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One day after the confirmation of the presence of HPAIV (highly pathogenic avian influenza virus) H5N1 in 5 dead mute swans (*Cygnus olor*) and one Canada goose (*Branta canadensis*) at 2 lakes within the city of Nuremberg in Germany, 3 further mute swans were found dead this morning [26 Jun 2007] at a small lake about 180 km (about 112 mi) north of Nuremberg in Frohburg/Saxony. Investigations at the regional laboratory in Leipzig yielded an initial suspicion, which was confirmed by the National and OIE (World Organization for Animal Health) reference laboratory for Avian Influenza at the Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut this afternoon. Real-time RT-PCR (reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction) specific for HPAIV of Qinghai-like strains (Hoffmann et al, 2007) proved that the viruses present in the Saxonian swans are highly pathogenic H5N1. Sequence analyses are ongoing.

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