

Restrictions lifted at British bird flu farm

December 21 2014

Britain on Sunday lifted all restrictions at a duck farm in northern England after last month's outbreak of H5N8 bird flu, the same strain seen in recent cases across Europe.

"All restrictions following the [outbreak](#) of Avian Flu in Yorkshire last month have now been lifted," the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs said in a statement.

"This means that all poultry-keeping farms within the 10-kilometre (six-mile) surveillance zone around the infected property are now allowed to move poultry and other animals without restriction.

"Other restrictions covering the storage, transport and sourcing of meat products are also lifted."

Chief vet Nigel Gibbens added: "Protecting our country from animal diseases is important for our economy, and our robust and thorough approach to tackling this outbreak means we are able to lift these [restrictions](#) at the earliest possible point allowed by EU law."

Some 6,000 ducks were culled at the breeding farm near Driffield, east Yorkshire, following the confirmation of the outbreak on November 16.

H5N8 appears to be similar to a virus that has been infecting birds in China, Japan and South Korea since the beginning of the year, the World Health Organization said.

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