

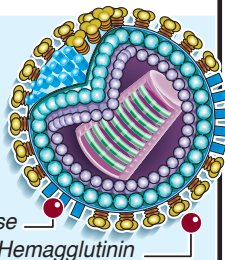
New strain of bird flu virus uncovered

Scientists have detected a new resistant strain of the deadly H5N1 avian flu virus in China and warn of a third wave of outbreaks in poultry in Southeast Asia. Called the "Fujian-like" strain, it may have mutated in response to vaccines designed to halt the disease in farm flocks

Provinces affected



H5N1 virus: Two proteins, called hemagglutinin – "H" in H5N1 – and neuraminidase, "N", cover surface of virus



First wave: Outbreaks in many parts of Asia. Strain jumps to humans – of 117 people who become infected, 64 die

Second wave: Starts at China's Qinghai Lake in May 2005. Virus spreads to Europe, Africa and Middle East, killing further 87 people

New strain: Between April and June, 95% of avian cases are Fujian strain

2003

2004

2005

2006

Total human death toll: 151

Total human cases: 256

Infected areas

