



Calling all Fraser Valley Commercial Poultry Producers!

We invite you to participate in a study on the role of barn ventilation on HPAI transmission.

To minimize biosecurity risks, all measurements will be taken outside barns and one barn will be studied at a time. There is no cost or compensation associated with participation.



WHY are we doing this project?

Understanding how highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) is transmitted among poultry farms is essential for preventing outbreaks. HPAI has the potential to be spread through air and different ventilation systems may impact the risk of airborne spread in different ways. We want to understand how poultry barn ventilation impacts local airflow patterns in a manner that could promote HPAI transmission [Study 1] and whether HPAI can be detected at ventilation intakes [Study 2].



WHAT is involved in Study 1?

We will use drone-mounted weather monitors to take measurements around and above barns 1) when the barn is empty and the ventilation system is disabled; 2) when the barn is empty and the ventilation system is on; and 3) when the barn is stocked and the ventilation system is on. These measurements will allow us to construct a three-dimensional model of the impact of ventilation on the local microclimate, which may help us to explain past outbreak patterns and predict future high-risk farms.



WHAT is involved in Study 2?

A Tisch TE-5170 High Volume Air Sampler will be placed outside the intake vents at Abbotsford poultry farms and will run continuously for approximately one week. The collected particulate matter will be tested for HPAI and other poultry pathogens.



WHEN will the project occur and WHO is eligible?

All commercial poultry producers in the Fraser Valley are eligible. Producers may participate in one or both studies. Study 1 will take place from June - December 2025 and participating producers will need to have at least one barn that will be empty and subsequently re-stocked during this period. Study 2 will take place from September - December 2025.

If you would like to learn more about this project or volunteer to participate, please contact us at Chief.Veterinarian@gov.bc.ca

