

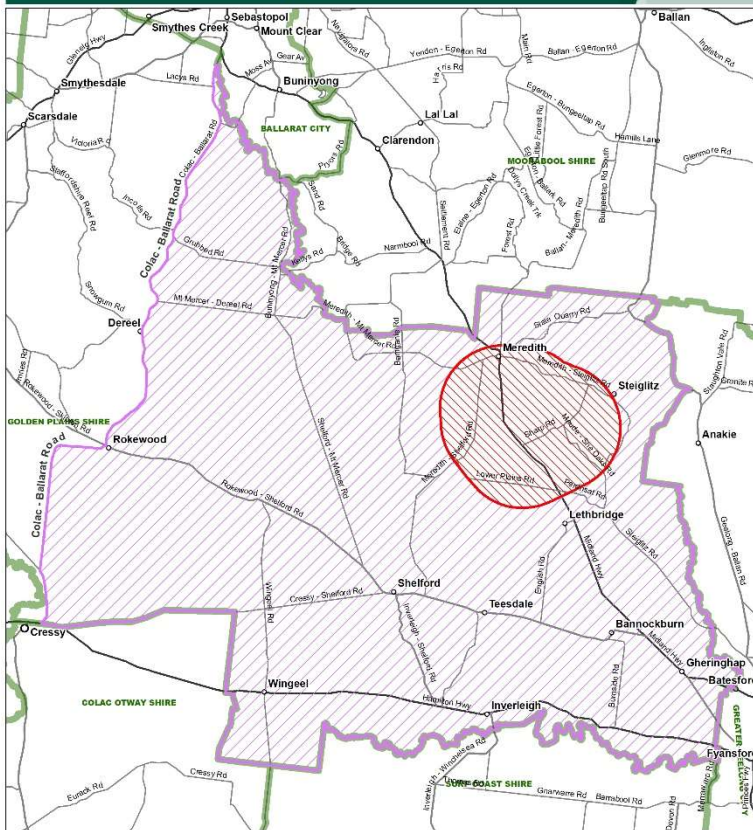
## Avian influenza Fact Sheet

Agriculture Victoria is responding to detections of avian influenza at two poultry farms.

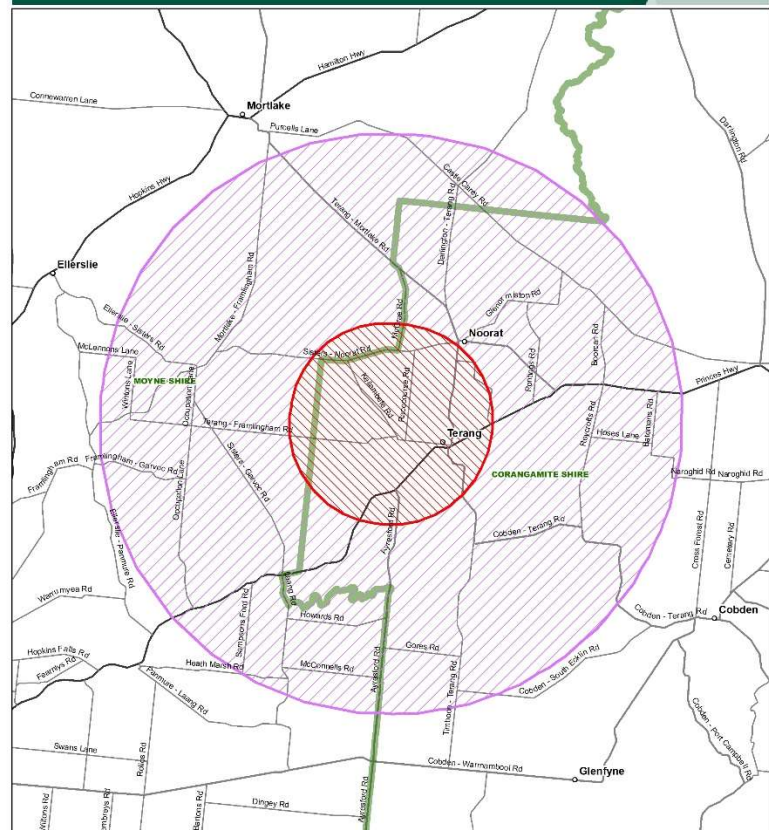
One, near Meredith, affected by an H7N3 strain, the other near Terang by an H7N9 strain.

These are two separate viruses and therefore, they are unrelated.

**Avian Influenza Restricted and Control Areas (Meredith)**  
31 May 2024



**Avian Influenza Restricted and Control Areas (Terang)**  
31 May 2024



Agriculture Victoria staff are on-the-ground working closely with the affected businesses to contain and eradicate the virus. Contact tracing and surveillance of poultry in the restricted and control areas are also underway to determine the source and spread of the infection.

## What you need to know

All poultry owners need to be vigilant for any signs of avian influenza in their flocks.

Avian influenza is an exotic notifiable disease. This means that legally you must tell us if you know of or suspect the presence of avian influenza in any birds without delay.

You can do this by immediately calling one of the following:

- the VicEmergency hotline on [1800 226 226](tel:1800226226)
- your local vet
- the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline [1800 675 888](tel:1800675888)

Good biosecurity practices remain essential to reduce the risk of disease. Visit 'Keeping backyard poultry' on the Agriculture Victoria website for more information.

## Clinical signs in birds

Clinical signs associated with avian influenza can include: sudden death, respiratory signs (noisy or rapid breathing, coughing, sneezing, increased nasal secretions), conjunctivitis, swelling of the head, reduced egg production and diarrhoea.

## Housing requirement

We have issued a housing requirement for all poultry within the restricted areas and control areas in Merdith and Terang.

Under the housing requirement all poultry farmers and backyard poultry owners must house or keep their poultry enclosed in cages or sheds.

If you don't have a building in which to house your poultry, then efforts should be made to separate them and their food and drink from contact with wild birds as they may be carrying avian influenza (e.g. by using netting).

Penalties apply for those who do not follow these restrictions.

## Movement restrictions

Movement permits are required for any movement of poultry or birds (alive or dead), manure, eggs, blood or equipment that has come into contact with poultry or birds.

**Scan the QR code to apply:**



**Current situation:**

To stay up to date, visit the Agriculture Victoria website

