

## Contents

Bovine spongiform encephalopathy in Belgium	153
Foot and mouth disease in Swaziland	154
Newcastle disease in Italy	154
Newcastle disease in Sweden	155
Rinderpest in Niger: the Minister of Agriculture declares the country "provisionally free" from the disease	156
Newcastle disease in Austria	156

### BOVINE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHY IN BELGIUM

#### Emergency report

*Translation of a fax received on 31 October 1997 from Dr L. Hallet, Counsellor General, Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture, Brussels:*

**Location of the outbreak:** Mean, Havelange district, Namur province.

#### **Total number of animals in the outbreak:**

<i>susceptible</i>	<i>cases</i>	<i>deaths</i>	<i>destroyed</i>	<i>slaughtered</i>
33	1	0	33	0

**Description of the affected animal:** a 5-year-old cow, one of a number of suckling cows in a farm devoted entirely to the production of beef cattle.

#### **Diagnosis:**

- A. Clinical picture:**
- behavioural changes,
  - loss of weight,
  - loss of coordination,
  - paralysis.
- B. Period of onset of clinical signs:** one month from 17 September 1997.
- C. Laboratory where diagnosis was made:** the diagnosis was made by the Veterinary and Agrochemical Study and Research Centre (CERVA), Brussels, and was confirmed by the Central Veterinary Laboratory, Weybridge (United Kingdom) on 31 October 1997.
- D. Diagnostic tests used:**
- differential testing for rabies (negative);
  - electron microscopy (detection of scrapie-associated fibrils);
  - histological examination of the brain;
  - immunocytochemical examination.

**Epidemiology:** epidemiological survey under way.

#### **Control measures during reporting period:**

- stamping out;
- examination of the brains of all animals over 2 years old (i.e. 14 animals);
- cleansing and disinfection with caustic soda (2% sodium hydroxide).

## FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN SWAZILAND

### Follow-up report No. 1

*Text of a fax received on 31 October 1997 from Dr R.S. Thwala, Director of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Mbabane:*

**End of previous report period:** 23 October 1997 (see *Disease Information*, 10 [42], 147).

**End of this report period:** 31 October 1997.

### **Total number of animals in the outbreak:**

<b>species</b>	<b>susceptible</b>	<b>cases</b>	<b>deaths</b>	<b>destroyed</b>	<b>slaughtered</b>
bov	683	0	0	1	0
ovi	10	0	0	0	0
cap	267	0	0	0	0

Of the 683 susceptible cattle that were examined within the Mkhaya Game Reserve (26° 37' S - 31° 44' E), one (1) tested serologically positive to SAT 1, 2 and 3 and was subsequently destroyed. Initial indications are that the positive reactor originated from within the permanent Foot and Mouth Disease Control Buffer Zone, where vaccination with trivalent vaccine is practised. Trace-back for confirmation of the reactor's origin is under way.

However, no clinical signs have been observed in any susceptible animal within the Game Reserve, which has since been placed under quarantine.

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## NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN ITALY

### Emergency report

*Translation of a telex received on 4 November 1997 from Dr R. Marabelli, Director General of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Public Health, Rome:*

<b>Location</b>	<b>No. of outbreaks</b>
Lazise district, Verona province, Venetia region	1

On 15 October 1997, the National Reference Laboratory diagnosed Newcastle disease in a wild pigeon which had been found dead on 2 October 1997.

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\* \*

## NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN SWEDEN

### Emergency report

Text of a fax received on 5 November 1997 from Dr B. Nordblom, Chief Veterinary Officer, Swedish Board of Agriculture, Jönköping:

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

**Date of initial detection of animal health incident:** 27 October 1997.

**Estimated date of first infection:** 14 October 1997.

<i>Location</i>	<i>No. of outbreaks</i>
county of Skåne, approx. 50 km east of the city of Malmö (southern Sweden)	1

### **Total number of animals in the outbreak:**

<i>susceptible</i>	<i>cases</i>	<i>deaths</i>	<i>destroyed</i>	<i>slaughtered</i>
3,850	1,000	...	3,850	0

**Description of affected population:** 3,000 twenty-five-day-old broilers and 850 layers (470 of less than 22 weeks and 300 older).

### **Diagnosis:**

- A. Laboratory where diagnosis was made:** National Veterinary Institute, Uppsala, and Central Veterinary Laboratory, Weybridge, United Kingdom.
- B. Diagnostic tests used:** virus isolation. Intracerebral pathogenicity index: 1.86.
- C. Causal agent:** paramyxovirus-1.

### **Epidemiology:**

- A. Source of agent / origin of infection:** unknown (investigations continuing).
- B. Mode of spread:** unknown.
- C. Other epidemiological details:** all holdings with poultry within a 10-km radius have been clinically checked by official veterinarians. No clinical signs of the disease were observed.

### **Control measures during reporting period:**

- stamping out;
- control of wildlife reservoirs;
- 3-km protection zone and 10-km surveillance zone enforced around the outbreak.

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## RINDERPEST IN NIGER

### The Minister of Agriculture declares the country "provisionally free" from the disease

Translation of a fax received on 7 November 1997 from Mr Elhadj Akoli Daouel, Minister of Agriculture and Animal Production, Niamey:

Considering the favourable epidemiological situation in regard to rinderpest (the last outbreak having occurred in 1985), and in accordance with the provisions of the *International Animal Health Code*, I have the honour to inform you that Niger declares itself provisionally free from rinderpest with effect from 1 November 1997.

In order to guard against all eventualities, the following conservatory measures have been taken:

- 1) Cessation of vaccination against rinderpest throughout the national territory, except in the department of Diffa, bordering Chad, where the sanitary fence is being assessed.
- 2) Vaccination of sheep and goats against peste des petits ruminants with a vaccine prepared from a homologous strain developed by CIRAD-EMVT\*.
- 3) Setting up of an epidemiological vigilance network for rinderpest.
- 4) Setting up of an epidemiological surveillance network for other major epizootic diseases (contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, foot and mouth disease, lumpy skin disease).

\* Department of Animal Production and Health, Centre of International Cooperation in Agricultural Research for Development (Montpellier, France).

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## NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN AUSTRIA

### Emergency report

Text of a fax received on 7 November 1997 from Dr P. Weber, Chief Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Health, Sports and Consumer Protection, Vienna:

**Nature of diagnosis:** laboratory.

**Date of initial detection of animal health incident:** 15 October 1997.

Location	No. of outbreaks
Federal Province of Vienna (10th district)	1

**Description of affected population:** hobby flock of ornamental pigeons.

**Total number of animals in the outbreak:**

susceptible	cases	deaths	destroyed	slaughtered
23	2	2	0	0

### Diagnosis:

**A. Laboratory where diagnosis was made:** Federal Institute for the Control of Animal Virus Diseases, Vienna.

**B. Diagnostic tests used:** virus isolation.

**Source of agent / origin of infection:** unknown (possibly through contact with free flying pigeons).

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever by the Central Bureau of the Office International des Epizooties concerning the legal status of any country or territory mentioned, or its authorities, or concerning the delineation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Unless otherwise stated, material published is derived from declarations made to the Central Bureau by the Veterinary Administrations of the countries and territories mentioned.

**Control measures during reporting period:** measures in accordance with European Directive No. 92/66/EEC. Confinement of the remaining birds for 60 days after the disappearance of all clinical signs.

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