

DISEASE INFORMATION

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SPRING VIRAEMIA OF CARP IN THE UNITED KINGDOM / GREAT BRITAIN

Text of a fax received on 23 May 1995 from Dr K.C. Meldrum, Chief Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Surbiton:

S. R. - 1

Nature of diagnosis: laboratory.

Date of initial detection of animal health incident: 31 January 1995.

Number of separate outbreaks identified so far: eight (8).

Geographical identification of the outbreaks: England:

1-8/95. Avon, Cheshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Kent, Lancashire, Norfolk, Surrey.

Details concerning the outbreaks:

No.	Species	No. of animals in the outbreak	No. of cases	No. of deaths	No. of animals destroyed
1/95	carp	105	7	7	0
2/95	carp tench rudd	10 400 100	5 200 5	5 200 5	0
3/95	carp	250	58	58	0
4/95	carp	> 200	131	131	0
5/95	carp tench	> 200 5	110 1	110 1	0
6/95	carp	200	143	143	0
7/95	carp	> 60	56	56	0
8/95	carp	21	21	21	0

Comments concerning affected population: Cyprinidae: carp (*Cyprinus carpio*), tench (*Tinca tinca*) and rudd (*Scardinius erythrophthalmus*).

Comments concerning diagnosis: inoculation of tissue extracts from moribund and dead fish onto an EPC (*epithelioma papulosum cyprini*) cell line resulted in a cytopathic effect, which was confirmed by ELISA and serum neutralisation tests to be due to spring viraemia of carp virus.

Comments to date concerning epidemiology of the disease: the disease was first identified in late January 1995, in a mirror carp of unknown origin, on one isolated site. The second and subsequent cases occurred from the end of March onwards. To date, spring viraemia of carp has been confirmed in seven coarse fisheries and one ornamental lake. An investigation is under way to trace the sources of infection. All supplying and receiving sites associated with the positive sites in the United Kingdom are being visited and sampled.

Control measures taken to date: movement controls have been imposed on all live fish into and out of the positive sites. Consideration is being given to eradication of the disease on one of the eight sites, but is regarded as impractical on the other sites due to their extensive nature.

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