

What is it? A viral infection that affects

**Domestic Birds Small Flocks** 

**Birds** 

Wild

Flies

There are also theories that the virus can be spread airborne short distances, and by flies.

Waterfowl (wild and domesticated) are the primary natural reservoir of influenza viruses. Wild waterfowl usually do not show clinical signs, but they can excrete the virus for long periods of time. In addition, waterfowl can be infected with more than one type of influenza virus. Detection is further complicated by the fact that they often do not develop a detectable antibody response after exposure to the virus.

Influenza virus has been isolated from turkey eggs suggesting vertical transmission, although typically the virus kills the embryo. There is little or no evidence of egg-borne infection of poults. However, eggshell surfaces can be contaminated with the influenza virus, and

thus are a means of transmission.

## Avian influenza H5N2 - 2015

