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**BOVINE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHY IN BELGIUM**  
Final report

FOLLOW-UP REPORT No. 2

*Translation of a communication received on 19 February 1998 from Dr L. Hallet, Counsellor General, Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture, Brussels:*

**End of previous report period:** 27 January 1998 (see *Disease Information*, 11 [5], 17).

**End of this report period:** 16 February 1998.

No extension of the disease from the affected farm has been detected.

Vertical transmission and foodborne transmission were ruled out following epidemiological investigations. The hypothesis of a sporadic case has been confirmed.

Epidemiological surveillance has been strengthened and more precisely targeted. From 31 October to 31 December 1997, a total of 58 bovine brains were examined for bovine spongiform encephalopathy, with negative results.

**Conclusion:** Belgium can therefore once more be considered free from bovine spongiform encephalopathy.

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**CLASSICAL SWINE FEVER IN GERMANY**  
Follow-up report

FOLLOW-UP REPORT No. 2

*Text of a fax received on 20 February 1998 from Dr N. Voetz, Chief Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry, Bonn:*

**End of previous report period:** 9 February 1998 (see *Disease Information*, 11 [7], 21).

**End of this report period:** 19 February 1998.

**New outbreaks:**

Location	No. of outbreaks
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern <i>Land</i>	1

**Total number of outbreaks identified since 1 January 1998:** four (4).

**Description of affected population in the new outbreak:** breeding and fattening pigs.

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

<i>susceptible</i>	<i>cases</i>	<i>deaths</i>	<i>destroyed</i>	<i>slaughtered</i>
11	...	...	11	0

**Diagnosis:**

- A. Laboratory where diagnosis was made:** Veterinary Research Services, Rostock (Mecklenburg-Vorpommern).
- B. Diagnostic tests used:** direct immunofluorescence.

**Control measures during reporting period:** the remaining animals were destroyed; ban on movements of animals of susceptible species in an area around the infected holding; tracing of animal movements into and out of the infected holding.

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### NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN BOTSWANA Follow-up report

FOLLOW-UP REPORT No. 1

*Text of two faxes received on 23 February 1998 from Dr M.V. Raborokgwe, Director of Animal Health and Production, Ministry of Agriculture, Gaborone:*

**End of previous report period:** 12 February 1998 (see *Disease Information*, **11** [7], 24).

**End of this report period:** 23 February 1998.

**Sehithwa outbreak:**

The diagnosis of Newcastle disease was confirmed by the Central Veterinary Laboratory (CVL), Weybridge, United Kingdom.

Disease has limited itself by the death of all poultry in the village. Intensive surveillance is being carried out but no new cases have been detected around the village. New chickens being introduced are being vaccinated with La Sota strain vaccine.

**Lobatse outbreak:**

The diagnosis of Newcastle disease was confirmed by Botswana National Veterinary Laboratory, by haemagglutination inhibition and egg inoculation; diagnostic material is being sent to the CVL for virus characterisation.

On 19 February 1998, the disease was eradicated from the plantation farm by slaughter of all exposed domestic fowl (i.e. 12 pigeons, 9 ducks, 2 guinea fowl and 1 chicken).

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**NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM / NORTHERN IRELAND  
Final report**

FOLLOW-UP REPORT No. 1

*Text of a fax received on 25 February 1998 from Dr J.M. Scudamore, Chief Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Surbiton:*

**End of previous report period:** 20 August 1997 (see *Disease Information*, **10** [34], 115).

**End of this report period:** 23 February 1998.

Northern Ireland will have been free from Newcastle disease for six months, the last case being 21 August 1997. Thus, in accordance with Article 2.1.15.2 of the OIE *International Animal Health Code*, Northern Ireland is again a Newcastle disease free country.

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