

MBayFluWatch

Monterey Bay's Pandemic Flu Watch

...keeping Monterey Bay communities informed about influenza



http://cns.miis.edu/flu_watch

International News Archive

Update on Influenza A (H5N1) Virus in Japan

February 4

The Oita Prefecture government culled 13,000 chickens at a poultry farm and a meat processing center on February 3rd. Oita is the fifth Japanese prefecture to have confirmed cases caused by the H5N1 virus. The prefecture imposed a ban on the transport of chickens and eggs within a 10-km radius of the farm and conducted on-site inspections at 10 poultry farms within the area. Based on visual examinations, officials did not observe any additional infections, but will wait for the results of blood tests and other exams before deciding if the outbreak has stopped.

Source: *Japan Today*: <http://www.japantoday.com/category/national/view/oita-completes-cull-of-8100-chickens-as-5th-bird-flu-hit-prefecture>

Japan Holds Emergency Meeting on Bird Flu Epidemic

January 30

At an emergency meeting in Tokyo, the Japanese farm ministry urged prefectural officials to make more efforts to control the spread of bird flu. The first outbreak of the H5N1 influenza this season occurred at a Japanese poultry farm in November in the Shimane Prefecture. Since then, further infections have been confirmed at five other farms and a meat processing center, as well as, among wild birds.

There have been five outbreaks of H5N1 influenza this season in the Miyazaki Prefecture in Japan, which has resulted in 96,000 chickens being culled in this prefecture. The highly lethal virus has also been confirmed in chickens at farms in the Aichi and Kagoshima prefectures.

Source: *Hindustan Times*: <http://www.hindustantimes.com/Japan-holds-emergency-meeting-on-bird-flu-epidemic/Article1-656419.aspx>

Northern Hemisphere Countries Show Steady Rise in Flu

January 18

According to the latest World Health Organization (WHO) update, flu activity is increasing in many of the temperate-zone countries of the Northern Hemisphere.

Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia are mostly reporting influenza B. In the Middle East, Iran and Pakistan are mostly reporting 2009 influenza A (H1N1) virus. Flu activity in Mongolia and Northern China has predominantly been H3N2 virus, while South Korea and Japan are reporting that the 2009 H1N1 virus has