

German zoo shuts down after bird flu kills emu

November 25 2016

A zoo in northern Germany has been temporarily closed after an emu died of bird flu.

Ueckermuende zoo director Katrin Toepke told the dpa news agency Friday that the emu had died of the H5N8 strain of the virus, which can easily spread among birds but isn't known to infect humans.

As a precaution, the zoo in northeastern Germany near the Polish border was shut down as veterinary officials determine how to protect the other birds in the facility, including swans, storks and many varieties of ducks.

The H5N8 strain of [bird flu](#) has been found this year in wild birds in 12 of Germany's 16 states, and in [poultry farms](#) in four states.

It has also been detected in several other European countries, including Denmark, Austria and Switzerland.

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