



**ANIMAL  
JUSTICE**



## **Animal Advocates, or Poor Farm Practices?**

**Disease Outbreaks & Biosecurity  
Failures on Canadian Farms  
2023 Report**

# Background

Since 2019, the animal agriculture industry has been pushing laws designed to reduce transparency on farms, which target and punish people who expose animal suffering in the animal farming sector. The meat, dairy, and egg industries have sought to stop undercover footage gathered by whistleblowing employees at factory farms, vigils outside slaughterhouses where animals are being shipped to their deaths, and the rare instances where people have protested or held sit-ins at farms, or entered to document conditions inside.

This has resulted in legislation that outlaws protest and documentary activities, collectively known as agricultural gag laws, or "ag gag" laws. Ag gag laws are commonly presented to the public as necessary to protect biosecurity, and to prevent disease outbreaks in animals who are warehoused on farms. The farming industry claims that animal advocates or any individuals approaching animals may introduce pathogens that will harm animals, farmers, food safety, and the economy.

Biosecurity is undoubtedly important. There are legitimate biosecurity concerns that arise due to industrial animal farming— which generally involves housing hundreds or up to tens of thousands of animals in cramped stressful conditions, before being shipped long distances to slaughter.

However, the biosecurity concerns raised by industry and legislators with respect to animal advocacy activities are largely misplaced. There is not a single case of animal advocacy activities causing harm to biosecurity in Canada. Rather, biosecurity is often used as a pretext to crack down on animal advocacy activities with disproportionate fines and jail time. Ag gag laws passed in Alberta, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, and Manitoba have focused on extreme punishment for employee whistleblowers, trespassers, and other protestors—instead of addressing the evidence-based risks to biosecurity and the public health threats that are

posed by standard practices in industrial animal agriculture.

There is no doubt that claims of disease risks make for good talking points. During debates on Bill C-275, a federal ag gag bill introduced on May 30, 2022, members of Parliament repeatedly—and inaccurately—stated that animal advocates who staged a sit-in at a pig farm in Saint-Hyacinthe, Quebec were responsible for introducing a disease to the farm. Yet authorities found no link between an outbreak of porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS) and the sit-in; genetic sequencing showed it was the same virus that had been present on the farm two years prior.

While animal advocates and protesters have never caused a disease outbreak in Canada, outbreaks caused by standard agricultural activities or biosecurity failures by producers are numerous and well-documented. Throughout the animal farming supply chain, there are numerous opportunities for infectious diseases to emerge and proliferate: from the crowded warehouses containing thousands of genetically-similar,

## Ag Gag Laws in Canada

Province	Status
Alberta	Passed (2019)
Ontario	Passed (2020)
Prince Edward Island	Passed (2020)
Manitoba	Passed (2020)
Canada	Introduced (2020) Failed (2021) Reintroduced (2022)

immunocompromised animals; using shared equipment like needles; allowing wild animals like birds to enter barns; to contaminated farm machinery moving between farms, spreading dangerous pathogens.

Ag gag bills are not rooted in evidence. Rather, the rhetoric of “biosecurity” and “keeping our food supply safe” has been used to support and pass draconian ag gag bills that silence and punish individuals for documenting and speaking out about the conditions of animals in Canada’s agricultural sector, without any meaningful action to improve biosecurity and address the true risks.

It is telling that during meetings of the federal Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food in June, 2023 concerning “biosecurity preparedness”, not a single witness or committee member mentioned whistleblowers, animal advocacy, or unwanted farm visitors as a biosecurity concern.<sup>1</sup>

This report seeks to set the record straight by shedding light on the documented causes of disease outbreaks in Canada.

## Analysis: Disease Outbreaks in Canadian Farming

This report summarizes data from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), which monitors and investigates reportable disease outbreaks in Canada. Reportable diseases are “usually of significant importance to human or animal health or to the Canadian economy.” The Reportable Diseases Regulations (SOR/91-2) list the various diseases that fall under this category, and the Health of Animals Act (S.C. 1990, c. 21) includes mandatory reporting requirements for persons who possess, care, or control animals and discover the presence of a reportable disease or

<sup>1</sup> Canada, Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food, Animal Security Preparedness, Closure of the Olymel Processing Plant in Vallée-Jonction, Food Price Inflation, 44th Parl, 1st Sess (June 5, 2023). <https://www.ourcommons.ca/DocumentViewer/en/44-1/AGRI/meeting-66/minutes>

toxic substance.

Many of the diseases identified, particularly the larger disease outbreaks, have been thoroughly investigated by CFIA officials to determine the source and contributing factors of the outbreaks. Animal advocacy or protests on or near farming facilities have never been identified as causing a disease outbreak, nor are such protests identified as risk factors. The biosecurity concerns identified in many outbreaks were related to poor farming practices, and many can be traced directly back to the actions of farm owners and operators.

For instance, COVID-19 was detected on three mink farms in British Columbia between December, 2020 and May, 2021. The original source of infection at two of the three farms was confirmed to be COVID-19 infections in farm workers, with data also suggesting that the strain found on the third farm originated from human cases. The proliferation of COVID-19 on mink farms is of grave concern, given the potential for the virus to mutate in minks. This inherent risk led British Columbia to ban mink farming as of 2023.<sup>2</sup>

As of July, 2023, more than 7.6 million birds have been impacted by the avian flu outbreak which began in December, 2021. In several cases, farm workers have been found to have spread the disease. There have been no reports of animal advocates contributing to the spread.

Despite the risk to farms, animals, and the economy posed by disease outbreaks, biosecurity on farms is not comprehensively regulated at the federal level. The CFIA publishes voluntary biosecurity guidelines for some animal farming sectors, developed in cooperation with industry and government.<sup>3</sup> Adherence to these standards

<sup>2</sup> Canada, Public Health Agency, SARS-CoV-2 wildlife surveillance surrounding mink farms in British Columbia, Canada, by Talia Strong et al., Volume 48-6, June 2022: Vector Borne Infections-Part 2: Wildlife & Companion Animals. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/reports-publications/canada-communicable-disease-report-ccdr/monthly-issue/2022-48/issue-6-june-2022/sars-cov-2-wildlife-surveillance-mink-farms-british-columbia.html>

<sup>3</sup> Canadian Food Inspection Agency. National Biosecurity Standards and Biosecurity Principles. Government of Canada. <https://inspection.canada.ca/animal-health/terrestrial-animals/biosecurity/standards-and-principles/eng/1344707905203/1344707981478>

is not a legal requirement. Provincial legislation varies, and tends to empower officials to respond to existing biosecurity hazards instead of prescribing rules that farmers must follow to prevent disease outbreaks.

Scholarly research has shown that Canadian farms demonstrate poor adherence to these voluntary biosecurity protocols. In a 2019 study, researchers found poor adoption of infection spread reduction measures on Canadian dairy farms, with a majority of farms not adopting sanitary practices. Less than 15 percent of farms had measures in place to limit or control visitors coming onto farms, with only half requiring visitors to adhere to infection minimization processes like changing boots and clothing. The researchers concluded that many important biosecurity practices are not being implemented on Canadian dairy farms.<sup>4</sup> A study examining biosecurity practices on Ontario rabbit farms amid a province-wide disease outbreak of enterocolitis found a lack of consistent adherence to on-farm biosecurity practices, which was a likely contributor to disease transmission within and between farms.<sup>5</sup>

Another study used hidden cameras to evaluate biosecurity protocol adherence on dozens of Quebec chicken farms, and found poor compliance.<sup>6</sup> Personnel regularly disregarded biosecurity measures, including a failure to respect boundaries between clean and contaminated areas, inadequate handwashing, and failure to properly change boots and clothing. The researchers concluded that the nature and

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4 Denis-Robichaud, J., Kelton, D.F., Bauman, C., Barkema, H.W. (2019) Biosecurity and herd health management practices on Canadian dairy farms. *Journal of Dairy Science*. 2019 July 102(10). [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/334660417\\_Biosecurity\\_and\\_herd\\_health\\_management\\_practices\\_on\\_Canadian\\_dairy\\_farms](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/334660417_Biosecurity_and_herd_health_management_practices_on_Canadian_dairy_farms)

5 Kylie, J., Brash, M., Whiteman, A., Tapscott, B., Slavic, D., Weese, J.S., Turner, P. V. (2017) Biosecurity practices and causes of enteritis on Ontario meat rabbit farms. *Canadian Veterinary Journal*. 2017 Jun; 58(6): 571-578. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5432143/>

6 Racicot, M., Venne, D., Durivage, A., Vaillancourt, J. (2011) Description of 44 biosecurity errors while entering and exiting poultry barns based on video surveillance in Quebec, Canada. *Preventative Veterinary Medicine*. 2011 July 1;100(3-4): 193-9. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/21605922/>

frequency of errors suggest a lack of understanding of biosecurity principles.

In the absence of a comprehensive regulatory regime, the CFIA has developed a biosecurity guide to assist producers in developing on-farm biosecurity plans and adhere to standards to prevent the emergence and spread of diseases. The guide provides a list of possible sources (or vectors) for infectious organisms.

These include:

- live animals;
- dead or sick animals;
- animal products;
- family, staff, and visitors;
- clothing;
- equipment;
- vehicles and transportation;
- feed and water;
- feces and urine;
- birds, wildlife, and other animals;
- pests; and
- air (aerosols or particulates).<sup>7</sup>

While visitors to farms are possible sources of infectious organisms, most of the vectors identified are inherent risks that are unique to animal agriculture as a food production system. That is, a visitor will generally only pose a significant risk to biosecurity if that visitor has recently been at another animal agriculture facility. Considering the number, frequency, and severity of disease outbreaks in the Canadian animal agriculture sector that have posed significant risks to animals, producers, food safety, and the public, prudent regulatory measures to address biosecurity should focus on the gaps and failures within the sector that have historically caused these outbreaks. Ag gag laws that harshly punish whistleblowers and animal advocates are a distraction from the true biosecurity vulnerabilities in the animal agriculture system.

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7 Canadian Food Inspection Agency. (2013, July 22). National Farm-Level Biosecurity Planning Guide Proactive Management of Animal Resources. Government of Canada.

## Reportable Diseases in Canada Since 2000

Disease	Date of Reported Incidents	Location of Outbreak	Number of Incidents	Animals Affected
Avian influenza	2004-2006, 2007, 2009-2010, 2014-2016, 2021-2023	BC, SK, MB, ON, QB, PEI, AB, NB, NL, NS	365+	Ducks, turkeys, chickens, geese
Anthrax	2006	SK, MB	146	Cows, horses, bison, sheep, goats
Bluetongue	2015	ON	2	Cows
Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE)	2003, 2007-2011, 2015, 2021	AB	20	Cows
Bovine tuberculosis	2011, 2016, 2018	BC, AB, SK	3	Cows
Chronic wasting disease	2000-2004, 2006-2023	AB, SK, QC	140	Deer, elk
Cysticercosis	2013, 2015, 2018	AB, ON, QC	3	Cows
Equine infectious anemia	2011-2023	BC, AB, SK, MB, QC, YK	258	Horses
Scrapie (TSE)	2009-2019	AB, SK, MB, ON, QC, NS	65	Sheep, goats
Trichinellosis	2013	ON	1	Pigs

## Other Notable Diseases in Canada

Disease	Date of Reported Incidents	Location of Outbreak	Number of Incidents	Animals Affected
Aleutian disease pavovirus	2007	NL	1	Minks
Anaplasmosis	2013, 2016, 2019, 2021	ON	4	Cows
Infectious Laryngotracheitis (ILT)	2020-2021	ON	7	Chickens
Porcine Epidemic Diarrhoea (PED)	2014-2021	AB, MB, ON, QC, PEI	370+	Pigs
SARS-CoV-2	2020	BC	2	Minks
Swine Influenza	2009 (H1N1), 2020 (H1N2)	AB	2	Pigs

### Notes

- Information sources used for all tables are located at the end of this report
- Some reportable disease data prior to 2011 missing as not accessible on the CFIA website
- Reportable diseases unrelated to the production of animals for agricultural purposes are excluded
- Unless otherwise specified, 'incidents' refers to the number of herds, farms, or unique disease outbreaks, rather than the number of animals infected by the disease

# Notable Disease Outbreaks

## Porcine Epidemic Diarrhoea (PED)

Disease information	Coronavirus that infects the cells lining the small intestine of a pig, causing porcine epidemic diarrhoea, a condition of severe diarrhea and dehydration
Number of outbreaks	370+ (AB, MB, ON, QC, PEI)
Probable cause, risk factors	Contaminated trailers, contaminated feed products
Transmissible to humans	No
Result of outbreak	Nationwide outbreaks, interprovincial and transborder transmission, high piglet mortality, animal culls
Transmission by animal advocates	No

**“PED virus is highly infectious and can be easily spread to farms through contaminated trailers . . . Abattoir contamination can result in the transmission of PED virus to farms from livestock trailers that have been at those facilities.”**

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs website

## Avian Influenza

Disease information	Variety of influenza caused by viruses adapted to birds
Number of outbreaks	365+ (BC, SK, MB, ON, QB, PEI, AB, NB, NL, NS)
Probable cause, risk factors	Contact with farming personnel, wild birds
Transmissible to humans	Yes
Result of outbreak	Mass extermination of tens of millions of animals, significant economic impact
Transmission by animal advocates	No

**“The likely source of infection for this premises was a breach in biosecurity. CFIA staff on site reported significant numbers of small rodents within the barns as well as at least seven wild birds observed in one of the barns following destruction. Additionally, there were reports of wild waterfowl on the property in the weeks preceding infection.”**

*CFIA investigation into an avian influenza outbreak in Ontario, 2015*

## Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE)

Disease information	Progressive, fatal disease of the nervous system of cows
Number of outbreaks	20 (AB)
Probable cause, risk factors	Feeding animals to animals, contaminated feed products, rendering, carcass disposal
Transmissible to humans	Yes (Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease)
Result of outbreak	Extermination of cows, significant economic impact
Transmission by animal advocates	No

**“The Investigation revealed that the truck used to transport grains on farm was also used to pick up poultry feeds containing prohibited material from the commercial supplier.”**

*CFIA investigation into BSE Case #17, dairy cow in Alberta, 2015*

# Disease Outbreaks on Farms: Causes & Results

Date	Location of Outbreak	Affected Animals	Nature of Oubreak	Result of Outbreak	Transmissible to Humans	Cause	Caused by Animal Advocates
March 2023 - April 2023	2 in SK, 2 in AB	Deer, elk	Chronic wasting disease	Killing and disposal	Possible	Prion disease	No
Feb 2023	AB	Horses	Equine infectious anemia	Killing and disposal	No	No definitive source, most commonly spread by insects, shared needles, equipment	No
2023 - various	1 in AB, 9 in BC, 1 in NB, 2 in NS, 4 in ON, 24 in QB	Chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese	Avian influenza	Millions of birds killed and culled	Yes	Various sources including wild migratory birds, wind transmission, and spreading by personnel	No
2022 - various	9 in AB, 2 in SK, 1 in BC	Horses	Equine infectious anemia	Killing and disposal	No	No definitive source, most commonly spread by insects, shared needles, equipment	No
2022 - various	4 in SK, 2 in AB	Deer, elk	Chronic wasting disease	Killing and disposal	Possible	Prion disease	No
2022 - various	60 in AB, 95 in BC, 21 in MB, 1 in NB, 1 in NL, 4 in NS, 43 in ON, 23 in QB, 32 in SK	Chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese	Avian influenza	Millions of birds killed and culled	Yes	Various sources including wild migratory birds, wind transmission, and spreading by personnel	No
Dec 2021	NL	Chickens, ducks, geese	Avian influenza	360 birds killed and 59 culled	Yes	Wild birds	No

Date	Location of Outbreak	Affected Animals	Nature of Oubreak	Result of Outbreak	Transmissible to Humans	Cause	Caused by Animal Advocates
Dec 2021	AB	Cows	Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) case #20	Euthanasia and control of SRM (Specified Risk Materials) in animal feed	Yes	Feeding animals to animals	No
2021 - various	1 in SK, 13 in AB, 1 in YK, 5 in BC	Horses	Equine infectious anemia	Killing and disposal	No	No definitive source, most commonly spread by insects, shared needles, equipment	No
2021 - various	8 in SK, 5 in AB	Deer, elk	Chronic wasting disease	Killing and disposal	Possible	Prion disease	No
Feb 2021	2 in SK	Elk	Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)	Killing and disposal	Possible	Prion disease	No
Dec 2020- Jan 2021	Multiple farms in ON	Chickens	Infectious Laryngeotracheitis (ILT)	High mortality - 187,000 birds so far	No	Farm biosecurity gaps	No
2020 - various	9 in AB, 5 in SK	Deer, elk	Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)	Killing and disposal	Possible	Prion disease	No
Dec 2020	2 in BC	Minks	SARS-CoV-2	Culls	Yes	Farm biosecurity gaps	No
2020 - various	Multiple farms in ON	Birds	Infectious Bronchitis Virus (IBV)	Bird mortality	No	No definitive source	No
2020 - various	3 in MB	Pigs	Porcine Epidemic Diarrhoea Virus (PED)	Piglet mortality	No	Possible infected trailers	No
2019 - various	1 in BC, 6 in AB, 5 in SK	Horses	Equine Infectious Anemia	Killing and disposal	No	Shared needles, equipment	No



<b>Date</b>	<b>Location of Outbreak</b>	<b>Affected Animals</b>	<b>Nature of Outbreak</b>	<b>Result of Outbreak</b>	<b>Transmissible to Humans</b>	<b>Cause</b>	<b>Caused by Animal Advocates</b>
2019 - various	82 in MB	Pigs	Porcine Epidemic Diarrhoea Virus (PED)	Piglet mortality	No	Possible infected trailers	No
Jun 2019	2 in AB	Sheep	Scrapie (TSE)	Killing and disposal	No	Prion disease	No
2019 - various	Multiple farms in ON	Birds	Infectious Bronchitis Virus (IBV)	Bird mortality	No	No definitive source	No
2019 - various	3 in AB	Deer, elk	Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)	Killing and disposal	Possible	Prion disease	No
Nov 2018	Southern Interior, BC slaughtered in AB	Cows	Bovine Tuberculosis	1,050 cows killed, \$3.8m in compensation	Yes	No definitive source	No
2018 - various	1 in BC, 8 in AB, 1 in SK	Horses	Equine Infectious Anemia	Killing and disposal	No	Shared needles, equipment	No
Jan 2018	2 in MB	Goats	Scrapie (TSE)	Killing and disposal	No	Prion disease	No
May 2018	ON	Cattle	Cysticercosis	Killing and disposal	Yes	Tapeworm, human feces	No
2018 - various	4 in SK, 1 in QC, 1 in AB	Deer, elk	Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)	Killing and disposal	Possible	Prion disease	No
2017 - various	6 in AB, 4 in SK, 7 in MB, 2 in QC	Horses	Equine Infectious Anemia	Killing and disposal	No	Shared needles, equipment	No
2017 - various	90 in MB	Pigs	Porcine Epidemic Diarrhoea Virus (PED)	Piglet mortality	No	Possible infected trailers	No
2017 - various	6 in SK	Deer, elk	Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)	Killing and disposal	Possible	Prion disease	No

Date	Location of Outbreak	Affected Animals	Nature of Outbreak	Result of Outbreak	Transmissible to Humans	Cause	Caused by Animal Advocates
2017 - various	6 in MB, 1 in AB, 1 in SK, 1 in QC	Sheep, goats	Scrapie (TSE)	Killing and disposal	No	Prion disease	No
2016 - various	3 in ON	Pigs	Porcine Epidemic Diarrhoea Virus (PED)	Piglet mortality	No	Possible infected trailers	No
Sep 2016	Jenner, AB	Cows	Bovine Tuberculosis	12,000 cows killed, \$39m in compensation	Yes	No definitive source	No
2016 - various	2 in QC, 1 in ON	Sheep, goats	Scrapie (TSE)	Killing and disposal	No	Prion disease	No
Jul 2016	St. Catharines, ON	Ducks	H5N2 Avian Influenza	14,000 ducks killed	Yes	No definitive source	No
2016 - various	5 in SK, 1 in AB	Deer, elk	Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)	Killing and disposal	Possible	Prion disease	No
2016 - various	1 in AB, 9 in SK	Horses	Equine Infectious Anemia	Killing and disposal	No	Shared needles, equipment	No
2015 - various	1 in QC, 2 in ON	Sheep, goats	Scrapie (TSE)	Killing and disposal	No	Prion disease	No
Apr 2015	Woodstock, ON	Turkeys, chickens	H5N2 Avian Influenza	Depopulation	Yes	Migratory waterfowl, wind transmission	No
2015 - various	4 in SK, 2 in AB	Deer, elk	Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)	Killing and disposal	Possible	Prion disease	No
Aug 2015	QC	Cows	Cysticercosis	Killing and disposal	Yes	Tapeworm, human feces	No
2015 - various	10+ in ON	Pigs	Porcine Epidemic Diarrhoea Virus (PED)	Piglet mortality	No	Possible infected trailers	No

Date	Location of Outbreak	Affected Animals	Nature of Outbreak	Result of Outbreak	Transmissible to Humans	Cause	Caused by Animal Advocates
Aug & Sep 2015	ON	Cows	Bluetongue	No treatment	No	Insects	No
2015 - various	3 in YK, 5 in AB, 9 in BC, 11 in SK	Horses	Equine Infectious Anemia	Killing and disposal	No	Shared needles, equipment	No
Feb 2015	AB	Cow	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) case #19	Control of SRM (Specified Risk Materials) in animal feed	Yes	Feeding animals to animals	No
2014 - various	1 in QC, 6 in ON	Sheep, goats	Scrapie (TSE)	Killing and disposal	No	Prion disease	No
Dec 2014	Fraser Valley, BC	Chickens, turkeys	H5N2 Avian Influenza	Depopulation (13 farms)	Yes	Contact with wild birds, spread by personnel	No
2014 - various	1 in AB, 20 in SK	Horses	Equine Infectious Anemia	Killing and disposal	No	Shared needles, equipment	No
2014 - various	5 in SK	Elk	Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)	Killing and disposal	Possible	Prion disease	No
Jan 2014	ON (60+ farms), MB, PEI, QC	Pigs	Porcine Epidemic Diarrhoea Virus (PED)	Piglet mortality	No	Possible infected trailers	No
2013 - various	ON, MB	Cows	Anaplasmosis	Unknown	Possible	Ticks	No
2013 - various	5 in BC, 6 in AB, 27 in SK	Horses	Equine Infectious Anemia	Killing and disposal	No	Shared needles, equipment	No
Apr 2013	AB	Cows	Cysticercosis	Killing and disposal	Yes	Tapeworm, human feces	No

Date	Location of Outbreak	Affected Animals	Nature of Outbreak	Result of Outbreak	Transmissible to Humans	Cause	Caused by Animal Advocates
2013 - various	3 in QC, 1 in ON	Sheep, goats	Scrapie (TSE)	Killing and disposal	No	Prion disease	No
Jan 2013	ON	Pigs	Trichinellosis	Slaughtered, consumed	Yes	Roundworms	No
2013 - various	4 in SK	Deer, elk	Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)	Killing and disposal	Possible	Prion disease	No
2012 - various	6 in ON, 4 in QC, 1 in AB	Sheep, goats	Scrapie (TSE)	Killing and disposal	No	Prion disease	No
2012 - various	2 in SK	Elk	Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)	Killing and disposal	Possible	Prion disease	No
2012 - various	4 in YK, 2 in BC, 7 in AB, 29 in SK	Horses	Equine Infectious Anemia	Killing and disposal	No	Shared needles, equipment	No
May 2011	Lumby region, BC	Cows	Bovine Tuberculosis	200 cows killed	Yes	Feeding animals to animals	No
2011 - various	3 in QC, 3 in ON, 1 in NS	Sheep, goats	Scrapie (TSE)	Killing and disposal	No	Prion disease	No
2011 - various	4 in SK	Deer, elk	Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)	Killing and disposal	Possible	Prion disease	No
Feb 2011	AB	Cow	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) - case #18	Control of SRM (Specified Risk Materials) in animal feed	Yes	Feeding animals to animals	No
2011 - various	4 in AB, 2 in BC, 3 in QC, 15 in SK	Horses	Equine Infectious Anemia	Killing and disposal	No	Shared needles, equipment	No
Nov 2010	Near Winnipeg, MB	Turkeys	H5N2 Avian Influenza	In-barn biologic heat treatment & disposal on farm	Yes	Contact with wild birds	No

Date	Location of Outbreak	Affected Animals	Nature of Outbreak	Result of Outbreak	Transmissible to Humans	Cause	Caused by Animal Advocates
2010 - various	6 in QC, 2 in ON, 2 in AB, 1 in SK	Sheep	Scrapie (TSE)	Killing and disposal	No	Prion disease	No
Feb 2010	AB	Cows	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) - case #17	Control of SRM (Specified Risk Materials) in animal feed	Yes	Feeding animals to animals	No
May 2009	AB	Cows	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) - case #16	Control of SRM (Specified Risk Materials) in animal feed	Yes	Feeding animals to animals	No
2009 - various	2 in QC, 2 in ON, 1 in SK, 1 in AB	Sheep	Scrapie (TSE)	Killing and disposal	No	Prion disease	No
Apr 2009	Central AB	Pigs	H1N1 Swine Influenza	Herd culled, disinfection	Yes	No definitive source	No
Jan 2009	Fraser Valley, BC	Turkeys	H5N2 Avian Influenza	Depopulation & burial on site	Yes	No definitive source	No
Dec 2007- Aug 2008	AB	Cows	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) - cases #11-15	Control of SRM (Specified Risk Materials) in animal feed	Yes	Feeding animals to animals	No
Sep 2007	Regina Beach, SK	Chickens	H7N3 Avian Influenza	Depopulation & burial on site	Yes	Contact with wild birds	No
2007	NFLD	Minks	Aleutian Disease Parvovirus	Unknown	No	No definitive source	No
Aug 2007	BC and AB	Cows	Bovine Tuberculosis	470 cows killed	Yes	No definitive source	No
Aug 2006	129 in SK, 17 in MB	Cows, horses, bison, sheep, goats	Anthrax	> 146 farms affected	Yes	Anthrax spores	No

Date	Location of Outbreak	Affected Animals	Nature of Outbreak	Result of Outbreak	Transmissible to Humans	Cause	Caused by Animal Advocates
Feb 2004	Fraser Valley, BC	Chickens, turkeys	H7N3 Avian Influenza	Depopulation (19 million birds)	Yes	Contact with wild birds, spread by personnel	No
2003-2007	AB	Cows	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) - 10 cases	Control of SRM (Specified Risk Materials) in animal feed	Yes	Feeding animals to animals	No



Photo: Canada, 2022. By Julie LP / We Animals Media

# Resources Accessed

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