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HOG CHOLERA IN HUNGARY

Text of two faxes received on 21 and 27 May 1993 from Dr A. Nagy, Chief Veterinary and Food Control Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Budapest:

S. R. - 1

Nature of diagnosis: clinical, histological and post-mortem.

Date of initial detection of animal health incident: 19 May 1993.

Estimated date of first infection: 14 May 1993.

Number of separate outbreaks identified so far: two (2).

Geographical identification of the outbreaks: two villages less than 1 km apart, in Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg county (east of the country, near the border with Romania):

1. Mérk
2. Vállaj.

Details concerning the outbreaks:

No.	Species	No. of animals in the outbreak	No. of cases	No. of deaths	No. of animals destroyed	No. of animals slaughtered
1	sui	4	1	1	3	0
2	sui	3	1	1	2	0

Comments concerning affected population: fattening pigs in private farms.

Comments to date concerning epidemiology of the disease: origin of infection unknown. Two further outbreaks are currently suspected involving two farms in Vállaj with 27 and 7 swine, respectively. The animals have been destroyed without waiting for laboratory confirmation.

Control measures taken to date: stamping-out, disinfection; protection and surveillance zone within a radius of 10 km around the outbreak; standstill for swine and porcine products within this zone; movement of pigs and their products in the remaining territory of the infected county is subject to reinforced veterinary control; ban on the exportation of pigs and porcine products from the affected county. A new law, dealing with the control of animal movement within Hungary, came into force on 24 May 1993. All ungulate and cloven-hoofed species are covered by this law.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN BULGARIA

Translation of the text of a fax received on 24 May 1993 from Professor N. Nedelchev, Deputy Director General of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture, Sofia:

S. R. - 1

Nature of diagnosis: clinical and laboratory.

Number of separate outbreaks identified so far: one (1).

Geographical identification of the outbreak: Simeonovgrad district (south-east of the country).

Details concerning the outbreak:

No.	Species	No. of animals in the outbreak	No. of cases	No. of deaths	No. of animals destroyed	No. of animals slaughtered
1	bov	210	...	...	...	...

Conclusions concerning nature of agent: FMD virus type O₁.

Control measures taken to date: all the necessary control measures have been taken.

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NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN BELGIUM

Translation of the text of a telex received on 24 May 1993 from Dr J. Tambreur, Chief Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Brussels:

S. R. - 2 No. 1

Final date of previous report period: 5 February 1993 (see *Disease Information*, 6 [6], 22).

Final date of this report period: 23 April 1993.

Estimated date of first infection: 8 January 1993.

Number of separate outbreaks identified so far: nine (9).

Geographical identification of the new outbreaks: in the northern and central parts of the country:

4. Aalter district, Western Flanders province
5. Beerse district, Antwerp province
6. Ravels district, Antwerp province
7. Ittre district, Brabant province
8. Kinrooi district, Limburg province
9. Burdinne district, Liège province.

Details concerning the new outbreaks:

No.	Species	Number of animals in the outbreak	Number of cases	Number of deaths	Number of animals destroyed	Number of animals slaughtered
4	avi	18,093	...	...	0	18,093
5	avi	18,547	...	...	0	18,547
6	avi	37,248	1,115	600	36,648	0
7	avi	740	10	10	730	0

No.	Species	Number of animals in the outbreak	Number of cases	Number of deaths	Number of animals destroyed	Number of animals slaughtered
8	avi	10,303	1,048	1,048	9,255	0
9	avi	634	200	100	534	0

Comments concerning affected population: outbreaks No. 4, 5, 6 and 8: broilers; outbreak No. 7: layers; outbreak No. 9: broilers and guinea-fowl.

Diagnosis:

- A. *Conclusions to date concerning nature of agent:* velogenic strain.
- B. *Comments concerning diagnosis:* virus isolated from samples which gave negative results on bacteriological examination; outbreaks Nos. 4 and 5: disease detected after the slaughter of poultry which were not suspected of being infected.

Control measures taken during report period: see *Disease Information*, 6 [6], 22.

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HOG CHOLERA IN LATVIA Lifting of sanitary measures

Text of a communication received on 24 May 1993 from Professor J. Rimeicans, Director of the State Veterinary Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Riga:

As no new outbreaks of hog cholera have occurred in Latvia since 17 March 1993, all restrictive measures relating to this animal health incident have been lifted, with effect from 24 May 1993.

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HISTORY OF AFRICAN HORSE SICKNESS IN SAUDI ARABIA

Text of a communication received on 25 May 1993 from Dr Omar A. Hashem, Director of Animal Quarantine, Ministry of Agriculture and Water, Riyadh:

African horse sickness (AHS) was not suspected in Saudi Arabia until August 1989, when three cases were suspected in the Southern region of Asir. In view of justifiable fears about the possible occurrence of the disease in Africa and some neighbouring countries, the Ministry of Agriculture and Water immediately instituted a plan as a precaution against the introduction of the disease or its spread to other areas in the Kingdom.

A polyvalent vaccine (nine types of AHS virus) was imported and distributed to the Agricultural Directorates in all regions of the Kingdom for the implementation of a national vaccination programme. In addition, the Equestrian club, Ministry of Defence, and Security Forces were also supplied with AHS vaccine for use under the supervision of their own veterinarians.

Epizootiological investigations in 1989 and thereafter failed to reveal a source of infection, but it is considered probable that if the disease is present in the East Africa region it may have constituted a danger to the Kingdom, with particular reference to its south-eastern borders.

It should be noted that, with the exception of the three suspected cases referred to above, no other suspected cases have occurred since August 1989.

Vaccination was officially suspended in all regions of the Kingdom with effect from 19 December 1992.

With regard to AHS vectors, the environmental conditions prevalent in most areas of Saudi Arabia, in particular the high temperatures and drought conditions, do not favour their presence or reproduction. Furthermore, the use of insect-proof stables and their spraying with insecticide is recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture in order to eliminate any risk of contact with flying insects and external parasites in general.

As for the movement of equids within the Kingdom, the establishment of veterinary inspection points, especially in the southern region, administered by the Ministry of Agriculture and Water, ensures that all the necessary health conditions are met and that official veterinary health certificates are available so as to minimise the risk of spreading infectious or contagious diseases through the movement of equids and animals in general.

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HOG CHOLERA IN AUSTRIA

Text of a fax received on 25 May 1993 from Dr P. Weber, Chief Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Health, Sports and Consumer Protection, Vienna:

S. R. - 1

Nature of diagnosis: laboratory (immunofluorescence assay).

Date of initial detection of animal health incident: 21 May 1993.

Estimated date of first infection: 15 May 1993.

Number of separate outbreaks identified so far: one (1).

Geographical identification of the outbreak: Vigaun, Hallein district, Salzburg province (near the border with Germany).

Details concerning the outbreak:

No.	Species	No. of animals in the outbreak	No. of cases	No. of deaths	No. of animals destroyed	No. of animals slaughtered
1	sui	11	9	2	9	0

Comments concerning affected population: fattening swine.

Comments to date concerning epidemiology of the disease: introduction through the feeding of garbage.

Control measures taken to date: stamping-out; standstill for all livestock within a 10-km radius of the outbreak; clinical and serological controls in all swine-holding farms within a 3-km radius and all in-contact farms; serological tests carried out on a minimum of 10% of all swine in at least 10% of all swine-holding farms within a 10-km radius.

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NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN AUSTRIA

Text of a fax received on 26 May 1993 from Dr P. Weber, Chief Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Health, Sports and Consumer Protection, Vienna:

S. R. - 1

Nature of diagnosis: laboratory.

Date of initial detection of animal health incident: 11 May 1993.

Estimated date of first infection: 3 May 1993.

Number of separate outbreaks identified so far: one (1).

Geographical identification of the outbreak: Enns municipality, Linz-Land district, Upper Austria province.

Details concerning the outbreak:

No.	Species	No. of animals in the outbreak	No. of cases	No. of deaths	No. of animals destroyed	No. of animals slaughtered
1	avi	7,150	± 15%	± 300	± 6,850	0

Comments concerning affected population: fattening turkeys.

Comments to date concerning epidemiology of the disease: origin unknown.

Comments concerning diagnosis: virus isolation after passage through one-week-old chicks.

Control measures taken to date: stamping-out; vaccination in the neighbouring farms and further research in hatcheries.

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RINDERPEST IN OMAN

Text of an extract from a communication received on 27 May 1993 from the Embassy of the Sultanate of Oman in Paris:

Nature of diagnosis: clinical, post-mortem and laboratory.

Date of initial detection of animal health incident: 30 March 1993.

Number of separate outbreaks identified so far: two (2).

Geographical identification of the outbreaks: Al Khweriniya village, Majis, Liwa district, Batna region.

Details concerning the outbreaks:

No.	Species	No. of animals in the farm	No. of cases	No. of deaths	No. of animals destroyed	No. of animals slaughtered
1	bov	...	7	6	...	...
2	bov	7	2	1	...	...

Comments to date concerning epidemiology of the disease: outbreak No. 1: the remaining sick bovine presented frothy salivation and diarrhoea, but neither fever nor mouth lesions; outbreak No. 2: five cattle, which had been previously vaccinated against rinderpest, were clinically healthy; one bovine was sick, showing clinical signs highly suggestive of rinderpest.

Comments concerning diagnosis: a post-mortem examination was attempted on one of the dead cattle, but due to the poor state of the carcasse only a prescapular lymph node could be collected. This was later submitted to the CVIL (Rumais) for virological examination. The results of the agar gel immunodiffusion test were positive for rinderpest.

Control measures taken to date: a vaccination programme was undertaken in and around the village. More than 80% of the cattle in the area have been vaccinated. The outbreak is now under control.

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