

# Mexico battles bird flu

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**MEXICO CITY:** Mexico began vaccinating some 10 million poultry yesterday against the highly contagious bird flu strain that has already led to the deaths of five million birds which either fell ill or were slaughtered. "Starting today, we are going to vaccinate hens and chicks across the country to put an end to this bird flu epidemic," Mexican President Felipe Calderon said. The president indicated that the ultimate goal is to have a batch of 80 million vaccinations, so that "in the coming weeks, (Mexico can) end this economic impact on poultry producers." — AFP