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HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA IN ITALY

Emergency report

Synthesis of the translation of two faxes received on 21 and 24 November 1997 from Dr R. Marabelli, Director General of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Public Health, Rome:

Nature of diagnosis: laboratory.

Date of initial detection of animal health incident: 9 October 1997.

<i>Location</i>	<i>No. of outbreaks</i>
Dueville district, Vicenza province, Venetia region	1
Vittorio Veneto district, Treviso province, Venetia region	1

Description of affected population: rural farms raising chickens and cocks, domestic and wild ducks, Guinea fowl, turkeys, pigeons, pheasants, geese and turtledoves.

Number of animals in the outbreaks:

<i>susceptible</i>	<i>cases</i>	<i>deaths</i>	<i>destroyed</i>	<i>slaughtered</i>
45	10	7	38	0
3,145	3,145	0

Diagnosis:

- A. Laboratory where diagnosis was made:** the Experimental Animal Disease Control Institute (IZS) isolated the virus (serotype H5) on 27 October 1997; isolates were sent for subtyping to the Varesturo National Reference Laboratory, Naples province, and the Weybridge Central Veterinary Laboratory, United Kingdom.
- B. Diagnostic tests used:** virus isolation; intravenous pathogenicity index.
- C. Causal agent:** H5N2 subtype. On 17 November 1997, the virus isolated was determined as being highly pathogenic.

Epidemiology:

- A. Source of agent / origin of infection:** unknown.
- B. Mode of spread:** probably via wild birds.

Control measures during reporting period: stamping out (completed on 29 October 1997); application of all the restriction measures provided for under national and EU regulations (setting up of protection and surveillance zones, etc.).

NEUROLOGICAL DISEASE IN EQUIDS IN PERU
Lifting of sanitary measures

Follow-up report No. 3

Synthesis of the translation of two faxes received on 21 and 25 November 1997 from Dr O.M. Dominguez Falcon, Director General of Animal Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Lima:

End of previous report period: 30 July 1997 (see *Disease Information*, **10** [33], 110).

End of this report period: 25 November 1997.

According to the findings of the Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory, Plum Island, United States of America, it appears that the reovirus* isolated from equine serum is not linked with the disease notified in the emergency report sent at the end of May 1997 (see *Disease Information*, **10** [23], 78-79).

Although a cytopathic effect was observed following the inoculation of mosquito cells (C6/36) with the virus, no viral replication was observed after inoculation of equine cells. Furthermore, when horses were inoculated intravenously and subcutaneously with the virus, it did not induce any pathogenic effect in these animals, which presented neither hyperthermia nor any other clinical signs.

As a result, it has been decided to lift the quarantine measures placed on equids throughout the San Martín region, and to resume normal national and international trade in animals.

* The pathogen isolated is a segmented genome virus of the family Reoviridae.

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NEW WORLD SCREWORM (*COCHLIOMYIA HOMINIVORAX*) IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
in an imported dog

Emergency report

Text of a fax received on 26 November 1997 from Dr J.M. Arnoldi, Deputy Administrator, Veterinary Services, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC:

Nature of diagnosis: clinical and laboratory.

Date of initial detection of animal health incident: 25 November 1997.

Estimated date of first infection: 19 November 1997.

Location of the outbreak: San Antonio, Bexar County, State of Texas.

Description of affected animal: one basset hound dog (two-year-old female), imported from Central America on 19 November 1997.

Diagnosis: wound in the dog's right rear foot pad.

- A. Laboratory where diagnosis was made:** National Veterinary Services Laboratory, Ames, Iowa.
- B. Diagnostic tests used:** identification of larval samples collected from the dog on 26 November 1996.

Epidemiology: no spread is known to have occurred.

Control measures during reporting period: animal treated with ivermectin and quarantined by the State of Texas; the ground with which the dog had been in contact is being treated with chlorpyrifos.

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AFRICAN SWINE FEVER IN TOGO
Suspicion

Emergency report

Translation of a fax received on 27 November 1997 from Dr A.M. Denke, Director of Animal Production and Fisheries, Ministry of Rural Development and Village Water Economy, Lomé:

Nature of diagnosis: clinical and epidemiological.

Date of initial detection of animal health incident: 30 October 1997.

Estimated date of first infection: 16 October 1997.

<i>Location</i>	<i>No. of outbreaks</i>
6° 18 N - 1° 44' E	1

Total number of animals in the outbreak:

<i>susceptible</i>	<i>cases</i>	<i>deaths</i>	<i>destroyed</i>	<i>slaughtered</i>
30,000	2,000	500	0	0

Epidemiology:

- A. Source of agent / origin of infection:** following the news of swine fever being suspected around Cotonou, Bénin (see *Disease Information*, vol. 10, Nos. 38 and 39, pages 127-128 and 137) and the sanitary measures set up by the technical services, movements of pigs took place from the area of Grand Popo (Benin) towards the weekly market at Aklakou (Togo) across the Aneho lagoon. According to information provided by local residents, two of the unloaded animals were dead and were buried directly on the bank of the lagoon.
- B. Comments:** it is feared that the disease may spread rapidly, given the proximity of the surrounding villages and markets (Aklakou, Anfoin, Vogan) and the ease of transport links with other towns.

Control measures during reporting period:

1. Increased awareness (technical and operational staff).
2. Strengthening of sanitary measures: restrictions on the movement of pigs and pig products and systematic slaughter within the identified outbreak.

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