

Japan culls 280,000 more birds for avian flu

March 24 2017

Japan deployed hundreds of soldiers to help cull more than 280,000 chickens on Friday, officials said as they try to contain further outbreaks of a highly contagious strain of avian flu.

The latest slaughter means more than 1.67 million birds will have been killed in a dozen mass culls at several farms across the country since November when the virus was detected in the northern Aomori prefecture.

Troops have been sent to a farm in Miyagi prefecture in the northeast where about 220,000 birds are to be killed, and to a property southeast of Tokyo where 68,000 chickens will be destroyed.

"The local government has requested the Self-Defence Forces to help the culling operation while setting a limit on shipping chickens and eggs surrounding the farm (in Miyagi)," a farm ministry official said.

The [defence ministry](#) confirmed it had dispatched 370 [troops](#) to the two locations to help in the slaughter.

© 2017 AFP

Citation: Japan culls 280,000 more birds for avian flu (2017, March 24) retrieved 25 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2017-03-japan-culls-birds-avian-flu.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--