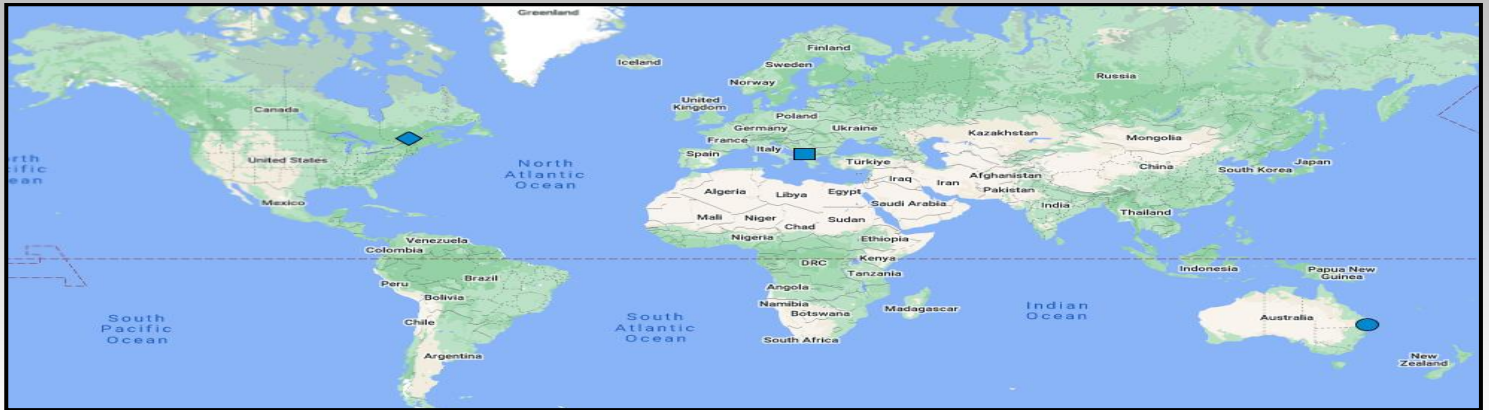


**SUMMARY: RELEVANT SIGNALS (includes all signals rated ≥3.0)**

**No relevant events to report this week**

**NEW EVENTS: (events rated > 2)**



**African Swine Fever in Albania**

**Pathogen:** virus; **Transmission:** direct contact, fomite, vector; **Species affected in event:** swine

① ASF has been reported in Albania for the first time. ASF was found in two wild boar in a forest in the Kukes region in North West Albania, close to its borders with North Macedonia and Montenegro, both of which have reported ASF outbreaks recently. The disease was confirmed by the Food Safety and Veterinary Institute on February 10 and reported to WOAHP on February 26. [Read More](#)

Avg. Rating	2.2 - 2.8
No. of Signal	2
No. of Ratings	4 - 5

**Varroosis of honeybees in Australia**

**Pathogen:** N/A - mite; **Transmission:** N/A; **Species affected in event:** honeybee

① A single *Varroa jacobsoni* mite was detected in one of six sentinel hives at the Port of Brisbane, Queensland. Confirmatory diagnosis was received on February 26, 2024 from the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO). Mitochondrial DNA *cox1* sequence data from the single mite revealed *Varroa jacobsoni* (Java 2 haplotype). This confirmation together with the location of the detection at the Port of Brisbane suggests this is a new introduction into Australia and not related to the current *Varroa destructor* incursion in New South Wales. A complete examination of the brood comb, hive debris and bees from the hive where the single mite was detected, has not resulted in further detections and indicates that reproduction has not occurred. [Read More](#)

Avg. Rating	2.7
No. of Signal	1
No. of Ratings	3

***Halicephalobus gingivalis* in Quebec**

**Pathogen:** parasite; **Transmission:** direct contact; **Species affected in event:** equine

① On February 5, 2024 an Icelandic gelding in Estrie, Quebec, was determined to be positive for *Halicephalobus gingivalis* based on histopathology. The horse was imported from Iceland over the summer and is now deceased. *Halicephalobus gingivalis* is a saprophytic nematode parasite that causes a rare form of fatal meningoencephalomyelitis in equids, humans, and ruminants. [Read More](#)

Avg. Rating	2.0 - 2.7
No. of Signal	2
No. of Ratings	3 - 4

## CONTINUED EVENTS: (events rated $\geq 2.4$ )

### **New World Screwworm in Costa Rica**

**No. of Signals: 01**

**No. of weeks in report: 03**

**Avg. Rating: 2.5**

- [Costa Rica](#) has reported its first human infection of new world screwworm; the case is a man from the Altamira de Pavones area, who visited the Ciudad Neilly hospital due to discomfort after suffering a fall

### **African Swine Fever in Europe**

**No. of Signals: 13**

**No. of weeks in report: 152**

**Avg. Rating: 2.0 – 2.4**

- [Estonia](#) has confirmed its first case of ASF in a wild boar
- [Norway](#) is stepping up controls against ASF and is now aiming for nationwide eradication of wild boar
- [Serbia](#) has reported cases of ASF in domestic swine
- [Serbia](#), [Ukraine](#), [Latvia](#), [Hungary](#), [Romania](#), [Poland](#), and [Italy](#) have reported cases of ASF in wild boar

### **Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in North America**

**No. of Signals: 03**

**No. of weeks in report: 105**

**Avg. Rating: 2.0 – 2.2**

- [Canada](#) has not reported any new outbreaks of HPAI over the last week
- Over the last week, the [USA](#) has reported outbreaks of HPAI in WOA non-poultry in: Minnesota(1), New York(1), and Ohio(1)
- [Florida](#) has reported HPAI in dead swans found in Lake Eola

### **Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Europe**

**No. of Signals: 13**

**No. of weeks in report: 167**

**Avg. Rating: 2.0**

- [Moldova](#), [Poland](#), and [Germany](#) have reported HPAI H5N1 in domestic poultry
- [Germany](#), [Slovenia](#), the [UK](#), [Ukraine](#), [Poland](#), and [Hungary](#) have reported HPAI H5N1 in wild birds
- A summary of the overall HPAI situation in Europe is available [here](#)

### **Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Asia**

**No. of Signals: 02**

**No. of weeks in report: 131**

**Avg. Rating: 2.0**

- [Taiwan](#) has reported an outbreak of HPAI H5N1 in a chicken farm in Jiali District
- [India](#) has reported additional outbreaks of HPAI in domestic poultry, in districts (Chittoor and Tirupat) surrounding the initial outbreak reported last week (Nellore)

## SCIENTIFIC FINDINGS, REPORTS, AND GUIDANCE:

### Coronavirus

- ◆ Whole-genome sequencing of SARS-CoV-2 from the initial cases of domestic cat infections in Canada [Read More](#)

### Influenza

- ◆ Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza A(H5N1) Viruses from Multispecies Outbreak, Argentina, August 2023 [Read More](#)
- ◆ Wild Bird-Origin H6N2 Influenza Virus Acquires Enhanced Pathogenicity after Single Passage in Mice [Read More](#)
- ◆ Genetic and Biological Characteristics of Duck-Origin H4N6 Avian Influenza Virus Isolated in China in 2022 [Read More](#)
- ◆ Epidemiological characteristics of human infections with avian influenza A(H5N6) virus, China and Laos: A multiple case descriptive analysis, February 2014–June 2023 [Read More](#)
- ◆ Species-specific emergence of H7 highly pathogenic avian influenza virus is driven by intrahost selection differences between chickens and ducks [Read More](#)
- ◆ Characterization of a human H3N8 influenza virus [Read More](#)
- ◆ Genetic Characterization and Phylogeographic Analysis of the First H13N6 Avian Influenza Virus Isolated from Vega Gull in South Korea [Read More](#)
- ◆ A highly pathogenic avian influenza virus H5N1 clade 2.3.4.4 detected in Samara Oblast, Russian Federation [Read More](#)
- ◆ Stable Isotope Analysis Reveals Common Teal (*Anas crecca*) Molting Sites in Western Siberia: Implications for Avian Influenza Virus Spread [Read More](#)
- ◆ Enzootic Circulation, Massive Gull Mortality and Poultry Outbreaks during the 2022/2023 High-Pathogenicity Avian Influenza H5N1 Season in the Czech Republic [Read More](#)

### Vectors and Vector-borne Diseases

- ◆ PAHO: Public health risk assessment related to Western Equine Encephalitis (WEE) virus in the Region of the Americas - 23 February 2024 [Read More](#)
- ◆ Earliest records of the Asian longhorned tick (Acari: Ixodidae) in Staten Island, New York, and subsequent population establishment, with a review of its potential medical and veterinary importance in the United States [Read More](#)
- ◆ Transboundary Tick and Tick-Borne Pathogen Threats to Cattle [Read More](#)
- ◆ The first reported cases of severe fever with thrombocytopenia syndrome virus from domestic sick camel to humans in China [Read More](#)
- ◆ Detection of arboviruses in *Aedes aegypti* through transovarian analysis: A study in Goiânia, Goiás [Read More](#)

### Other

- ◆ Diversity of astroviruses in wild animals in Yunnan province, China [Read More](#)
- ◆ WHO – Disease Outbreak News – Nipah virus infection – Bangladesh [Read More](#)
- ◆ SHIC Domestic Disease Monitoring Report – March 2024 [Read More](#)
- ◆ ECDC - Communicable disease threats report, 25 February – 2 March 2024, week 9 [Read More](#)

#### **Disclaimer**

This intelligence report is intended to provide information to risk managers about emerging and zoonotic disease events that could pose a threat to Canada. It is based on information signals acquired and selected from twenty-one distinct disease surveillance sources via the Knowledge Integration using Web-based Intelligence (KIWI) tool hosted on the Canadian Network for Public Health Intelligence (CNPHI) informatics platform. The report is based on the activities of the CEZD Community of Practice and subject to change based on evolving user needs.