

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Remerciements - Acknowledgments | 5 |
| Abstract | 6 |
| Résumé | 7 |
| List of acronyms | 8 |
| 1 Introduction | 9 |
| 1.1 Basic knowledge about the AI virus | 9 |
| 1.1.1 What does AI look like? | 9 |
| 1.1.2 How can AI be classified? | 11 |
| 1.1.3 How is AI changing? | 12 |
| 1.1.4 Who may be at risk for AI, and for what virus subtype? | 13 |
| 1.1.5 How a new HPAI virus emerges in poultry? | 16 |
| 1.1.6 Have we reason to fear the AIV? | 17 |
| 1.1.7 What hazards/risks are we actually facing? | 21 |
| 1.2 What's a good way to prepare? | 25 |
| 1.2.1 Disease surveillance and monitoring | 25 |
| 1.2.2 Correct identification of AIVs | 25 |
| 1.2.3 Specific surveillance and monitoring systems for AI | 26 |
| 1.2.4 Analysis of surveillance data | 30 |
| 1.2.5 Control measures | 31 |
| 1.3 Spatial modelling of AIVs | 32 |
| 1.3.1 The case definition and the scope of analysis | 34 |
| 1.3.2 Hypotheses based on existing knowledge | 35 |
| 1.3.3 Model selection | 36 |
| 1.3.4 Epidemiological studies are subject to multiple sources of errors | 40 |
| 1.3.5 The transferability of results | 41 |
| 1.4 Objectives | 43 |
| 2 Synthesis of results | 44 |
| 2.1 The HPAI A(H5N1) subtypes | 44 |
| 2.1.1 Clade-level Spatial Modelling of HPAI H5N1 Dynamics in the Mekong Region Reveals New Patterns and Associations with Agro-Ecological Factors (appendix 2) | 44 |
| 2.1.2 Global mapping of highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 and H5Nx clade 2.3.4.4 viruses with spatial cross-validation (appendix 3) | 46 |
| 2.1.3 Avian influenza A (H5N1) outbreaks in different poultry farm types in Egypt: the effect of vaccination, closing status and farm size (appendix 4) | 48 |
| 2.2 The LPAI A(H7N9) subtypes | 50 |
| 3 Discussion | 52 |
| 3.1 What is general, what is specific? | 52 |
| 3.1.1 The transferability of results over time | 52 |
| 3.1.2 The general risk of transmission of AIVs among poultry | 53 |
| 3.1.3 Conclusion | 56 |
| 3.2 Challenging of the use of SDM framework to study the AIVs | 57 |
| 3.2.1 Equilibrium required by SDM models will ever be reached | 57 |
| 3.2.2 The naive selection of risk or protective factors | 58 |
| 3.2.3 The spatial distribution of hosts, a neglected dimension in the spatial epidemiology of AIVs | 64 |

| | | |
|----------|---|-----------|
| 4 | Conclusions | 67 |
| 5 | References | 69 |
| 6 | Appendix | 79 |
| 6.1 | List of publications | 79 |
| 6.2 | Clade-level Spatial Modelling of HPAI H5N1 Dynamics in the Mekong Region Reveals New Patterns and Associations with Agro-Ecological Factors | 80 |
| 6.2.1 | Manuscript | 80 |
| 6.2.2 | Supplementary information | 93 |
| 6.3 | Global mapping of highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 and H5Nx clade 2.3.4.4 viruses with spatial cross-validation | 96 |
| 6.3.1 | Manuscript | 96 |
| 6.3.2 | Supplementary information | 117 |
| 6.4 | Avian influenza A (H5N1) outbreaks in different poultry farm types in Egypt: the effect of vaccination, closing status and farm size | 124 |
| 6.4.1 | Manuscript | 124 |
| 6.4.2 | Supplementary information | 135 |
| 6.5 | Changing Geographic Patterns and Risk Factors for Avian Influenza A(H7N9) Infections in Humans, China | 137 |