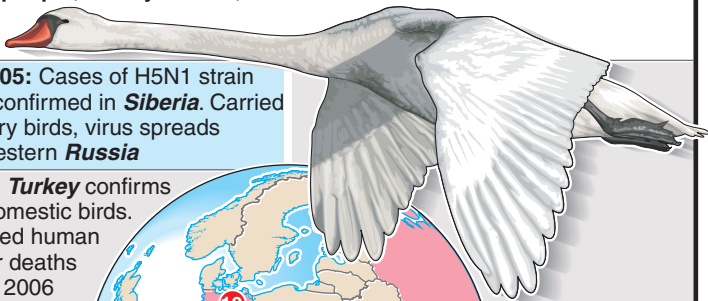


Bird flu spreads in Europe

Swans found dead in Germany and Austria have been confirmed as having been infected with the virulent H5N1 bird flu virus. The deadly strain has killed 91 people, mainly in Asia, and forced millions of birds to be culled



1 July 2005: Cases of H5N1 strain of bird flu confirmed in **Siberia**. Carried by migratory birds, virus spreads towards western **Russia**

2 Oct 13: **Turkey** confirms H5N1 in domestic birds. 12 confirmed human cases, four deaths in January 2006

3 Oct 15: Wildfowl deaths in **Romania's Danube delta** confirmed as first incidence of H5N1 in mainland Europe

4 Oct 26: H5N1 found in wild birds in **Croatia**

5 Dec 3: First outbreak among poultry in **Ukraine's** southern **Crimea** region

6 Jan 29, 2006: H5N1 confirmed in poultry sample from northern **Cyprus**

7 Feb 10: First H5N1 outbreak reported in wild birds in **Caspian Sea** region of **Azerbaijan**

8 Feb 11: Virus found in swans in **Italy, Greece** and **Bulgaria**

9 Feb 12: Tests being carried out on H5 virus in swan in **Slovenia**

10 Feb 14: Two swans found dead on Germany's Baltic Sea coast, and two more in Austria confirmed to be carrying H5N1 strain