

# DISEASE INFORMATION

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### FOWL PLAGUE (HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA) IN MEXICO New diagnostic findings

*Translation of a fax received on 24 January 1995 from Dr H. Campos López, Director General of Animal Health Department, Secretariat for Agriculture, Animal Production and Rural Development, Mexico City:*

S. R. - 2 No. 3

**Final date of previous report period:** 17 January 1995 (see *Disease Information*, **8** [3], 11).

**Final date of this report period:** 24 January 1995.

**Geographical identification of the outbreak:** Tehuacán, State of Puebla.

The highly pathogenic virus referred to in *Disease Information*, **8** (3), 11 is in accordance with the definition of fowl plague given in the *OIE Manual of Standards for Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines*.

The pathogenicity of the virus was determined by inoculating susceptible birds intravenously with 0.2 ml of a bacteria-free dilution corresponding to 1:10 of infectious allantoic fluid. The virus was fatal for more than 6 of the 8 four- to eight-week-old birds within ten days following inoculation.

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**SUSPECTED FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN ZAMBIA**  
**Lifting of sanitary measures**

*Text of a fax received on 31 January 1995 from Dr P.G. Sinyangwe, Director of the Department of Veterinary and Tsetse Control Services, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries, Lusaka:*

S. R. - 2 No. 1

**Final date of previous report period:** 30 October 1994 (see *Disease Information*, **7** [42], 182).

**Final date of this report period:** 31 December 1994.

**Comments concerning diagnosis:** Botswana Vaccine Institute (OIE Regional Reference Laboratory for foot and mouth disease) did not isolate any virus from samples collected in the outbreak in Mambova (17° 35' S - 25° 7' E).

**Control measures taken during report period:** 45,000 animals in the areas at risk were vaccinated against foot and mouth disease virus SAT 3. As no confirmed cases have been reported, movement restrictions have been lifted.

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**SUSPECTED NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN NAMIBIA**  
**Additional information**

*Text of a fax received on 1 February 1995 from Dr J.J.H. Shaw, Director of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Rural Development, Windhoek:*

S. R. - 2 No. 1

**Final date of previous report period:** 12 January 1995 (see *Disease Information*, **8** [2], 5).

**Final date of this report period:** 1 February 1995.

**Comments concerning diagnosis:** Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute, South Africa (OIE Collaborating Centre for Surveillance and Control of Animal Diseases in Africa) was unable to isolate Newcastle disease virus. Efforts to identify the causal agent are continuing.

**Comments to date concerning epidemiology of the disease:** no further deaths on affected farms, and no further spread.

**Control measures taken during report period:** affected farms remain under quarantine; severe restrictions imposed on movement of poultry from northern areas of the country.

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**FOWL PLAGUE IN AUSTRALIA**  
**Lifting of sanitary measures**

*Text of a fax received on 3 February 1995 from Dr G. Murray, Chief Veterinary Officer, Department of Primary Industries and Energy, Canberra:*

S. R. - 2 No. 1

**Final date of previous report period:** 30 December 1994 (see *Disease Information*, 7 [50], 209).

**Final date of this report period:** 3 February 1995.

**Control measures taken during report period:** decontamination and disinfection of the affected farm have now been completed.

**Comments to date concerning epidemiology of the disease:** an extensive tracing and clinical and serological surveillance programme has not detected any further case of fowl plague since the index flock was destroyed on 23 and 24 December 1994.

In accordance with the terms of Article 2.1.14.2. of the OIE *International Animal Health Code*, as more than 21 days have elapsed since the last case of fowl plague was reported and a stamping out policy and disinfection procedures have been completed, the designation "fowl plague infected zone" no longer applies. Monitoring of the affected farm will continue.

This was an isolated incident. The States and Territories of Australia other than the State of Queensland remained free of fowl plague. In accordance with Article 2.1.14.2. of the OIE *International Animal Health Code*, unless further cases occur Queensland will again meet the criteria for a fowl plague-free area six months after the last case (i.e., on 24 June 1995) and all of Australia will then again be free from the disease.

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