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## Type A (8 RNA segments)

9 Kb

*(polimerasis complex)*

(PB1, PB2, PA) (Efficient growth)

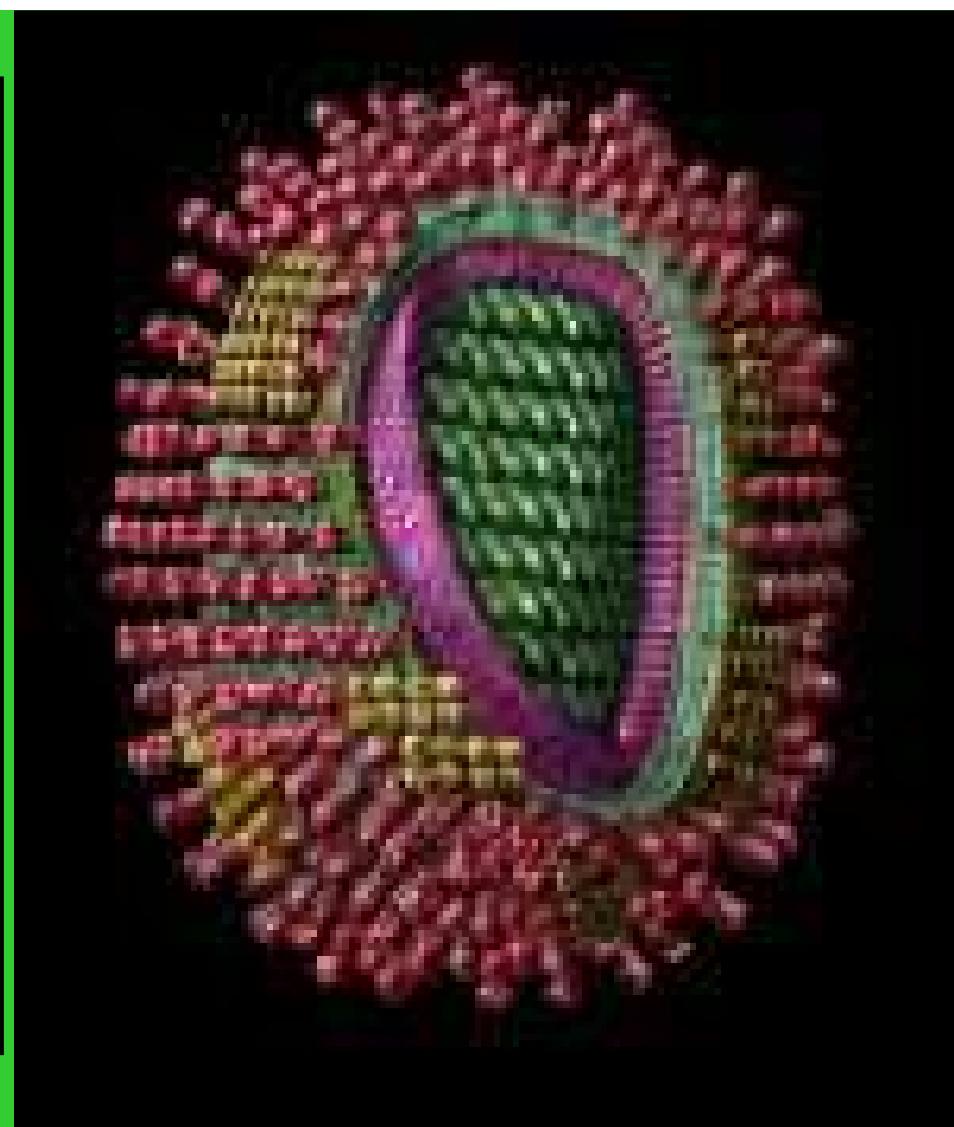
4° - HA (Haemoagglutinin) (Infectivity)

5° - NP(Nucleoprotein)

6° - NA (Neuroaminidase)

7° - M1 , M2 (MatrixProt.)

8° - NS .1, NS 2 (Pathogenicity)



Type A Mammals and Birds (At the time, 16 HA and 9 NA are known)

Type B Human  
Mammals

Type C Human

Dhori/Thogoto (Tick borne)

**Micro Evolution**

Refresh genes Time = Reproductive cycle /  
Mutation rate  
Human mutation  
of single gene (1000 bases)  
might take thousands of generations

*Antigenic drift / Shift Recombination*

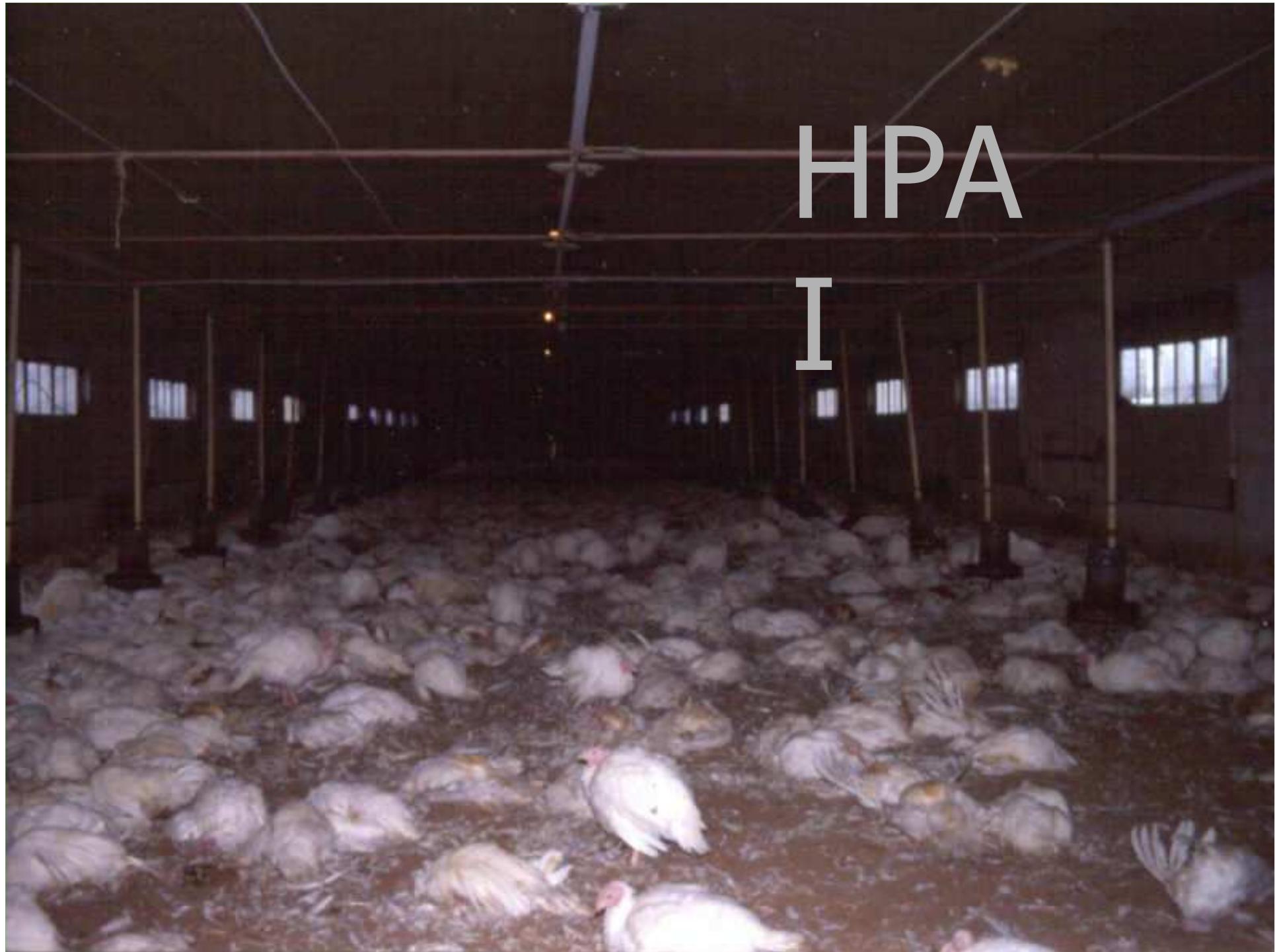
Macro Evolution

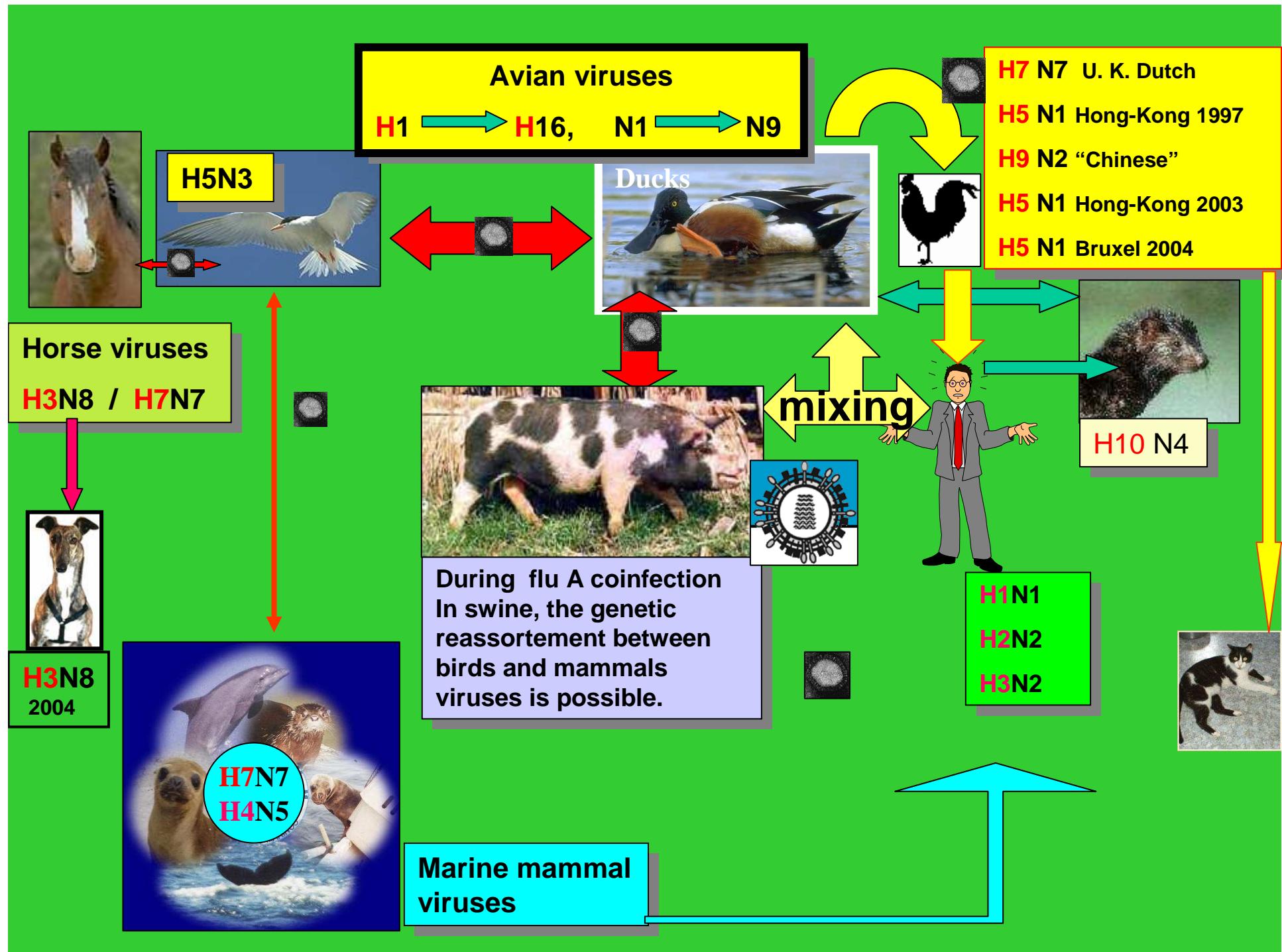
RNA virus exhibit the highest mutation rate of any group of organism  
one per genome per replication (around  $10^{-3}$  /  $10^{-5}$ )

**Population size**  
 $10^{12}$  viral particles in an organism

**Population growth**  
one virus can produce 100.000 viral copies in 10 hours

HPA  
I



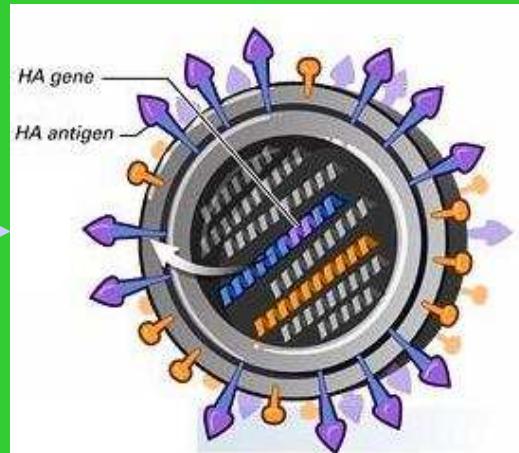
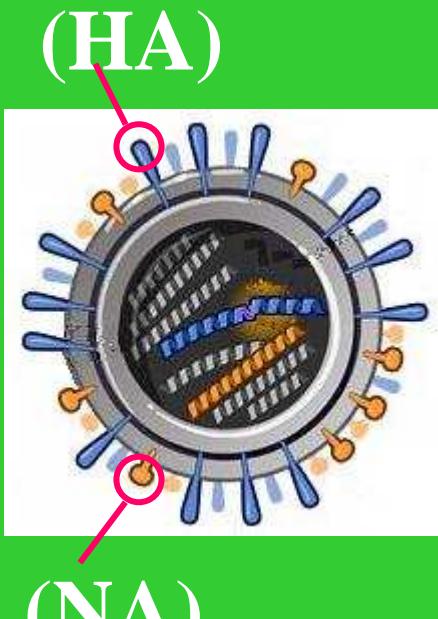


# Un master di metamorfosi

*Variabilità antigenica*

*Virus Influenzali*

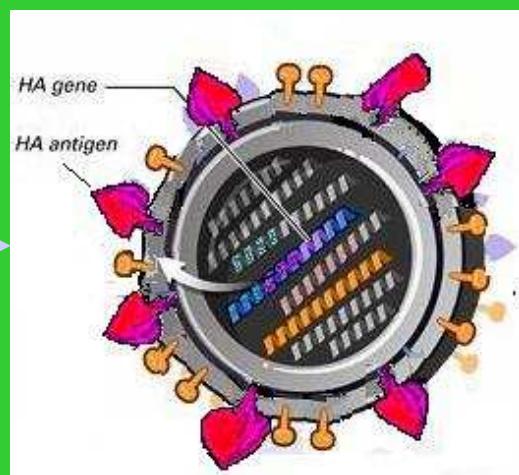
Antigenic Drift



Tipo A, B

*epidemico*

Antigenic Shift



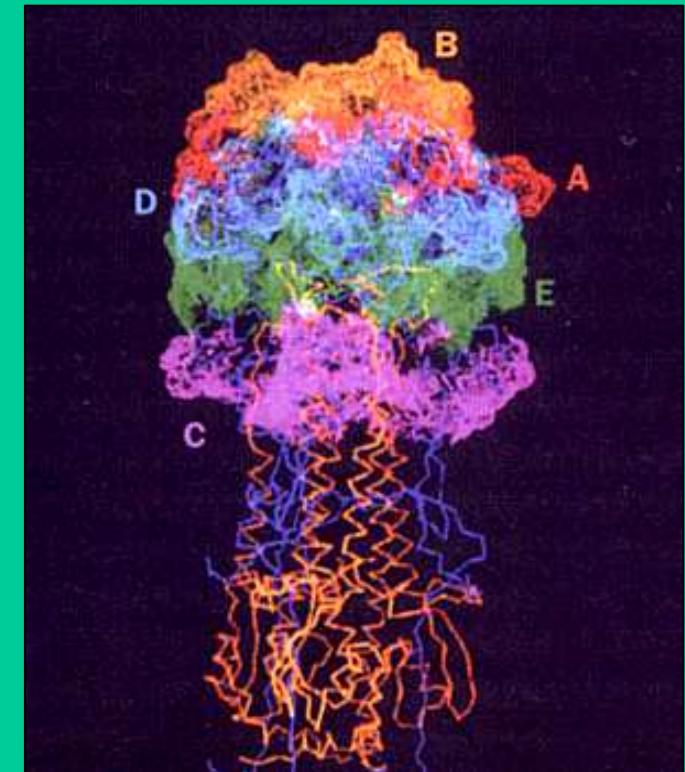
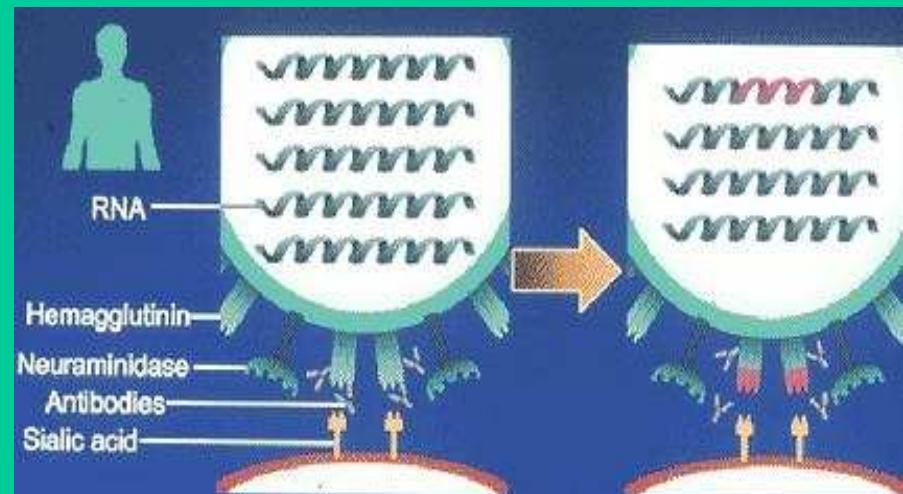
Tipo A

*pandemico*

# Flu A & Flu B: *antigenic drift*

**Mutazioni casuali**

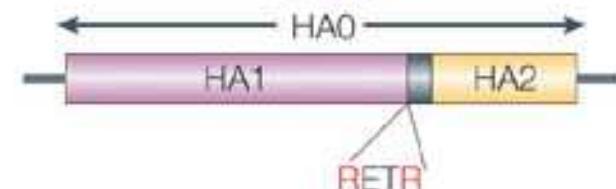
**cambiano HA/NA**



## Sequenza di aminoacidi basici (R / K ) nel sito di clivaggio dell'emoaglutinina (HA0 - HA1/HA2)

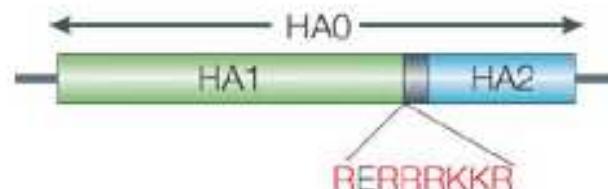
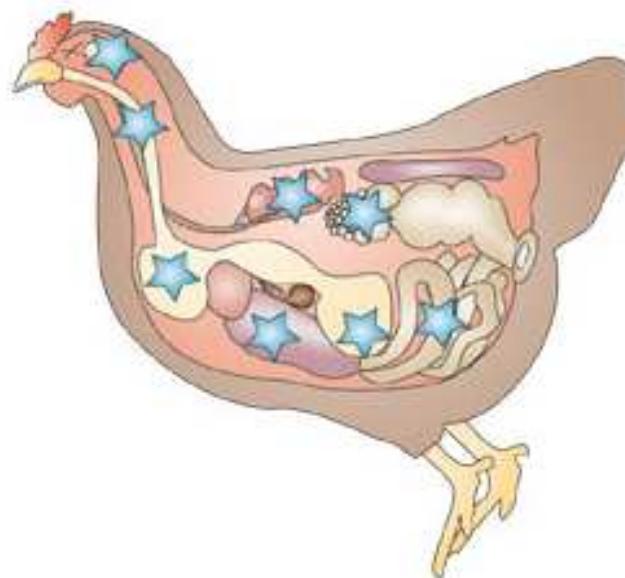
### LPAI

Proteasi localizzate negli organi respiratori e nell'intestino



### HPAI

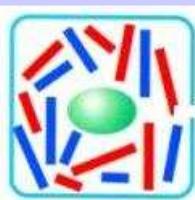
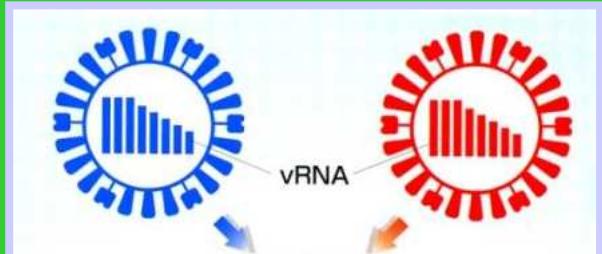
Proteasi ubiquitarie (**Furina like**)



# Influenza A: *antigenic shift*

## Modello1

Flu A  
Aviaria      Flu A  
Umana



*riassortimento*



## Modello2

Flu A  
Aviaria



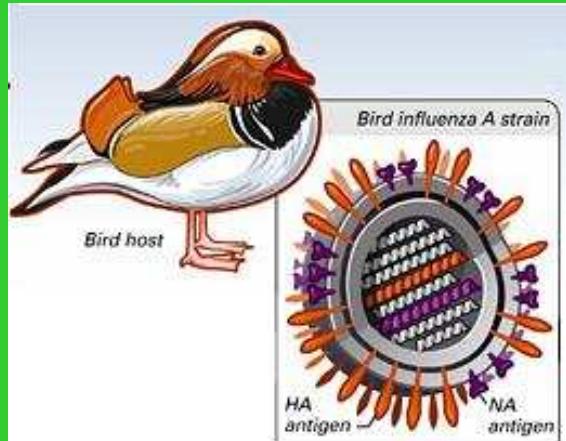
*Salto di specie*



UOMO

# *antigenic shift*

## **MODELLO 1: riassortimento**



Virus dell'influenza aviario



Virus dell'influenza umano



Virus riassortante

*antigenic shift*

**MODELLO 2: salto di specie**

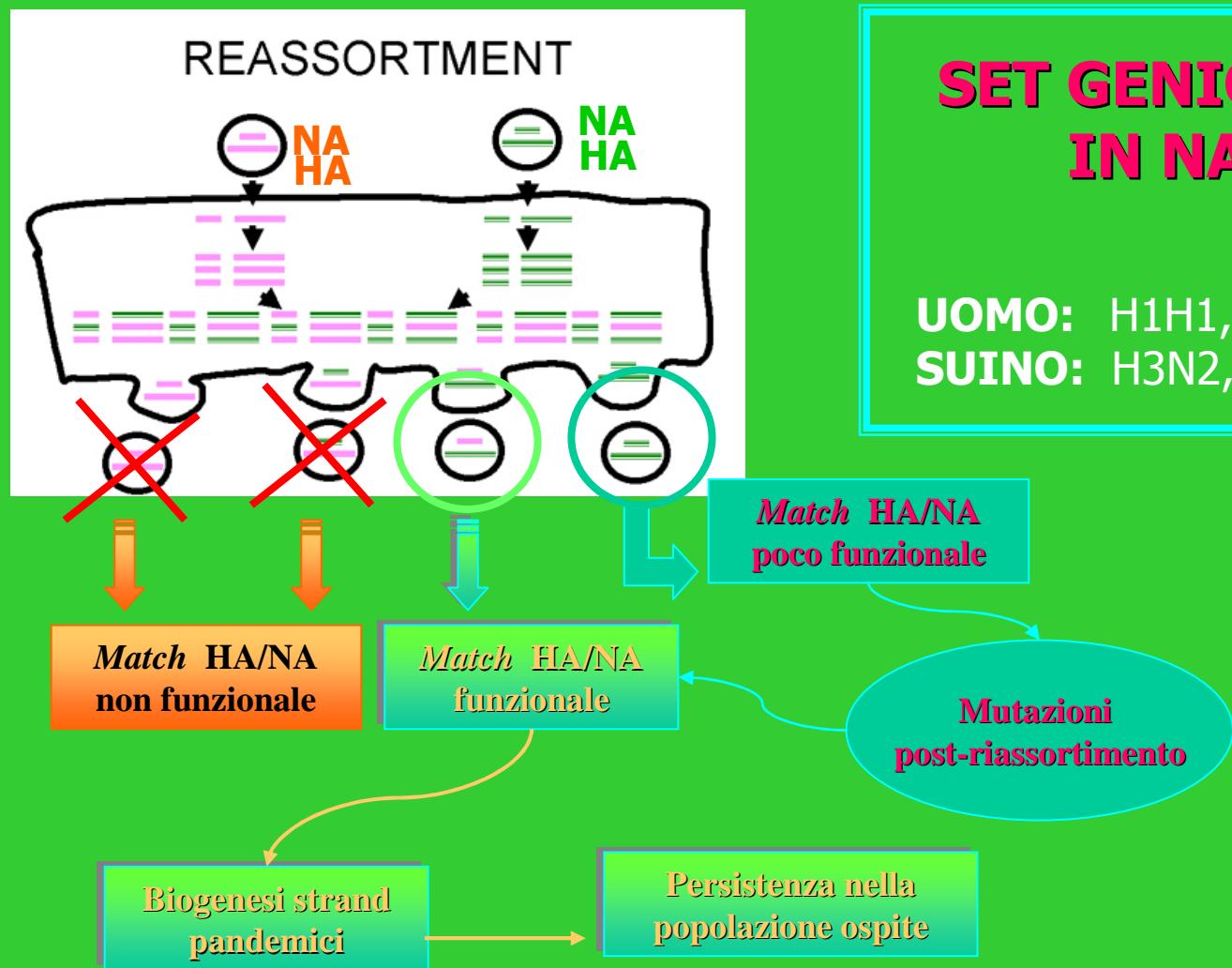


Salto di specie



Virus dell'influenza umano

# Biogenesi di ceppi pandemici *match HA-NA*



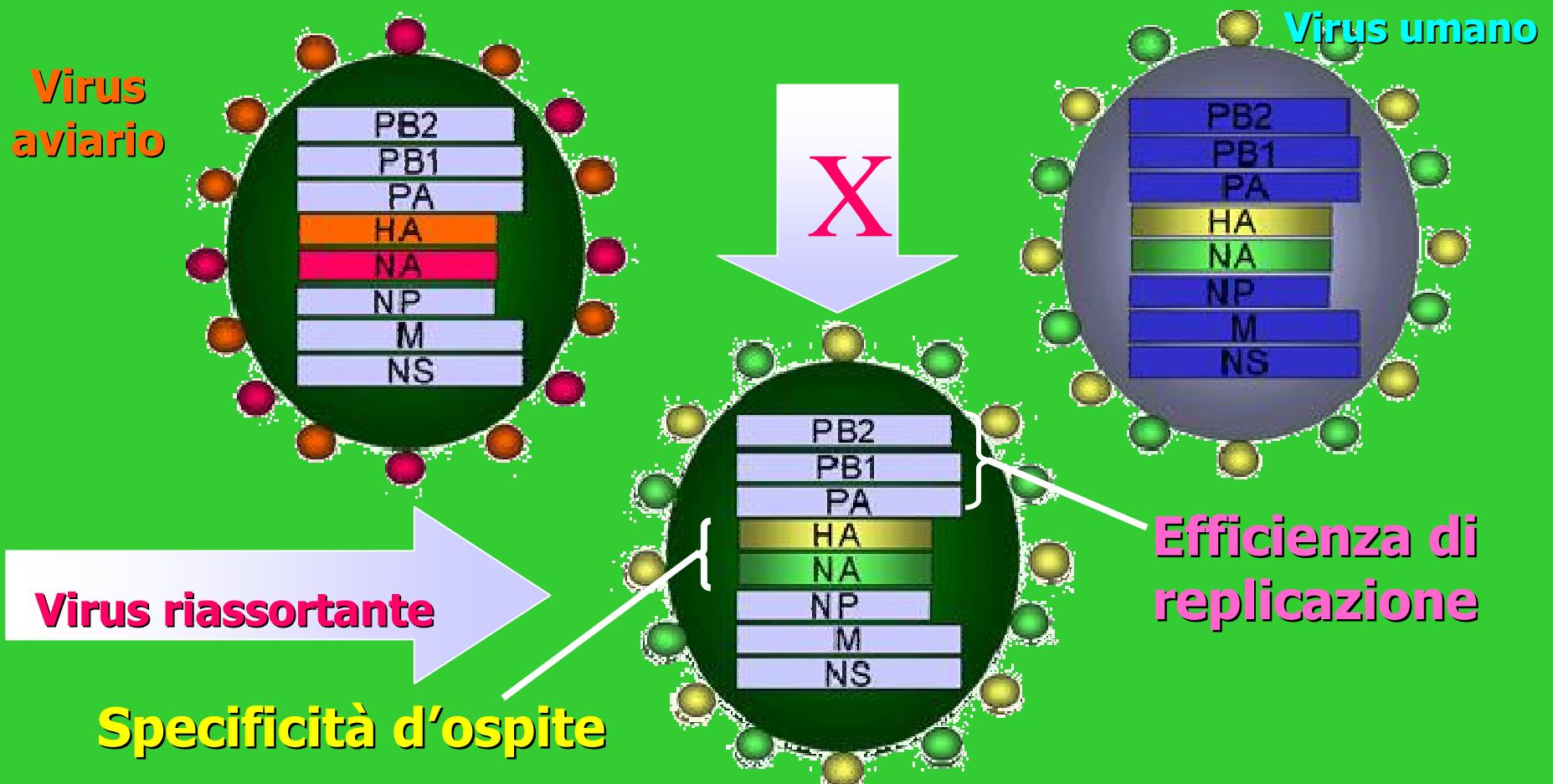
**SET GENICI ISOLATI  
IN NATURA:**

**UOMO:** H1H1, H2N2, H3N2,  
**SUINO:** H3N2, H1H1

# Biogenesi di ceppi pandemici

## *Capacità replicativa*

Complesso polimerasico:  
PB1, PB2, PA



# Pandemie Influenzali

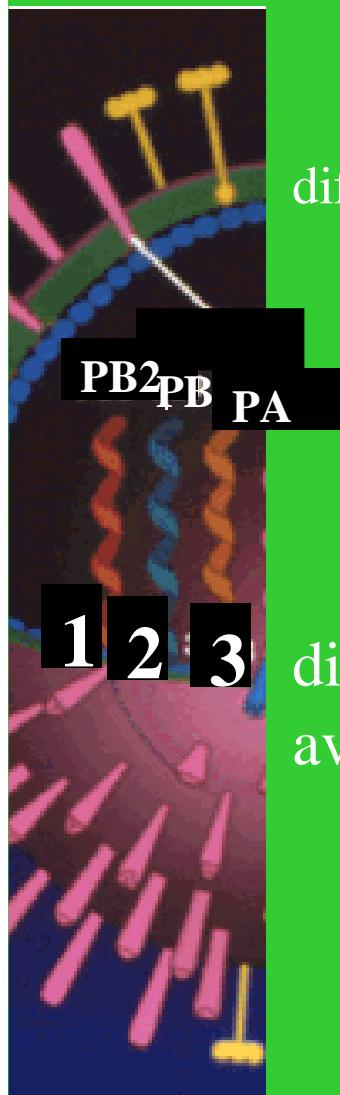
1918	(Spanish Flu)	H1N1
1957	(Asian Flu)	H2N2
1968	(Hong Kong Flu)	H3N2
1977	(The USA)	H1N1

*Dal 1977 H3N2 e H1N1 co-circolano*

# The 1918 flu virus is resurrected

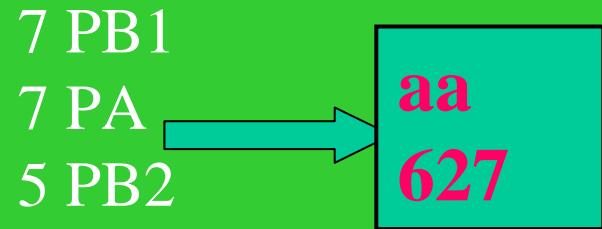
JK Taubenberger  
Nature 6 ottobre 2005

Caratterizzazione molecolare dei geni di PA-PB1-PB2



È un virus “avian-like”

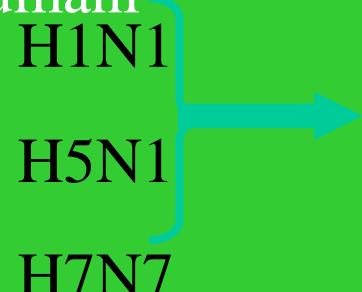
differiscono solo di pochi aminoacidi dalle sequenze *consensus* aviarie:



Importante per  
l'adattamento alle  
cellule di mammifero

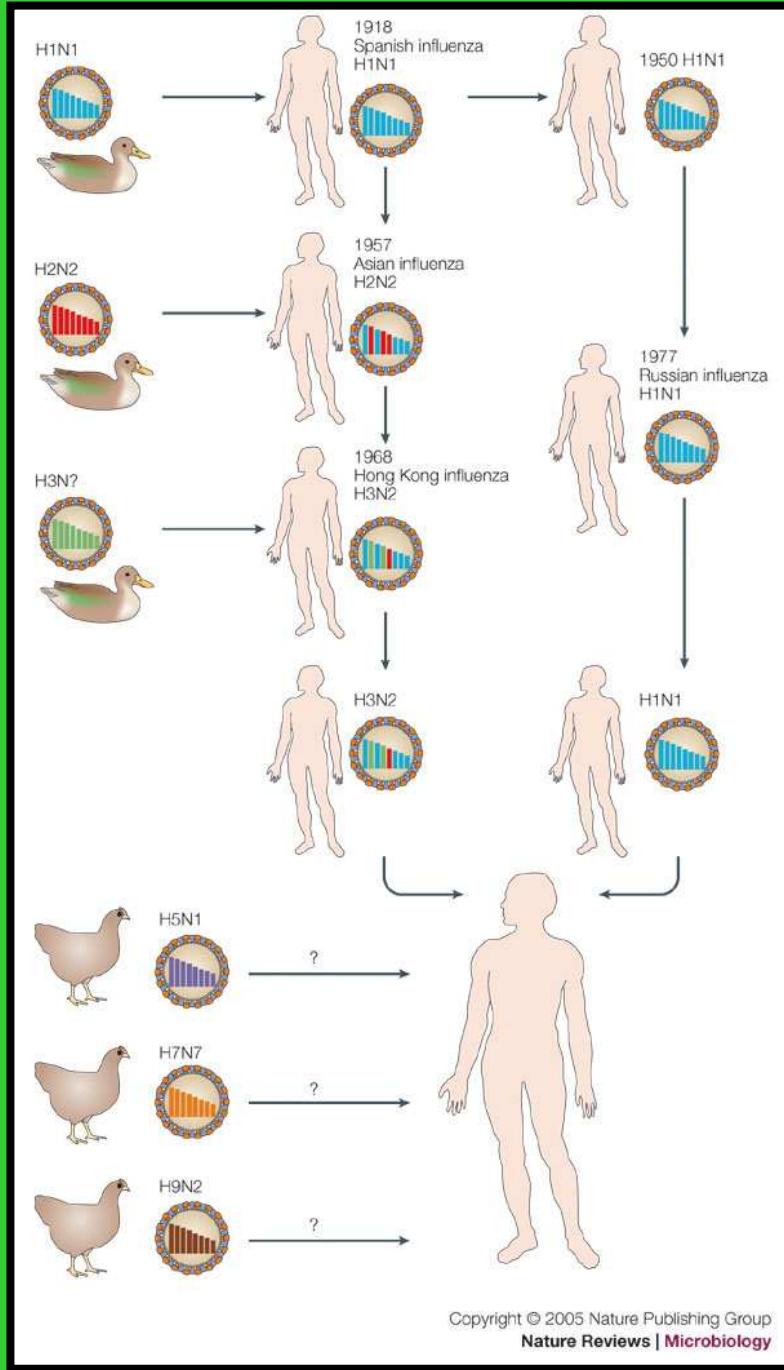
**Alta virulenza:**

differenza di **10 aa** per il complesso polimerasico tra virus  
aviari e umani



Codoni codificanti il peptide F2 di PB1  
(induzione della morte cellulare)

# Pandemie Influenzali: Passate e Future?





The New York Times

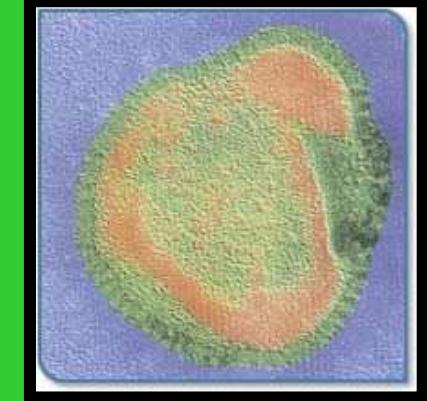
# L'influenza mette le ali

# Infezioni umane da virus aviari

1997	<b>H5N1</b>	HK: 18 casi, 6 morti
1999	<b>H9N2</b>	HK, Cina: 7 casi
Feb 2003	<b>H5N1</b>	HK: 2 casi, 1 morto
Feb 2003	<b>H7N7</b>	NDL: 83 congiuntiviti, 1 morto
Dec 2003	<b>H9N2</b>	HK: 1 caso
Mar 2004	<b>H7N3</b>	Canada: 2 casi
Jan 2004- Oct 2005	<b>H5N1</b>	(118 casi, 61 morti)

# **Reservoir : Why Ducks?**

**Species where the virus can replicate and maintain itself indefinitely in the time**



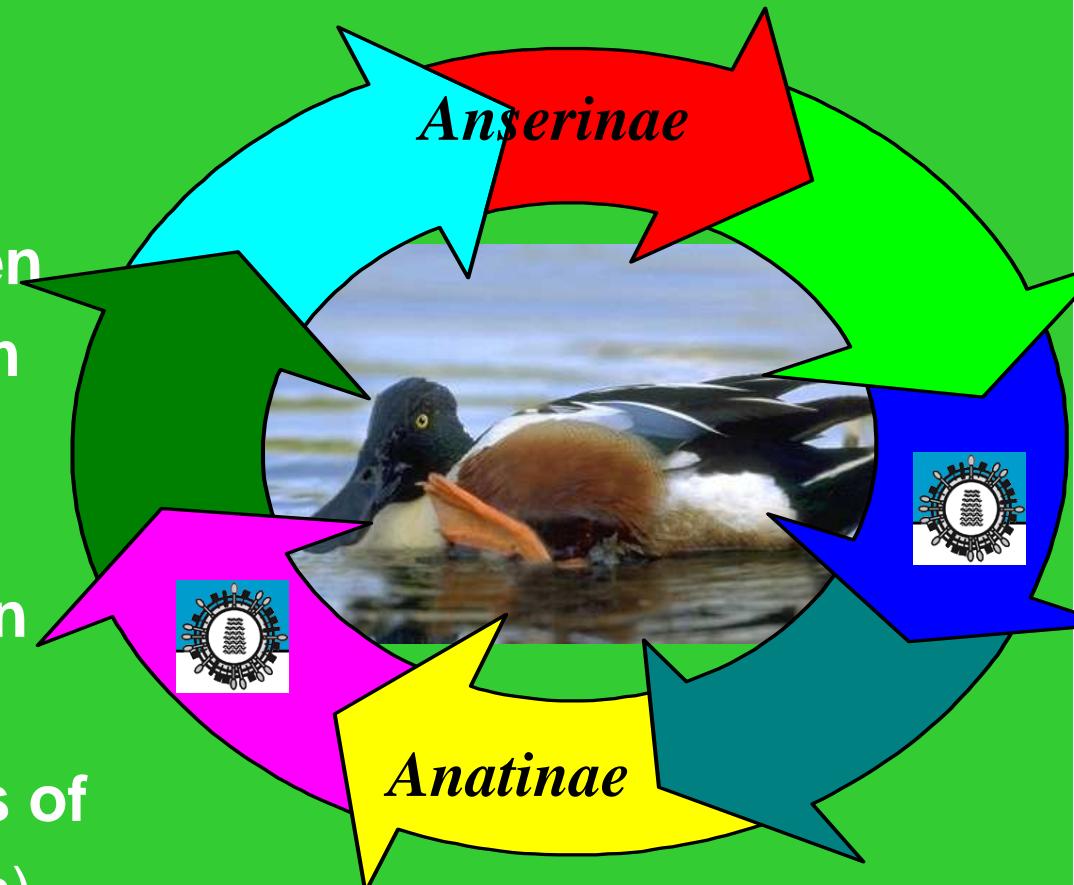
**Water related species**

**Migratory behaviour**

**Cyclic Interaction between populations coming from different areas**

**Intestinal virus replication**

**Virus shedding by means of faeces (from 2 to 4 weeks)**



# The Duck populations wintering in Western Palearctic ranges between 13 and 15 million of birds

**The Mallard duck has an European population near 5 million of birds,  
75000/100.000 of these are wintering in Italy**

**The Teal winters in Mediterranean areas with 2,5 million of birds (51.000 in Italy)**

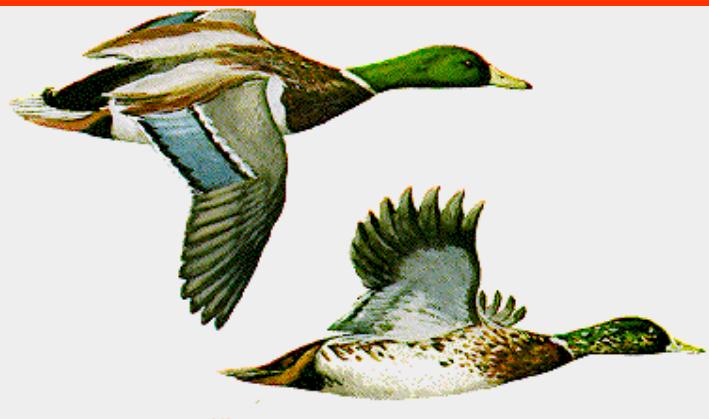
**The Wigeon winters in the same region with 1,5 million (71.000 in Italy)**

**The Pintail has 1,3 million of birds (200.000 winter in the Mediterranean areas)**

**The Shoveler European population consists of 1 million of birds, 100.000 of these  
winter in Mediterranean areas and 20.000 in Italy**

**The Pochard winters in the Mediterranean areas with 750.000 birds (43.000 in Italy)**

**The Tufted duck winters in Italy with 8.500 birds**



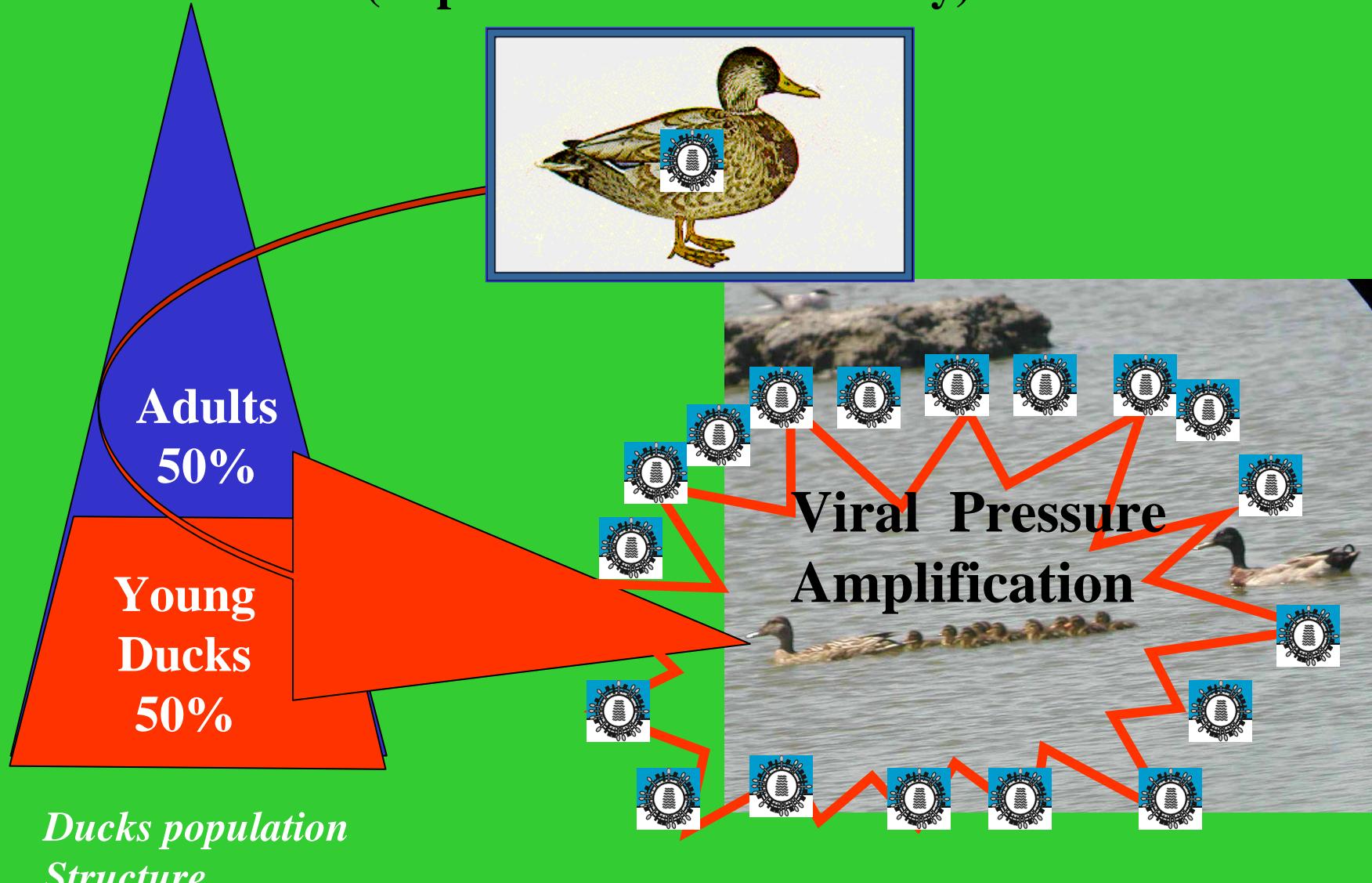


## Duck migrations in Europe from N/E to S/W

Moultning areas : Aggregation of many different ducks and viruses populations (during - June, Jul y)



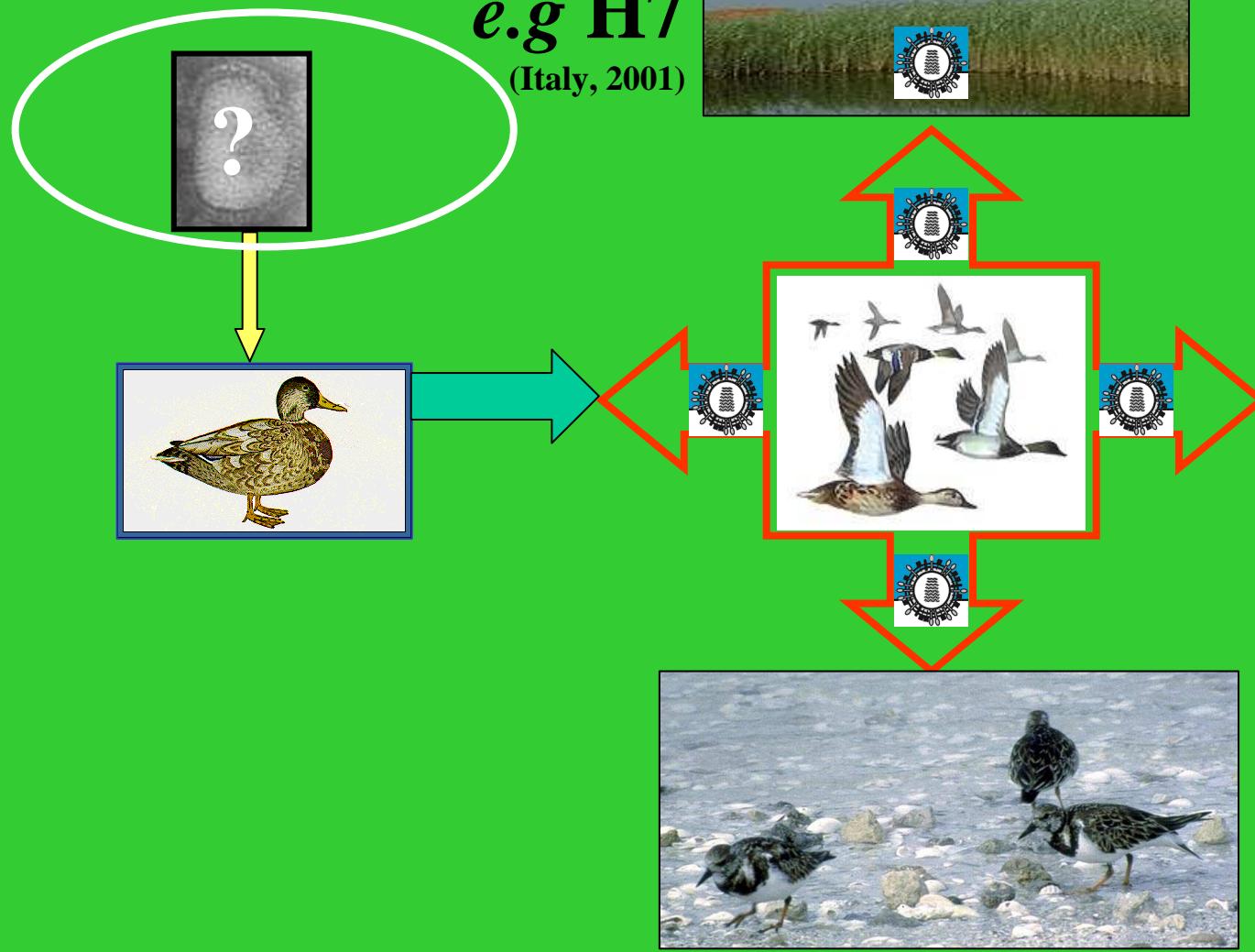
**Endemic Subtypes e.g. HA1**  
**Summer /Autumn Period**  
**(Population with immunity)**



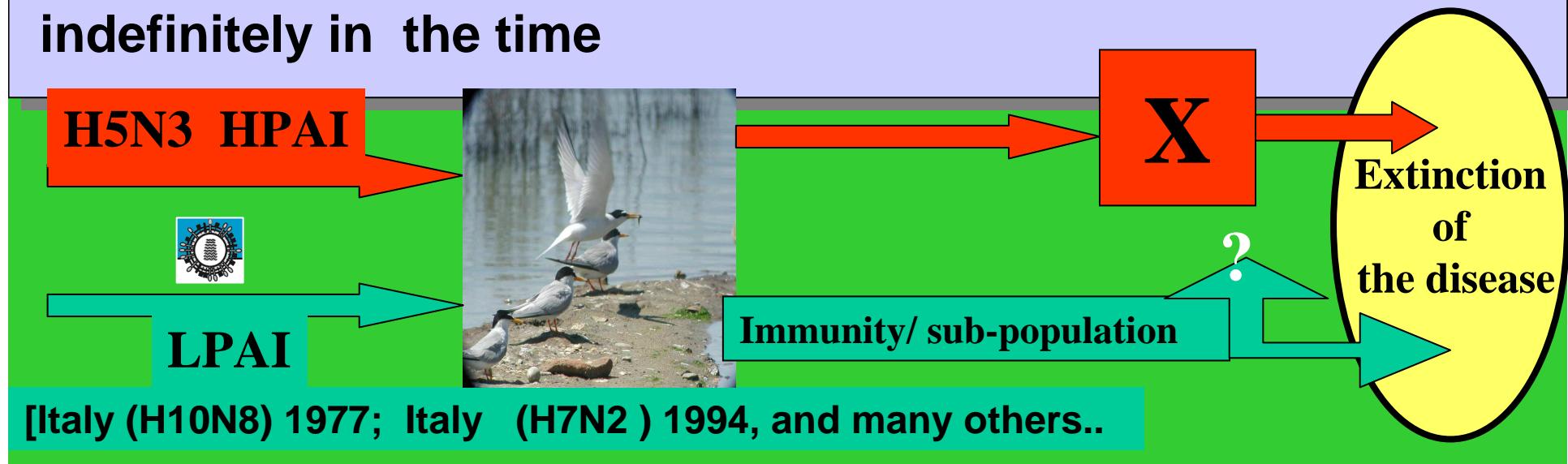
# “New Subtypes”

Population without immunity

e.g H7  
(Italy, 2001)

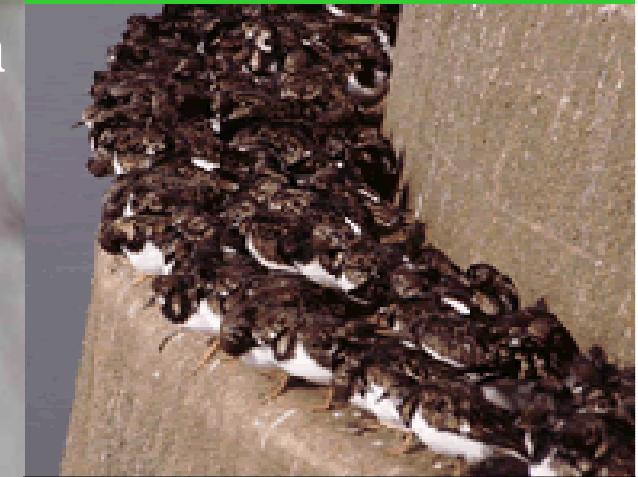
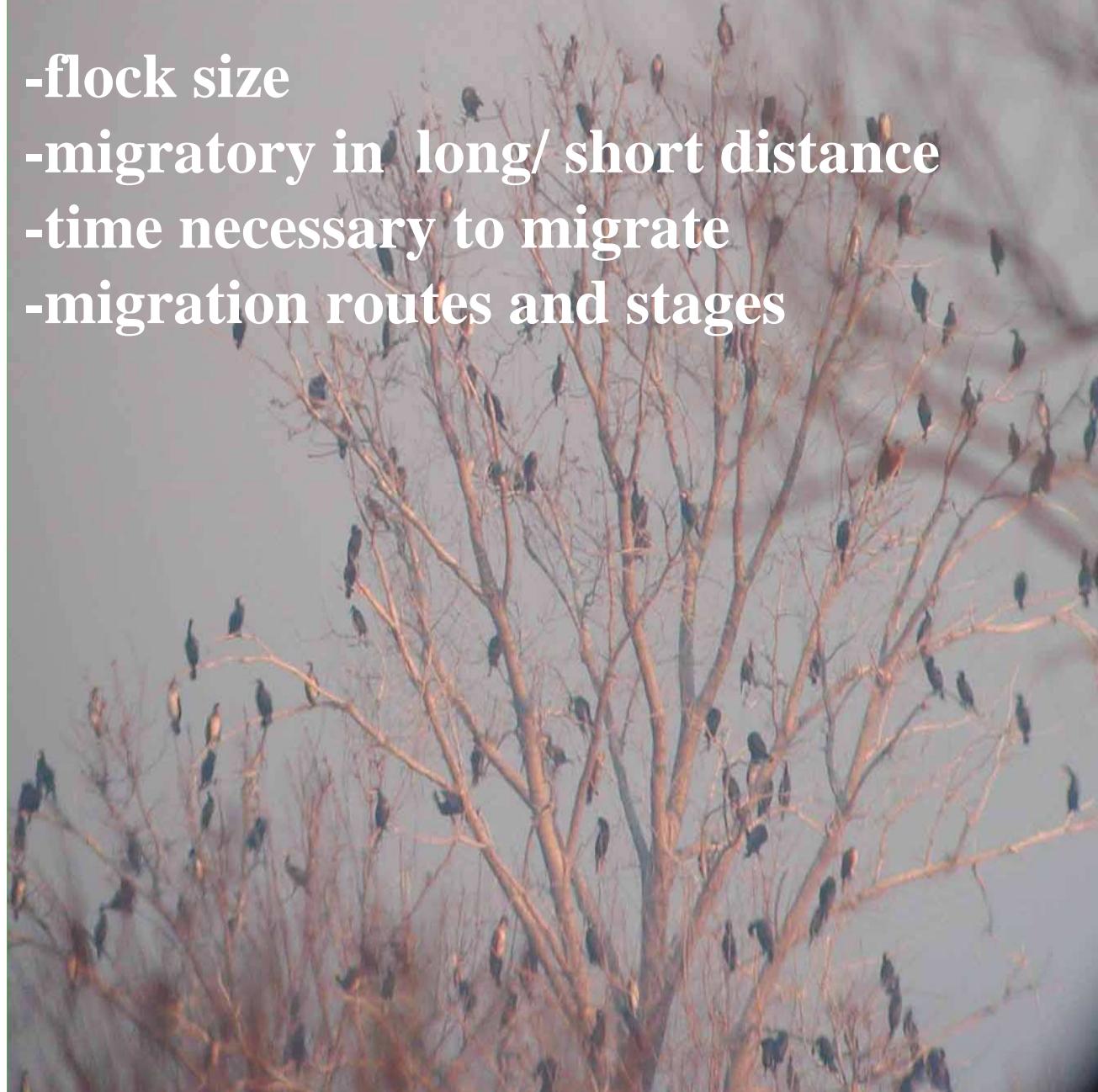


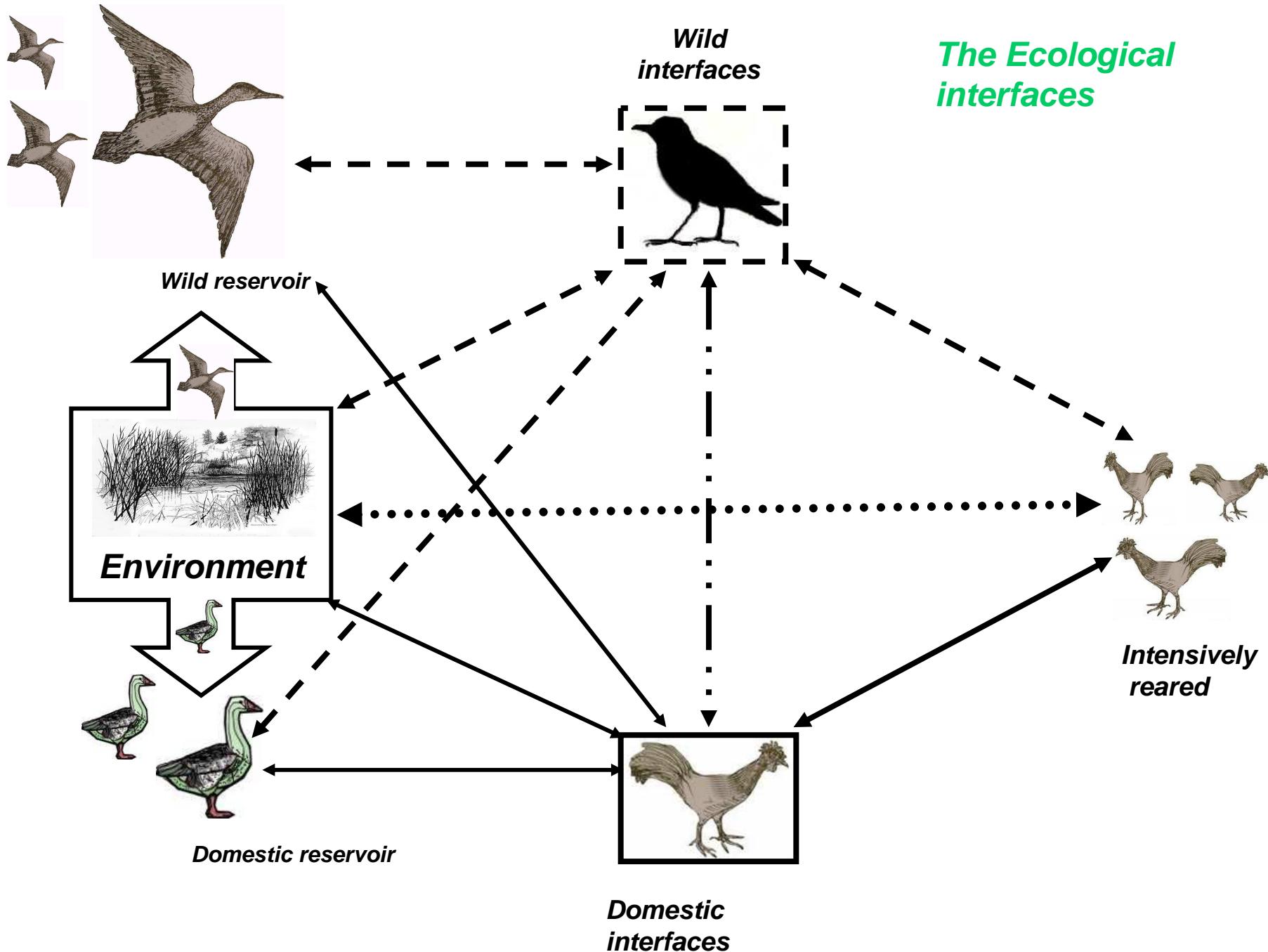
**Epiphenomenon species:**  
**Host species where the virus can spread and replicate**  
**but in this species the virus is not be able to maintain itself**  
**indefinitely in the time**



# Epiphenomenon role during migration

- flock size
- migratory in long/ short distance
- time necessary to migrate
- migration routes and stages





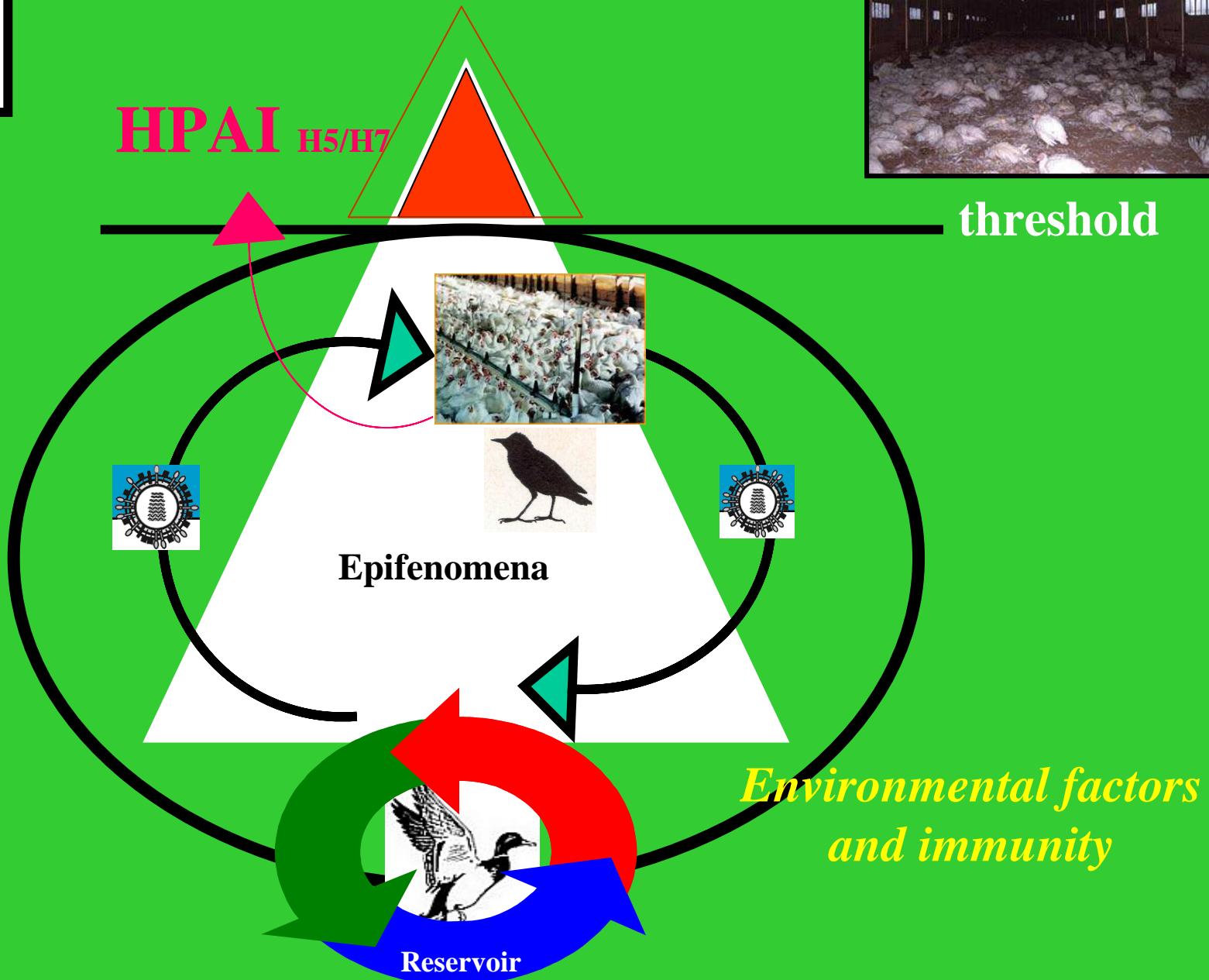


## *The chicken's role* (strains LPAI/HPAI)



HPAI H<sub>5</sub>/H<sub>7</sub>

threshold



The host (duck) and the virus have developed a coevolution,  
in this condition the virus live an evolutionary freezing

With low frequency of viral changes  
*(Convergent evolution)*



Viral population

-  Few viral variants
-  **mean**
-  Few viral variants



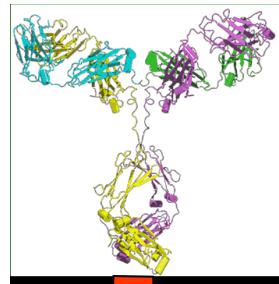
*Non adapted host-The Comet Theory*  
*(Divergent Evolution)*



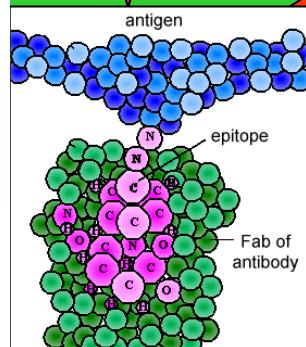
Viral variants

Viral population  
mean

Viral variants



*Molecular mimicry*



## The Comet Theory *Divergent Evolution*

why ?

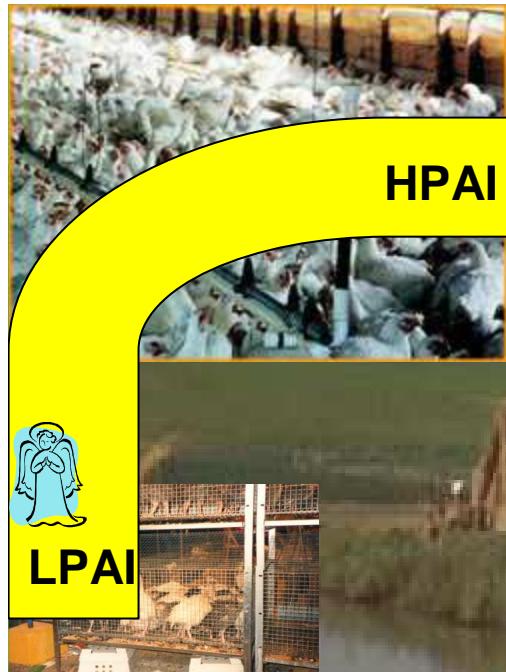
Bottleneck

Many viral variants

Viral population mean

Many viral variants

High frequency of viral changes  
host and virus without coevolution  
host with high population turn over



During Poultry infection,  
the possible evolution from LPAI to HPAI may occur

*HPAI usually kill the domestic and wild reservoirs  
only in the first outbreak period;*

HPAI kills domestic non reservoir birds (i.e. chickens, Turkeys).  
and some wild epiphenomenon species.

subsequently the virus could reduce its pathogenicity  
for the reservoir and the spread of the infection by migrations  
might be possible.

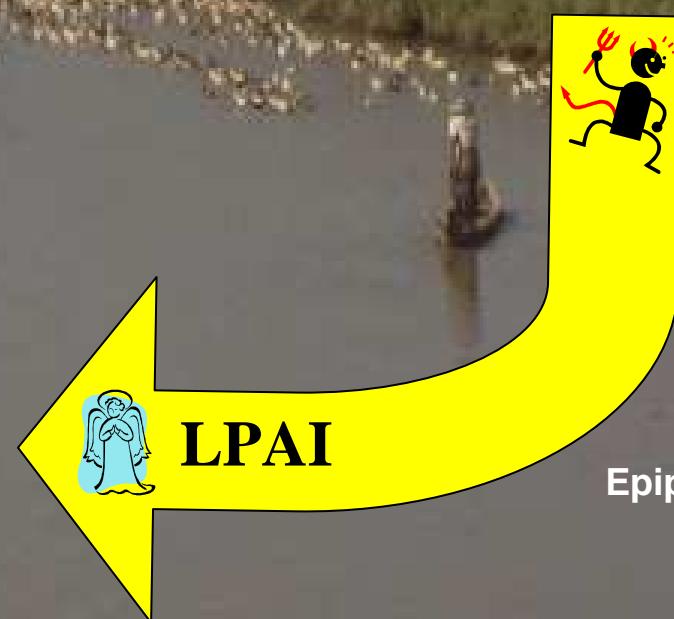
Ecological  
interfaces

Domestic reservoir  
LPAI

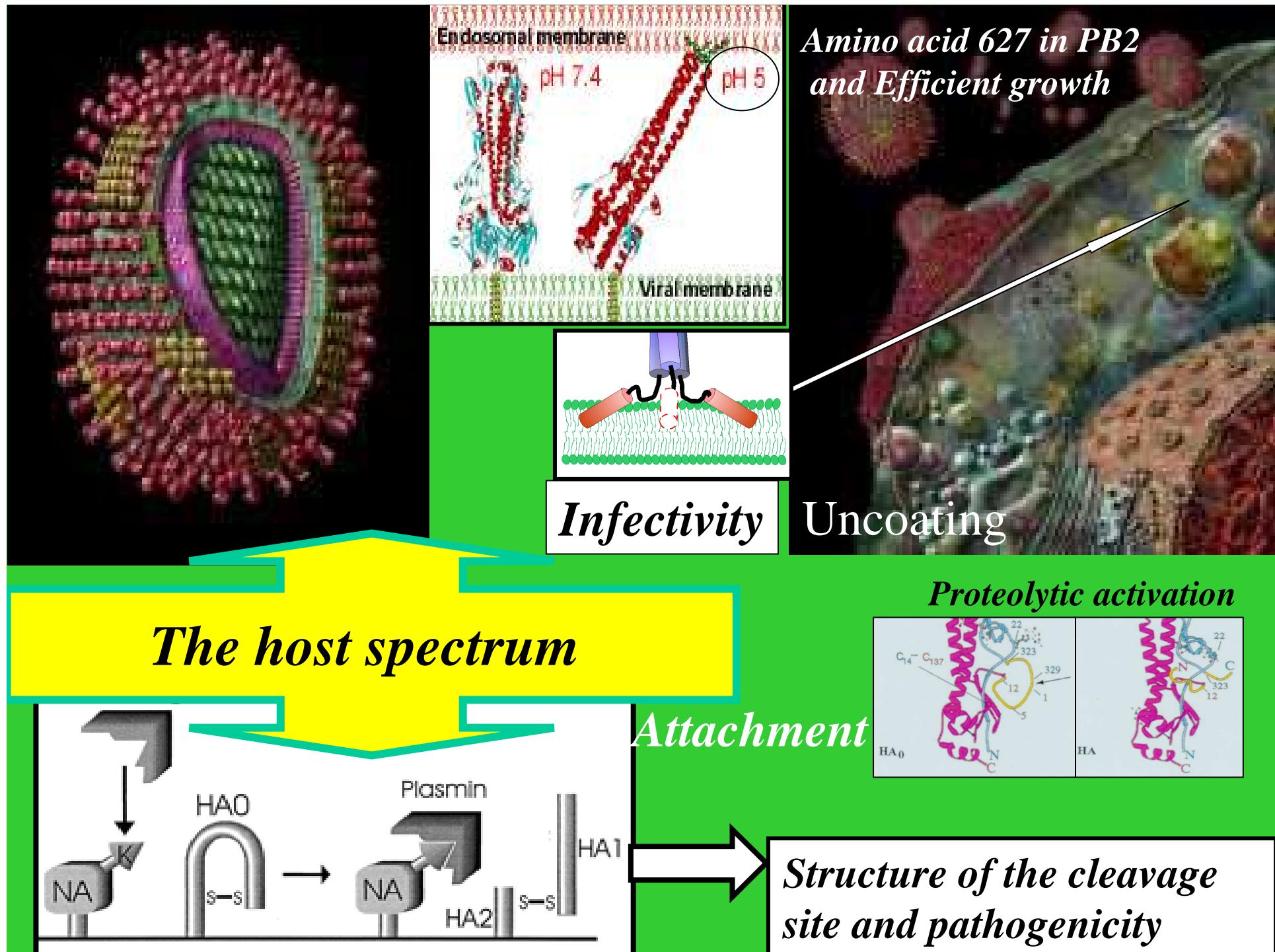
Contaminated water



Wild reservoir  
LPAI



Epiphenomenon  
species



# Tabelle di sensibilità e specie colpite: interpretazione del ruolo

*-spill over*

*- fattori di presenza : presenza incostante o meno sul territorio*

*- momento biologico delle specie (- + giovani sensibili )*

*- assenza di informazioni sullo stato immunitario della popolazione*



## Order: Anseriformes

<i>Cygnus atratus</i>	Black swan		+			+	Ellis et.al. 2004
<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	Whooper Swan	+				+	20050826.2527
<i>C.melanocoryphus</i>	Black-necked swan		+			+	Ellis et al. 2004
<i>Cygnus olor</i>	Mute swan	+				+	Update on Avian Influenza #35
<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>	White-faced whistling-duck		+			+	Ellis et.al. 2004
<i>Branta sandvicensis</i>	Hawaiian goose		+			+	Ellis et.al. 2004
<i>Netta peposaca</i>	duck		+			+	Ellis et.al. 2004
<i>Netta rufina</i>	pochard		+			+	Ellis et.al. 2004
<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	Ruddy shelduck	+				+	Information Vol.18-no.21



Order: Charadriformes							
<b>Larus atricilla</b>	Laughing gull			+	-	Perkins and Swayne, 2003	
Larus brunnicephalus	Brown-headed gull	+	+		+	Chen et.al. 2005;and Liu et.al. 2005	
Larus ichthyaetus	Great black-headed gull	+	+			Chen et.al. 2005;and Liu et.al. 2005	
<b>Larus ridibundus</b>	Black-headed gull	+				Ellis et.al. 2004	
<b>Tringa ochropus</b>	Green sandpiper	+				OIE Mission to Russia 2005	



Order: Ciconiiformes							
Anastomus oscitans	Asian open-billed stork	+				+	ProMED 20041214.3303
<b>Ardea cinerea</b>	Grey heron	+				+	Ellis et.al. 2004
Ardea herodias (?)	Great blue heron	+				+	ProMED 20051130.3460, 20051201.3463 (HPAI H5)
Ardeola bacchus	Chinese pond heron	+				+	OIE 2005 Disease Information Vol. 18-no2
<b>Egretta garzetta</b>	Little egret	+				+	Ellis et.al. 2004

**Order: Columbiformes**

<b>Columba livia</b>	Feral pigeon	+			+	+	Ellis et.al. 2004
Streptopelia tranquebarica	Red-collared dove	+				?	ProMED 20041214.3303



**Order: Falconiformes**

<b>Falco peregrinus</b>	Peregrine falcon	+				+	OIE 2004 Disease Information Vol.17-no.5; Hong Kong Final Report 7/30/03
Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus	Grey-headed fish-eagle		+			+	FAO AIDE report #16
Spilornis cheela?	Serpent eagle		+			+	FAO AIDE report #16
Spizaetus nipalensis	Crested hawk-eagle	+				-	van Borm et.al., 2005

Order: Galliformes							
<b>Alectoris chukar</b>	Chukar partridge				+	+	Perkins and Swayne, 2003
<i>Colinus virginianus</i>	Bobwhite quail				+	+	Perkins and Swayne, 2003
<i>Corurnix coturnix japonicus</i>	Japanese quail				+	+	Perkins and Swayne, 2003
<i>Gallus domesticus</i>	Domestic chicken		+			+	Subbarao et.al. 1998
<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>	Turkey				+	+	Perkins and Swayne, 2003
<i>Numida meleagris</i>	Pearl guineafowl				+	+	Perkins and Swayne, 2003
<b>colchicus</b>	pheasant				+	+	Perkins and Swayne, 2004



### Order: Gruiformes

<b>chloropus</b>	Common moorhen	+				+	(HPAI H5)
<b>Fulica atra</b>	Brown (red-legged)	+				-	OIE Mission to Russia 2005
Rallina fasciata?	crake	+				+	Xinhua News 1/11/06



### Order: Struthioniformes

<i>novaehollandiae</i>	Emu				+	-	2003
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Order: Passeriformes							
Carpodacus mexicanus	House finch		+			+	Perkins and Swayne, 2003
Copsychus saularis?	Oriental magpie robin	+				+	Oriental Magpie Robin tests H5N1 positive
Corvus macrorhynchos	Jungle crow	+				+	Mase et.al., 2005, Report of the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Infection Route Elucidation Team, June 30, 2004.
Dicrurus macrocercus	Black drongo	+				?	ProMED 20041214.3303
Gracula religiosa	Hill mynah		+			+	ProMED 20051021.3075; 20051022.3085.
Leiothrix lutea	Red-billed leiothrix		+			+	ProMED 20051021.3075; 20051022.3085.
Lonchura punctulata	Scaly-breasted munia	+				?	ProMED 20041213.3303
Oriolus chinensis chinensis	Black-naped oriole		+			+	ProMED 20051021.3075; 20051022.3085.
<b>Passer domesticus</b>	House sparrow		+			-	Perkins and Swayne, 2003
<b>Passer montanus</b>	Eurasian tree-sparrow	+				+	Ellis et.al. 2004
Pica pica sericea	Korean magpie	+				+	Kwon et al. 2005
<b>Sturnus vulgaris</b>	European starling				+	-	Perkins and Swayne, 2003
Taeniopygia guttata	Zebra finch				+	+	Perkins and Swayne, 2003



**Order: Pelecaniformes**

<b>Phalacrocorax carbo</b>	Great cormorant	+				+	OIE 2005, Disease Information Vol.18-no.21
Phalacrocorax niger	Little cormorant	+				?	ProMED 20041214. 3303

**Order: Phoenicopteriformes**

<b>Phoenicopterus ruber</b>	Greater flamingo		+			+	Ellis et.al. 2004
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**Order: Psittaciformes**

<b>Melopsittacus undulatus</b>	Budgerigar				+	+	Perkins and Swayne, 2003
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**Order: Strigiformes**

<b>Bubo nipalensis</b>	Spot-bellied eagle-owl		+			+	FAO AIDE report #16
<b>Ketupa ketupu</b>	Buffy fish-owl		+			+	FAO AIDE report #16
<b>Ketupa zeylonensis</b>	Brown fish-owl		+			+	FAO AIDE report #16
<b>Strix uralensis</b>	Spotted wood-owl		+			+	FAO AIDE report #16

## PROBLEMI NEL TROVARE GLI ANIMALI MALATI

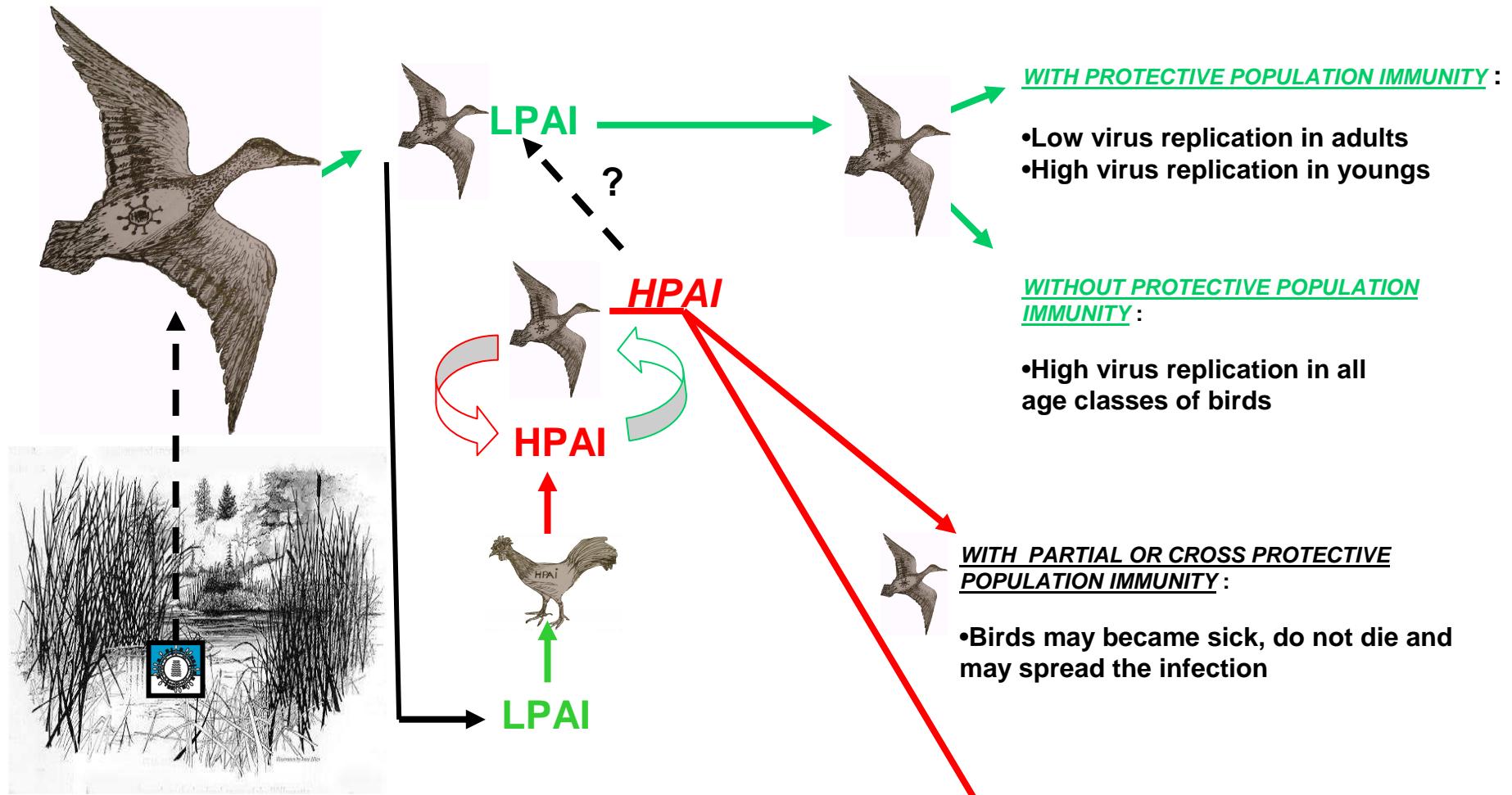
Gli animali malati e morti sono rapidamente rimossi dai **predatori** e dagli **scavenger**, e perciò non disponibili per le indagini

### Come quantificare i casi?

**Soggetti ammalati:** entità dei sintomi “collaborazione” della specie mezzi diagnostici “abilità” del veterinario nel **Trovare gli animali**



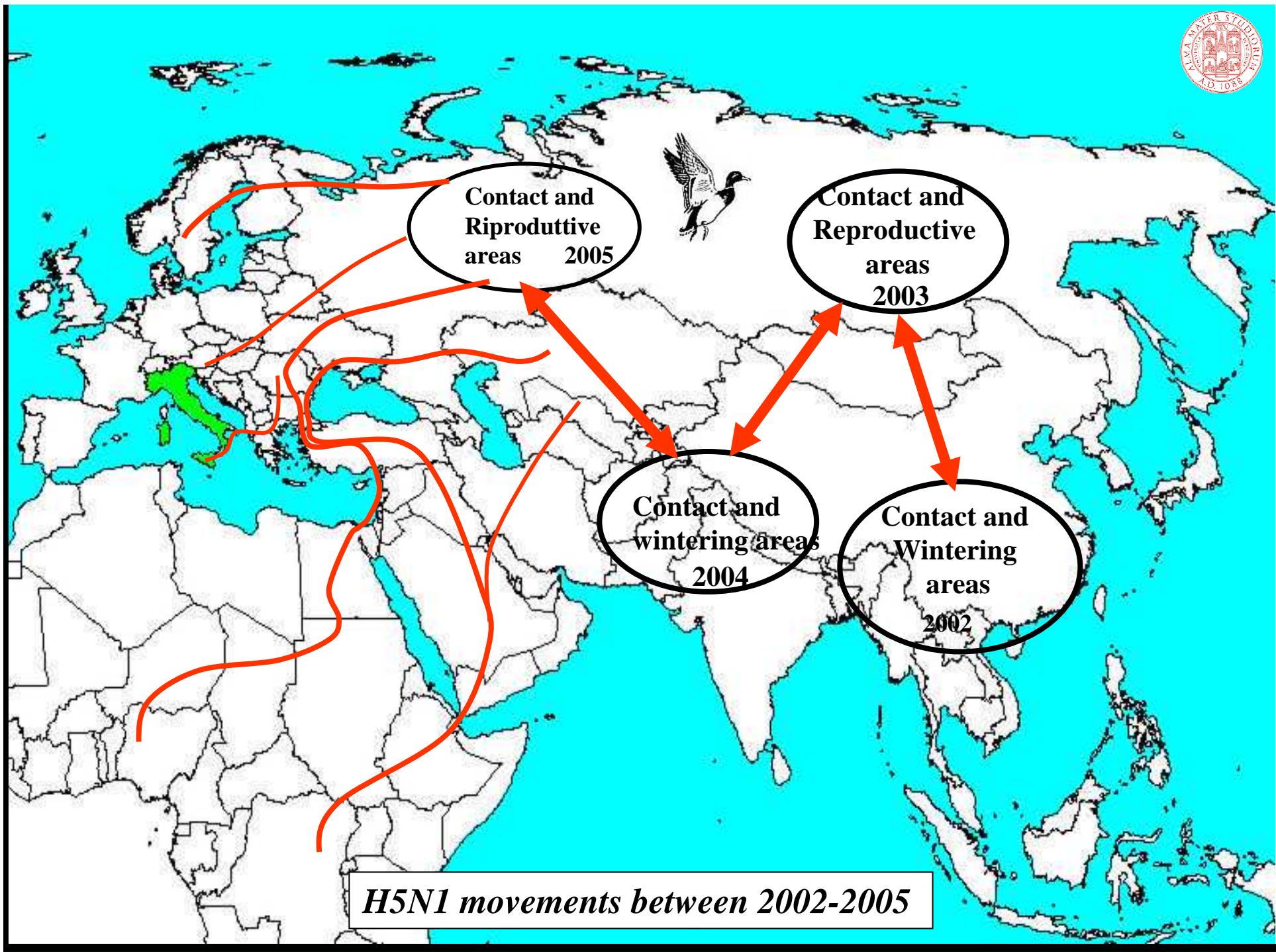




#### FACTORS CODITIONING THE VIRAL SPREAD

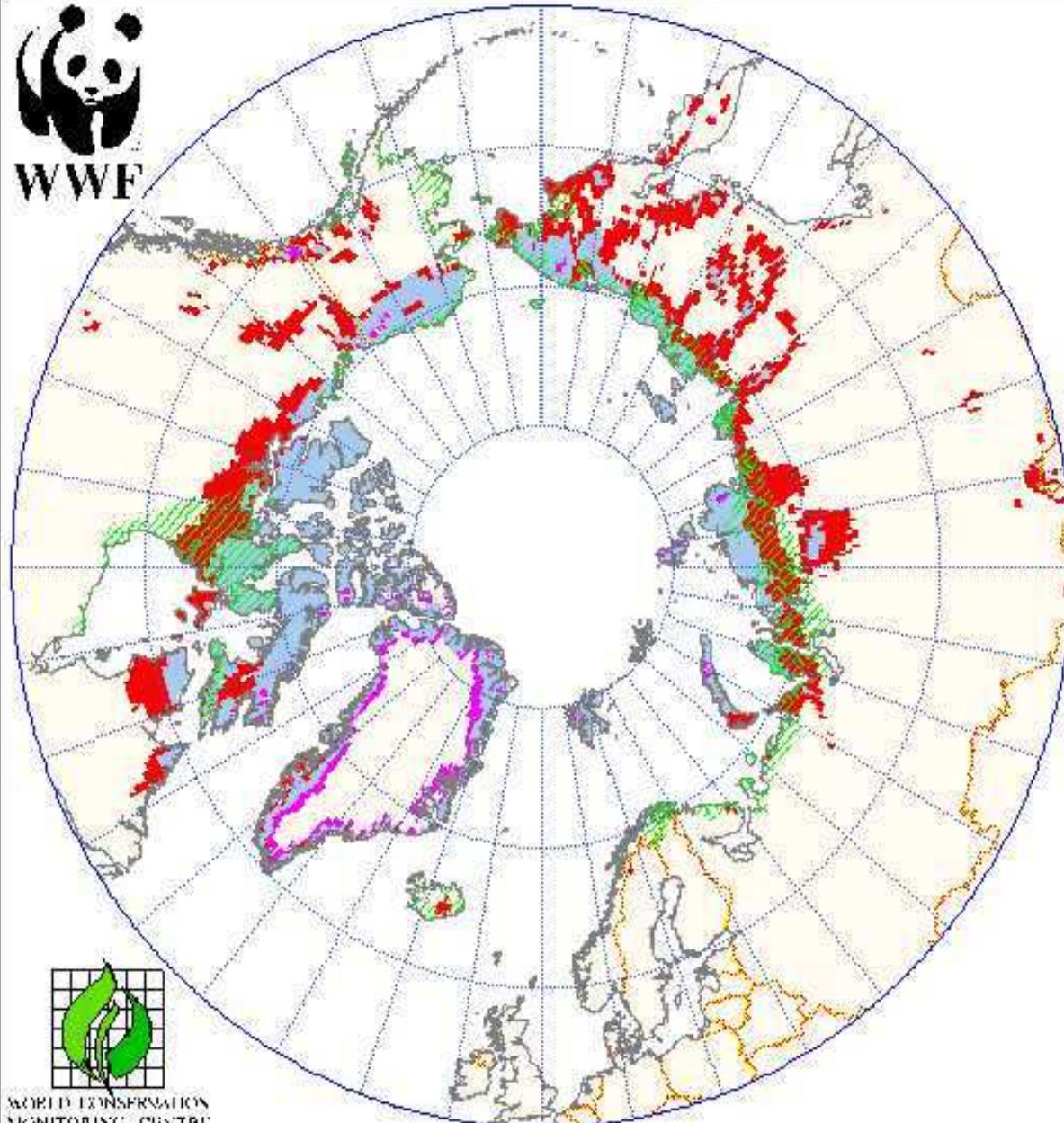
- Incubation period
- Virus shedding
- Age of the bird
- Persistence of the virus in the environment
- Dimension of the flock
- Migration activities
- Congregation factors
- Season
- Others

In Late 2002 an outbreak of HPAI H5N1 cause dead among resident waterfowl and wild migratory birds in two Hong Kong nature parks. (Sturm, Ramirez *et al.* 2003)





WWF



## Climate Change and Biodiversity - Arctic Water Birds

Figure 21. Dunlin  
(*Calidris alpina*)

### LEGEND:

#### Bird distribution:

- Breeding Areas
- Breeding Areas, High Density

Change in Tundra Zone Over the Period of Doubling of CO<sub>2</sub> (60-100 years) Predicted as Moderate Warming by HadCM3 GCM Climate Change Model

- Tundra, No Change
- Tundra Loss
- Expansion of Tundra
- Unclassified Land

0 1000 2000 3000 km

The material and the geographical designations in this report do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of WWF concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Compiled by I. Lysenko and C. Zockler  
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Date printed: 30 January 2000



WORLD CONSERVATION  
MONITORING CENTRE



STUDY AREA

ORBETELLO LAGOON  
TUSCANY - ITALY



VIROLOGICAL AND SEROLOGICAL  
INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM  
(ISS - OMS National Influenza Center)  
AMONG WILD WATERFOWL, SINCE 1992

Image © 2006 DigitalGlobe

Pointer 42°26'04.56" N 11°12'11.16" E

Streaming ||||||| 100%

Eye alt 11.58 mi

## *Monitoring the lagoon with sentinel ducks*



# *Research in the reservoir species:*

Fecal dropping



Duck trapping



cloacal swabs



Blood sampling



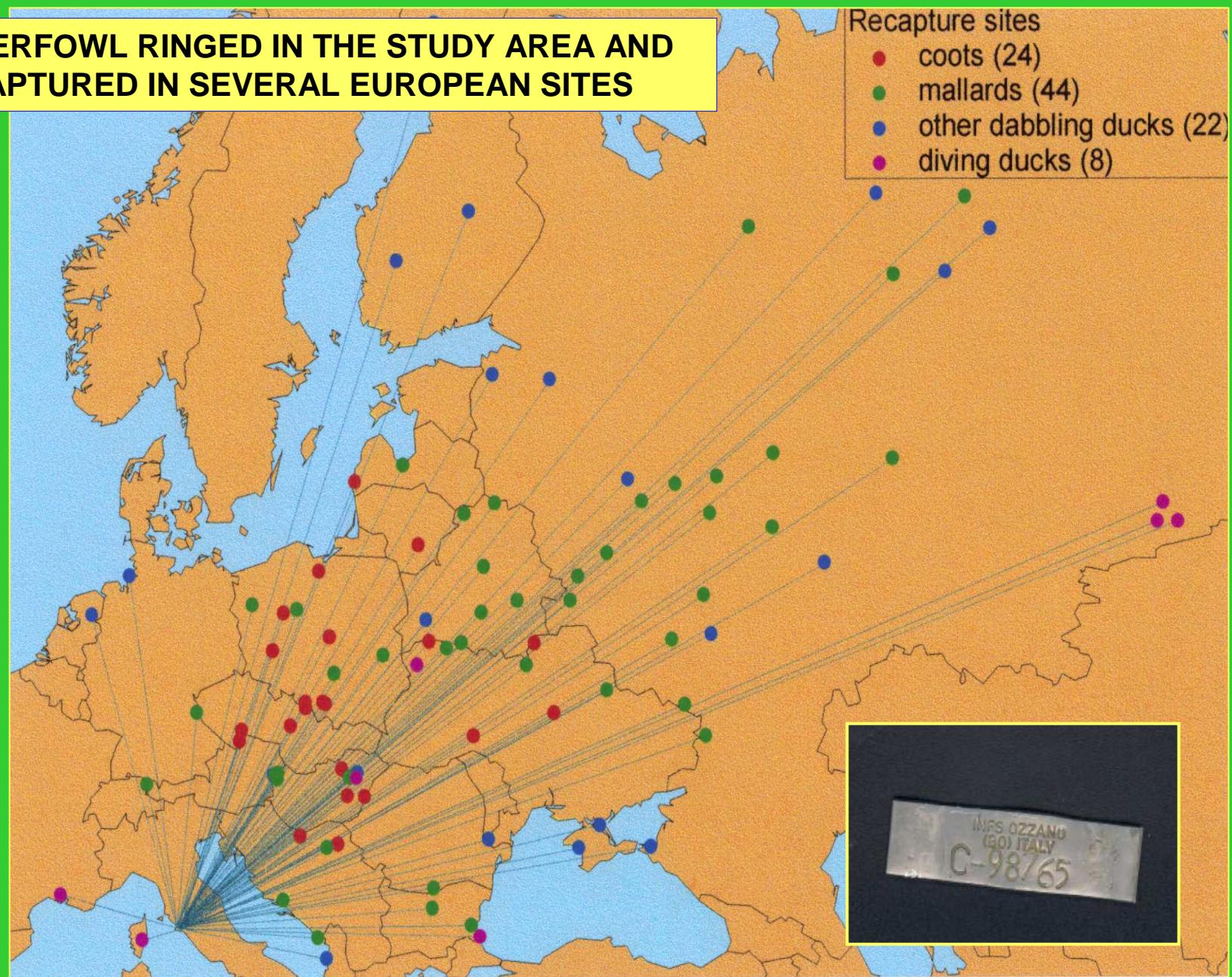
Ringing



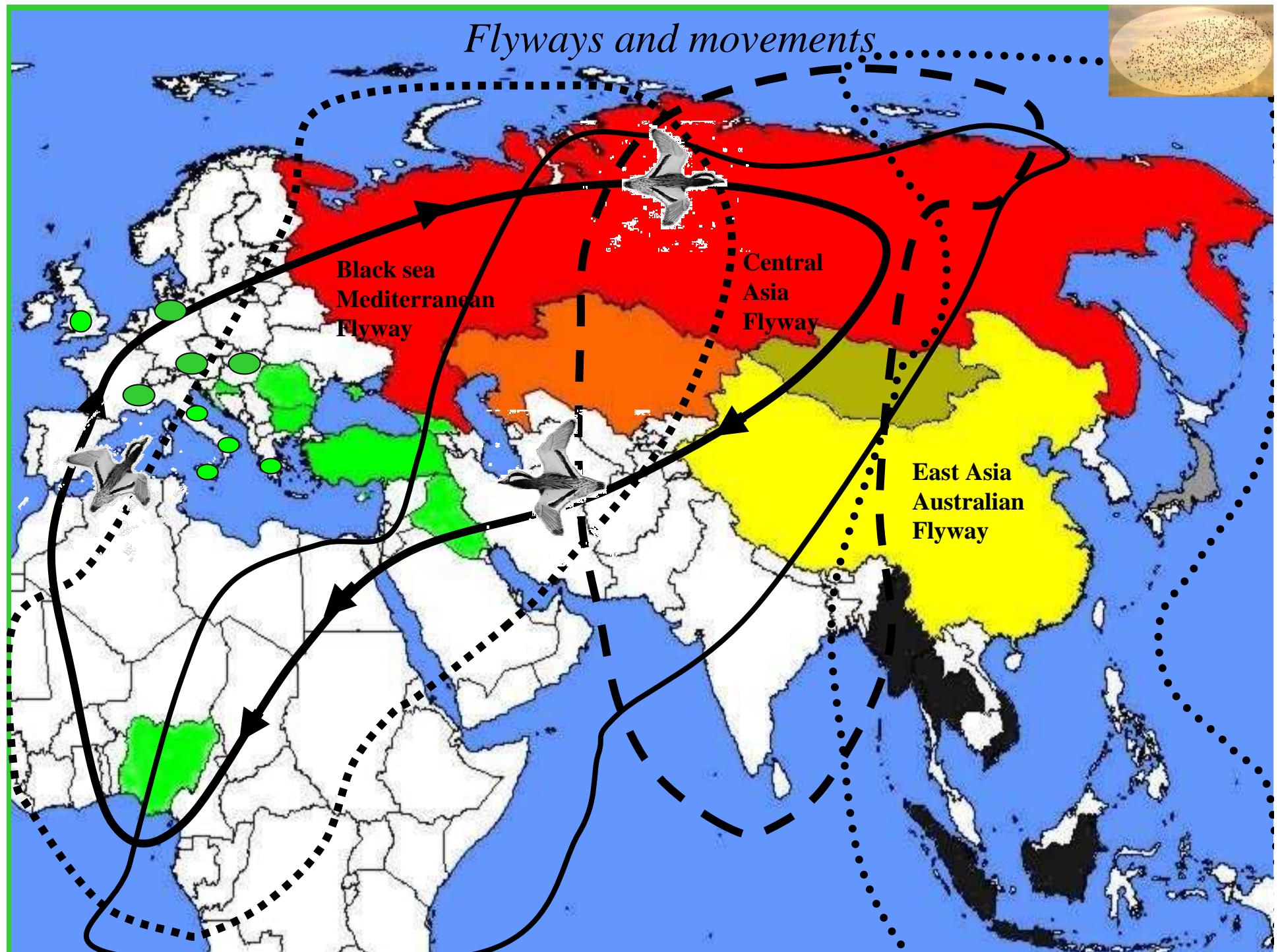
## WATERFOWL RINGED IN THE STUDY AREA AND RECAPTURED IN SEVERAL EUROPEAN SITES

Recapture sites

- coots (24)
- mallards (44)
- other dabbling ducks (22)
- diving ducks (8)



## *Flyways and movements*



## **1 - Mallard duck**



## **2 - Other dabbling Duck**



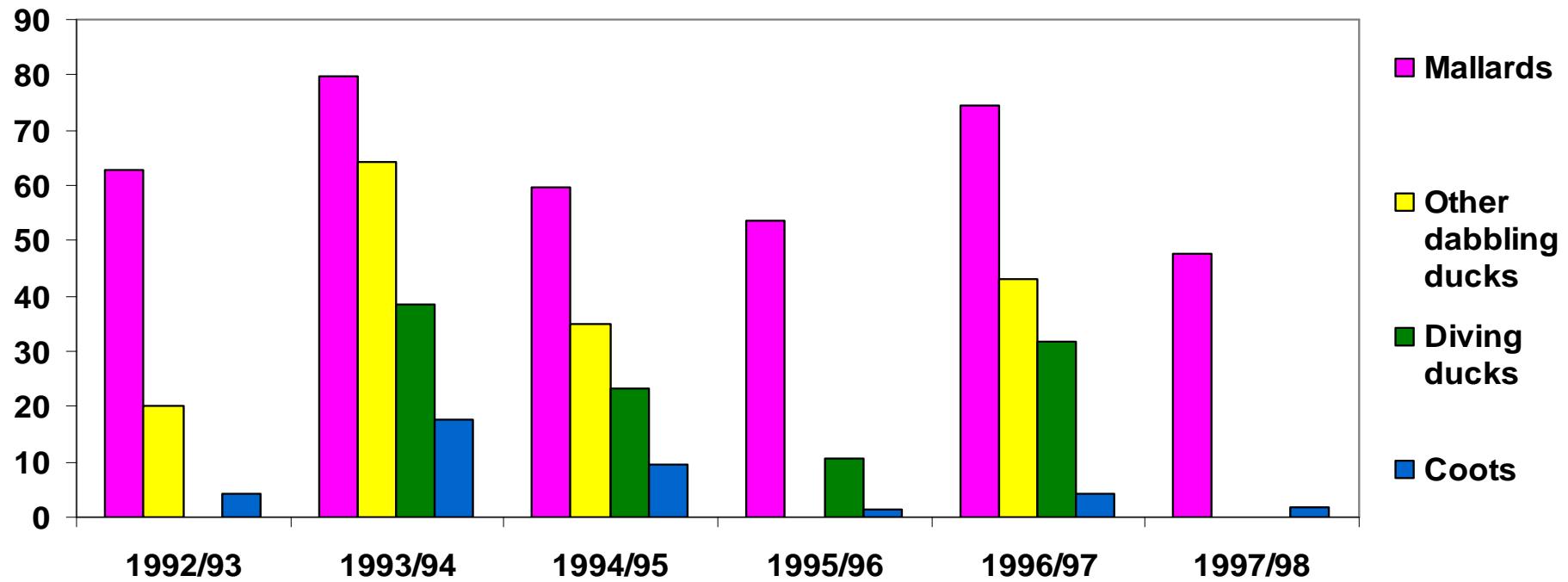
## **3- diving Duck**



## **4 - Coots**



## SEROPREVALENCES TO INFLUENZA A VIRUSES IN WINTERING WATERFOWL (N°1040 SAMPLED BIRDS)

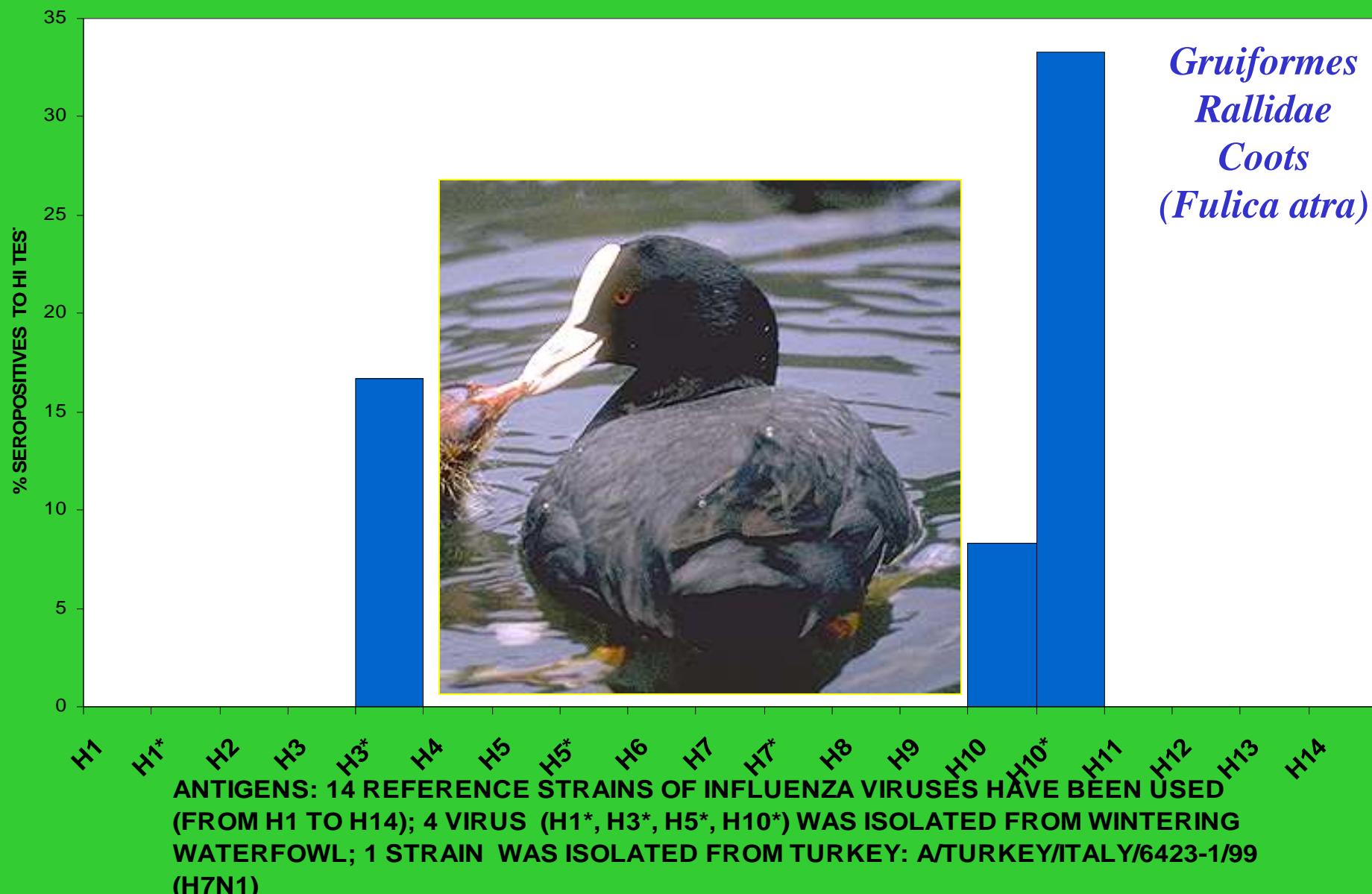


### Results:

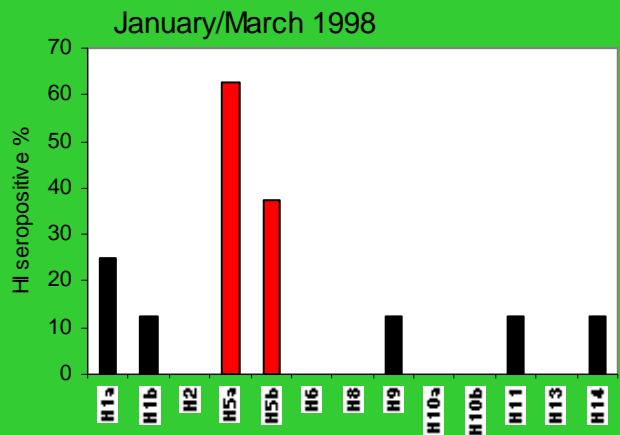
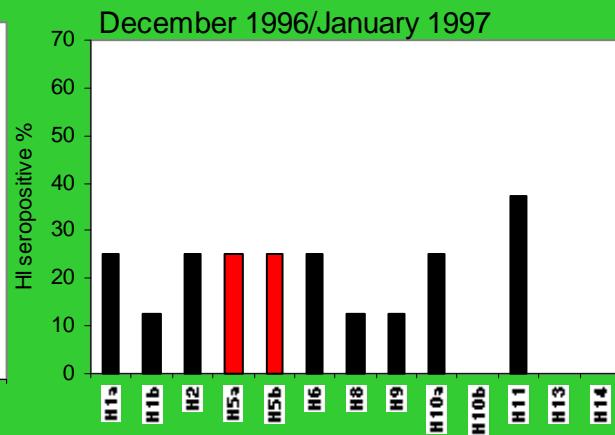
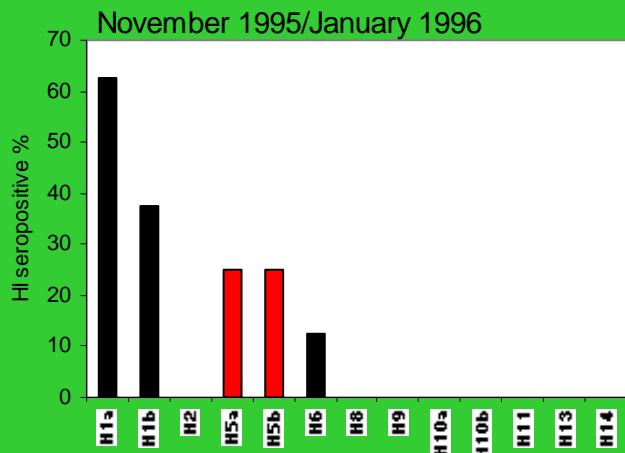
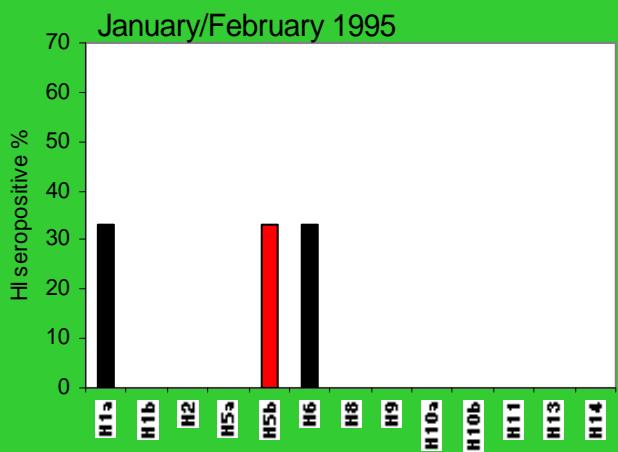
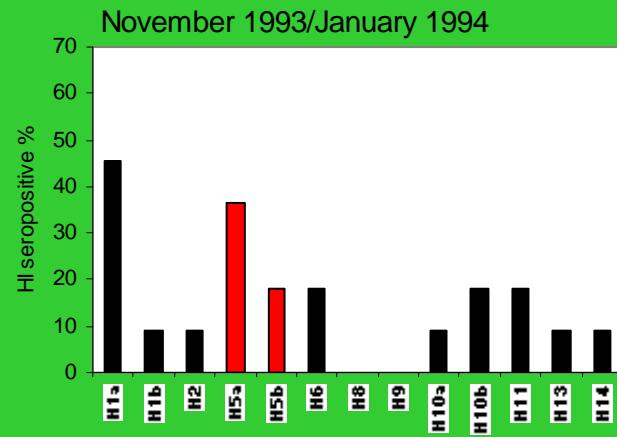
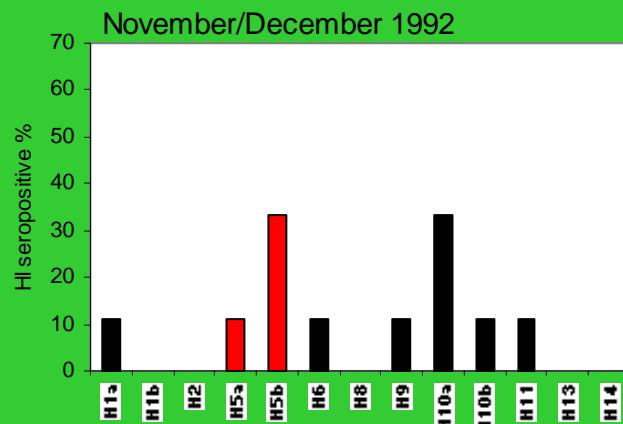
During all years, strong relations are shown in the seroprevalence of the duck groups.

Seroprevalences are higher in adults than young Coots  
No differences related to the age were shown in ducks

SEROLOGICAL PERCENTAGE OF COOTS (*Fulica atra*) FOUND SEROPOSITIVE  
TO SUBTYPES OF INFLUENZA VIRUSES (1992-1998)  
VALUES CALCULATED ON 24 COOTS NP-ELISA POSITIVE

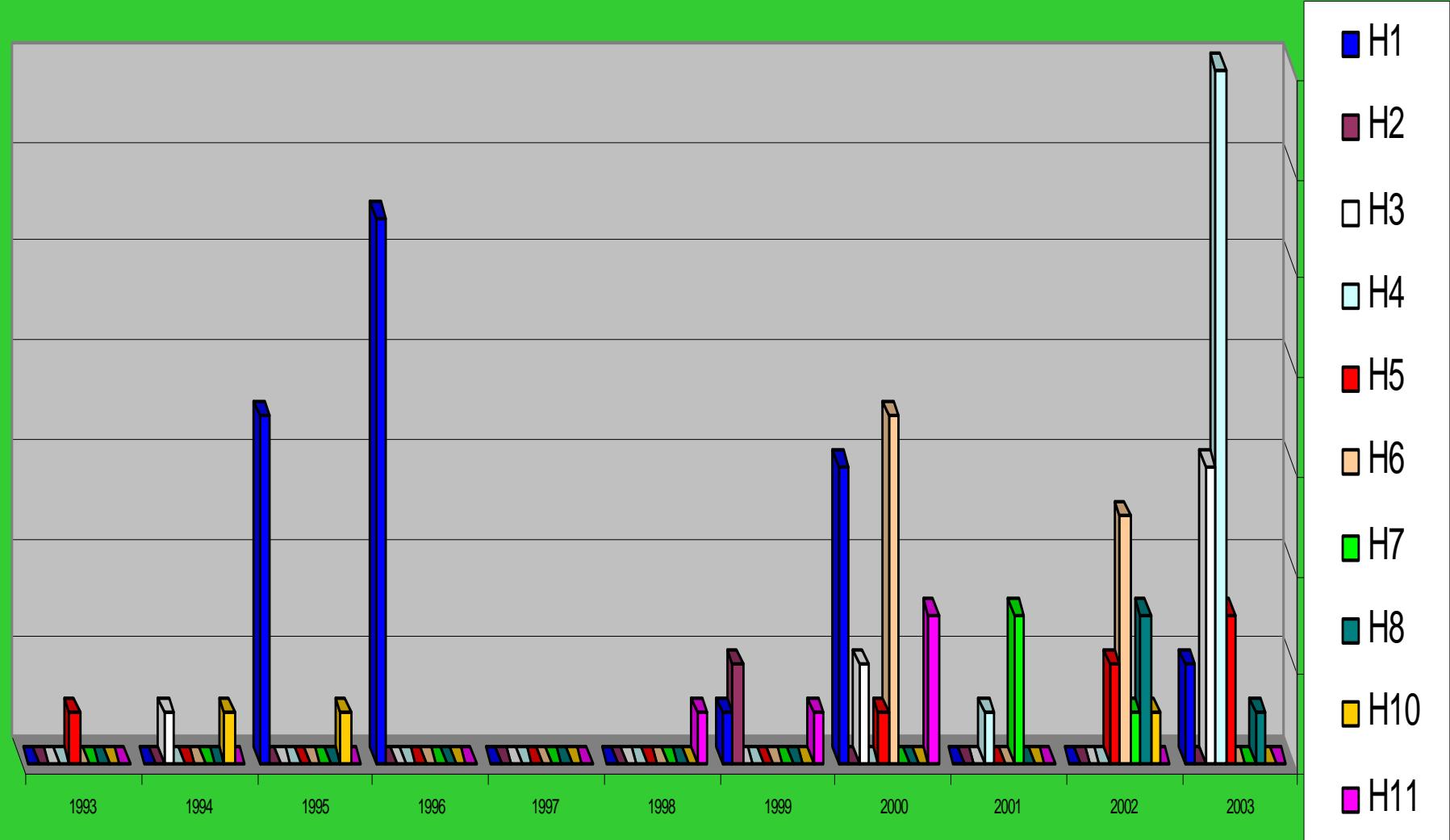


Percentuale di anatre HI-sieropositive, calcolate durante 6 periodi di svernamento (1992-1998) su animali NP-ELISA sieropositivi (N. 47) e con anticorpi verso almeno un sottotipo H ( = H5)



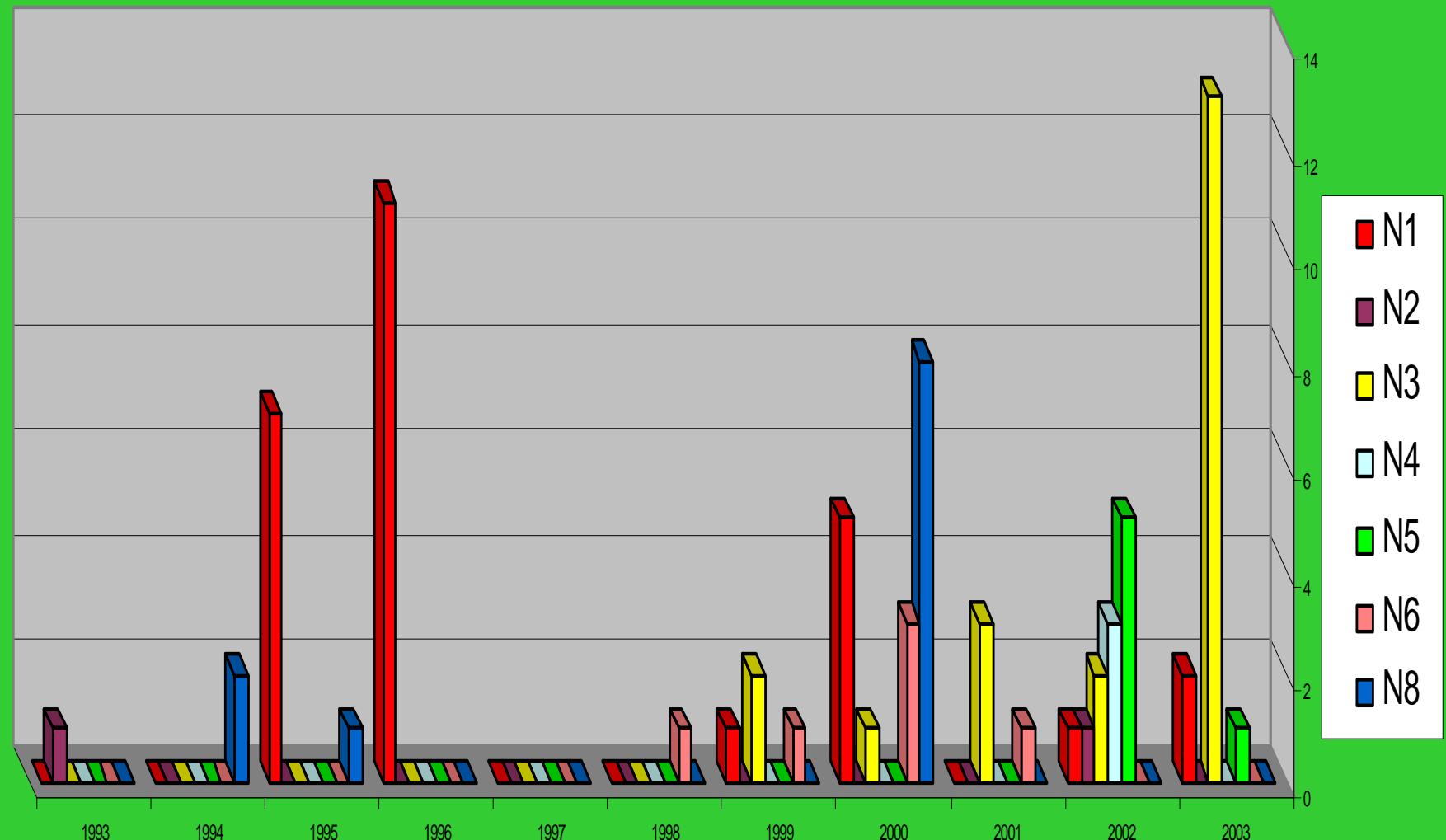


ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION OF HA INFLUENZA SUBTYPES ISOLATED FROM 2524 FERAL DUCKS AND E 582 COOTS  
IN ITALY (1993-2003)

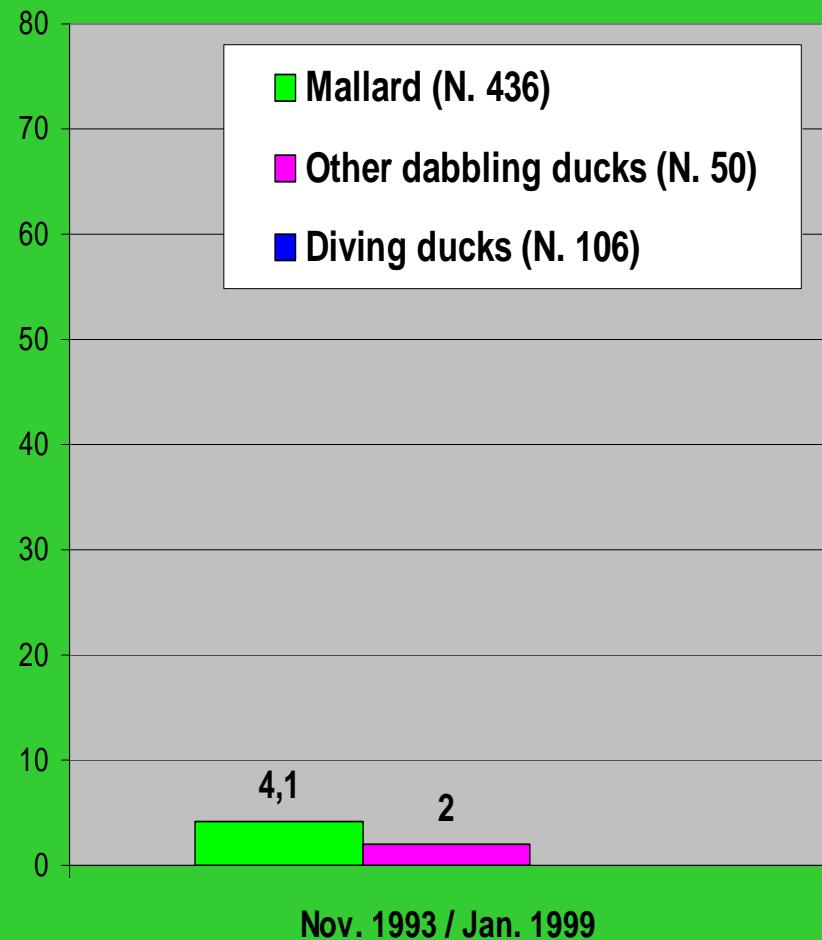


*H5N1 19/09/2005  
Mirandola (MO)*

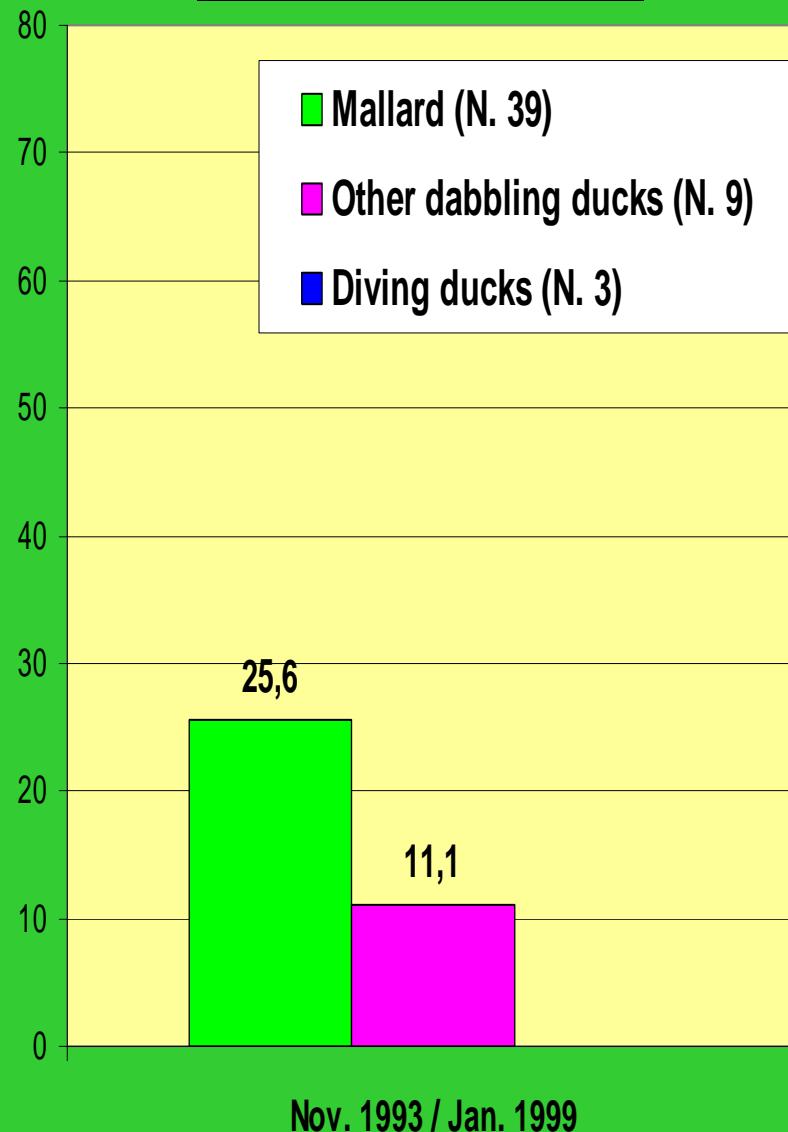
ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION OF NA INFLUENZA SUBTYPES ISOLATED FROM 2524 FERAL DUCKS AND E 582 COOTS  
IN ITALY (1993-2003)



### VIRUS ISOLATION PREVALENCE % IN CAPTURED DUCKS



### SEROCONVERSION % IN RECAPTURED DUCKS





Available online at [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)

SCIENCE @ DIRECT<sup>®</sup>

Virology 323 (2004) 24–36

VIROLOGY

[www.elsevier.com/locate/yviro](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/yviro)

## Interspecies transmission of an H7N3 influenza virus from wild birds to intensively reared domestic poultry in Italy

Laura Campitelli,<sup>a,\*</sup> Elvira Mogavero,<sup>a</sup> Maria Alessandra De Marco,<sup>b</sup> Mauro Delogu,<sup>c</sup> Simona Puzelli,<sup>a</sup> Fabiola Frezza,<sup>a</sup> Marzia Faccinini,<sup>a</sup> Chiara Chiapponi,<sup>d</sup> Emanuela Foni,<sup>d</sup> Paolo Cordioli,<sup>e</sup> Richard Webby,<sup>f</sup> Giuseppe Barigazzi,<sup>d</sup> Robert G. Webster,<sup>f</sup> and Isabella Donatelli<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Virology, Istituto Superiore Santa' Lucia, Rome, Italy

<sup>b</sup>Istituto Nazionale per la Fauna Selvatica "A. Ghini", Ozzano Emilia (BO), Italy

<sup>c</sup>Department of Public Health and Animal Pathology, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Bologna, Bologna, Italy

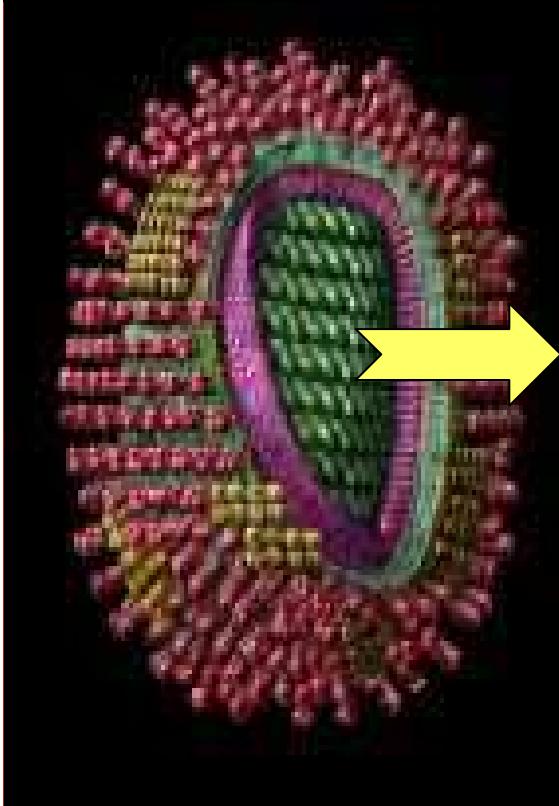
<sup>d</sup>Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Lombardia ed Emilia, Parma, Italy

<sup>e</sup>Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Lombardia ed Emilia, Brescia, Italy

<sup>f</sup>Virology Division, Department of Infectious Diseases, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, TN 38105, USA

Received 10 September 2003; returned to author for revision 29 October 2003; accepted 17 February 2004

Available online 21 April 2004



Type A  
(8 RNA segments)

-PB1, PB2, PB3

-PA)

4° - HA (Haemoagglutinin)

5° - NP(Nucleoprotein)

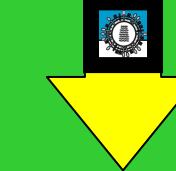
6° - NA (Neuroaminidase)

7° - M1, M2 (MatrixProt.)

8° - NS .1, NS 2



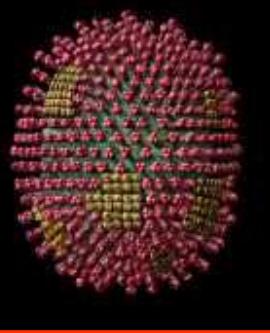
H7N3  
FIRST  
ANCESTOR



Viruses analyzed in this study

Virus	Subtype	Date of isolation	Location
A/Mallard/Italy/35/99	H2N3	December 1999	Tuscany
A/Mallard/Italy/36/99	H2N3	December 1999	Tuscany
A/Mallard/Italy/208/00	H5N3	August 2000	Tuscany
A/Mallard/Italy/33/01	H7N3	October 2001	Tuscany
A/Mallard/Italy/43/01	H7N3	October 2001	Tuscany
A/Turkey/Italy/214845/02	H7N3	October 2002	Lombardia
A/Turkey/Italy/220158/02	H7N3	October 2002	Lombardia

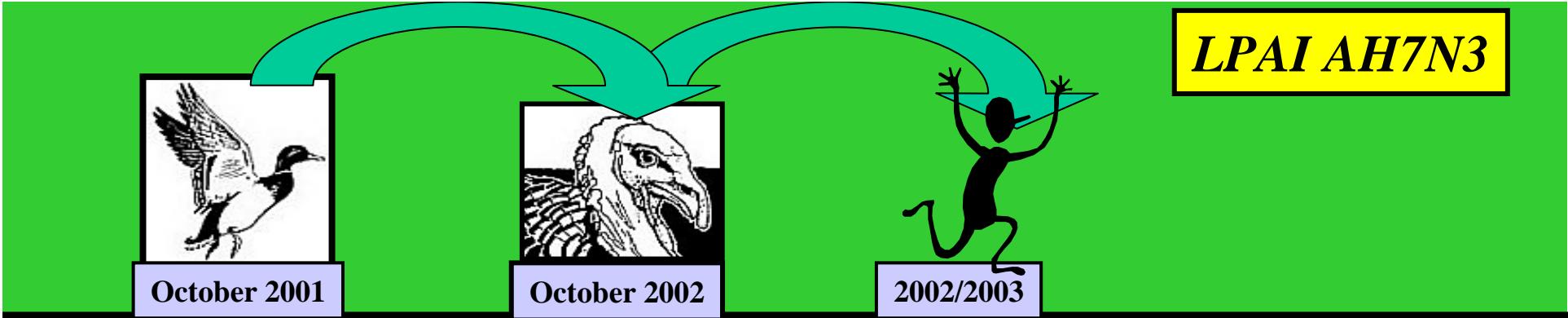
Note. All isolates were obtained from cloacal swabs. None of the animals from which the isolates were obtained showed any disease signs at the time of sample collection. However, 2 weeks before collection, the two birds that were the sources of A/Turkey/Italy/214845/02 and A/Turkey/Italy/220158/02 had shown mild respiratory symptoms, which were diagnosed and treated as mycoplasmosis.



	30	40	50	60	70	80
Tern/Astr/775/83	H13	AFNAVIHGKVENNKCETTPPTTPHPVYNCSDTVITKNHTTINNITVVFQDPETHFRLPL				
Mallard/It/208/00	H5	IFNTVIHEKIGDHQTVVYPTITAPVVPNCSDTIITYNNTVVNNITTTIITKAEKHFKSSL				
Mallard/It/35/00	H2	IFNTVIHEKIGDHQTVVYPTIAAPVVSNCSDTIITYNNTVVNNITTTIITKAEKHFKSSL				
Mallard/It/36/00	H2	IFNTVIHEKIGDHQTVVYPTIAAPVVSNCSDTIITYNNTVVNNITTTIITKAEKHFKSSL				
Mallard/It/33/01	H7	IFNTVIHEKIGDHQTVVYPTVTAPVVPNCSDTIITYNNTVVNNITTTIVTKAETHFKSSL				
Mallard/It/43/01	H7	IFNTVIHEKIGDHQTVVYPTVTAPVVPNCSDTIITYNNTVVNNITTTIVTKAETHFKSSL				
Turkey/It/214845/02	H7	IFNTVIHGKIGDHQTVVYPTVTAPVV.....				TKAEPHFKSSL
Turkey/It/220158/02	H7	IFNTVIHGKIGDHQTVVYPTVTAPVV.....				TKAEPHFKSSL
Pigeon/Nan/9-366/00	H3	IFNAVIHEKIGDHQTVIYPTITPPVVPNCSDTIITYNNTVVNNITTTIITKAEKHFKSSL				
Bantam/Nan/9-058/00	H3	IFNAVIHEKIGDHQTVIYPTITPPVVPNCSDTIITYNNTVVNNITTTIITKAEKHFKSSL				
Duck/Ger/1215/73	H2	IFNTVIHEKIGDHSTVVYPTITTPVVPNCSDTIITYNNTVINNITTTIITEAERHFKPSL				
Turkey/Min/916/80	H7	VFNTVIHEKIGDHQTVIHPTIMTPAVPNCSDTIITYNNTVINNITTTIITEAERLFKPPL				
Ruddy Turnstone/NJ/65/85	H7	IFNTVIHEKIGDHQTVIHPTITTPAVPNCSDTIITYNNTVINNITTTIITEAERPFKPPL				
	***	***	*	**	*	*

Fig. 2. Alignment of the NA stalk region of N3 viruses. The full names of virus strains are as indicated in Fig. 4. Potential glycosylation sites are underlined. Asterisks indicate conserved amino acid residues.





**LPAI AH7N3**

October 2001

October 2002

2002/2003

# Serological Analysis of Serum Samples from Humans Exposed to Avian H7 Influenza Viruses in Italy between 1999 and 2003

Simona Puzelli,<sup>1</sup> Livia Di Trani,<sup>2</sup> Concetta Fabiani,<sup>1</sup> Laura Campitelli,<sup>1</sup>  
Maria Alessandra De Marco,<sup>3</sup> Ilaria Capua,<sup>4</sup> Jean Francois Aguilera,<sup>5</sup>  
Maria Zambon,<sup>5</sup> and Isabella Donatelli<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Infectious, Parasitic and Immuno-Mediated Diseases

<sup>2</sup> Department of Food and Animal Health, **Istituto Superiore di Sanità**, Rome,

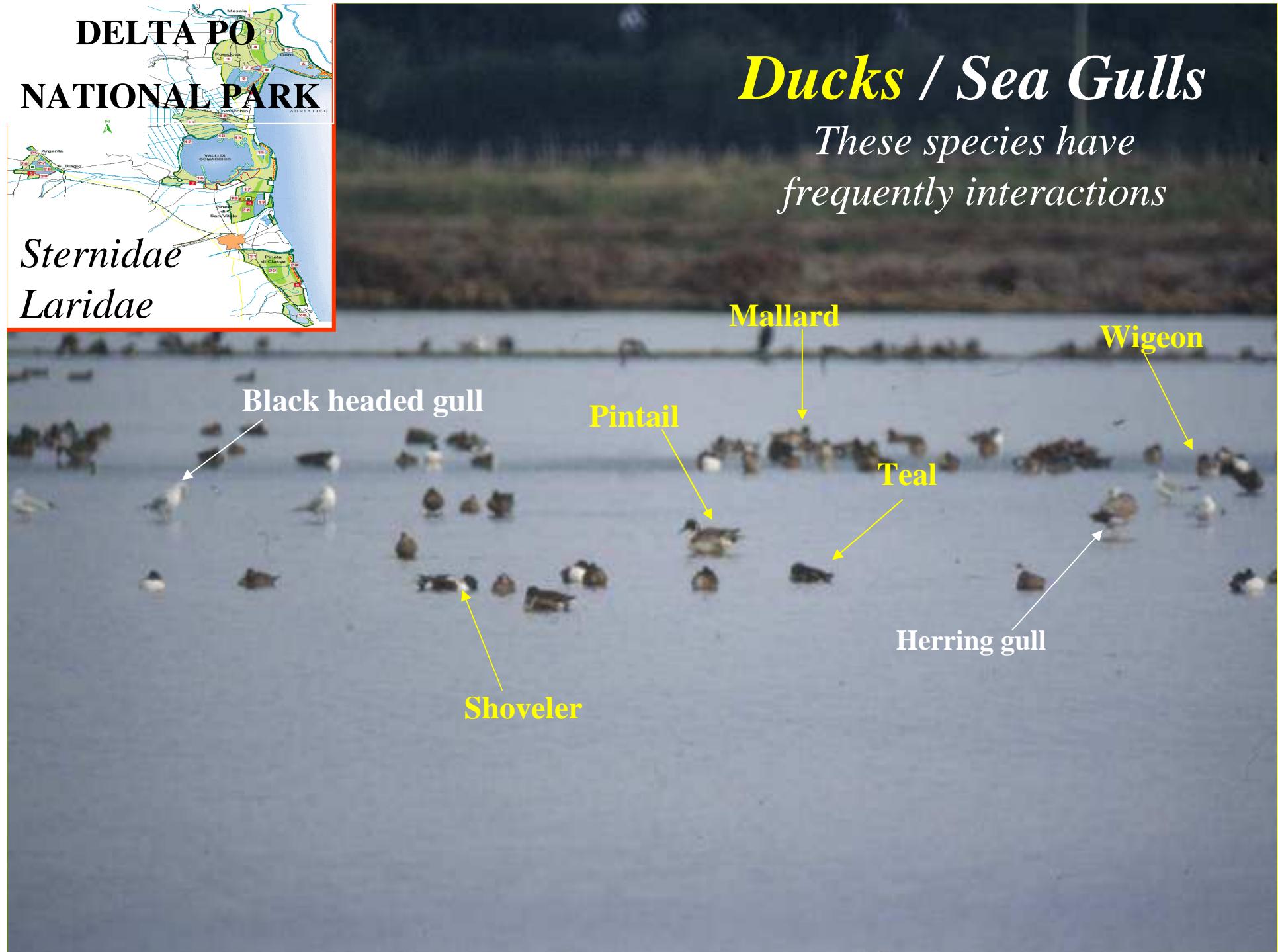
<sup>3</sup> Istituto Nazionale per la Fauna Selvatica, Ozzano Emilia, Bologna,

<sup>4</sup> Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie, Legnaro, Padova, Italy;

<sup>5</sup> Centre for Infection, Health Protection Agency, London, United Kingdom

## References

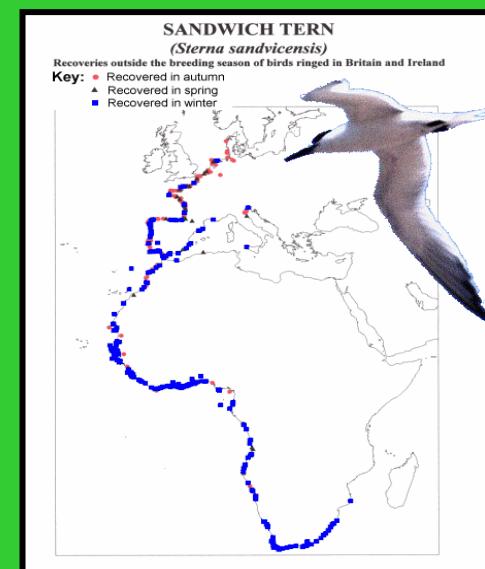
1. Puzelli S. et al. Serological analysis of serum samples from humans exposed to avian H7 influenza viruses in Italy between 1999 and 2003. *J Infect Dis* 2005; 192:XXX–XX.



# *Sternidae*

Species	N° esamined	N° Positives	Prevalence (%)
<i>Common Tern</i>	41	1	2,4
<i>Little Tern</i>	13	1	7,7
<i>Sandwich Tern</i>	71	1	1,4
<i>Black Tern</i>	15	2	13,3
<b>Total</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3,6</b>

Emilia Romagna Region  
2001, Italy  
Type A seroprevalence

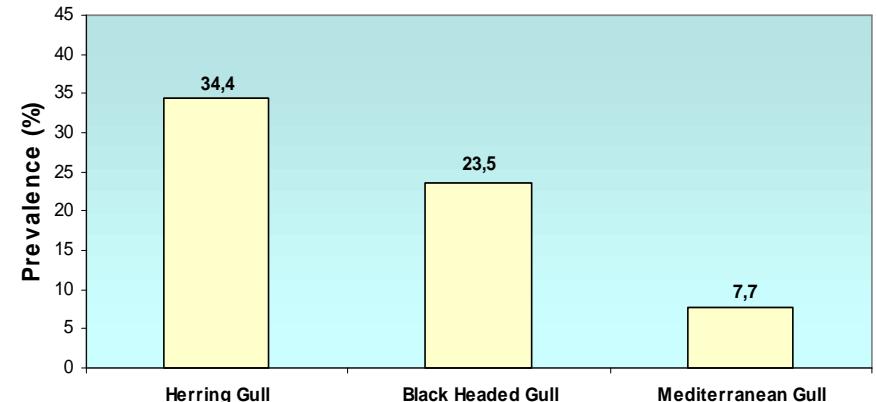




## *Laridae*

Emilia Romagna Region, 2001  
Italy, Type A seroprevalence

- Seroprevalences for type A influenza viruses in *Laridae* trapped in Emilia Romagna Region



\*One adult of Herring Gull was H7 seropositive

Species	N° esamined	N° positives	Prevalence (%)
<i>Mediterranean Herring Gull *</i>	32	11	34,4
<i>Black headed Gull</i>	17	4	23,5
<i>Mediterranean Gull</i>	52	4	7,7
<b>Total</b>	101	19	18,8



# Virological exams (Italy)

Herring Gull  
(Juveniles)

Emilia Romagna Region

in 1999: 64 samples

in 2000: 70 samples

All negatives to Avian influenza  
virus

*Nestling of Herring Gull*



*Passeriformes*

Sampled in Italian wetlands

*Acrocephalus scirpaceus*

*All cloacal swabs  
result negative to Avian  
influenza virus*

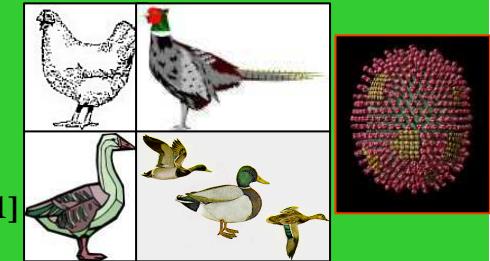
*Passer montanus*

Vet. Res. Comm. (De Marco et al, 2003)

# Modern Birds

## Neognathia

After Olson, 1985, Feduccia, 1980, 1996, Ericson, 1996, Caspers, Uit de Weerd, Wattel, & de Jong, 1997, van Tuinen, Sibley & Hedges, 2000, Carcà-Moreno & Mindell, 2000 and van Tuinen, Butvill, Kirsch & Hedges, 2001)



### Neognathia Huxley, 1867 [Neognathe] ( neognathous modern birds)

#### Galloanserae

- o Galloanserae
  - |-- Galliformes (fowls, chickens)
    - `-- "Anserimorphae" (duck-like birds; sorsamaiset linnut)
    - |? - †Dromornithiformes [*sensu?* Murray & Megirian [from Grellet-Tinner, 2001]]
      - Anseriformes (ducks, swans & geese)

#### Neoaves

- o Neoaves
  - o Mesitornithidae Wetmore, 1960 [Mesiornithes Wetmore, 1960])
    - |-- *Monias benschi* Oustalet & Grandidier, 1903
      - o *Mesitornis* Bonaparte, 1855
        - |-- *M. variegata*
        - |-- *M. unicolor*
  - o Gruimorphae
    - |? - †*Anisognathus excavatus*
    - |? - †Diatrymiformes [Neornithes *incertae sedis*]
    - |? - Gruiiformes Bonaparte, 1854 [Grues Bonaparte, 1854] (cranes and relatives)
    - |? -+ Phoenicopteriformes (flamingoes;)
    - |`-- Podicipediformes (grabes)
    - |? - Charadriomorphae (shorebird-like modern birds;)
    - |? - "The Land-bird Assemblage"
    - |? - Eurypygoidea Selby, 1840 [Eurypygæ Fürbringer, 1888] (sunbitterns)
    - |? - Rhynocheti [Rhynochetoidea Sharpe, 1891] (kagut; kagus)
    - |? - Otides Wagler, 1830 (bustards; )

Most evidence of the monophyly of Galloanserae come from molecular studies, and the group is not well supported by morphological grounds. However, the most recent, although preliminary, phylogenetical analysis of modern birds based on morphology (Livezey & Zusi, 2001, Meyr & Clarke, 2003) seem to confirm the monophyly of Galloanserae.

# **Galliformes**

( *Sedentary land based birds*)

February/March 1992/93/94

**Samples size:**

**394 Pheasants**

( *Phasianus colchicus torquatus*)

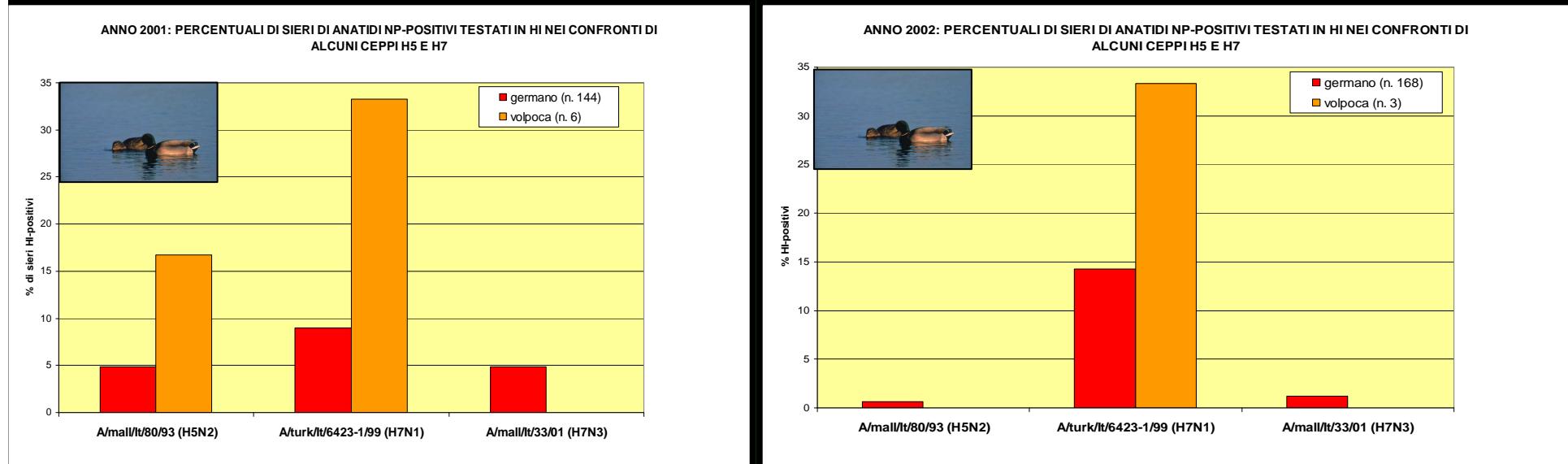
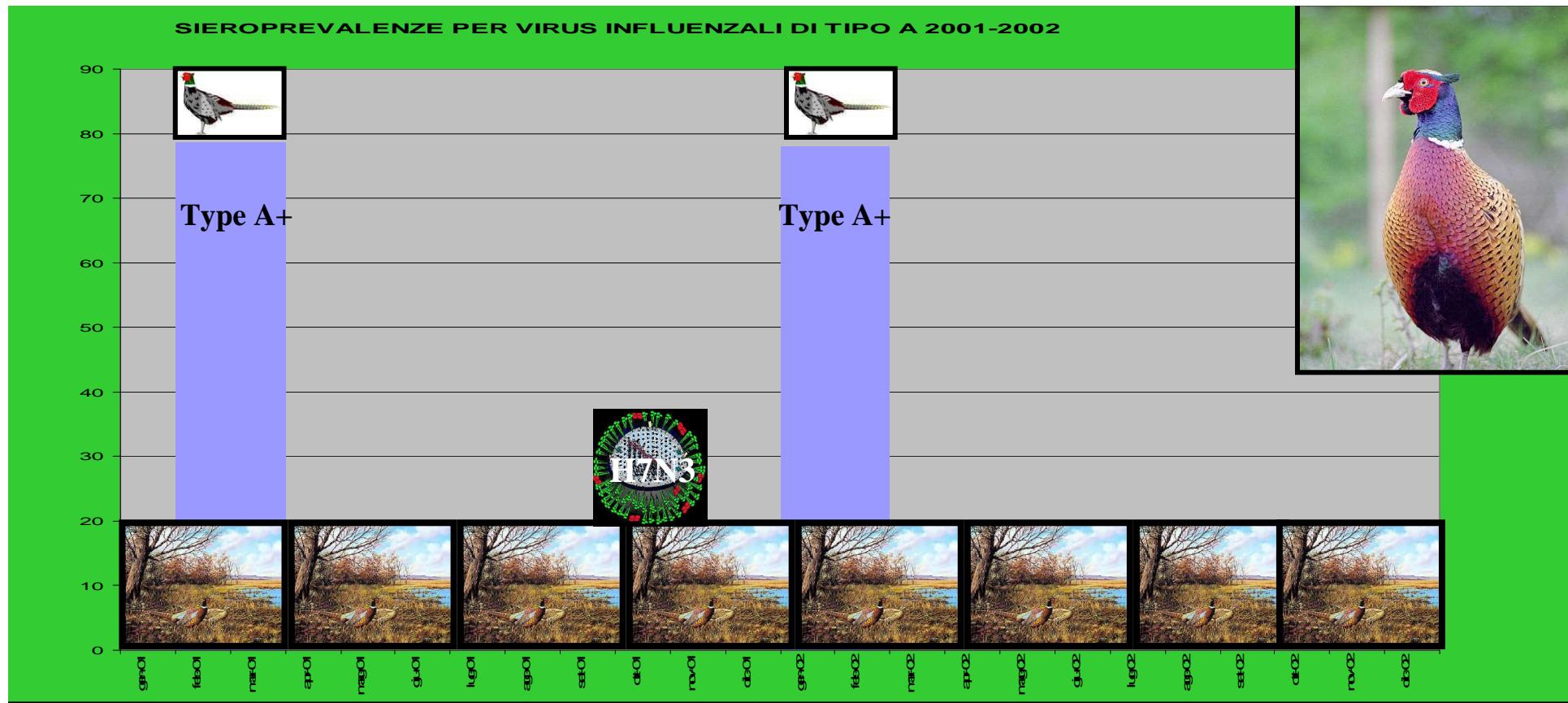
trapped in the wild

**30 Coming from  
reared groups**

**All sera were found  
negatives to type A Influenza viruses**



(De Marco *et al*, 2003 Vet. Res. Comm.)



## Owls

- **114 Owls**

All sera were negative to  
type A Influenza  
virus



## Birds of prey

- **33 Birds of Prey**
- **(Falcons and others)**



1 Buzzard and 1 Peregrine Falcon  
were positive to type A  
Influenza virus

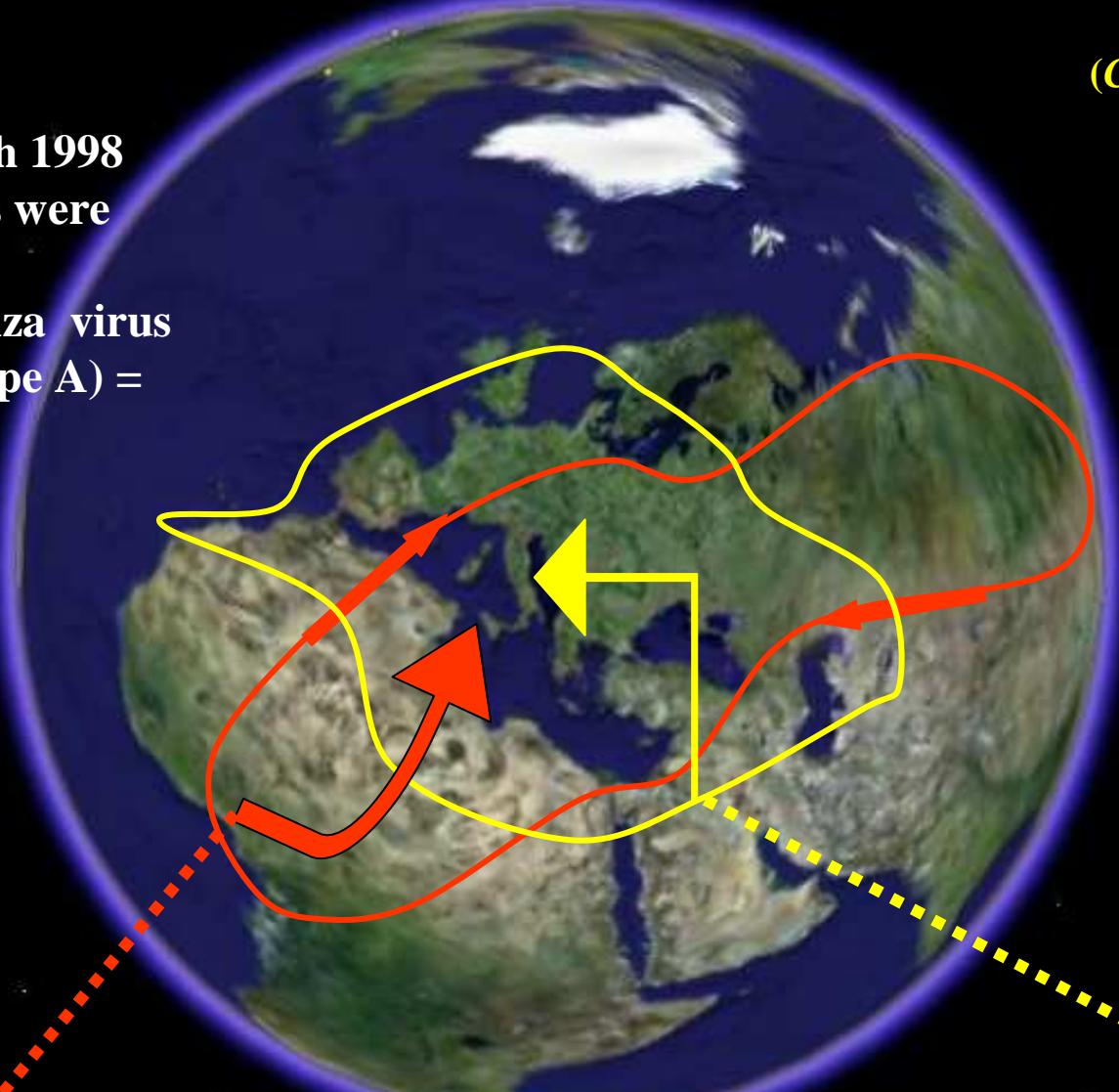
(Vet. Res. Comm. (De Marco et al, 2003))

**Trans-saharians migratory  
duck (*Anas querquedula*) 126  
Garganeys**

Trapped in Italian  
Wetlands in March 1998  
126 Cloacal Swabs were  
negatives  
for type A Influenza virus  
seroprevalence (type A) =  
9.6%  
All sampled ducks  
were negative for  
the H7 subtype



**Transaharian migratory birds:  
The Ethiopian Region  
Garganeys and Quails**



**Galliformes  
(Migratory land based birds)  
Samples size: 258  
Quails  
(*Coturnix coturnix c.*)**

Trapped in Italy  
during May 1998

All sera were found  
negatives to type A  
Influenza viruses



*Focolai e Censimenti aerei....*



Ministero della salute: Ordinanza del 11/02/2006

**MISURE URGENTI DI PROTEZIONE PER CASI DI INFLUENZA AVIARIA AD ALTA  
PATOGENICITÀ  
NEGLI UCCELLI SELVATICI**

**ZONA DI PROTEZIONE:**

**ABBATTIMENTO E DISTRUZIONE DEGLI ANIMALI SENSIBILI INFETTI,  
SOSPETTI DI INFEZIONE E DI CONTAMINAZIONE**



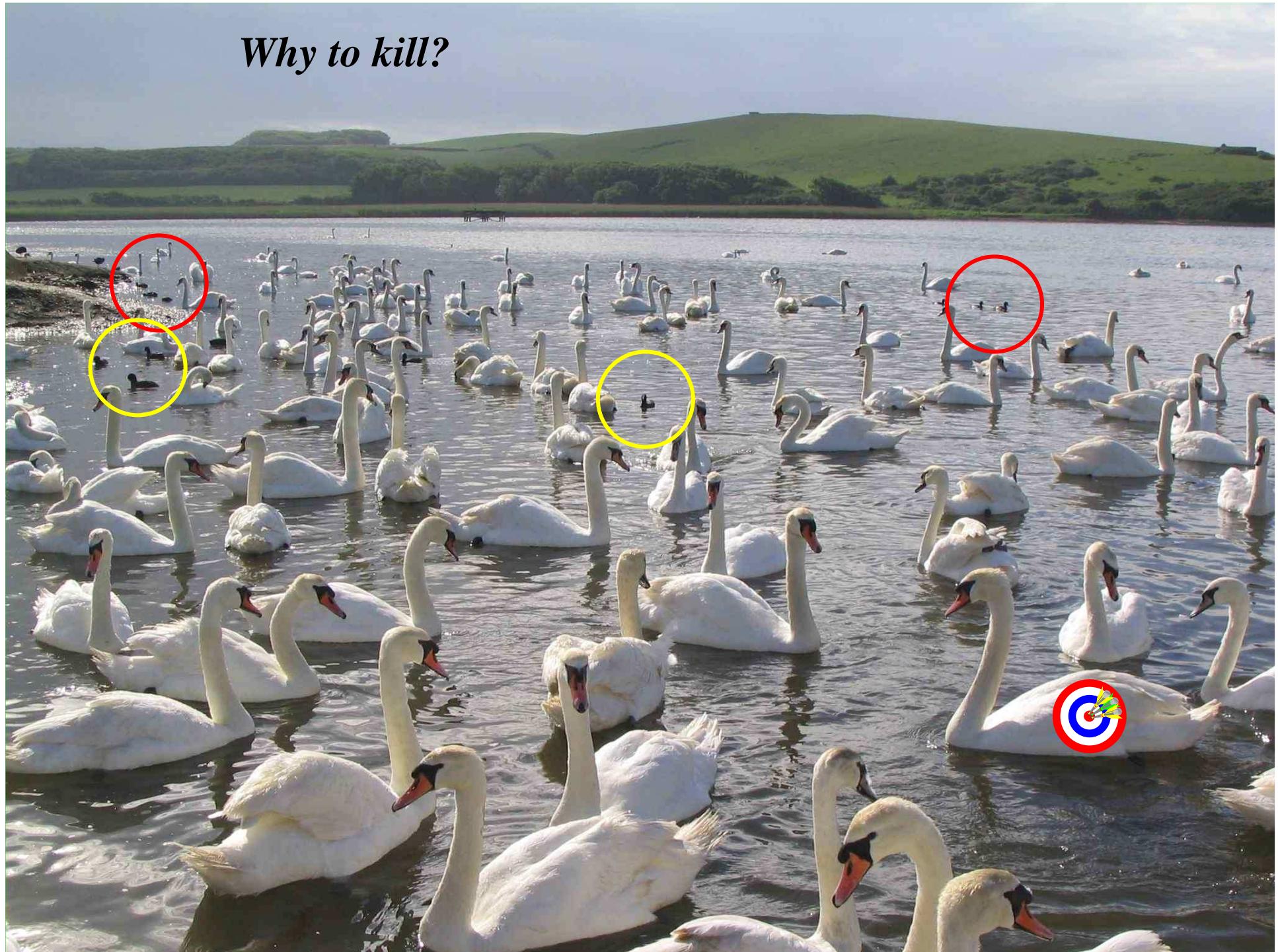
*ne trovate qualcuno in questa immagine?*

Circolare del Dipartimento della Sanità pubblica vet. 15 Febbraio 2006  
Agonizzanti...ovvero *Stato preagonico*  
*autorizzato dai Serv. Vet. Locali senza il rispetto della precedente*  
*procedura...ma con*



*Ordinanza del Sindaco su parere favorevole dei Serv. Vet. Locali sentite le unità di crisi regionali e locali*

*Why to kill?*





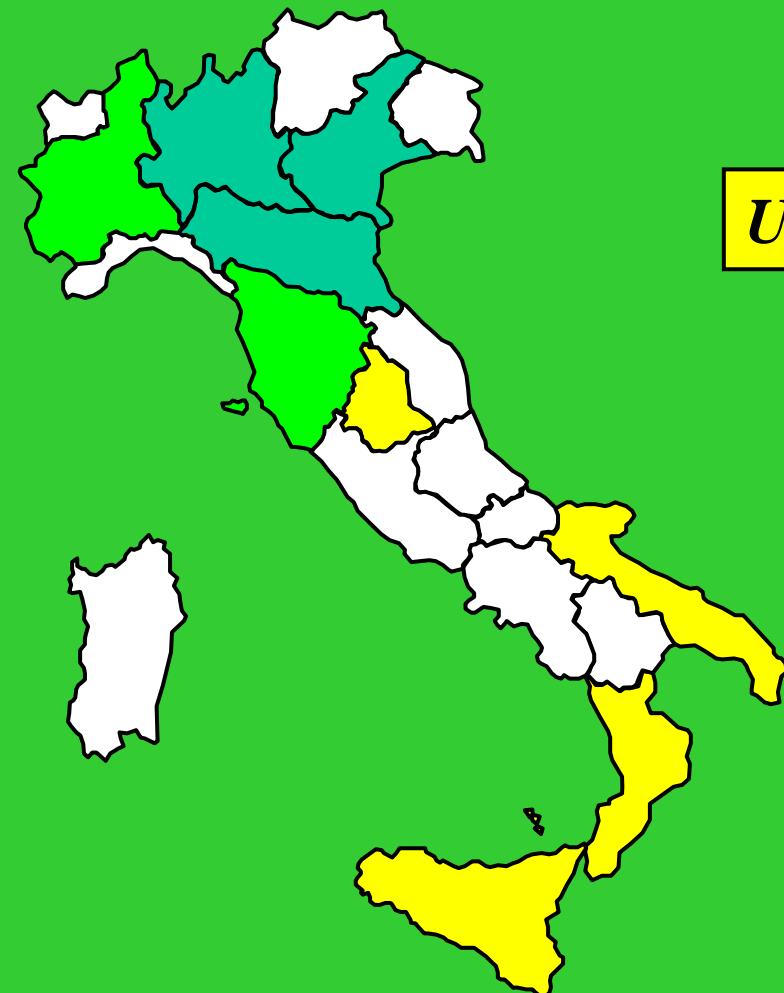
*The Anas castanea example*



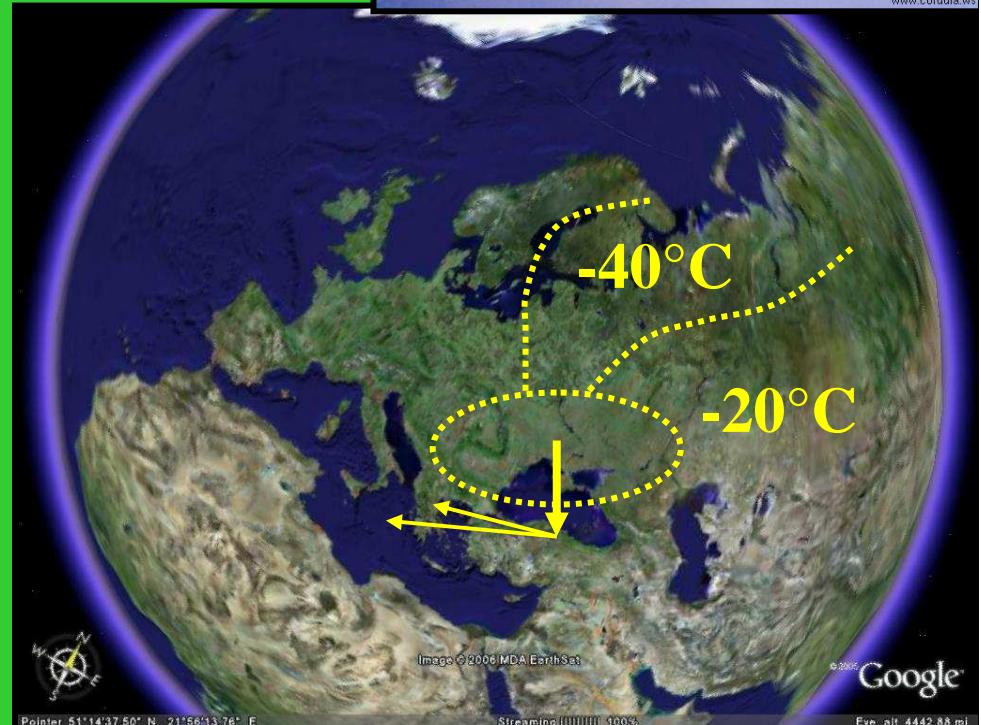
*Risk Areas?  
Theoretical.....*

?

*Out breeding and wandering birds*



*Unpredictable*

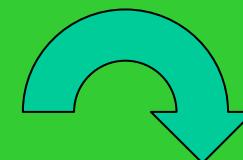


## *Avian Influenza Surveillance Program (Wild)*

Why (monitoring wild birds)?  
and Why not? (*Sentinel ducks, Fecal dropping*)  
**when, why**



Environmental viruses



**Viral resistance : ( from Stallknecht, 1999/ 2006)**

Drinking water :	4 days at 22°C
	30 days at 0°C
Distilled Water :	102 days at 28°C
	207 days at 17°C
Experimental conditions : 9 days at 28°C	
100 days at 17°C	

*Max infectivity  
salt water with PH 6.2  
water without salt PH 8.2*



**Viral resistance in Faeces:**

35 days at 4 °C, 7 days at 20 °C  
( data from Webster)





*dogs*



*Hunters*

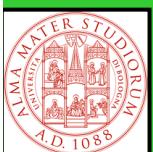


*Hunted birds*

## *Hunter's and health risk*



*Decoys*



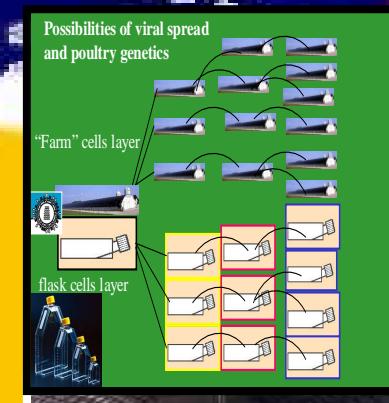
# What can the virus see Reservoir

# watching the Europe? Epiphenomena



**Wild ducks 7.5 mil. susceptible/year**  
In all the Palearctic (50.000 in Italy)

**Aquatic birds 23.5 mil.**  
**(230 species In all the Palearctic)**



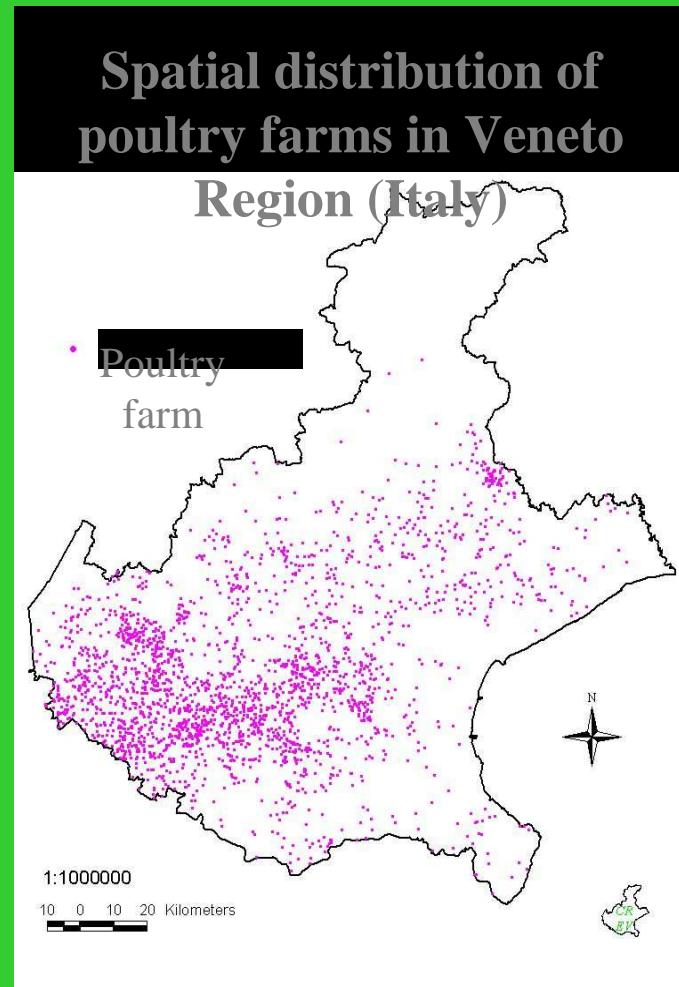
**Potential Domestic Reservoir:**  
**9.2 mil. (7 million of raised Ducks) /year.**  
**90% of these ducks are reared in the**  
**Lombardia and Veneto Italian Regions.**

**Domestic Epiphenomena : 4 Billion**  
**Susceptible host/year in Europe,**  
**over 560 milion/year in Italy**

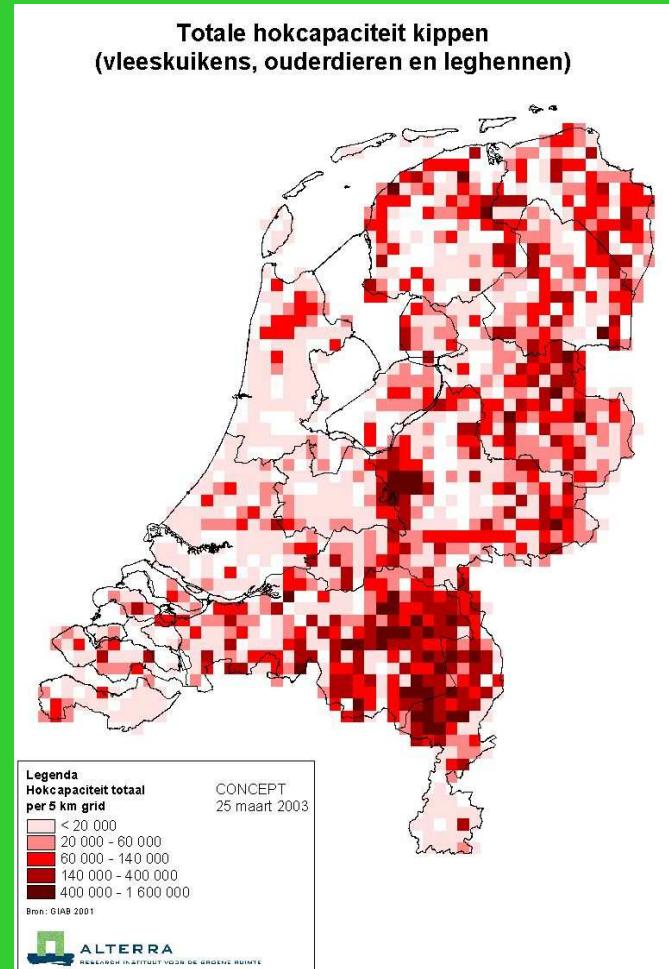
# Dispersione della popolazione avicola



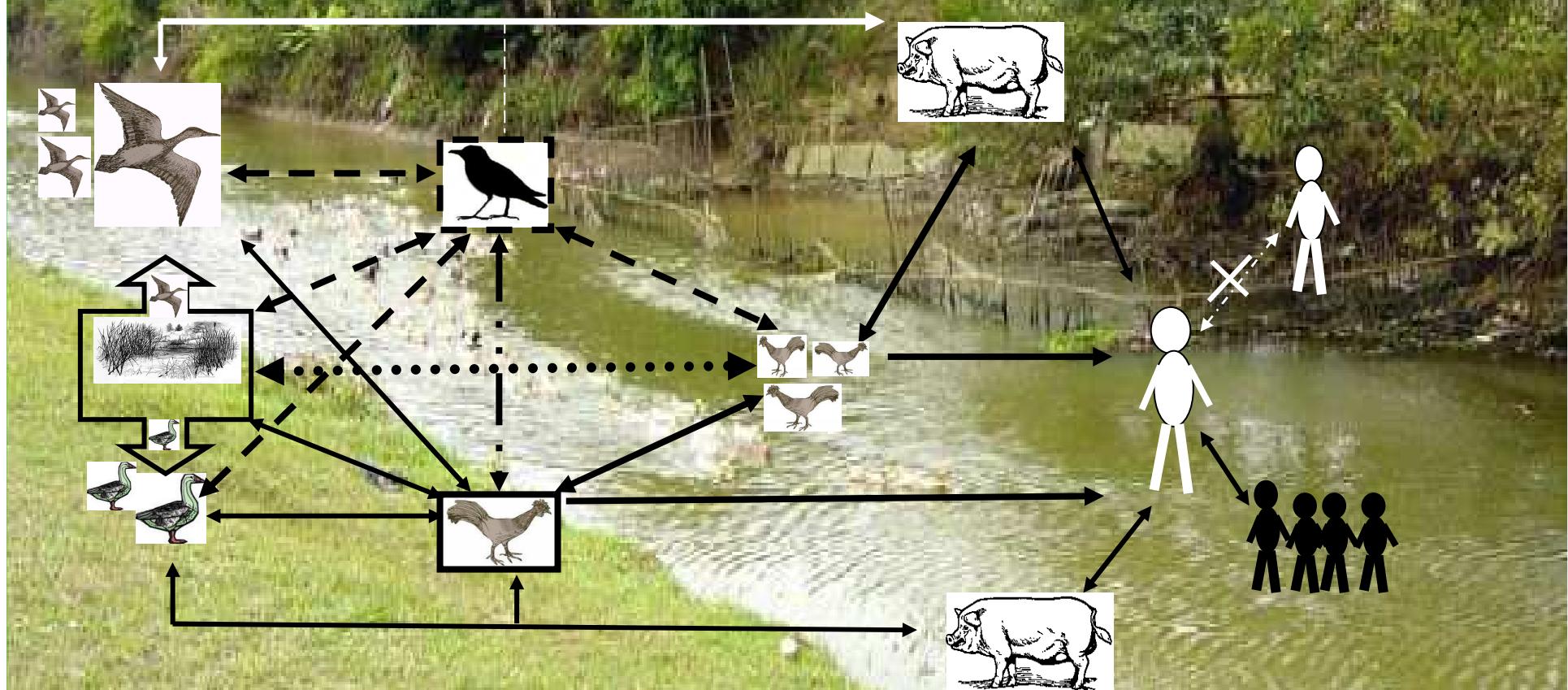
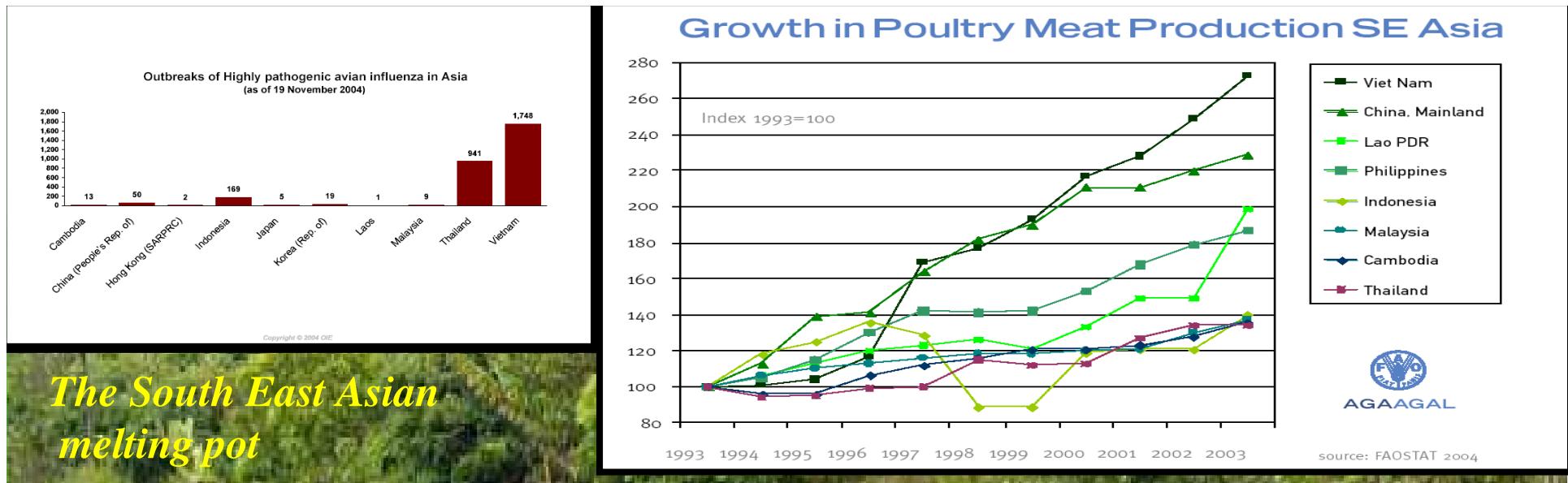
# Aree ad alta densità avicola in Europa

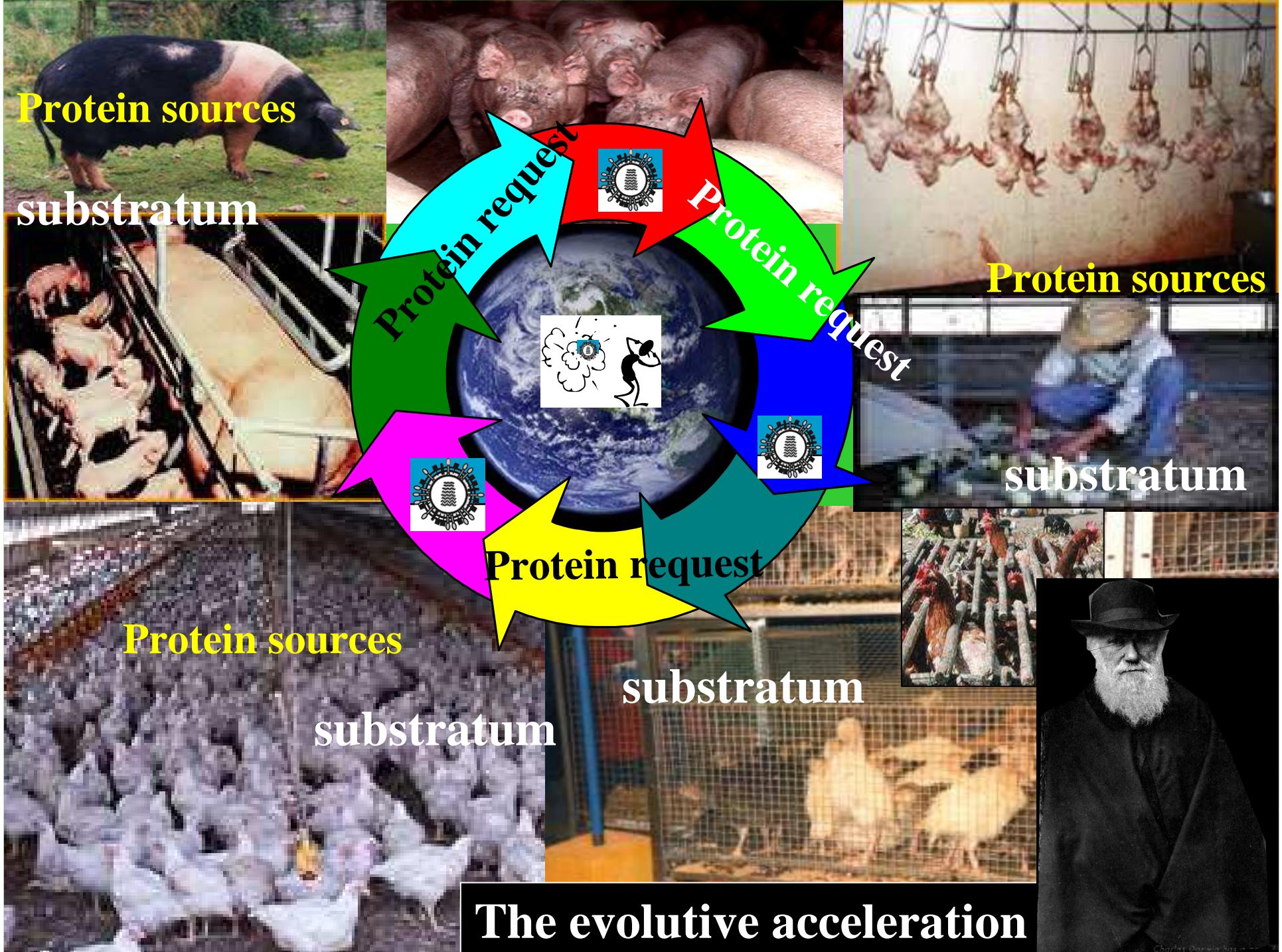


12 allevamenti /km<sup>2</sup> (provincia di Verona)

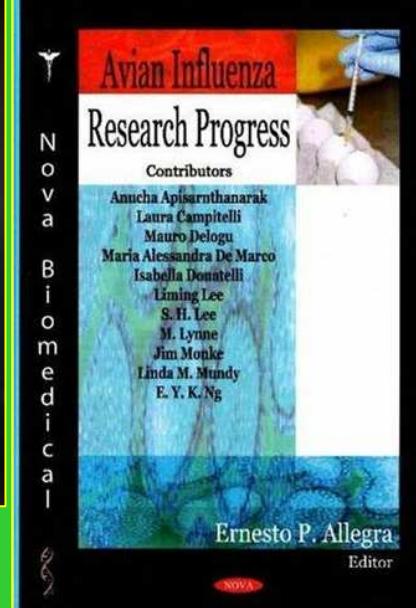
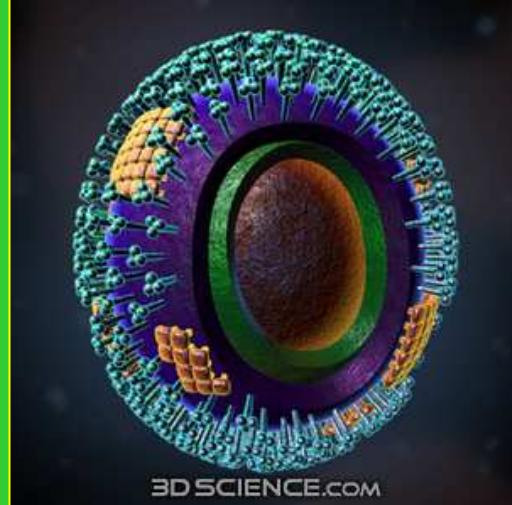
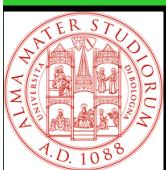


Olanda (Geldersvalley)  
20-25 allevamenti





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