



Short Information about Bird Flu and Internal Measures at WILD

The Bird Flu or Avian Flu is a viral infection caused by the influenza sub-virus H5N1 which infects birds. Recently, there has been an increase in reports of infected birds.

Disease Transmission

According to current information, there is no danger to the consumer via the food chain. Up to this point in time, the transmission of the disease from animal to human has only been through direct contact with infected birds and then only in cases of insufficient hygiene. There has been no scientific evidence of infection of humans through eggs or other poultry products. The most important preventative measures are to avoid contact with living or dead poultry.

The poultry market as well as the food industry has taken extensive protective and control measures to prevent the transmission to domestic poultry. The main emphasis is a ban on outdoor poultry and on poultry exhibitions.

Preventative Measures at WILD

There are neither breeding farms nor slaughter houses in the proximity of any WILD plants, and therefore, no plant is within an endangered area.

Wild uses no raw poultry products, except for eggs, which are always heat treated. The virus is destroyed at 70° C. This temperature is always reached during pasteurization. According to the internal HACCP, all poultry products in the plant cafeteria must be cooked to an internal temperature of at least 72° C.

WILD will keep all of its employees informed, in writing, about the current status of the avian flu and the necessary preventative measures. In Heidelberg and at the various WILD plants, there are contact persons who are trained to deal with any cases of possible bird flu and who are in contact with the necessary agencies.

We are certain that the internal preventative measures are sufficient to stop any cross contamination.

Heidelberg, February 28, 2006