....



II. Safe poultry handling

4. Wash both your hands thoroughly with soap after handling poultry.

Do you propose action?

No

Yes Priority

Remarks:

.....

.....



5. Use basic biosecurity methods like fencing off or making a barrier area to reduce the risk of your poultry infecting with Avian Influenza.

Do you propose action?

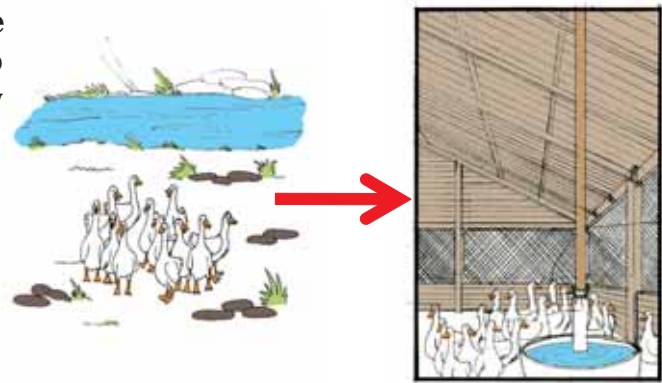
No

Yes Priority

Remarks:

.....

.....



6. Clean and disinfect the poultry house, cages, and tools thoroughly when cages are vacant and before introducing new flock.

Do you propose action?

No

Yes Priority

Remarks:

.....

.....



7. Use appropriate protective masks and gloves when handling suspected poultry.

Do you propose action?

No

Yes Priority

Remarks:

.....

.....



8. Store protective devices in a hygienic way.

Do you propose action?

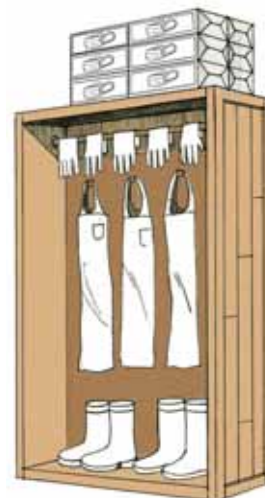
No

Yes Priority

Remarks:

.....

.....



9. Buy chickens and ducks only from well-known, authorized sellers and not from unknown sources.

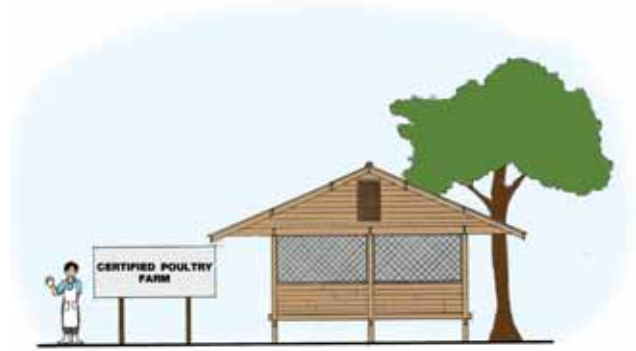
Do you propose action?

- No
- Yes Priority

Remarks:

.....

.....



10. After visiting an infected poultry farm, you must shower, shampoo, and change into cleaned clothes every time before entering your own farm so to prevent the spreading of diseases.

Do you propose action?

- No
- Yes Priority

Remarks:

.....

.....



III. Safe poultry slaughtering

11. Designate a work area for slaughtering and cutting of meat, and do not use the area for other purposes.

Do you propose action?

- No
- Yes Priority

Remarks:

.....

.....



12. Enclose slaughtering areas to prevent animals, wild birds or insects from entry.

Do you propose action?

- No
- Yes Priority

Remarks:

.....

.....



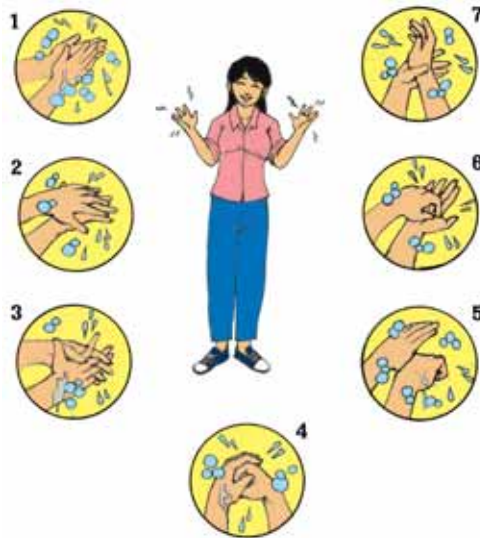
13. Workers handling poultry are to adopt good personal hygiene such as handwashing frequently, changing clothes before and after handling poultry, and wearing an apron, a mask and boots. Items that are worn should be laundered daily.

Do you propose action?

- No
- Yes Priority

Remarks:

.....



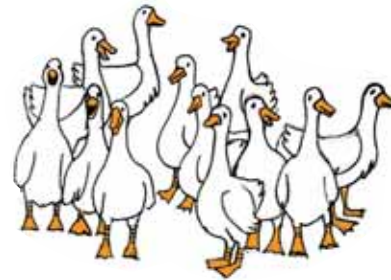
14. Prior to slaughtering, observe poultry and look for signs of Avian Influenza. During slaughtering, if any signs of the disease are suspected, then immediately dispose the poultry carcasses in a hygienic manner.

Do you propose action?

- No
- Yes Priority

Remarks:

.....



15. During slaughtering, prevent the poultry carcass from being contaminated with the poultry waste especially feces from the intestine.

Do you propose action?

- No
- Yes Priority

Remarks:

.....



16. After slaughtering, observe poultry meat to ensure that there are no signs of fecal contamination. If there are signs, wash the contaminated poultry carcasses thoroughly with chlorinated water.

Do you propose action?

- No
- Yes Priority

Remarks:

.....

17. Have good ventilation and lighting.

Do you propose action?

No

Yes Priority

Remarks:
.....
.....



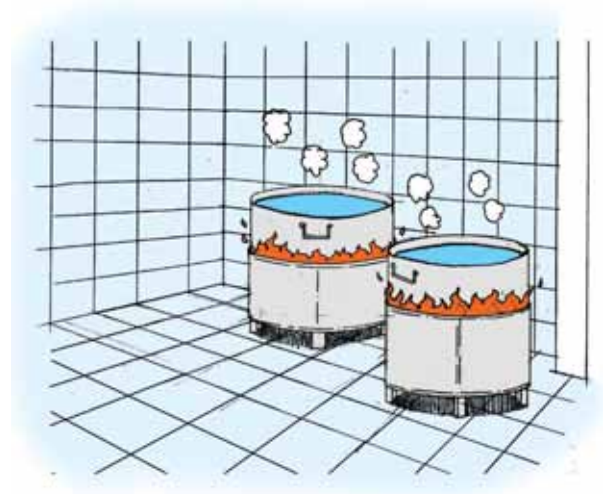
18. Use water-proof materials for surfaces wall and floors for easy cleaning and disinfecting.

Do you propose action?

No

Yes Priority

Remarks:
.....
.....



19. Prepare special containers to collect and keep the inedible poultry and dispose in a hygienic manner.

Do you propose action?

No

Yes Priority

Remarks:
.....
.....



20. Regularly clean and disinfect the slaughtering area and equipment. Ensure that equipment is kept in an enclosed area away from rodents and insects.

Do you propose action?

No

Yes Priority

Remarks:
.....
.....



IV. Poultry waste management

21. Burn or bury poultry waste at least 50 cm deep and use disinfectant on the waste before burial and again on the pit after burial.

Do you propose action?

- No
- Yes Priority

Remarks:

.....

.....



22. Select the burial sites which are distant from rivers, canals and other water areas. The site should be fenced to avoid the access of dogs, cats etc.

Do you propose action?

- No
- Yes Priority

Remarks:

.....

.....



23. Ensure that workers engaged in poultry disposal and waste management adopt good personal hygiene such as washing hands and changing clothes before and after work, and wearing an apron, a mask and boots. Items that are worn should be laundered in a hygienic way.

Do you propose action?

- No
- Yes Priority

Remarks:

.....

.....



V. Swift disease reporting

24. Know signs and symptoms of poultry infected with Avian Influenza.

Do you propose action?

No

Yes Priority

Remarks:

.....
.....



25. Observe your poultry carefully everyday to find early signs of Avian Influenza.

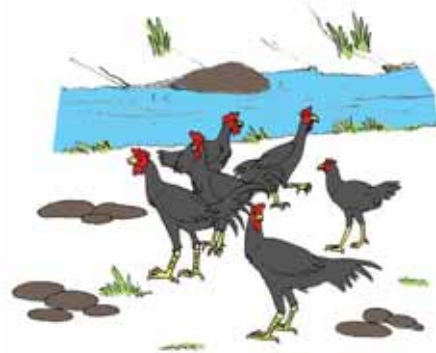
Do you propose action?

No

Yes Priority

Remarks:

.....
.....



26. Report sick and dead birds including suspected ones immediately to the village head or community volunteers.

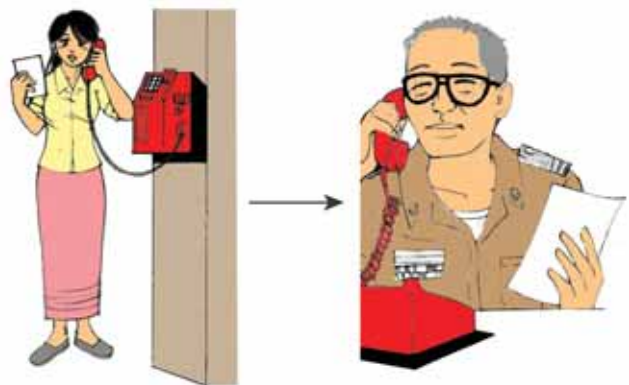
Do you propose action?

No

Yes Priority

Remarks:

.....
.....



27. When you or your family member have high fever and severe coughing, sneezing, or general weakness, consult a doctor or a Primary Care Unit immediately.

Do you propose action?

No

Yes Priority

Remarks:

.....
.....



CHECKPOINT 1

Collect Avian Influenza information to protect your health.

BENEFITS FOR FARMERS/WORKERS

Farmers and workers can better protect their health when they have updated information on Avian Influenza. Avian Influenza is a disease of birds and rarely infects humans. However, the virus can infect farmers if they come into close contact with infected birds or materials contaminated with their droppings, blood, carcass, offal and/or body fluid. The virus damages both your health and your source of income derived from the selling and purchasing of poultry. Your family, neighbours, and customers may be affected.

Knowledge and protective measures against Avian Influenza are advancing. Many farmers are applying practical, low-cost measures to reduce infection risks. It is important for you to know updated and correct information on Avian Influenza prevention. This gives you practical ideas on how to improve your poultry farms and protect yourself and your family from Avian Influenza infection.

HOW TO IMPROVE

1. Ensure that everyone in your village knows basic information on Avian Influenza (Fig. 1.2).
2. Contact agriculture, veterinary or health officers regularly to collect the updated information and preventive measures. It is equally important to know the Avian Influenza situation in your and surrounding provinces and districts.
3. Pay attention to the TV, newspaper and radio news on Avian Influenza and the advice for farmers.
4. Discuss the collected information with your family. Teach your children to avoid contact with sick or dead poultry and their remains.

WAYS TO PROMOTE COOPERATION

1. Share the information with your neighbours. You will also be able to receive new information from them. Share Avian Influenza information in village meetings to maintain farmers' attention.
2. Learn and share good practices to reduce the risk of Avian Influenza infection such as wearing personal protective devices and waste management. Good practices that can be done at low-cost are particularly useful i.e. performing hand hygiene, covering nose/mouth when coughing or sneezing, using paper tissues to contain respiratory secretions and disposing of them in the nearest waste receptacle after use.

SOME MORE HINTS

1. Find correct and updated information. Don't trust gossip and rumours. If you have any doubt and questions, contact agriculture, veterinary or health offices for clarification.
2. Prepare yourself on what to do when Avian Influenza spreads to your village or its surroundings. Collect information on the support measures and compensation from the government when farmers lose poultry due to Avian Influenza.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

Correct and updated information will protect you, your family and your income.

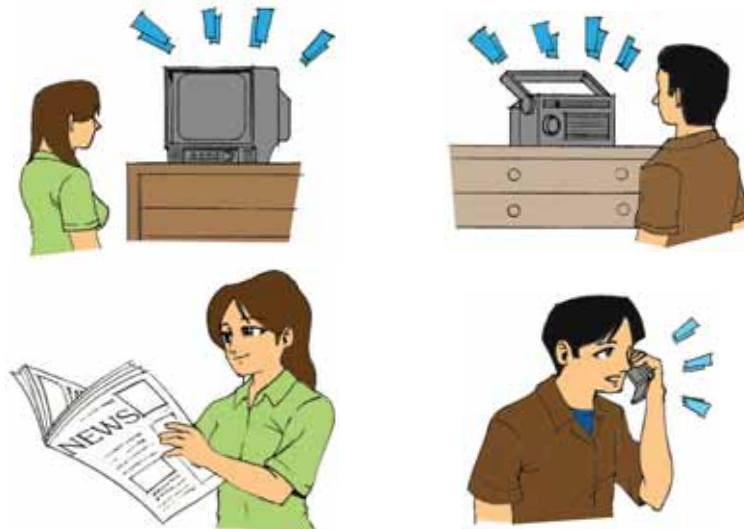


Figure 1.1 Farmers need to gather updated and correct information on Avian Influenza to protect health and income. Pay attention to TV and radio news. Share the collected information with neighbours.

Basic information on Avian Influenza

Avian Influenza is a disease of birds. However, the virus can infect farmers if they have close contact with infected birds, their droppings, blood, carcass, offal and/or body fluid. Some infected birds might look healthy but can still infect farmers and other birds. Minimize contact with your poultry. Never touch dead or sick birds. Consult agriculture, veterinary or health officers for more information.

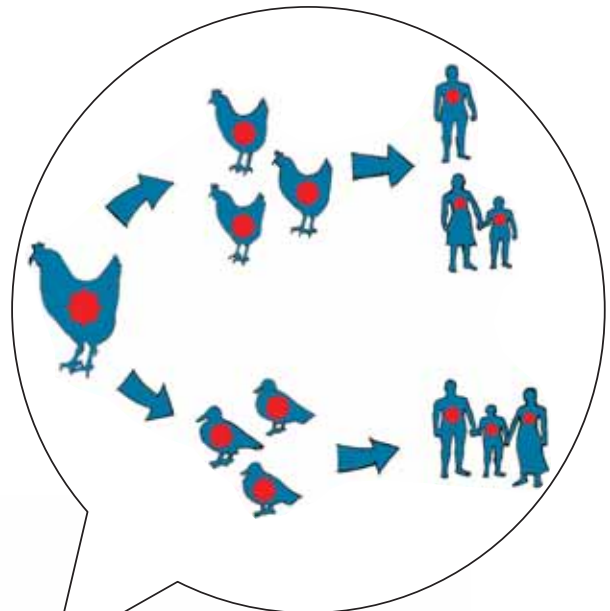


Figure 1.2 Consult agriculture, veterinary or health officers in your village or district if you have any question or doubt.

CHECKPOINT 2

Handle your poultry safely

BENEFITS FOR FARMERS/WORKERS

There are many practical and low-cost ways to reduce Avian Influenza infection risks to farmers/workers. More and more farmers/workers are using basic biosecurity methods like fencing off or making a barrier area to reduce the risk of poultry being exposed to Avian Influenza. The income sources, and poultry, will be better protected through these basic biosecurity methods. The efforts to establish safe ways of handling poultry will help the neighbouring farmers as well.

Farmers/workers are increasingly applying stronger personal hygiene measures such as washing hands thoroughly or using protective equipment when handling sick or dead poultry. You can better protect yourself and your family after establishing safe methods in handling your poultry (i.e. stronger personal hygiene measures and the use of protective equipment).

HOW TO IMPROVE

1. Use protective masks and gloves when handling poultry. Wash your hands (palms, fingers, wrists, and backs of both hands) with soap carefully after handling poultry (Fig. 2.1).
2. Plan and use basic biosecurity methods such as housing the poultry in an enclosed area by fences and nets (Fig. 2.2) and installing disinfectant footbaths at all entry points to reduce the risk of your poultry being exposed to Avian Influenza from other birds.
3. Know the early signs and symptoms of birds infected with Avian Influenza. Don't touch any infected birds without wearing gloves and a mask. See "CHECKPOINT 5" on page 22.
4. Clean and disinfect the poultry house, cages, and tools regularly.

WAYS TO PROMOTE COOPERATION

1. Frequent visits to social centres (i.e. local temples, local coffee stands) to learn on any updated information are encouraged. Learn from good examples such as keeping poultry

in an enclosed area by using basic biosecurity methods, regularly cleaning and disinfecting cages and tools, and applying personal hygiene practices.

2. Share your good practices with other farmers and workers. Assist neighbouring farmers who are slow in making improvements. It is important to increase protection levels in the same village and community to ensure protection from Avian Influenza.

SOME MORE HINTS

1. Ensure that children do not touch sick and dead poultry and do not pick up bird feathers. Children like to play with chickens and ducks and often have higher risks of infection.
2. Educate children and family members about the methods to ensure personal hygiene practices such as washing hands and using protective devices.
3. Buy birds only from well-known, authorized sellers and not from unknown sources.
4. Protective devices need to be kept in a hygienic way. Disposable masks and gloves must be discarded every time. Don't reuse.
5. When you find many birds are sick or dead, don't touch them. Contact agricultural, veterinary or health offices immediately.
6. Prevent spreading the disease by adopting proper coughing and sneezing etiquette by covering your nose and mouth every time. And ensure to discard used paper tissues properly.
7. Prevent transmitting the disease after visiting the infected farm by washing, shampooing and changing into clean clothes prior to enter your own farm.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

Farmers/workers can promote safe handling of poultry by using practical, low-cost measures.

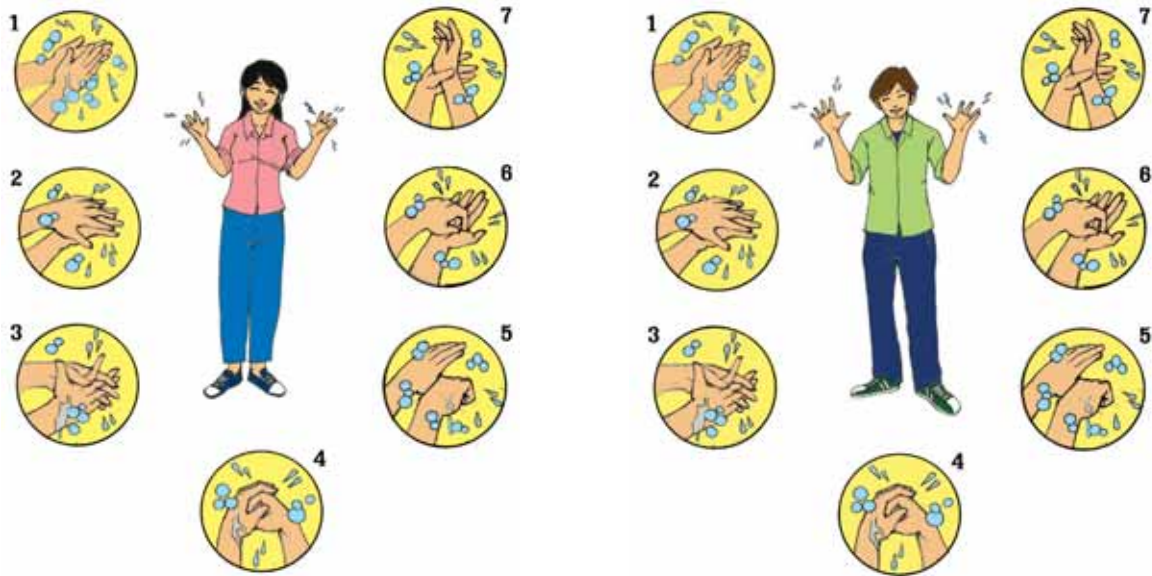


Figure 2.1 Wash your hands with soap after handling poultry. Clean palms, fingers, wrists, and backs of hands.

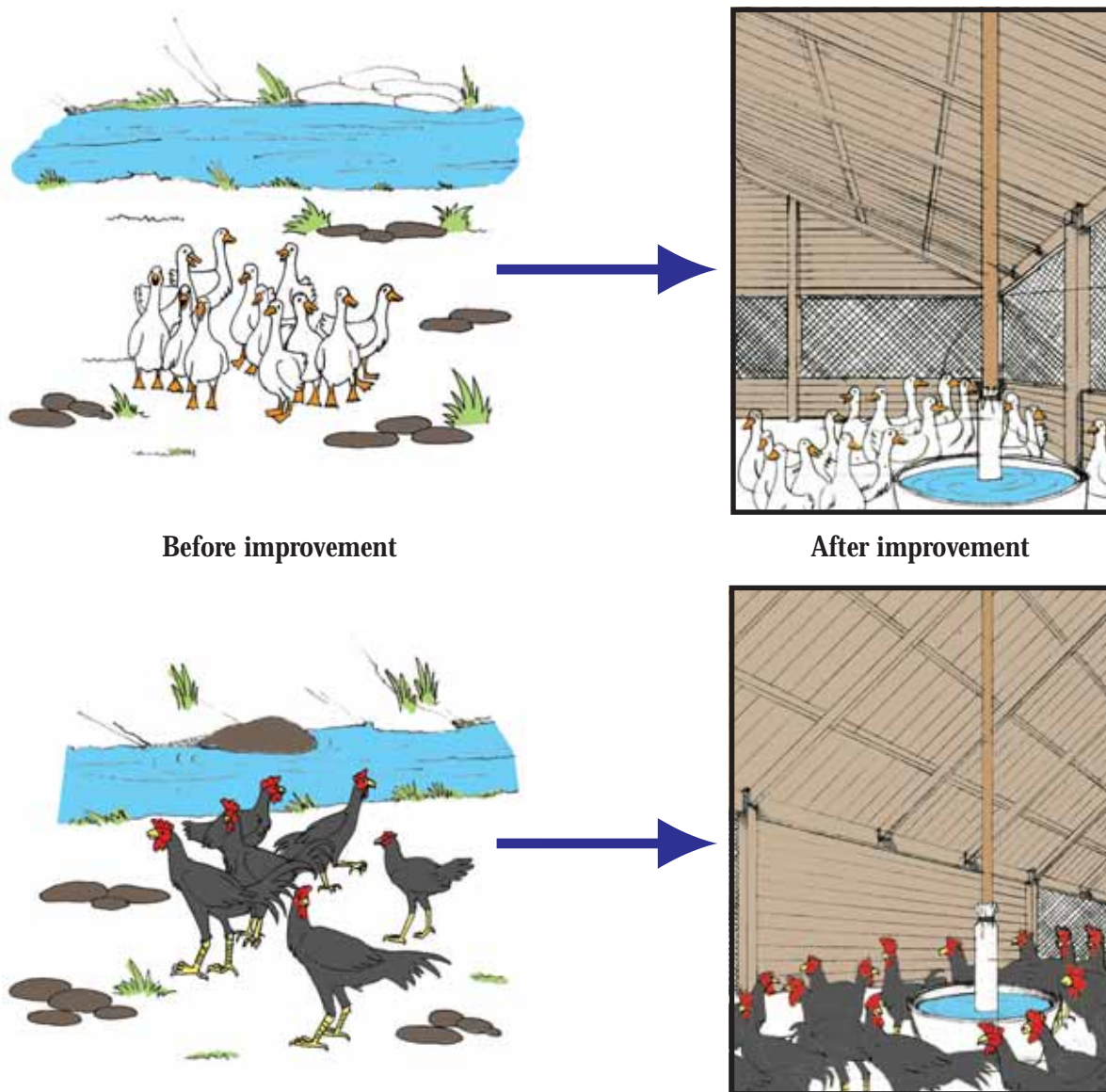


Figure 2.2 Use biosecurity method to reduce infection risks to Avian Influenza.

CHECKPOINT 3

Use safe methods of poultry slaughtering

BENEFITS FOR FARMERS/WORKERS

Safe slaughtering methods are important factors in protecting farmers/workers and their families from being infected with Avian Influenza. In slaughtering, farmers/workers come into close contact with poultry; therefore, farmers/workers must minimize this infection risk.

You can reduce infection risks by using practical, low-cost methods including the safe catching of poultry, use of protective devices, maintenance of hygienic slaughtering facilities and proper waste management. It is advised that farmers/workers cooperate with their neighbours to promote these practical measures.

HOW TO IMPROVE

1. Designate a work area for slaughtering and cutting of meat; and enclose the slaughtering area to prevent entry of other animals, wild birds, and insects. Don't use the area for other purposes.
2. Observe chickens and ducks carefully before catching them. Don't touch them if they look sick and have any signs of Avian Influenza (See Fig. 5.1 in CHECKPOINT 5). Don't slaughter, consume or sell sick poultry. Immediately dispose the poultry in a hygienic manner.
3. Use protective equipment such as masks, rubber gloves, boots, and aprons to avoid direct contact with poultry (Fig. 3.1). Wear a mask properly (Fig. 3.2). The equipment will minimize your contact with blood, body fluid and other parts of the poultry.
4. Wash your hands thoroughly with soap. Palms, fingers, the backs of your hands must be cleaned.
5. During slaughtering, prevent the poultry's carcass from being contaminated with poultry's waste especially feces from intestines.
6. Regularly clean and disinfect the slaughtering area and equipment.
7. Use water proof materials for building surfaces and floors for easy cleaning and disinfecting.

WAYS TO PROMOTE COOPERATION

Visit your neighbours, who have set good examples, and observe how they slaughter their poultry and prepare the meat. Learn how they can avoid being exposed to Avian Influenza infection. Get advice and some guidance on safe slaughtering from the agricultural and veterinary offices. Discuss with your neighbours the measures to minimize direct contact with poultry to reduce infection risks. Learn from your neighbours' good practices such as use of personal protective devices, designated places for slaughtering, or effective ways of hand-washing.

SOME MORE HINTS

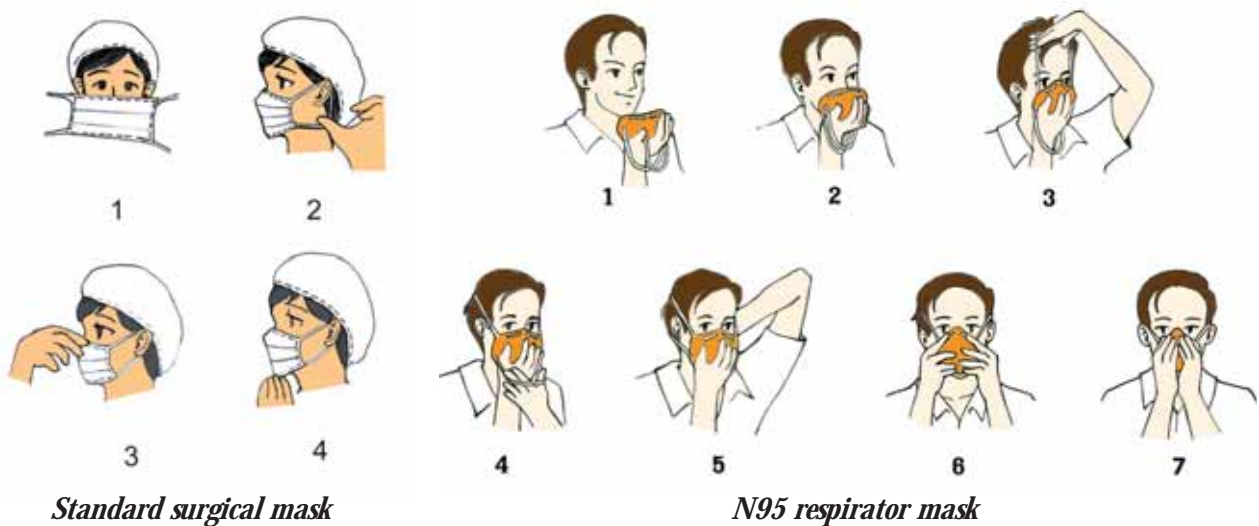
1. Catch and slaughter chickens and ducks skillfully to minimize the spread of feathers, blood, body fluid, etc.
2. Don't allow children or inexperienced persons to catch chickens and ducks.
3. The slaughtering place should have good ventilation and lighting conditions. Open windows. Choose a bright place.
4. Disposable masks are recommended and these masks are to be disposed after each use. As for non-disposable masks, ensure that they are washed and disinfected after use.
5. Wash and disinfect rubber gloves, boots, and aprons right after each use on a daily basis. Don't wash them together with other clothes.
6. Prepare special containers to collect the poultry waste and dispose of the waste in a hygienic manner (See CHECKPOINT 4).
7. Regularly clean and disinfect the slaughtering area and equipment. Ensure that equipment is kept in an enclosed area away from rodents and cockroaches.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

.....
Reduce direct contact with poultry as much as possible.



Figure 3.1 Wear masks, gloves, boots and aprons when you slaughter poultry and cut their meat. Use a designated workstation only for this purpose. Don't use it for other purposes.



Standard surgical mask

N95 respirator mask

Figure 3.2 Wear a mask appropriately. Don't touch the inside of the mask. The mask should fit your face and there should be no air leakage between your face and the mask. For routine slaughtering work, a surgical mask (left) or a cloth mask can work. If you need to handle sick or potentially infected poultry, you must wear a N95 respiratory mask (right).

CHECKPOINT 4

Practice hygienic poultry disposal methods and waste management

BENEFITS FOR FARMERS/WORKERS

Waste of infected birds such as left-over feathers, body parts, fluid, feces, and contaminated soil contains the Avian Influenza virus and can be an infection source. Farmers, their families and customers must avoid direct contact with the poultry's waste. Poultry houses and facilities such as water and food containers need to be cleaned and disinfected regularly.

Practicing hygienic poultry disposal methods and adopting proper waste management can significantly reduce the Avian Influenza infection risk to farmers, families, and customers. There are many practical ways to practice hygienic poultry disposal and improve hygienic waste management by using low-cost methods.

HOW TO IMPROVE

1. Wear masks properly (Fig. 3.2) whenever you collect poultry waste. Use rubber gloves and boots to protect yourself.
2. Prepare a special container to collect poultry waste. Place a big plastic bag inside so that the collected waste can be easily disposed of.
3. The collected waste should be burned or buried. If buried, you need to make a designated area, dig a hole more than 50 cm deep and bury the waste bags. Spray disinfectants on the waste before burial and again on the pit after burial. The burial area is to be enclosed to ensure no entry of scavengers. Tell your family and colleague farmers not to come close to that area.
4. After selling poultry and before new poultry arrives, clean and disinfect the poultry house (Fig. 4.1). Wear a cap, mask, gloves, and boots for protection.
5. Ensure that burial sites are distant from public water sources.
6. Workers handling poultry are to adopt good personal hygiene and should wear protective equipment.

7. Call the nearest veterinary or health officers as soon as you find dead and sick birds with suspected Avian Influenza infection. Listen to them carefully and follow their instructions. Stop people and animals from coming in and out of the farm. The disposer needs thorough protective clothes (Fig. 4.2). Don't leave dead birds lying around.

WAYS TO PROMOTE COOPERATION

Look at your workplace and review your work procedures. Identify the possible contact with poultry wastes. Discuss with your family and neighbouring farmers how to avoid direct contact with the poultry waste. Learn from existing good practices of other farmers.

SOME MORE HINTS

1. Don't mix poultry waste with other general family and farm waste.
2. Place a special container to collect the waste at the place where you slaughter poultry. Clean and disinfect the floor, container, tools and tables used regularly.
3. Prepare poultry meat carefully in the slaughter procedure and avoid the meat being contaminated with the poultry waste.
4. If you keep many chickens or ducks and handle a large amount of waste regularly, purchase a bigger incinerator that can burn the large amount of waste.
5. Workers handling poultry are to adopt good personal hygiene and change clothes before and after handling poultry.
6. Wearable protective equipment (i.e. aprons, boots, clothes, gloves) should be washed and disinfected on a daily basis.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

Collect and dispose of poultry waste correctly. Consult agricultural or veterinary officer in your area on how to collect and dispose of poultry waste.

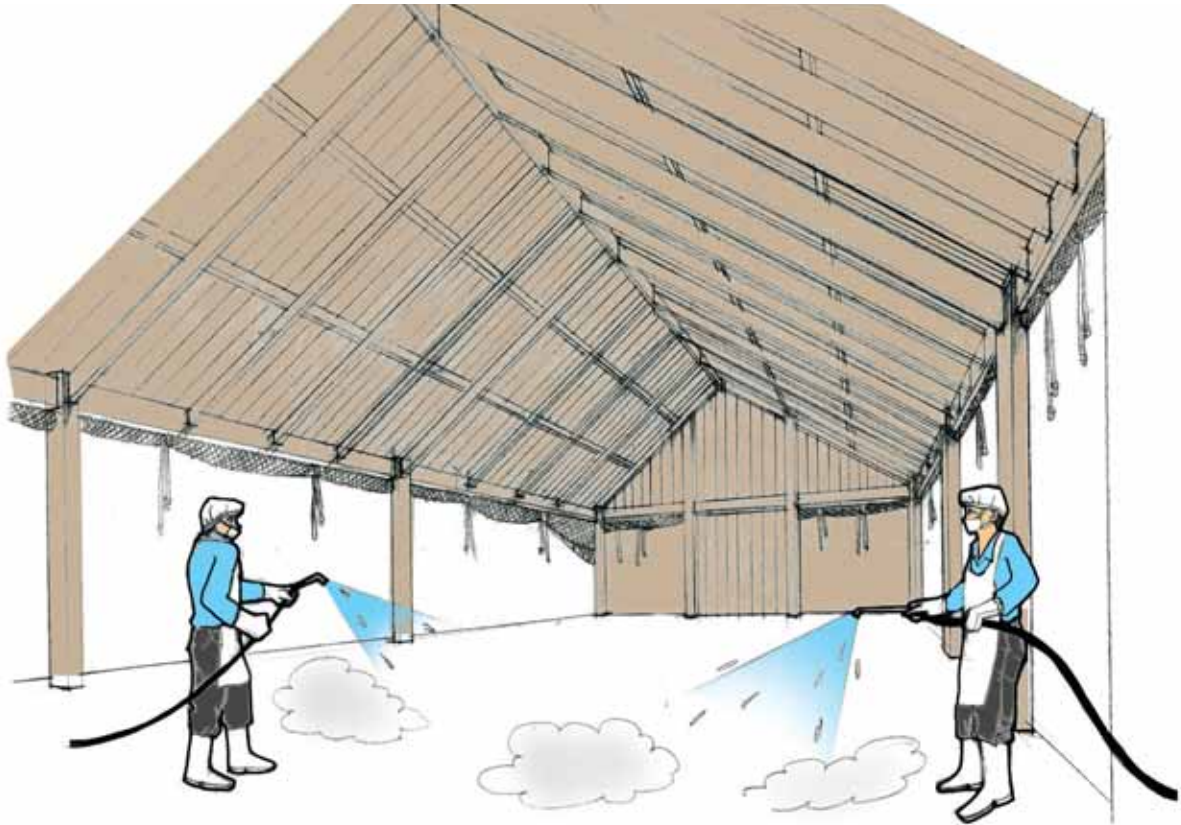


Figure 4.1 Clean and disinfect your poultry farm and remove the waste properly after you sell the poultry and before the new poultry arrives. This will protect the next batch of your poultry from Avian Influenza infection.



Figure 4.2 Follow the instruction of agricultural, veterinary and health officers when disposing of poultry suspected of having Avian Influenza infection. Use bags and special containers to collect dead bodies of the poultry and burn or bury them. The disposer must wear a N95 respirator mask, goggles, gloves, boots and protective clothes to prevent infection. Stop people and animals from coming in and out by fencing the site properly.

CHECKPOINT 5

Report diseases swiftly

BENEFITS FOR FARMERS/WORKERS

Your swift reporting of bird diseases and deaths helps rapid responses of agricultural, veterinary, or health officers and prevents the spread of Avian Influenza. Your report may prevent diseases in other poultry of the same village and other villages. The swift preventive measures taken can increase protection of your family and other villagers.

It is important to know signs and symptoms of birds infected with Avian Influenza. Common symptoms are: weakness, shivering, red eyes, nasal and mouth discharge, bleeding spots in eyes, mouths or legs, etc. (Fig. 5.1). If you and your family find these symptoms in your poultry, inform the village head or community volunteers immediately.

HOW TO IMPROVE

1. Know signs and symptoms of poultry infected with Avian Influenza.
2. Observe your poultry carefully everyday. Don't miss early signs and symptoms of disease. If birds are weak and less active or their eye colour changes, inform agricultural, veterinary or health officers of the news immediately.
3. Report suspected sick and dead birds immediately to the head of community, volunteers, agriculture/veterinary officers, and/or other concerned government authorities. Even if you are not sure if the disease is Avian Influenza or not, still consult them.
4. When you or your family members have high fever and severe cold symptoms like coughing, sneezing, or general weakness, contact a doctor or a Primary Care Unit (PCU) in your village immediately.
5. If the patient has been in contact with poultry, wild birds or their waste, inform the doctor, PCU personnel health volunteers immediately.

The information is useful for proper diagnosis of the disease, and will allow for the patient to receive the appropriate medical treatment swiftly.

WAYS TO PROMOTE COOPERATION

Study signs and symptoms of Avian Influenza with other farmers and villagers. Local agricultural, veterinary and health officers will help you. Learn from prior cases on how poultry and people were infected with Avian Influenza and how the people in the affected areas fought against the disease. Discuss the ways to promote immediate reporting of the disease and mutual cooperation among farmers.

SOME MORE HINTS

1. Know who health or husbandry volunteers are in your village. They will assist you in proper reporting.
2. Avian Influenza can infect not only farmers but also sellers of bird eggs and meat which are contaminated with the droppings of sick birds. Help these sellers know the disease information.
3. When you are about to lose your poultry due to Avian Influenza, you may get compensation or support from the government. Contact the government office. You can also inform your farmer friends who have lost their poultry.
4. Don't slaughter and sell meat of sick and dead birds.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

Swift reporting and rapid response prevent the spread of Avian Influenza and minimize the hazard.

Chickens infected with Avian Influenza may show some of the following signs: inability to walk and stand, ruffled feathers, loss of appetite, difficulty in breathing, depression, bluish colouring of wattles and comb, swelling of head, eyelids, comb, wattles, hocks, diarrhoea, small bleedings (most visible on feet and shanks), sudden fall in egg production, efforts with laying eggs.



Figure 5.1 Don't approach sick and dead chickens. Guide children to stay away.

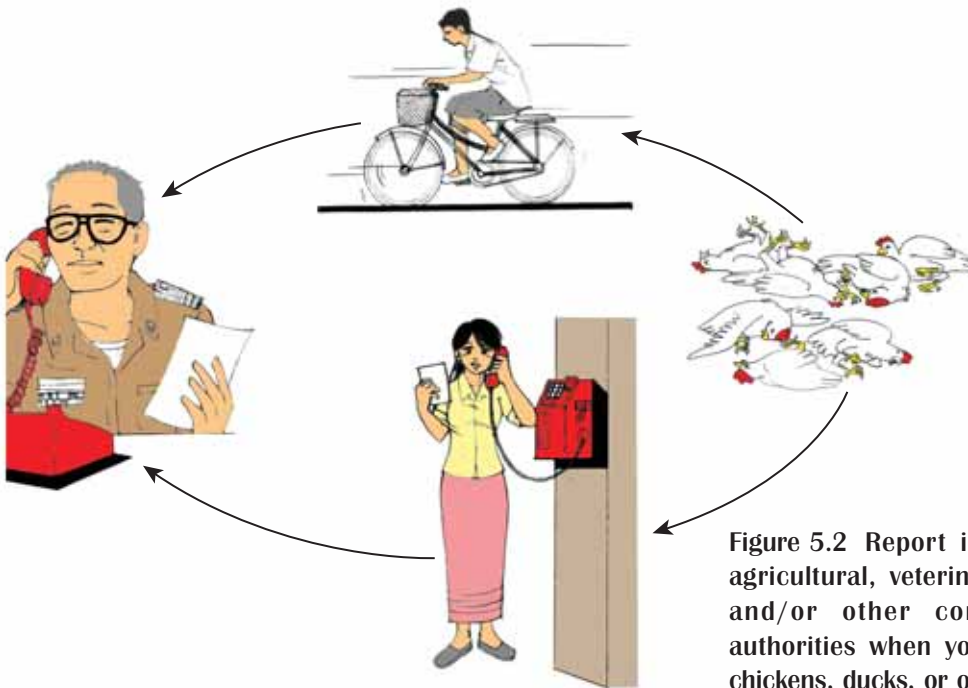


Figure 5.2 Report immediately to nearest agricultural, veterinary or health officers, and/or other concerned government authorities when you find suspected dead chickens, ducks, or other birds including wild birds.



Figure 5.3 Learn early signs and symptoms in human cases of Avian Influenza.

Annex 1

Information sources

Avian Influenza Control Centre
Bureau of Disease Control and Veterinary
Services
Department of Livestock Development
Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
69/1 Phayathai Road, Rachathevi
Bangkok 10400
Tel: 02 653 4444
Fax: 02 653 4862 / 653 4929
E-mail: dcontrol@dld.go.th
Website: <http://www.dld.go.th/dcontrol/>

Bureau of Emerging Infectious Diseases
Department of Disease Control
Ministry of Public Health
Floor 4, Building 8, Tiwanond Road
Nonthaburi Province 11000
Tel: 02 590 3157-9
Website: <http://beid.ddc.moph.go.th/th/index.php>

Food and Agriculture Organization of the
United Nations (FAO)
Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (RAP)
Maliwan Mansion
Phra Atit Road
Bangkok 10200
Tel: 02 697 4000
Fax: 02 697 4445
Website (RAP): <http://www.fao.org/world/regional/rap>

Ministry of Labour
Mitmaitree Road, Dindaeng
Bangkok 10400
Tel: 02 232 1421-2
Website: <http://www.mol.go.th>

Office of the World Health Organization
(WHO) Representative to Thailand
c/o Ministry of Public Health
Tiwanond Road, Muang
Nonthaburi 11000
Tel: 02 590 1524
Website: <http://w3.whothai.org/en/index.htm>

United Nations System Influenza
Coordination (UNSIC)
Asia-Pacific Regional Hub
UN OCHA Regional Office for Asia and the
Pacific
Executive Suite, 2nd Floor, UNCC Building
Rajdamnern Nok Avenue
Bangkok 10200
Tel: 02 288 1234
Website: <http://www.influenza.undg.org>,
<http://un-influenza.org>

World Organisation for Animal Health
OIE Sub-Regional Coordination Unit for
South-East Asia
c/o Department of Livestock Development
Ministry of Agriculture & Cooperatives
69/1 Phayathai Road, Rachathevi
Bangkok 10400
Tel: 02 653 4864
Website: http://www.oie.int/eng/en_index.htm

Protecting Your Health and Business from Avian Influenza

Action manual for farmers and poultry workers

The outbreak of avian influenza and the ongoing incidences of infected cases have prompted worldwide concern. This training manual is developed to promote safe practices. The manual is user-friendly and practical, providing an Action Checklist on various prevention measures including explanations and descriptions. The unique participatory training methods of the ILO, Work Improvement in Neighbourhood Development (WIND) and Work Improvement in Small Enterprises (WISE), were used to promote understanding and encourage improvements in the actions of farmers and poultry workers.

Contact Information:

ILO Subregional Office for East Asia
United Nations Building, 10th Floor
Rajdamnern Nok Avenue
Bangkok 10200, Thailand
Tel: +662 288 1234
Fax: +662 288 3058
Email: bangkok@ilo.org
www.ilo.org/asia



ISBN: 9789221219521