Disease surveillance in wild animals
The Netherlands

Annual Report 2025

dwhc
dutch wildlife health centre

Cite: Disease surveillance in wild animals Netherlands 2025, DWHC Annual Report 2025. March 2026.

Dutch Wildlife Health Centre (DWHC)

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Utrecht University

Yalelaan 1, 3584 CL Utrecht

The Netherlands

www.dwhc.nl

030-2537925

Contents

Summary – 2025 at a glance

This annual report provides an overview of the activities and findings of the Dutch Wildlife Health Centre (DWHC) in 2025. The activities comprise: 1) monitoring and surveillance of causes of death and diseases in wild animals in the Netherlands, 2) knowledge development, and 3) communication and knowledge sharing. This report contains general information regarding 2025, the results regarding zoonoses (diseases that can be transmitted from animals to humans), and those regarding other wild animal diseases.

DWHC General

In 2025, a total of 5,385 notification forms were completed. Of these, 3,348 forms were submitted for insight and 2,037 for submission for pathological examination. Through a triage process, 1,231 animals were collected for examination, of which 388 animals were sent to the DWHC for pathological examination. These included 230 mammals, 151 birds, 2 reptiles, and 5 amphibians (Appendix 1). An overview of the confirmed diseases is on the following page (Table 1). In addition, 843 bird carcasses were collected for avian influenza testing at the reference laboratory in Lelystad (Wageningen Bioveterinary Research). Besides the activities mentioned above, seven targeted disease surveillance, knowledge development, and knowledge sharing projects were underway in 2025. For these, another 583 animals were examined. See page 15 for more information on the various projects.

Knowledge sharing and communication regarding diseases occurring in wild animals is another task of the DWHC. This entails: producing reports (WOAH, annual report) and maintaining communication with professionals in consultations on various topics, such as the Zoonoses Surveillance Consultation, coordination meetings regarding influenza virus and West Nile virus, among others, and scientific and professional publications. In addition, communication and knowledge sharing with the field and/or the public takes place: feedback of findings to submitters, answering questions via email or telephone, newsletters, messages on the website (30), presentations (7), stands, popular science articles (7), scientific articles, a video about pathological research on the wolf (1), and interviews with various news channels on topics including avian influenza, the wolf, and hare myxomatosis (11).

Zoonosis detection

In 2025, highly pathogenic avian influenza remains present among wild birds in the Netherlands, with clear peaks in the autumn and winter. Waterfowl, gulls, and birds of prey were particularly affected. The spread varies by region and season. In addition, highly pathogenic H5N1 was also detected in wild mammals in 2025, mainly in foxes, with cases in January, February, March, November, and December at various locations in the Netherlands. Furthermore, the Usutu virus was also detected in the Dutch wild bird population this year. Of the 115 birds examined, seven tested positive: a lapwing, a jay, a blue tit and four blackbirds. West Nile virus has been detected in the Netherlands again this year, this time also in dead wild birds. It involved two jackdaws (2/6) from North Brabant in September. This year we found Newcastle Disease widespread across the Netherlands. Five of the 27 pigeons examined (18%) tested positive for the virus: two city pigeons from Groningen, one from Amsterdam, one from Alphen a/d Rijn, and one from Maastricht.

Overview of all diseases investigated in 2025

Table 1: overview of the results of the diagnostics performed per pathogen in 2025 (the animals that were investigated are mainly from 2025, but may also be from previous years)

Pathogen	Number tested positive
Notifiable zoonosis	
Highly pathogenic avian influenza virus (bird flu)	348/946 (37%)
Low pathogenic avian influenza virus	2/946 (0,2%)
Salmonella spp (salmonellosis)	5/10 (50%)
Toxoplasma spp (toxoplasmosis)	2/8 (25%)
Francisella tularensis (tularemia)	2/27 (7%)
West Nile virus (West Nile fever)	2/115 (2%)
Yersinia spp (yersiniosis)	3/6 (50%)
Avian paramyxovirus-1 (Newcastle disease)	5/27 (19%)
Non-notifiable zoonosis	
Usutu virus (Usutu)	7/115 (7%)
Pasteurella multocida (pasteurellosis)	7/10 (70%)
Baylisascaris procyonis (raccoon roundworm)	3/7 (43%)
TBE virus or related virus (tick-borne encephalitis)	26/312 (8%) (antibodies in roe deer blood samples from 2024-2025)
Other diseases found	
Bluetongue virus (bluetongue)	1/269 (0,4%)* (roe deer blood samples from 2024-2025)
Hare myyxomavirus (hare myxomatosis)	34/78 (44%)
Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease-2 virus (RHD-2)	6/9 (66%)
Avipoxvirus (birdpox)	1/1 (100%)
Plasmodium spp (avian malaria)	2/151 (1%)
Trichomonas gallinae (trichomoniasis)	5/151 (3%)
Haemonchus contortus	9/26 (35%)

Diseases tested but not detected in 2025:	
Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans (chytridiomycosis)	0/1
Echinococcus multilocularis (fox tapeworm)	0/71
Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease Virus (EHD)	0/267 (antibodies in roe deer blood samples from 2024)
Coxiella burnetii (Q fever)	0/12
Trichinella spp (Trichinellosis)	0/71
Sindbis virus (Sindbis fever)	0/115
Corynebacterium ulcerans (inflammation)	0/1
Canine adenovirus-1 (Canine Infectious Hepatitis)	0/1

* Virological examination was performed on 270 samples. The test result was negative in 267 roe deer. In 3 cases, the result was dubious, which means that the test showed a signal, but that it was below the cutoff value. It is then not possible to determine whether there is very little or no virus at all in the blood. See page 19 for more information.

Introduction

In a world where the interaction between humans, animals, and the environment is constantly changing, the importance of monitoring and surveillance of diseases among wild animals is increasing. Insight into disease dynamics helps to map trends and to quickly detect and investigate unusual mortality. This knowledge of diseases among wild animals forms an important link in the early detection of pathogens circulating in wild populations that can spread to domestic (farm) animals or humans. Through structural data collection, pathological examination, data analysis, and collaboration with partners within and outside the Netherlands, the Dutch Wildlife Health Centre (DWHC) contributes to the One Health principle.

Daily work at the DWHC

The DWHC team consists of 10 people. After completing the online reporting form, the report is assessed by one of the two administrative staff members of the DWHC. They coordinate whether the animal can be collected and engage the external courier service. Subsequently, the animal arrives in Utrecht, where one of the four veterinary pathologists conducts the examination and draws a conclusion regarding the cause of death and/or disease. This conclusion is reported back to the reporter. During the investigation, samples are also taken and stored in our Biobank, managed by the technical support staff. Two specialists in the health of wild animal populations conduct research using the data resulting from the pathological examination. Finally, the communications officer disseminates the acquired knowledge to various target groups.

The DWHC staff are assisted in their daily work by administrative staff, dissection room staff, veterinary pathology specialists in training from the Department of Pathology at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, interns, and students from within and outside Utrecht University. This annual report provides an overview of the activities and findings of the DWHC in 2025. Its core tasks are: 1) monitoring and surveillance of causes of death and diseases in wild animals in the Netherlands, 2) knowledge development, and 3) communication and knowledge sharing. The mission of the DWHC is to increase knowledge about the health of wild animals and to promote the proper use of this knowledge in public health policy and the health of domesticated and wild animals.

We would like to thank our partners and people in the field for their dedication, time, and invaluable contribution.

Monitoring and surveillance-cause of death and disease

In the event of increased disease and mortality due to an unknown cause in wild animals, it is relevant to determine the cause of death. This can be done by examining wild animals post-mortem. This is diagnostic incident investigation, or generic disease surveillance, and serves the early detection of risks. At the DWHC, post-mortem examination is performed annually on 350 to 450 dead wild animals. In 2025, this number was 388: 230 mammals, 151 birds, 2 reptiles, and 5 amphibians (Figure 1; overview of the numbers per species in Appendix 1).

For the execution of this, the DWHC receives support from people in the field who find the dead animals, as well as diagnostic institutes, and funding from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Nature (LVVN), the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport (VWS), and Utrecht University (UU). Projects alongside the core tasks of the DWHC can only be undertaken with additional funding. In addition to generic surveillance, from a 'One Health' perspective, it may also be relevant to monitor the occurrence of certain known pathogens in wild animals, known as targeted disease surveillance. This also serves the early detection of risks and changes in disease patterns in nature. This applies, for example, to highly pathogenic avian influenza in (dead) wild birds. Since 2014, DWHC has been collaborating on this with Sovon, the Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (NVWA), and Wageningen Bioveterinary Research (WBVR). In 2025, 843 bird carcasses were brought to WBVR in Lelystad for this purpose.

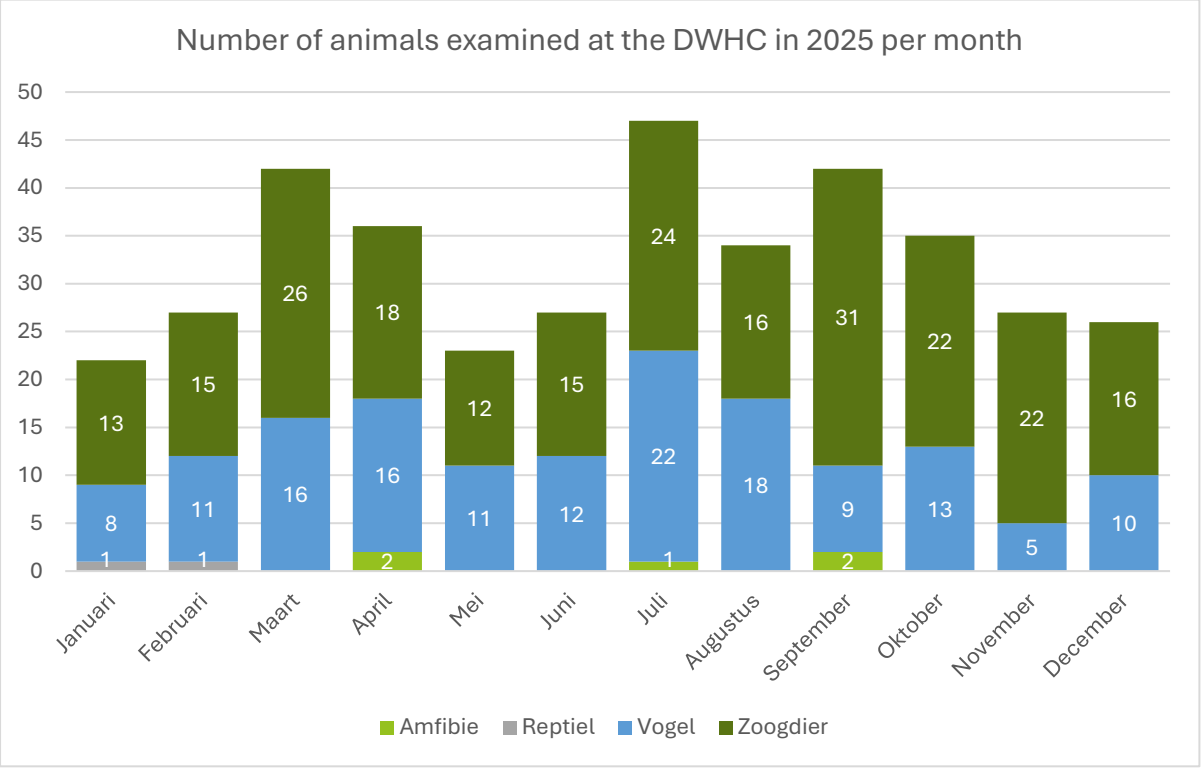

Figure 1: Number of animals examined at the DWHC in 2025 per month.

Targeted surveillance, knowledge development, and knowledge sharing projects

Other targeted animal disease surveillance and other activities are often carried out on a project basis, with additionally raised funds (overview in Table 2). In addition to monitoring, these activities also contribute to knowledge development regarding animal diseases in wild animals.

Table 2: Overview of projects in 2025

Project	Commissioner	In collaboration with
Rapid test validation for AI diagnostics	LVVN	WBVR
Convenience sampling of foxes in Fryslân on bird flu	LVVN	WBVR
Strong1H	EU	RIVM (coordinator), WBVR, Royal GD, ErasmusMC, NVWA
PAT Enetwild 2.0 SC2 & SC3	EFSA	Universiteit Torino (coordinator) et al.
EUPAHW	EU	Universiteit Gent (coordinator) et al.
Blood test roe deer	RIVM	-
Rodenticides hedgehogs	IenW	CLM (coordinator), Toxicology WUR
Viruses in the night	ZonMw	EMC and WBVR

Communication and knowledge sharing

In 2025, the DWHC was mentioned and/or cited in a total of 96 news articles. The articles mainly concerned the wolf (40) and avian influenza (38), but news reports on hare myxomatosis (9), Usutu vitrus (2), duck plague (3), great tit mortality (3), and One Health (1) were also published in 2025 (see Figure 2).

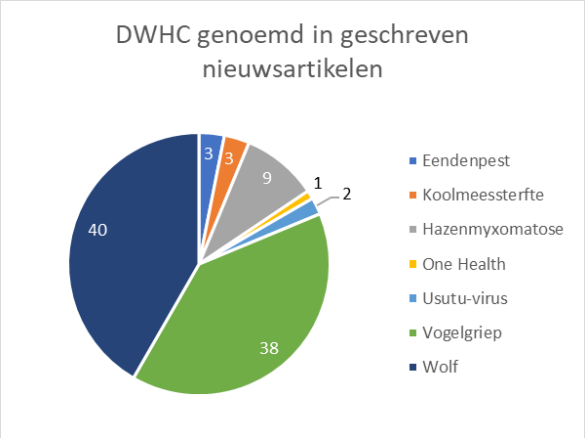

Figure 2: Data collected via Nexis Uni on 16 February 2026. Conditions: news articles from 01/01/2025 up to and including 31/12/2025 with search term "Dutch Wildlife Health Centre (DWHC)".

Knowledge sharing is an important part of the DWHC's work. This is done via various media and for diverse target groups (see pages 10 and 11 for a number of examples). In 2025, 30 posts were published on the website. These posts mainly concerned avian influenza and hare myxomatosis, but individual cases were also discussed and relevant signals from abroad were highlighted. In addition, two DWHC newsletters were published, containing the status of various outbreaks and the most important news items. Since this year, a monthly overview of avian influenza test results has also been published on the website. Popular science articles have been brought to the attention through pieces in trade journals and websites such as Nature Today.

Furthermore, courses were given at organizations including Stichting Dierenlot on zoonosis literacy, based on the train-the-trainer principle, and at the muskrat control training course. Presentations were also given at Dierenambulance Amsterdam and during the stakeholders' dinner at Utrecht University. The DWHC was present with an information booth at events such as the UU Weekend of Science and the National Sovon Day.

In addition, interviews appeared in various newspapers on topics such as avian influenza, hare myxomatosis, and the wolf. A video of a wolf section was also published. During various recurring consultations with professionals, a contribution was made to the overall knowledge of professionals regarding the topics of zoonoses, avian influenza, African swine fever, botulism, tularemia, Usutu virus, and West Nile virus. Furthermore, knowledge sharing took place through participation in and presentations at conferences, as well as through the publication of scientific articles and pieces in professional journals. For example, the DWHC was featured in the professional journal for pathologists, the NVVP (Dutch Society for Pathology).

Finally, the DWHC organized the annual meeting of the advisory committee to provide advice on broad outlines, including the evaluation of drafts of the annual work plans, and substantive advice on the choices and priorities of DWHC activities such as the spearhead animal. See Appendix 3 for an overview of communication from the DWHC in 2025. A number of examples are described on the following two pages.

Examples of written media for different target groups

People in the field

At the national Sovon Day, the DWHC was present with a stand and the new flyer regarding reporting dead wild birds, hygiene measures, how the submission process works, and who is responsible for removing dead wild animals.

Pathologists

An interview for the NVVP (Dutch Association for Pathology) journal gave other Dutch pathologists a glimpse into wolf autopsies. It explains everything the DWHC investigates and keeps track of.

Professionals and interested parties

The DWHC newsletter is published twice a year with the current status of various outbreaks and diseases, as well as key news items.

Journalists and professionals

The avian influenza outbreak among wild birds that began in November 2024 continued into 2025. Due to the high demand for information about the outbreak from both journalists and individuals who come into contact with (wild) animals, the DWHC has been publishing the results of avian influenza tests weekly since 2025.

General public

Various newspapers and newspapers have published articles about the DWHC's research. For example, following an interview with Judith van den Brand, de Volkskrant wrote an extensive piece about the wolf: “How a shot wolf in Gelderland gets a life after death”. This article features, among other things, the pathological examination.

Examples of non-written media for different target groups

Policy makers

The annual stakeholders' dinner took place during Utrecht Science Week, with infectious diseases as the theme this year. The dinner was organized for policymakers and representatives from healthcare and science. During the presentation, Judith van den Brand (DWHC) and Xander de Haan (Department of Virology, UU) spoke about their research into animal influenza viruses, particularly avian influenza.

Courier service

An informative video was produced for the external courier service with which we collaborate. They handle dead wild animals that may carry a (contagious) disease. To address this, a video regarding the safe and hygienic handling of dead wild animals was created and distributed to the courier service's employees and drivers.

People in the field

In the BNNVARA podcast Vroege Vogels, Judith van den Brand gave an interview about the current state of affairs regarding bird flu and how to deal with it safely and hygienically in the field.

VROEGE VOGELS

Children and teenagers

During the Weekend of Science, the DWHC invited children and their parents to the 'creepy cabinet'. Inside, various parasites and ticks were on display in alcohol, which they could examine closely with a magnifying glass, and they learned how diseases can spread in wild animals. In addition, various cases received by the DWHC were explained.

Professionals – international

Presentation at the Global Wildlife Data Sharing Conference. This conference brought together international experts to improve the exchange of data on wild animal health in pandemic preparedness.

Knowledge sharing - Expert groups

The DWHC contributes both structurally and on a one-off basis to expert group meetings. Recurring meetings include the Zoonoses Signaling Consultation (SoZ), One Health data sharing RIVM, the National Avian Influenza Platform, AI Impact Meeting, Friesland Avian Influenza Consultation, Cost Action Safe Meat, the WNV Working Group, expert group on ASF and avian influenza, among others, and Viruses in the Night.

One-time contributions or brainstorming sessions include the Meet de Mees project, musk rat control in the Netherlands, the One Health Surveillance Subgroup, the Knowledge and Expertise Agenda Meeting on the Wolf, and the Avian Influenza Prevention Intensification Plan.

Scientific articles

Badia-Boher, J. A., Schaub, M., Mollet, M., van Geneijgen, P., van der Jeugd, H. P., Caliendo, V., & Kéry, M. (2026). Evaluating the demographic impacts of the highly pathogenic avian influenza panzootic. Journal of Applied Ecology, 63(1), e70234. https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2664.70234

Begeman, L., Geschiere, M. J. M., de Boer, W. F., van den Brand, J. M. A., Eblé, P. L., van der Kerkhof, J. H. T. C., Keur, I., Lina, P.H.C., Reusken, C.B.E.M., de Rosa, M., Schillemans, M.J., Schreuder, I., Swaan, C.M., van Zoonen, K. & Kuiken, T. (2025). Human-bat contacts in the Netherlands, and potential risks for virus exchange. One Health Outlook, 7(1), 7. https://doi.org/10.1186/s42522-024-00132-6

Caliendo, V., Bellido Martin, B., Fouchier, R. A. M., Verdaat, H., Engelsma, M., Beerens, N., & Slaterus, R. (2024). Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Contributes to the Population Decline of the Peregrine Falcon (Falco peregrinus) in The Netherlands. Viruses, 17(1), 24. https://doi.org/10.3390/v17010024

Caliendo, V., Martin, B. B., Fouchier, R. A. M., Vuong, O., van den Brand, J. M. A., Leopold, M., & Kühn, S. (2025). Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Northern Fulmars (Fulmarus glacialis) in the Netherlands. Journal of wildlife diseases, 61(3), 792–796. https://doi.org/10.7589/JWD-D-24-00176

Fischer, L., de Bruin, E., Jongepier, E., Koffeman, E., König, P., Pfaff, F., Peters, M., van den Brand, J. M. A., Bussi, M., Fischer, D., Caliendo, V., Weerts, E., IJzer, J., Müller, J., Kühling, A. K., Kummerfeld, M., Müller, J., Petersen, H., Merbach, S., Beer, M., … Rijks, J. M. (2025). Recombinant Myxoma Virus in European Brown Hares, 2023-2024. Emerging infectious diseases, 31(8), 1608–1612. https://doi.org/10.3201/eid3108.241969

Giglia, G., Agliani, G., van Eijk, N. M. H. A., de Bruin, E., Fast, C., Sikkema, R. S., Oude Munnink, B. B., Mandara, M. T., Gröne, A., & van den Brand, J. M. A. (2025). Ocular and periocular Usutu virus-associated lesions in naturally infected Eurasian blackbirds (Turdus merula). Veterinary pathology, 3009858251324640. Advance online publication. https://doi.org/10.1177/03009858251324640

Münger, E., Atama, N. C., van Irsel, J., Blom, R., Krol, L., van Mastrigt, T., van den Berg, T. J., Braks, M., de Vries, A., van der Linden, A., Chestakova, I., Boter, M., Chandler, F. D., Kohl, R., Nieuwenhuijse, D. F., Uiterwijk, M., Fouchier, R. A. M., Sprong, H., Gröne, A., Koenraadt, C. J. M., Schrama, M., Reusken, C. B. E. M., Stroo, A., van den Brand, J. M. A., van der Jeugd, H. P., Oude Munnink, B. B., Sikkema, R. S., & Koopmans, M. P. G. (2025). One Health approach uncovers emergence and dynamics of Usutu and West Nile viruses in the Netherlands. Nature communications, 16(1), 7883. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-025-63122-w

Nederlof, R. A., Bruins-van Sonsbeek, L. G. R., Stumpel, J. B. G., van Bolhuis, H., Broens, E. M., IJzer, J., & Bakker, J. (2025). Yersinia pseudotuberculosis in Non-Domesticated Mammals and Birds in Captivity. Veterinary sciences, 12(2), 161. https://doi.org/10.3390/vetsci12020161

van de Bildt, M. W., Rijks, J. M., Jensen, T. H., Brasseur, S. M., Kik, M. J., Osterhaus, A. D., Gröne, A., Kuiken, T. & IJzer, J. (2025). Persistent Infection in Harbor Seals 12–13 Years after Phocine Distemper Virus Epizootics in 1988 and 2002, North Sea. Emerging Infectious Diseases, 31(12), 2324-2327. doi: 10.3201/eid3112.250329

Wijburg, S. R., Montizaan, M. G. E., Broens, E. M., Gröne, A., Sprong, H., & Maas, M. (2025). Infectious Diseases in European Brown Hares (Lepus europaeus) Found Dead or Moribund in the Netherlands. Journal of wildlife diseases, 61(3), 642–653. https://doi.org/10.7589/JWD-D-24-00116

Zoonosis outbreaks and notable incidents

Zoonosis outbreaks

Bird flu

In 2025, 946 carcasses/samples of wild birds were submitted to the WBVR via the DWHC for AI research (843 carcasses and 103 samples from incident investigations at the DWHC). HPAI H5N1 was detected in 348/946 (36%) of the dead wild birds (overview of tested numbers per species and results in Appendix 2). This concerned 337/843 birds delivered directly to WBVR in Lelystad, and 11/103 birds from the incident investigation. Additionally, LPAI virus was detected in the cloaca of 2/946 (0.2%) birds (H12Nx in the Eurasian Teal in January; H7N7 in the Mallard in February). Avian influenza was regularly detected in birds throughout the year, with the exception of a brief interruption during the summer months (see Figure 3). The most common infected dead wild birds in 2025 belonged to the species groups Anatidae (particularly geese and swans), birds of prey (particularly buzzards), and gulls (particularly herring gulls).

Go to the monthly AI-overview

In 2025, HPAI H5N1 was detected in wild mammals, particularly foxes (see Figure 3). Foxes infected with avian influenza were found in January (two foxes, from Hoofddorp and Sint Nicolaasga), in February (two foxes, from Doorn and Vegelinsoord), two in March (two foxes, from Oosterzee and Andijk), in November (one fox, from Arnhem), and in December (one fox, from Oosterbeek). Through other organizations, HPAI H5N1 was further detected in two seals (from Texel and Vlieland).

Read more about mammals and AI

Newcastle Disease

Newcastle disease virus infection (PMV-1 velogene) was found in five (5/27, 18%) deaths in 2025. These were all city pigeons, two from Groningen, one from Amsterdam, one from Alphen a/d Rijn, and one from Maastricht. The deaths occurred starting in August and were still ongoing in December 2025.

Read more about the outbreak

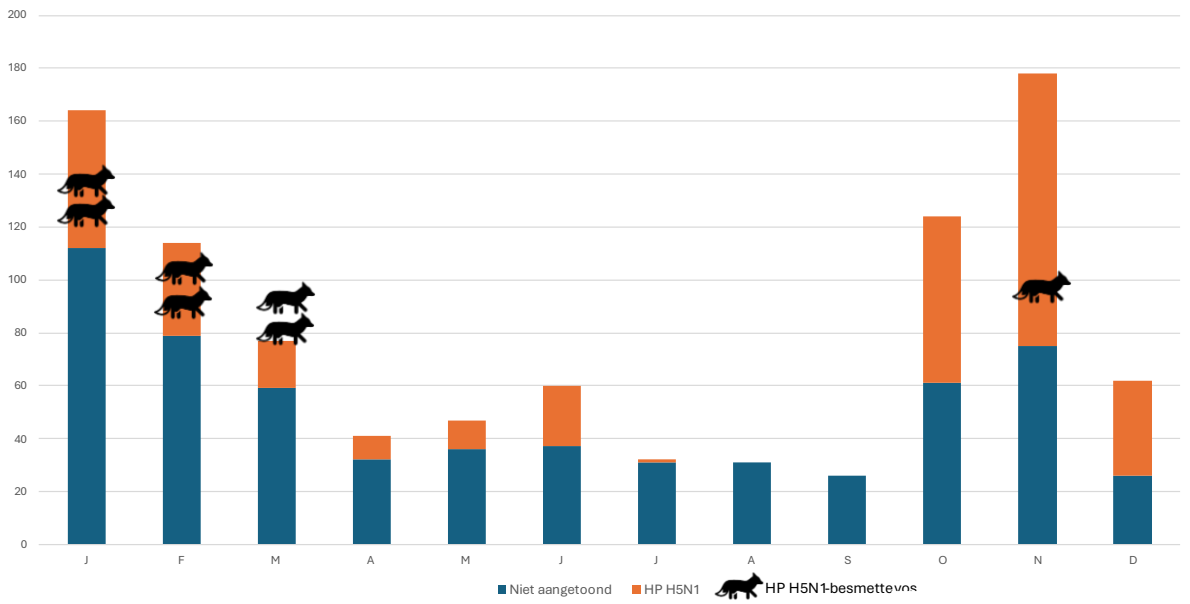

Figure 2: Birds and mammals tested for avian flu per month, with display of positive mammals.

Bird flu projects

Knowledge development regarding bird flu focuses on rapid test validation for AI diagnosis in dead wild birds, and on developing an effective surveillance program for HPAI in wild mammals (two projects).

Validating rapid AI test in wild birds

LVVN is the client and intends to investigate, through a pilot study, whether the Clungene rapid test can be used to screen for bird flu in dead wild birds. The result of the rapid test was compared with the official result (PCR test). The study report has not yet been published, but the results show that the rapid test gives false negative results in wild birds. This means that if the result of the rapid test is negative, the bird may actually have bird flu. The amount of virus shed by a wild bird with bird flu can be low. The rapid test is not sensitive enough to detect a low amount of virus.

Convenience sampling of foxes in Fryslân

This project was carried out on behalf of LVVN. The aim is to gain insight into the occurrence of HPAI virus, or antibodies against it, in 50 foxes shot as part of management and damage control in the province of Friesland. Hunting license holders, who are responsible for the implementation of management and damage control, were approached to cooperate on this project via Faunabeheereenheid Friesland. Subsequently, packages containing instructions and the necessary materials were distributed. The submitted dead animals were sampled at the DWHC, and the samples were then tested in batches at the WBVR. In total, two of the 50 (4%) submitted foxes tested positive for the avian influenza virus (Figure 4). The sample from one of these could be further genetically analyzed. This revealed it to be a specific variant of the avian influenza virus that was also circulating in wild fauna from the same region and period (H5N1 clade 2.3.4.4b Genotype EA-2024-DI.2). Potential zoonotic mutations were also found during the genetic analysis. These specific mutations are considered important indicators of the adaptation of avian influenza viruses to mammals. The presence of antibodies in the blood of 47 foxes could be examined, of which 22 (47%) tested positive. This means that these foxes have been exposed to avian influenza at some point in their lives. This study shows that the fox is a good indicator species for monitoring avian influenza in mammals in an area. Testing foxes shot during management and pest control can contribute to the surveillance of avian influenza infections in mammals.

Read more about this project

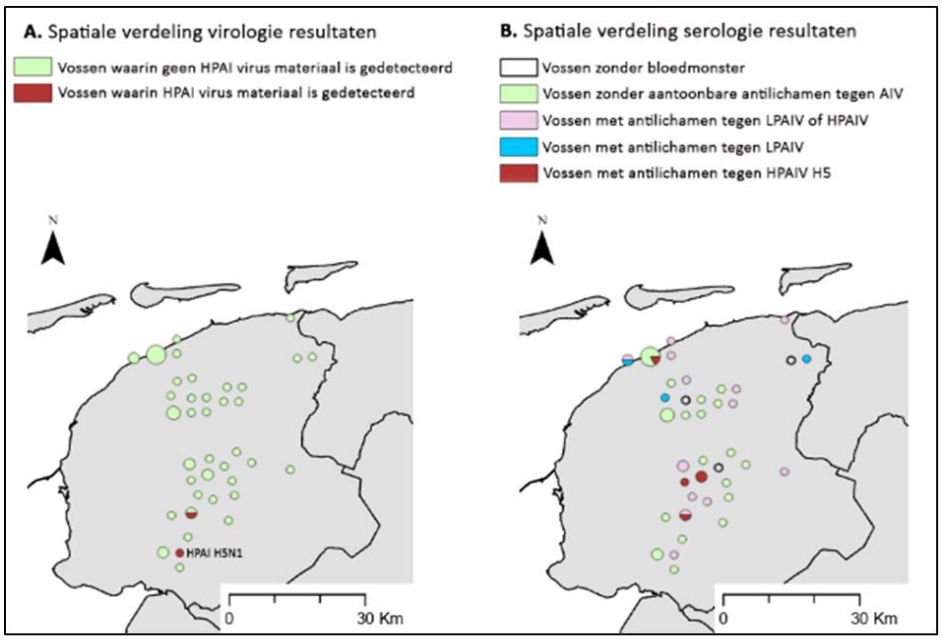

Figure 4: Map of Friesland showing the location of fox culling per test result. The circle size is proportional to the number of foxes tested per location (circle size of 1 to 6 foxes).

Project: Strong1Health

Strong1H (Strengthening One Health) is a project of the EU4Health Programme coordinated by the RIVM and in which the DWHC participates. Its objectives include strengthening the wildlife component of surveillance for One Health and bringing together human and veterinary data in real time. In this context, samples from dead animals collected by the DWHC are systematically screened for selected pathogens by partner organisations (Work Package 2, task 2.2), and pilot activities are carried out to develop an effective surveillance programme for HPAI in wild mammals in the wild and their environment (Work Package 2, task 2.3). For instance, in 2025, samples from 33 carnivores/scavengers were tested for AIV via Strong1H, of which 1 fox (3%) tested positive for HPAIV H5N1.

Read more about S1H

West Nile and Usutu Virus

Research into West Nile virus is also part of the S1H project (work package 2, task 2.2). West Nile and Usutu viruses are transmitted by mosquitoes.

Usutu virus was detected in birds (7/115; 6.1%, Figure 5). The following species were involved: lapwing (1/1), jay (1/2), blue tit (1/4), blackbird (4/8, see Figure 5). Almost all infected birds were found during the period July-September.

Read more about Usutu virus

Figure 5: Blackbird with clinical signs of Usutu virus infection.

This year, **West Nile virus** (WNV) has again been detected in the Netherlands, and this time also in dead wild birds (2/115; 1.7%) during the 2025 incident study (see Figure 6). This involved two jackdaws (2/6) from Rijswijk and Tilburg (North Brabant), which were found dead in August and September, respectively. Both jackdaws were chronically severely emaciated with parasitic infections and an atypical clinical picture. In addition, 20 carnivores were tested for WNV, all of which returned negative results. In third-party research, WNV was also found in a mosquito pool and a horse in South Holland in early October 2025.

Read more about WNV

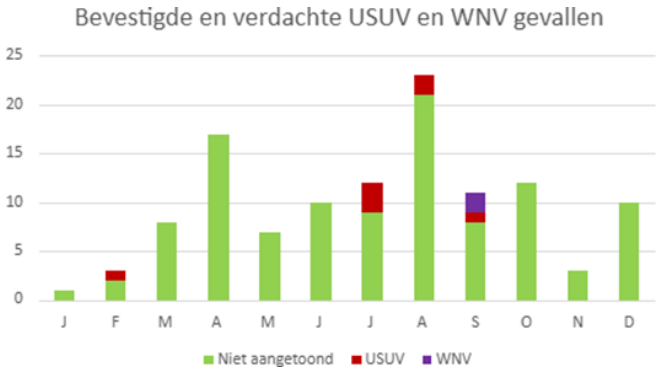

Figure 6. Overview of confirmed and suspected Usutu and WNV cases in the collected birds per month.

Incidental zoonoses

Salmonella

Salmonella group D was cultured by enrichment from three hedgehogs (Figure 7), two with liver inflammation and one with skin lesions, from a red squirrel with pneumonia, and from a rough-legged dwarf bat with pneumonia. These animals were found in South Holland, Utrecht, Friesland, and North Brabant.

Read more about Salmonella

Figure 7: A hedgehog on the dissection table at the DWHC.

Yersinia

The bacterium Yersinia pseudotuberculosis was cultured from the lungs and kidneys of three hares (3/6). These animals were found in Friesland, South Holland, and Utrecht.

Read more about Yersinia

Toxoplasma

In 2024, toxoplasma was detected in two examined animals: a red squirrel with pneumonia from Overijssel, and a great spotted woodpecker with encephalitis from Friesland.

Read more about Toxoplasma

Tularemia

Tularemia was detected in 2025 in two hares (2/23, 8%) from Limburg and Overijssel. This brings the total since 2013 to 66 hares, 2 beavers, and 1 red squirrel (Figure 8). Two beavers and a rabbit were examined and tested negative for the pathogen.

Read more about Tularemia

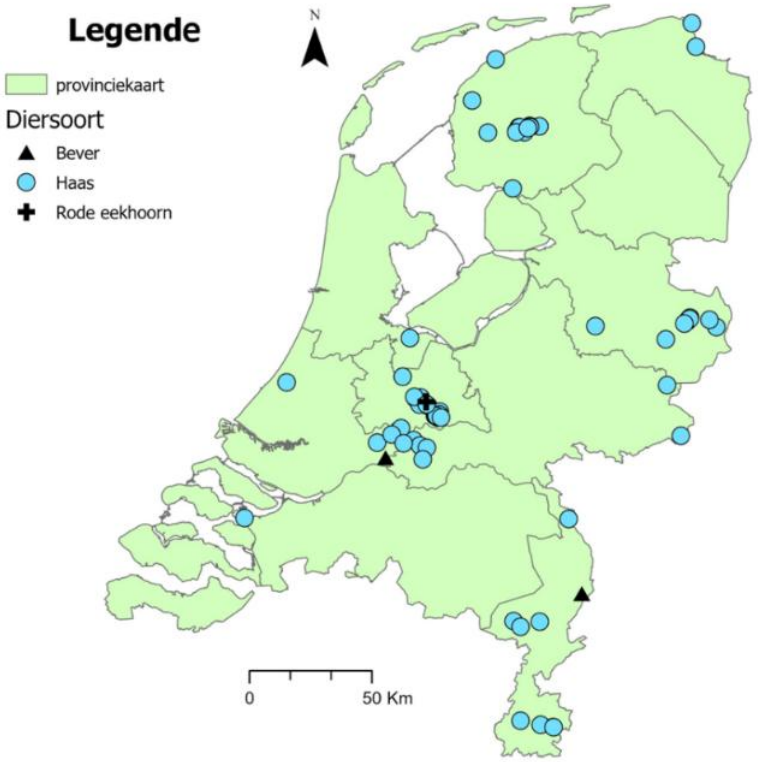

Figure 8. Overview of locations of tularemia-positive animals from the DWHC incident study from 2013 to 2025.

DWHC Focus Species – Common Kestrel and Peregrine Falcon

The focus animals for 2025 were the kestrel and the peregrine falcon. A total of 13 birds were collected. Some of these were taken to the DWHC for full pathological examination, while the others were taken directly to the WBVR and tested only for avian influenza.

Trauma was the cause of death for almost all focus animals examined at the DWHC (four out of five). These were three kestrels and one peregrine falcon. These birds had internal bleeding, and some also had broken ribs. There was one peregrine falcon with a cause of death other than trauma; this animal died from infection with avian influenza. The peregrine falcon had a severely inflamed spleen, mild encephalitis, and fluid in the lungs.

Avian Influenza

All birds were tested for avian influenza, including those examined at the DWHC. In total, ten kestrels and three peregrine falcons were tested for avian influenza. Respectively, four (40%) and two (67%) birds tested positive.

The Common Kestrel

Figure 9: Kestrel. Photo: Roy Slaterus.

For the kestrel, avian influenza was a major cause of death. Almost half of the birds examined tested positive for the virus (4/10; 40%). Birds of prey are generally more susceptible to infection because they often hunt prey infected with avian influenza.

However, for the Common Kestrel, this is a new and relevant finding, as this species primarily eats voles. Rodents, such as the vole, are not known carriers of avian influenza. Therefore, it appears that Common Kestrels become infected by feeding on birds infected with avian influenza. This is also an indication that Common Kestrels are more dependent on bird prey than was previously thought. However, infection via a contaminated environment cannot be ruled out.

The Peregrine Falcon

Figure 10: Peregrine Falcon. Photo: Vincent van Zalinge.

In 2025, avian influenza was once again a major cause of death for the peregrine falcon. Of the three birds examined, two tested positive for avian flu. It was already known that the peregrine falcon is susceptible to becoming seriously ill and even dying after an avian flu infection.

Roe deer

Roe Deer Blood Sample Research

Between March 2024 and April 2025, hunters, wildlife managers, and roadkill coordinators were able to send roe deer blood samples to the DWHC. The blood samples were collected for an RIVM study into areas where the tick-borne encephalitis virus occurs in ticks. The samples were also used for research into other diseases.

Figure 3: Roe deer. Photo: Dick Pasman.

Tick-borne encephalitis virus (TBE virus)

The tick-borne encephalitis virus (TBE virus) can cause disease in humans and is primarily transmitted to humans by infected ticks. Ticks carrying the TBE virus occur in localized pockets, and the roe deer is highly suitable for finding such pockets. This is because the roe deer is site-faithful and has a small territory, often carries ticks, and rarely becomes ill upon infection with the virus, although it does produce antibodies. Serological testing for antibodies against the TBE virus was performed using an ELISA test. In total, serological results were obtained for 312 roe deer. In 26 of these 312 (8%) roe deer, there were indications of antibodies against the TBE virus, or another closely related virus. Some of these positive cases were found at locations where ticks carrying the TBE virus were already known to occur; other cases originated from areas where the virus had not previously been found.

Epizootic Haemorrhagic Disease (EHD)

Serological testing for antibodies against the EHD virus was performed using an ELISA test. In total, serological results were obtained for 267 roe deer. In none of these roe deer was there any indication of antibodies against the EHD virus. Therefore, there is no indication of the occurrence of the EHD virus in roe deer in the Netherlands.

Bluetongue

The virological examination for bluetongue virus genetic material in the blood was performed using a PCR test on 270 roe deer blood samples. The test result was negative for 267 roe deer. For the other three, the result was dubious, meaning that the test showed a signal, but that it was below the cutoff value. It is therefore impossible to determine whether there is very little or no virus in the blood. It is therefore unclear for these three roe deer whether they were infected with bluetongue virus or not. The serological examination for antibodies against bluetongue virus was performed using an ELISA test. In total, there was a serological test result for 269 roe deer. In one of these, there was an indication of antibodies against the bluetongue virus (0.4%).

Roe deer therefore appear to contribute little to the spread of bluetongue virus in the Netherlands.

Read more about this project

Anaplasma

In May, a dead roe deer was found in North Brabant that tested positive for *Anaplasma phagocytophilum* ecotype 2 using PCR. This ecotype is not a zoonosis and is therefore not pathogenic to humans. *A. phagocytophilum* ecotype 1 can be transmitted to humans, but this was not found.

Hares and wild rabbits

In 2025, the DWHC pathologically examined 67 hares and 12 wild rabbits.

Figures 11 and 12: Photo of wild rabbit (above) and hare (below): by Dick Pasman

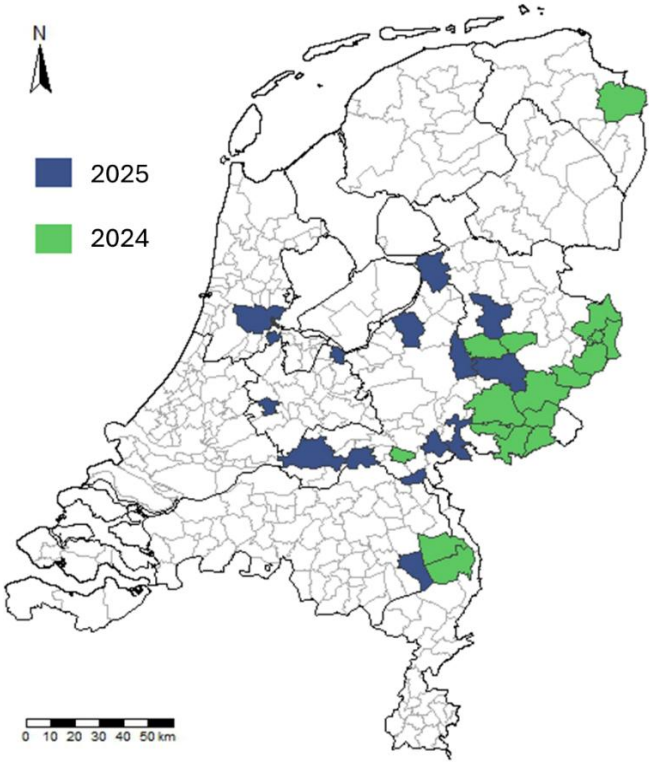

Figure 13. Map of the municipalities with confirmed hare myxomatosis cases (map of Nov 20, 2025). In green are the municipalities where the disease was first detected in 2024, and in purple are the municipalities where the disease was first detected in 2025.

Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease

Six wild European rabbits had a severe RHDV-2 infection. Four of the animals came from Limburg, one from North Holland, and one from Gelderland.

Read more about RHD

Hare Myxomatosis

In 2024, the new variant of myxomatosis (recombinant ha-MYXV) was found in the Netherlands for the first time. In 2025, this new variant was found at multiple locations in the Netherlands (Figure 13). In total, 34 of the 78 examined lagomorphs tested positive. These hares had thickened skin with inflammation around the eyes and nose, and around the genitals (Figure 14).

Read more about myxomatosis

Figure 14: Hare with ha-MYXV, thickenings and lesions near the eyes.

The Wolf

The DWHC makes an important contribution to the BIJ12 Wolf Plan (Figure 15) through research into dead wolves in the Netherlands. By examining factors including the cause of death, health status, and potential infectious diseases carried by the wolf, it becomes clear why wolves die, which diseases are present in wolves in the Netherlands, and what risks exist for other animals and humans. In 2025, 26 wolves were pathologically examined by the DWHC.

Figuur 6. Het Wolvenplan 2025 is geschreven door de provincies via de Wolvenwerkgroep. Bron: BIJ12.

Read the Wolf Plan of 2025

Appendix annual report 2025

Appendix 1 - List of examined animals

Amphibia: 5	Number
Smooth Newt *(Lissotriton vulgaris)*	2
Common Toad *(Bufo bufo)*	2
Common Midwife Toad *(Alytes obstetricans)*	1
Aves: 151	**Number**
Grey Heron (*Ardea cinerea*)	3
Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*)	1
Tawny Owl (*Strix aluco*)	1
Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*)	3
Western Marsh Harrier (*Circus aeruginosus*)	1
Common Buzzard (*Buteo buteo*)	7
Ruddy Shelduck (*Tadorna ferruginea*)	5
Duck (*Anatidae*)	2
Eurasian Magpie (*Pica pica*)	1
Common Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*)	2
Eurasian Jay (*Garrulus glandarius*)	2
Common Swift (*Apus apus*)	2
European Golden Plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*)	1
European Green Woodpecker (*Picus viridis*)	1
European Greenfinch (*Chloris chloris*)	3
Great Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos major*)	1
Sandwich Tern (*Thalasseus sandvicensis*)	4
Great Egret (*Ardea alba*)	3
Eurasian Goshawk (*Astur gentilis*)	3
Common Wood Pigeon (*Columba palumbus*)	3
Eurasian Woodcock (*Scolopax rusticola*)	1
House Sparrow (*Passer Domesticus*)	2
Jackdaw (*Coloeus monedula*)	6
Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*)	3
Nortern Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*)	1
Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*)	9
Great Tit (*Parus major*)	1
Redwing (*Turdus iliacus*)	2
Black Grouse (*Lyrurus tetrix*)	2
Crow (*Corvoidea*)	2
Common Crane (*Grus grus*)	1
Common Blackbird (*Turdus merula*)	10
Eagle Owl (*Bubo bubo*)	2
White Stork (*Ciconia ciconia*)	1
Blue Tit (*Cyanistes caeruleus*)	4
Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*)	3
European Robin (*Erithacus rubecula*)	1
Peregrine Falcon (*Falco Peregrinus*)	2
Eurasian Sparrowhawk (*Accipiter nisus*)	4
Feral Rock Dove (*Columba livia forma domestica*)	18
Little owl (*Athene noctua*)	1
Common Chiffchaff (*Phylloscopus collybita*)	2
Common Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*)	3
Eurasian Collared Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*)	6
Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*)	1
Eurasian Chaffinch (*Fringilla coelebs*)	1
Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*)	1
White Wagtail (*Motacilla alba alba*)	2
Song Thrush (*Turdus philomelos*)	4
White-tailed Eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*)	1
Carrion crow (*Corvus corone*)	2
Eurasian Blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla*)	3
Mammalia: 229	**Number**
Eurasian Beaver (*Castor fiber*)	3
European Pine marten (*Martes martes*)	1
European Polecat (*Mustela putorius*)	1
European Badger (*Meles meles*)	4
Red deer (*Cervus elaphus*)	2
European Hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*)	18
Natterer's bat (*Myotis nateri*)	6
Variegated squirrel (*Sciurus variegatoides*)	1
Common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*)	7
Brown Long-eared Bat (*Plecotus auritus*)	4
Harbor seal (*Phoca vitulina*)	6
European Hare (*Lepus europaeus*)	67
European Rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*)	12
Serotine bat (*Eptesicus serotinus*)	3
Pond bat (*Myotis dasycneme*)	2
Mouflon (*Ovis gmelinii*)	1
European mole (*Talpa europaea*)	2
Eurasian otter (*Lutra lutra*)	5
Roe deer (*Capreolus capreolus*)	31
Red squirrel (*Sciurus vulgaris*)	5
Nathusius's pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus nathusii*)	4
Beech marten (*Martes foina*)	1
Bat (*Chiroptera*)	1
Red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*)	8
Raccoon (*Procyon lotor*)	3
Common raccoon dog (*Nyctereutes procyonoides*)	1
Daubenton's bat (*Myotis daubentonii*)	2
Least weasel (*Mustela nivalis*)	2
Grey wolf (*Canis lupus*)	26
Reptilia: 2	**Number**
Loggerhead sea turtle(*Caretta caretta*)	2
Total	**387**

Appendix 2 – Bird flu results by bird species

All bird flu results by bird species from the monthly overview of highly pathogenic bird flu.

Table. Bird flu results by bird species

Species	*Latin*	Total	Positive
Cormorant	*Phalacrocorax carbo*	17	0
Common shelduck	*Tadorna tadorna*	13	2
Grey heron	*Ardea cinerea*	25	1
Barn swallow	*Hirundo rustica*	1	0
Jack snipe	*Lymnocryptes minimus*	1	1
Tawny owl	*Strix aluco*	1	1
Barnacle goose	*Branta leucopsis*	90	46
Western marsh harrier	*Circus aeruginosus*	1	0
Common buzzard	*Buteo buteo*	58	26
Casarca	*Tadorna ferruginea*	4	0
Black-legged kittiwake	*Rissa tridactyla*	1	1
Sanderling	*Calidris alba*	1	1
Dove	*Columba sp.*	9	0
Duck	*Anas sp.*	2	0
Common eider	*Somateria mollissima*	7	3
Magpie	*Pica pica*	7	0
Great crested grebe	*Podiceps cristatus*	4	1
Eurasian jay	*Garrulus glandarius*	3	0
Goose	*Anser sp.*	3	2
Swift	*Apus apus*	2	0
European golden plover	*Pluvialis apricaria*	1	0
Greylag goose	*Anser anser*	112	73
Picus viridis	*Green woodpecker*	2	0
Canada goose	*Branta canadensis*	38	12
Great black-backed gull	*Larus marinus*	5	2
Sandwich tern	*Thalasseus sandvicensis*	5	0
Great egret	*Ardea alba*	7	0
Northern goshawk	*Accipiter gentilis*	10	6
common wood pigeon	*Columba palumbus*	6	0
Eurasian woodcock	*Scolopax Rusticola*	2	0
Gannet	*Morus bassanus*	5	1
Red knot	*Calidris canutus*	2	1
Western jackdaw	*Corvus monedula*	11	0
Barn owl	*Tyto alba*	7	3
Northern lapwing	*Vanellus vanellus*	2	0
Little auk	*Alle alle*	1	0
Lesser black-backed gull	*Larus fuscus*	14	0
Pink-footed goose	*Anser brachyrhynchus*	2	0
Little egret	*Egretta garzetta*	1	0
Mute swan	*Cygnus olor*	96	41
Black-headed gull	*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*	38	6
Greater white-fronted Goose	*Anser albifrons*	24	14
Black grouse	*Lyrurus tetrix*	2	0
Crow	*Corvus corone*	6	0
Common crane	*Grus grus*	1	1
Gadwall	*Mareca strepera*	9	1
Tufted duck	*Aythya fuligula*	3	0
Duck	*Anas sp.*	1	0
Marbled duck	*Marmaronetta angustirostris*	1	0
Eurasian coot	*Fulica atra*	17	0

Gull	*Larus sp.*	2	0
Common blackbird	*Turdus merula*	1	0
Muscovy duck	*Cairina moschata*	9	5
Egyptian goose	*Alopochen aegyptiaca*	14	3
Northern fulmar	*Fulmarus glacialis*	1	0
Eurasian eagle-owl	*Bubo bubo*	3	2
White Stork	*Ciconia ciconia*	9	2
Duck	*Anas sp.*	1	0
Caspian gull	*Larus cachinnans*	1	1
Long-eared owl	*Asio otus*	3	0
Bean goose	*Anser fabalis*	1	1
Dark-bellied brent goose	*Branta bernicla*	4	1
Eurasian oystercatcher	*Haematopus ostralegus*	4	0
Peregrine falcon	*Falco peregrinus*	4	3
Northern shoveler	*Spatula clypeata*	1	0
Eurasian wigeon	*Anas penelope*	10	5
Duck	*Anas sp.*	6	1
Goose	*Anser sp.*	10	8
Eurasian sparrowhawk	*Accipiter nisus*	14	2
city pigeons	*Columba livia domestica*	11	0
Ruddy turnstone	*Arenaria interpres*	1	1
Little owl	*Athene noctua*	1	0
Mew gull	*Larus canus*	10	4
Tundra bean goose	*Anser serrirostris*	1	0
Common kestrel	*Falco tinnunculus*	11	5
Common redshank	*Tringa totanus*	1	1
Eurasian collared dove	*Streptopelia decaocto*	8	0
Short-eared owl	*Asio flammeus*	1	1
Common tern	*Sterna hirundo*	3	1
Common moorhen	*Gallinula chloropus*	5	0
Water rail	*Rallus aquaticus*	1	0
Mallard	*Anas platyrhynchos*	29	1
Whooper swan	*Cygnus cygnus*	1	1
Eurasian teal	*Anas crecca*	7	4
Eurasian curlew	*Numenius arquata*	5	5
white-tailed eagle	*Haliaeetus albicilla*	1	0
Common murre	*Uria aalge*	3	0
Herring gull	*Larus argentatus*	64	36
great egret	*Ardea alba*	1	0
Black scoter	*Melanitta nigra*	1	0
Mediterranean gull	*Ichthyaetus melanocephalus*	1	1
Totaal		**946**	**348**

Appendix 3 – Communication and knowledge sharing

Vakbladen / websites

- Montizaan, M., & Rijks, J. (2025). *Stand van zaken hazenonderzoek:* ***Myxomatose***. NOJG Jacht & Beheer, (202), 28.
- Montizaan, M., & Rijks, J. (2025). *Voortgang* ***nationale reeënsurveillance***. NOJG Jacht & Beheer, (202), 28.
- Rijks, J., & Bussi M. (2025). *Grofwildjagers gezocht voor het invullen van een korte vragenlijst over karkas en* ***ontweidsel***. NOJG Jacht & Beheer, (203), 54
- Rijks, J. (2025). *Resultaten* ***reeënsurveillance***. NOJG Jacht & Beheer, (205), 31
- Montizaan, M. & Rijks, J. (2025). ***Strong One Health.*** NOJG Jacht & Beheer, (207), 29
- Montizaan, M. & Rijks, J. (2025). ***Hazenmyxomatose***. KJV, de Jager, (7-8), 17
- Montizaan, M. (2025). ***Vogelgriep*** *blijft heersen*. KJV, de Jager, (4), 23
- KJV, *Toename vogelgriepgevallen*: https://www.jagersvereniging.nl/nieuws/toename-vogelgriepgevallen-in-meerdere-provincies/
- KJV, *Hazenmyxomatose*: https://www.jagersvereniging.nl/nieuws/hazenmyxomatose-vraagt-om-waakzaamheid-van-jagers/
- Nature Today, *Vogelgriep aangetroffen bij de torenvalk*: https://www.naturetoday.com/intl/nl/nature-reports/message/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=e-mail&utm_campaign=user-mailing&msg=33571
- Nature Today, *Vogelgriep vormt serieuze bedreiging voor slechtvalken in Nederland*: https://www.naturetoday.com/intl/nl/nature-reports/message/?msg=33282
- Nature Today, *Vogelgriep weer tot broedseizoen aanwezig: https://www.naturetoday.com/intl/nl/nature-reports/message/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=e-mail&utm_campaign=user-mailing&msg=33876*
- Nature Today, *Opnieuw toename vogelgriep onder wilde vogels?: https://www.naturetoday.com/intl/nl/nature-reports/message/?msg=34060*

Algemene media/krant

- de Volkskrant. (18 januari, 2025). *Na de dood van een wolf*. Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://www.volkskrant.nl/kijkverder/v/2025/na-de-dood-van-een-wolf~v1296937/
- Nederlandse Vereniging voor Pathologie. (2 april, 2025). *NVVP magazine*. Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://pathologie.nl/nvvp-magazine/
- Algemeen Dagblad. (29 juli, 2025). *Knaagdieren sterven pijnlijke dood door nieuw pokkenvirus, verwachting dat het verder uitbreidt*. Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://www.ad.nl/vijfheerenlanden/knaagdieren-sterven-pijnlijke-dood-door-nieuw-pokkenvirus-verwachting-dat-het-verder-uitbreidt~a077317f/
- Omroep Gelderland. (1 oktober, 2025). *Wolf op de snijtafel: uniek inkijkje bij laboratoria*. Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://www.gld.nl/nieuws/8373329/wolf-op-de-snijtafel-uniek-inkijkje-bij-laboratoria
- Omroep Flevoland. (23 oktober, 2025). *Onderzoek naar zieke zwanen: dier uit Lelystad had inderdaad vogelgriep*. Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://www.omroepflevoland.nl/nieuws/446265/onderzoek-naar-zieke-zwanen-dier-uit-lelystad-had-inderdaad-vogelgriep

- NOS. (z.d.). *Vogelgriep nu ook vastgesteld bij wilde vogels*. Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://nos.nl/artikel/2587572-vogelgriep-nu-ook-vastgesteld-bij-wilde-vogels
- Omroep Flevoland. (23 oktober). *Afwijkend gedrag bij zwanen in Lelystad mogelijk door vogelgriep*. Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://www.omroepflevoland.nl/nieuws/445400/afwijkend-gedrag-bij-zwanen-in-lelystad-mogelijk-door-vogelgriep
- NH Nieuws. (5 november, 2025). *Vogelgriep grijpt weer om zich heen in provincie: twaalf positieve tests*. Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://www.nhnieuws.nl/nieuws/354010/vogelgriep-grijpt-weer-om-zich-heen-in-provincie-twaalf-positieve-tests
- NRC. (12 november, 2025). *Zes meldingen van vogelgriep in één week, wat is er aan de hand?* Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://www.nrc.nl/nieuws/2025/11/12/zes-meldingen-van-vogelgriep-in-een-week-wat-is-er-aan-de-hand-a4912493
- NRC. (12 december, 2025). *Wolf Bram werd door de boswachter aanvankelijk met gejuich ontvangen, maar werd al snel een probleem voor de mensen*. Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://www.nrc.nl/nieuws/2025/12/12/wolf-bram-werd-door-de-boswachter-aanvankelijk-met-gejuich-ontvangen-maar-werd-al-snel-een-probleem-voor-de-mensen-a4913886
- Algemeen Dagblad. (18 december, 2025). *Patholoog Judith krijgt probleemwolf Bram op de snijtafel: niet eerder zo'n bekende wolf onderzocht*. Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://www.ad.nl/binnenland/patholoog-judith-krijgt-probleemwolf-bram-op-de-snijtafel-niet-eerder-zon-bekende-wolf-onderzocht~aa57fba8/
- RTV Utrecht. (19 december, 2025). *Utrechtse patholoog onderzoekt doodgeschoten wolf nauwkeurig*. Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://www.rtvutrecht.nl/nieuws/3983180/utrechtse-patholoog-onderzoekt-doodgeschoten-wolf-nauwkeurig
- Algemeen Dagblad. (5 juli, 2025). *Henri (66) werd gebeten door vleermuis met rabiës: 'Zag meteen dat het een grote was'*. Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://www.ad.nl/sliedrecht/henri-66-werd-gebeten-door-vleermuis-met-rabies-zag-meteen-dat-het-een-grote-was~ac815d46/

DWHC-website

1. Egel met pop-off syndroom
2. Vogelgriep vastgesteld bij vos
3. Opnieuw veel wilde vogels getroffen door vogelgriep
4. Extra waakzaamheid voor zoogdieren in verband met vogelgriep
5. Vogelgriep blijft heersen in Nederland
6. Slechtvalk en torenvalk DWHC speerpuntdieren 2025
7. Egel met zweren op de poten door *C. ulcerans* bacterie
8. Vogelgriep aangetroffen bij Torenvalk
9. Resultaten speerpuntdier 2024: de bever
10. Vogelgriep weer tot in broedseizoen aanwezig
11. Zoönosendossier van de faculteit Diergeneeskunde
12. Oude das dood door bacterie Streptococcus canis
13. Opkomende ziekte hazenmyxomatose blijven volgen in 2025
14. Duitsland: Afrikaanse varkenspestbesmetting in nieuw gebied
15. Neemt het aantal vogelgriepslachtoffers onder wilde vogels weer toe?

16. Speerpuntdieren 2025: resultaten van het eerste half jaar
17. Strong One Health: mens, dier, en milieu
18. Jaarrapport DWHC 2024
19. Resultaten reeënbloedmonsteronderzoek 2024-2025
20. Frankrijk: uitbraak LSD in nieuw departement, Rhône
21. DWHC bij Utrecht Science Week en Weekend van de Wetenschap
22. Vogelgriep vastgesteld op pluimveebedrijf in Drenthe
23. Onderzoek loopt naar signalen vogelgriep in het noorden van Nederland
24. Huidige situatie vogelgriepuitbraak: eerste positieve testresultaten binnen
25. H5N1-virus opnieuw wijd verspreid onder wilde vogels
26. Update verspreiding hazenmyxomatose
27. Een vogelgriepuitbraak: wat te doen?
28. Newcastle Disease gevonden in een duif in Groningen, onderzoek in andere gebieden loopt nog
29. Resultaten DWHC -speerpuntdieren Torenvalk en Slechtvalk
30. Edelhert met eikelintoxicatie

Bijeenkomsten

- BHS Science day, Utrecht – 14 januari 2025
- OH PACT annual meeting, Bunnik – 24 januari 2025
- Mission week zoonotic disease, Utrecht – 29 januari 2025
- EUPAHW klankbord bijeenkomst, Online – 30 januari 2025
- EUPAHW internal project brainstorming, Online – 10 februari 2025
- DSWH ALV, Utrecht – 25 februari 2025
- Opdrachtgeversoverleg, Online – 17 maart 2025
- Werkgroep West Nile Virus (WNV), Online – 25 maart 2025
- Dierentuindierenartsendag, Utrecht – 28 maart 2025
- Zoogdierdag, Arnhem (Burgers' Zoo) – 29 maart 2025
- Begeleidingscommissieoverleg, Utrecht – 1 april 2025
- Viruses in the night (VITN) consortium overleg, Utrecht – 2 april 2025
- Bezoek delegatie Universiteit Taiwan, Utrecht – 7 april 2025
- NVVP: Week van de Pathologie congres, Veenendaal – 10 april 2025
- Vogelgriepoverleg Friesland – 14 april 2025
- Veterinary Science Day 2025, Driebergen-Zeist – 15 mei 2025
- Input bestrijding muskusratten in Nederland, Utrecht – 16 mei 2025
- Presentatie Dierenambulance Amsterdam – 22 mei 2025
- Cost-Action Safe Game Meat Conference, Porto – 26 mei 2025
- Basisopleiding muskus- en beverratten – 28 mei 2025
- WOT onderzoeksdag WBVR, Lelystad – 3 juni 2025
- WBVR WOT dag (Wettelijke Onderzoeks Taken) – 3 juni 2025
- Bezoek DWHC aan WBVR, Lelystad – 16 juni 2025
- Opdrachtgeversoverleg, Online – 17 juni 2025
- Overleg wildlife onderzoek EMC-DWHC, Online – 19 juni 2025
- Bezoek Patrick Jansen, Utrecht – 19 juni 2025
- Workshop WG-WNV, Utrecht – 1 juli 2025

- Bezoek interprovinciaal overleg (IPO) en BIJ12, Utrecht – 4 juli 2025
- One Health Surveillance subgroup meeting, Parma – 6 juli 2025
- Kennis- en expertise agenda bijeenkomst wolf, Utrecht – 7 juli 2025
- Overleg Sovon, Utrecht – 10 juli 2025
- Input bestrijding muskusratten in Nederland, Utrecht – 11 juli 2025
- Webinar European Funding Opportunities for Biodiversity and Nature Projects, Online – 17 juli 2025
- Wolves Across Borders, Lunteren – 2 t/m 5 juni 2025
- NOJG-dag Oostvaardersplassen – 13 september 2025
- Bijeenkomst Klankbordgroep EU Partnership on Animal Health & Welfare – 18 september 2025
- Brainstormsessie Meet de Mees – 25 september 2025
- Stakeholdersdiner UU – 29 september 2025
- Bezoek Massimo Palmarini EMC – 29 september 2025
- Stakeholdersbijeenkomst Intensiveringsplan preventie vogelgriep – 30 september 2025
- Weekend van de Wetenschap – 5 oktober 2025
- Vogelgriep surveillance symposium EMC – 13 oktober 2025
- Adviescommissie, UU – 4 november 2025 Maandelijks:
- Signaleringsoverleg zoönosen (SO-Z), Nijkerk of online
- One health datasharing RIVM, RIVM of online
- AI-impact, online
- Landelijk platform vogelgriep, online

Drukwerk

- Bureaukalender DWHC
- Poster monitoring vogelgriep bij zoogdieren voor het Strong One Health project
- Verschillende casussen voor Weekend van de Wetenschap
- Flyer voorhet melden van vogels
- Algemene poster DWHC
- Visitekaartjes DWHC
- Notitieblokken DWHC
- Potloden DWHC

Presentaties en stands

- 22 mei 2025 – Dierenambulance Amsterdam: vogelgriep en hygiënemaatregelen
- 25–28 mei 2025 – COST Action Safe Game Meat Conference (Porto): algemeen DWHC
- 28 mei 2025 – Basisopleiding muskus- en beverratten: ziekten en virussen
- 17 juni 2025 – Dierenlot Academie: zoönosegeletterdheid wildopvangers
- 29 september 2025 – Stakeholdersdiner Universiteit Utrecht: infectieziekten (vogelgriep)
- 5 oktober 2025 – Weekend van de Wetenschap: algemeen DWHC
- 13–14 november 2025 – Global Wildlife Health Datasharing: algemeen DWHC
- 29 november 2025 – Landelijke Sovondag: vogels melden / stand

Overig

Ministerie van Volksgezondheid, Welzijn en Sport. (2025, 3 februari). *Tweede voortgangsrapportage van het Nationaal actieplan versterken zoönosenbeleid aan de Tweede Kamer*. Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://open.overheid.nl/documenten/d94b7338-a012-40ec-9bf7-5300bbeb64a7/file

Universiteit Utrecht. (2025, 5 februari). *Pathologisch onderzoek op dieren voelt als detectivewerk*. Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://www.uu.nl/organisatie/faculteit-diergeneeskunde/pathologisch-onderzoek-op-dieren-voelt-als-detectivewerk

Universiteit Utrecht. (2025, 24 juni). *Bericht over hazenmyxomatose gedeeld op LinkedIn (Faculteit Diergeneeskunde)*. Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://www.linkedin.com/posts/faculteit-diergeneeskunde-universiteit-utrecht_het-dutch-wildlife-health-centre-dwhc-van-activity-7342156567435177984

Dutch Wildlife Health Centre. (2025, 28 juli). *Nieuwsbrief DWHC – Zomer 2025*. Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://dwhc.nl/wp-content/uploads/sites/393/2025/07/Nieuwsbrief-%E2%80%93-Zomer-2025.pdf

NOJG. (2025, 20 augustus). *Update hazenmyxomatose*. Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://www.nojg.nl/dwhc-opkomende-ziekte-hazenmyxomatose-blijven-volgen-in-2025/

Universiteit Utrecht. (2025, 23 oktober). *Vogelgriepuitbraak (LinkedIn-bericht Faculteit Diergeneeskunde)*. Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7387134458660864001

Faunabeheereenheid Limburg. (2025, 20 oktober). *Hazenmyxomatose*. Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://limburg.faunabeheereenheid.com/nieuwsbrief-4e-kwartaal-2025-faunabeheereenheid-limburg/

BNNVARA. (2025, 7 december). *Vogelgriep* [Podcastaflevering van *Vroege Vogels*]. Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://www.nporadio1.nl/podcasts/vroegevogels/134435/kunstmatige-rivier-cheetah-en-rechten-voor-de-bij-7-december-2025

Spreekbuis Wildopvang. (2025, 8 december). *Vervoer van dode vogels met verdenking vogelgriep*. Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://spreekbuiswild.nl/vervoer-van-dode-vogels-met-verdenking-vogelgriep/

BHS. (2025, 17 december). *DWHC op weekend van de wetenschap* [Interne nieuwsbrief].

Dutch Wildlife Health Centre. (2025, 23 december). *Nieuwsbrief DWHC – Winter 2025*. Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://dwhc.nl/wp-content/uploads/sites/393/2025/12/DWHC-nieuwsbrief-%E2%80%93-Winter-2025.pdf

Dutch Wildlife Health Centre. (2025, december). *Vogelgrieponderzoek in vossen uit beheer- en schadebestrijding in Friesland 2024–2025*. Geraadpleegd op 31 maart 2026, van https://open.overheid.nl/documenten/e43733c0-58d1-4149-933b-314a39e1502f/file

Wetenschappelijke artikelen

Badia-Boher, J. A., Schaub, M., Mollet, M., van Geneijgen, P., van der Jeugd, H. P., Caliendo, V., & Kéry, M. (2026). Evaluating the demographic impacts of the highly pathogenic avian influenza panzootic. *Journal of Applied Ecology*, *63*(1), e70234. https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2664.70234

Begeman, L., Geschiere, M. J. M., de Boer, W. F., van den Brand, J. M. A., Eblé, P. L., van der Kerkhof, J. H. T. C., Keur, I., Lina, P.H.C., Reusken, C.B.E.M., de Rosa, M., Schillemans, M.J., Schreuder, I., Swaan, C.M., van Zoonen, K. & Kuiken, T. (2025). Human-bat contacts in the Netherlands, and potential risks for virus exchange. One Health Outlook, 7(1), 7. https://doi.org/10.1186/s42522-024-00132-6

Caliendo, V., Bellido Martin, B., Fouchier, R. A. M., Verdaat, H., Engelsma, M., Beerens, N., & Slaterus, R. (2024). Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Contributes to the Population Decline of the Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) in The Netherlands. Viruses, 17(1), 24. https://doi.org/10.3390/v17010024

Caliendo, V., Martin, B. B., Fouchier, R. A. M., Vuong, O., van den Brand, J. M. A., Leopold, M., & Kühn, S. (2025). Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Northern Fulmars (Fulmarus glacialis) in the Netherlands. Journal of wildlife diseases, 61(3), 792–796. https://doi.org/10.7589/JWD-D-24-00176

Fischer, L., de Bruin, E., Jongepier, E., Koffeman, E., König, P., Pfaff, F., Peters, M., van den Brand, J. M. A., Bussi, M., Fischer, D., Caliendo, V., Weerts, E., IJzer, J., Müller, J., Kühling, A. K., Kummerfeld, M., Müller, J., Petersen, H., Merbach, S., Beer, M., … Rijks, J. M. (2025). Recombinant Myxoma Virus in European Brown Hares, 2023-2024. Emerging infectious diseases, 31(8), 1608–1612. https://doi.org/10.3201/eid3108.241969

Giglia, G., Agliani, G., van Eijk, N. M. H. A., de Bruin, E., Fast, C., Sikkema, R. S., Oude Munnink, B. B., Mandara, M. T., Gröne, A., & van den Brand, J. M. A. (2025). Ocular and periocular Usutu virus-associated lesions in naturally infected Eurasian blackbirds (Turdus merula). Veterinary pathology, 3009858251324640. Advance online publication. https://doi.org/10.1177/03009858251324640

Münger, E., Atama, N. C., van Irsel, J., Blom, R., Krol, L., van Mastrigt, T., van den Berg, T. J., Braks, M., de Vries, A., van der Linden, A., Chestakova, I., Boter, M., Chandler, F. D., Kohl, R., Nieuwenhuijse, D. F., Uiterwijk, M., Fouchier, R. A. M., Sprong, H., Gröne, A., Koenraadt, C. J. M., Schrama, M., Reusken, C. B. E. M., Stroo, A., van den Brand, J. M. A., van der Jeugd, H. P., Oude Munnink, B. B., Sikkema, R. S., & Koopmans, M. P. G. (2025). One Health approach uncovers emergence and dynamics of Usutu and West Nile viruses in the Netherlands. Nature communications, 16(1), 7883. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-025-63122-w

Nederlof, R. A., Bruins-van Sonsbeek, L. G. R., Stumpel, J. B. G., van Bolhuis, H., Broens, E. M., IJzer, J., & Bakker, J. (2025). Yersinia pseudotuberculosis in Non-Domesticated Mammals and Birds in Captivity. Veterinary sciences, 12(2), 161. https://doi.org/10.3390/vetsci12020161

van de Bildt, M. W., Rijks, J. M., Jensen, T. H., Brasseur, S. M., Kik, M. J., Osterhaus, A. D., Gröne, A., Kuiken, T. & IJzer, J. (2025). Persistent Infection in Harbor Seals 12–13 Years after Phocine Distemper Virus Epizootics in 1988 and 2002, North Sea. *Emerging Infectious Diseases*, *31*(12), 2324-2327. doi: 10.3201/eid3112.250329

Wijburg, S. R., Montizaan, M. G. E., Broens, E. M., Gröne, A., Sprong, H., & Maas, M. (2025). Infectious Diseases in European Brown Hares (Lepus europaeus) Found Dead or Moribund in the Netherlands. Journal of wildlife diseases, 61(3), 642–653. https://doi.org/10.7589/JWD-D-24-00116