

Lesions of highly pathogenic avian influenza in commercial poultry and domestic ducks

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Submissions from 52-week-old broiler breeders and 28-day-old broilers from separate farms exhibited increased mortality. Frequent gross lesions included splenomegaly, hepatomegaly, tracheitis, and pulmonary congestion. In both cases, necrotizing to fibrinoheterophilic splenitis was the most striking histologic lesion. Additional findings included tracheitis, interstitial pneumonia, rhinitis (case 2), and hepatic necrosis.

A flock of domestic ducks had a history of elevated mortality. Splenomegaly, hepatitis, and systemic hemorrhages were identified grossly. Histologic lesions included fibrinous and necrotizing splenitis, necrotizing hepatitis, tracheitis, and pulmonary congestion.

The National Veterinary Services Laboratory confirmed highly pathogenic avian influenza (Eurasian goose/Guangdong lineage H5N1 clade 2.3.4.4b) in all cases.