

DISEASE INFORMATION

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HOG CHOLERA IN GERMANY

Translation of the text of two faxes received on 18 and 22 February 1994 from Dr N. Voetz, Chief Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry, Bonn:

Final date of previous report period: 12 February 1994 (see Disease Information, 7 [7], 27).

Final date of this report period: 22 February 1994.

Number of separate outbreaks identified since the beginning of 1994: fourteen (14).

Geographical identification of the new outbreaks:

13/94. Cloppenburg district, Weser-Ems department, Lower Saxony Land

14/94. Diepholz district, Hannover department, Lower Saxony Land.

Details concerning the new outbreaks:

No.	Species	No. of animals in the outbreak	No. of cases	No. of deaths	No. of animals destroyed	No. of animals slaughtered
13/94	sui	426	45	1	425	0
14/94	sui	462	30	10	452	0

Comments concerning affected population: fattening pigs.

Comments concerning diagnosis: outbreak No. 13/94: direct immunofluorescence; outbreak No. 14/94: virus isolation.

Comments to date concerning epidemiology of the disease: origin unknown, investigations under way.

Control measures taken during report period: stamping-out; all the necessary sanitary measures have been taken.

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NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN SOUTH AFRICA

Text of a fax received on 23 February 1994 from Dr P.P. Bosman, Director of Animal Health, Department of Agriculture, Pretoria:

S. R. - 2 No. 1

Final date of previous report period: 7 February 1994 (see *Disease Information*, **7** [6], 25).

Final date of this report period: 23 February 1994.

Estimated date of first infection: 24 January 1994.

Number of separate outbreaks identified so far: three (3).

Geographical identification of the new outbreaks: in the northern part of the country:

2. Donkerhoek farm, Rustenburg district, Transvaal province (25° 40' S - 27° 10' E)
3. Waterval farm, Rustenburg district, Transvaal province (25° 40' S - 27° 16' E).

Details concerning the new outbreaks:

No.	Species	No. of animals in the outbreak	No. of cases	No. of deaths	No. of animals destroyed	No. of animals slaughtered
2	avi	47	11	11	0	0
3	avi	9	1	1	0	0

Comments concerning affected population: ostriches.

Comments concerning diagnosis: post-mortem examinations were positive for Newcastle disease. The diagnosis was confirmed at the Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute. Virus characterization is under way.

Comments to date concerning epidemiology of the disease:

- Outbreak No. 2: ostriches had been kept in close proximity to geese and ducks. Eleven out of a group of seventeen ostrich chicks, six weeks to three months old, contracted the disease. Symptoms included lameness and opisthotonos. The disease did not spread to the adult birds.
- Outbreak No. 3: the ostrich chicks had been moved immediately after hatching to the aforementioned property. Only one chick developed clinical signs, and died at one month of age. There is no history of any contact with other ostriches or poultry.

Control measures taken during report period: the normal animal health precautions have been taken. No marketing of live ostriches or products from infected farms. In outbreak No. 2 all ostriches are already vaccinated with a La Sota Newcastle disease vaccine; outbreak No. 3: all ostriches will be vaccinated. Exports are in no way affected.

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**BOVINE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHY IN GERMANY
(Imported animal)**

Translation of the text of a fax received on 23 February 1994 from Dr N. Voetz, Chief Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry, Bonn:

On 18 February 1994, a new case of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (see *Disease Information*, **7** [3], 11) was confirmed in a cow imported from Ayrshire (United Kingdom) in February 1989. The laboratory tests were carried out at the Federal Research Institute for Viral Diseases of Animals. The clinical diagnosis had been made on 8 February 1994.

The six-year-old Galloway cow belonged to an amateur herd established over the last two years in the region of Diepholz, Hannover department (Lower Saxony). None of the 180 animals currently in the herd (5 bulls, 80 cows and 95 young cattle and calves) show any clinical signs of the disease.

The infected cow and her calf were acquired on 15 November 1993. The first signs, such as inappetence and instability of the hindlimbs, were observed at the end of December. Despite the treatment prescribed by a veterinarian, the condition of the animal gradually deteriorated, and it presented signs of nervousness, irritability and kicking.

The cow was slaughtered on 8 February 1994 and the brain subjected to the examination provided for under the control programme set up in Germany (see *Disease Information*, **7** [6], 21). The epidemiological survey has not yet been completed.

Under the terms of Article 3.2.13.3. of the *International Animal Health Code*, the German bovine population can still be considered as free from bovine spongiform encephalopathy.

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