

# Agriculture, Food & Trade: Ghana and the USA

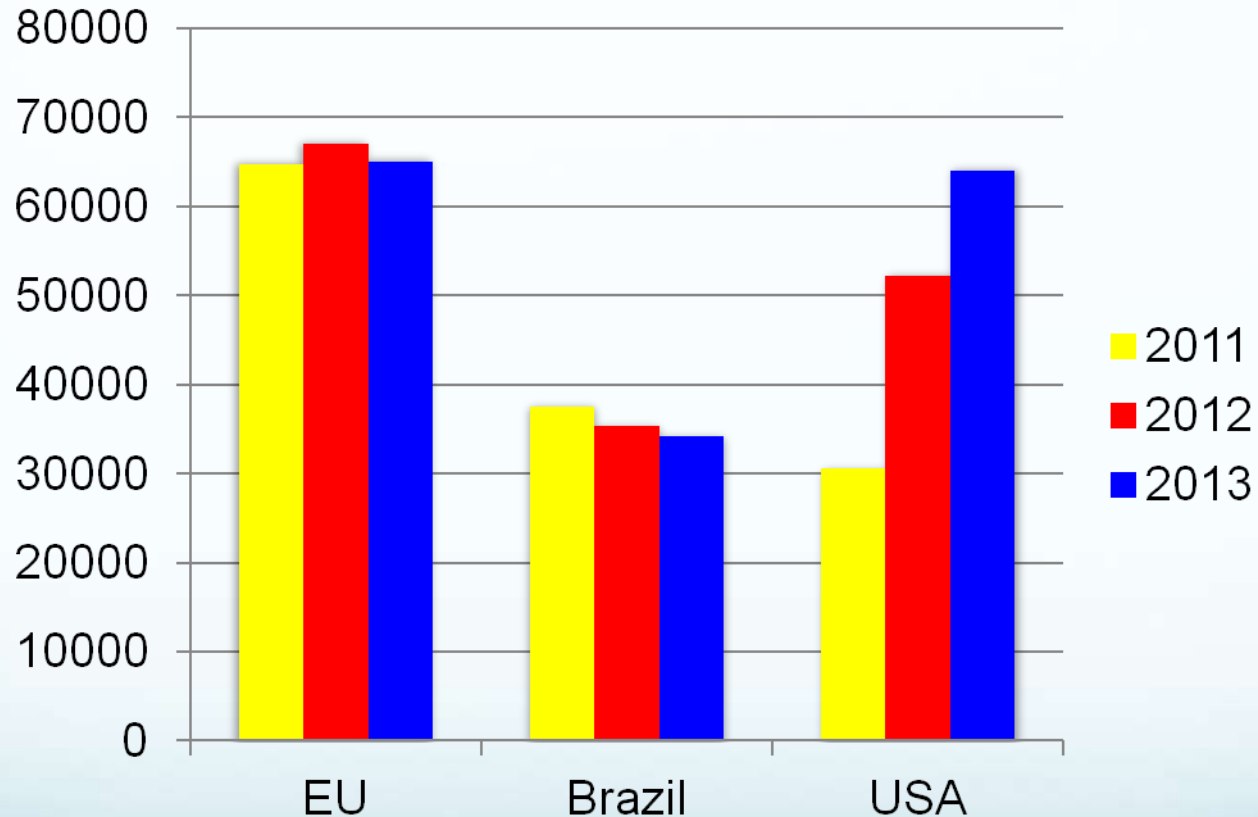
USA Poultry & Egg Export Council

# Who are USAPEEC?

- Non-profit trade association
- Promote poultry & eggs
- Collaborate with:
  - US Embassy – Agriculture
  - USAID
  - Local government & poultry industry



# Exports to Ghana



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, Eurostat and SECEX

# Bird Flu



# Food Safety



# Fact Sheets

## Bird Flu: Consumption Facts

According to the World Health Organization, people can't get bird flu from properly handled and cooked poultry. There is NO danger of getting the bird flu from eating properly-cooked chicken, eggs or other poultry. The bird flu is caused by a virus. Like all microorganisms, this virus is killed by the heat of normal cooking, at least 70 degrees centigrade. When cooking poultry, make sure the meat is not pink and when cooking eggs, make sure the eggs are not runny.

To keep Ghana healthy and strong, always follow good hygiene practices when cooking!

1) Wash your hands with soap or ash before and after preparing and cooking food.

2) Store and prepare meats apart from other foods.

Ghana does not have and has never had one reported case of the bird flu (H5N1 virus). Additionally, Ghana does not import chicken or poultry products from countries that have had an outbreak of the bird flu virus.

The risk of humans becoming infected with the H5N1 virus that causes bird flu is low.



## Bird Flu: Economic Impact

Over the last few years, the bird flu virus has become a global public health concern. The following table shows the economic impact of the virus.

1. The virus has caused a loss of income for many people.
2. There is a risk of disease in humans from contact with the virus and birds.
3. There is a risk of disease in humans from contact with the virus and birds.

Since 2003, there has not been one reported case of bird flu in Ghana, due to the country's strict biosecurity measures. People should avoid live and frozen birds. This has created a high impact in the country. The following table shows the economic impact of the virus in Ghana from 2003 to 2005. The percentage of sales has been a steady decline.

Year	Year	Year
2003	2004	2005
100%	97%	95%
100%	95%	93%
100%	93%	91%
100%	89%	87%
100%	85%	83%

The economic impact of the disease is, however, less than expected. This is due to the fact that the virus has not spread to other countries. The current health risk to humans in Ghana is low.



## Bird Flu: Basic Facts

### 1. What is bird flu? How does it spread?

Bird flu is primarily a disease of birds that live and feed in water, particularly ducks, geese, and swans. Scientists have named this virus "H5N1 influenza." Bird flu is also known as avian influenza.

This flu virus is highly contagious and has killed many kinds of wild birds. Birds generally catch bird flu by coming into contact with infected birds or their feces (droppings) or from water or soil where infected birds have defecated. Bird flu spreads very quickly among domestic poultry (such as chickens). It rapidly kills most chickens that become infected, usually within two days.

### 2. How is Bird Flu moving from Asia to Africa?

Scientists used to think that bird flu was being carried by wild birds from Asia to Africa during their seasonal migrations. But after extensive testing, scientists believe that bird flu from Asia is mainly carried to Africa by imported domestic poultry. In Nigeria, scientists have traced the bird flu outbreaks to imported chickens from China.

### 3. Where are the poultry outbreaks happening?

From mid-December 2003 through 2005, bird flu outbreaks in poultry have been confirmed in the following countries: Vietnam, Indonesia, Cambodia, China (PRC), Hong Kong, Thailand, Laos, Korea, Japan, and Malaysia.

During 2005 bird flu was found in wild birds with more limited domestic poultry outbreaks in Russia, Central Asia, Eastern Europe and Turkey.

The first case in Africa was identified in northern Nigeria in February 2006. Since this time, the bird flu has been confirmed in the following African countries: Nigeria, Egypt, Sudan, Cameroon, Niger, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire.

### 4. Have any humans been infected by bird flu so far?

From 1997 through April 2006, there have been 205 reported cases of humans infected by the virus. 113 of the infected people have died from the virus. That is an average of less than 15 people per year dying of the bird flu...globally. The current health risk to humans in Ghana is not very high.

### 5. How do people become infected?

Currently, humans cannot be easily infected with bird flu. Even though millions of birds have been infected with this disease, only 205 cases of bird flu in humans have been detected so far.



# Promotions



# What are we doing?





# Food Security



# Thank you



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