

Contents

Newcastle disease in the Netherlands: the Delegate declares his country free from the disease	55
African swine fever in Namibia: follow-up report	55
Sheep pox in Burkina Faso: suspicion	56
Bovine spongiform encephalopathy in Belgium	57
Foot and mouth disease in Kuwait	58
Contagious caprine pleuropneumonia in Kuwait: follow-up report	59

NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN THE NETHERLANDS **The Delegate declares his country free from the disease**

Text of a communication received on 2 March 1998 from Dr C.C.J.M. van der Meijs, Chief Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Management and Fisheries, The Hague:

The last outbreak of Newcastle disease in the Netherlands occurred on 20 August 1997 (see *Disease Information*, **10** [34], 114, dated 22 August 1997). Since that date no new outbreaks have occurred.

The Netherlands practises a stamping-out policy against Newcastle disease.

This means that, under the terms of Article 2.1.15.2. of the *International Animal Health Code*, the Netherlands can be considered a free country with regard to Newcastle disease, with effect from 20 February 1998.

*
* *

AFRICAN SWINE FEVER IN NAMIBIA **Follow-up report**

FOLLOW-UP REPORT NO. 1

Text of a fax received on 17 April 1998 from Dr J.J.H. Shaw, Director of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Rural Development, Windhoek:

End of previous report period: 1 April 1998.

End of this report period: 17 April 1998.

Slaughter-out of the affected herd (see *Disease Information*, **11** [13], 46, dated 3 April 1998) was applied. The pigs were slaughtered immediately the diagnosis was made.

*
* *

SHEEP POX IN BURKINA FASO
Suspicion

(Date of last previously reported outbreak: September 1997).

EMERGENCY REPORT

Translation of a fax received on 17 April 1998 from Dr M. Nagalo, Director of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources, Ouagadougou:

Nature of diagnosis: clinical.

Date of initial detection of animal health incident: 10 April 1998.

Estimated date of first infection: 1 March 1998.

<i>Location</i>	<i>No. of outbreaks</i>
villages of Solenzo, Gama, Bena and Balavé, Banwa province	4

Description of affected population: the disease affects sheep of all ages.

Clinical signs: morbidity and mortality are quite high (80% and 20%, respectively). Clinical signs are nodules and the appearance of scabs on different parts of the body (sides, legs, muzzle), which subsequently regress or fall, leaving behind large reddish plaques.

Source of agent / origin of infection: the disease occurred after sheep purchased in a subregional weekly market at Bena were introduced into a flock.

Control measures during reporting period:

- health control measures have been taken: restrictions on animal movements and contacts;
- samples have been sent for diagnosis to a subregional laboratory at Bingerville, Côte d'Ivoire;
- a consignment of vaccines has been ordered in order to immunise against sheep pox.

*
* *

BOVINE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHY IN BELGIUM

Translation of the synthesis of a communication received on 15 April 1998 and two faxes received on 20 and 21 April 1998 from Dr L. Hallet, Counsellor General, Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture, Brussels:

Nature of diagnosis: laboratory.

<i>Location</i>	<i>No. of outbreaks</i>
Waarschoot, Eastern Flanders Province	1
Aarsele, Western Flanders Province	1

Total number of cases identified since 1 January 1998: three (3).

Date of initial detection of animal health incident:

- outbreak in Waarschoot: 30 March 1998;
- outbreak in Aarsele: 24 March 1998.

Description of affected population: cattle farms.

- outbreak in Waarschoot: dairy cows. The affected animal was born on 22 August 1992; it was purchased on 4 March 1996, i.e. at the age of 3 years 8 months.
- outbreak in Aarsele: dairy cows and beef cattle.

Number of animals in the outbreaks:

<i>location</i>	<i>susceptible</i>	<i>cases</i>	<i>deaths</i>	<i>destroyed</i>	<i>slaughtered</i>
Waarschoot	124	1	0	124	0
Aarsele	82	1	0	82	0

Diagnosis:

- Laboratory where diagnosis was made:** Veterinary and Agrochemical Study and Research Centre (CERVA), Brussels.
- Diagnostic tests used:** electron microscopy (detection of scrapie-associated fibrils); histological examination of the brain; immunocytochemical examination.

Epidemiology: epidemiological investigations into the outbreak in Aarsele are under way. To date, the investigations into the outbreak in Waarschoot have given the following results:

- Tracing-back: the affected animal was born in another farm in Waarschoot; 55 head of cattle from this farm have been sold, of which 43 are still alive and have been traced.
- Tracing-forward: of the cattle sold from the affected farm, 17 have been traced to date.

Control measures during reporting period: control programme covering the whole country; stamping-out.

Concerning the outbreak in Waarschoot:

- Cattle present in the affected farm: the 124 head of cattle were slaughtered and destroyed on 31 March and 1 April 1998; 76 of them (those over 24 months of age) are the subject of tests.
- Cattle sold from the farm where the affected animal was born: of the 43 animals traced, 25 have already been slaughtered and the other 18 will soon be slaughtered.
- Cattle sold from the affected farm: the 17 animals traced have been slaughtered and tests will be carried out.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN KUWAIT

(Date of last previously reported outbreak: June 1997).

EMERGENCY REPORT

Text of an e-mail received on 21 April 1998 from Dr Sultan A.S. Khalaf, Deputy Director General, The Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources (PAAF), Safat:

Nature of diagnosis: clinical and laboratory.

Date of initial detection of animal health incident: 25 March 1998.

Estimated date of first infection: 19 March 1998.

<i>Location</i>	<i>No. of outbreaks</i>
Umm Ugdayer	1
Kebd	4

Description of affected population:

- Outbreak in Umm Ugdayer: the outbreak involved indigenous sheep and goats reared under an extensive system.
- Outbreak in Kebd: Kebd is a Government designated area for the production of small ruminants. The outbreak involved Friesian cattle, which are kept with sheep and goats reared semi-intensively. Sheep and goats on one infected farm at Kebd had FMD virus antibodies without any evidence of the disease.

Number of animals in the outbreaks:

<i>location</i>	<i>species</i>	<i>susceptible</i>	<i>cases</i>	<i>deaths</i>	<i>destroyed</i>	<i>slaughtered</i>
Umm Ugdayer	o/c	700	50	14*	0	0
Kebd	bov/o/c	598	54	0	0	0

* newborn lambs and kids.

Diagnosis:

- Laboratory where diagnosis was made:** Virology Laboratory of the Animal Health Department, Al-Rai.
- Diagnostic tests used:** ELISA for FMD virus antigen and antibody detection. Virus isolation in IBRS2 cell line is in progress.
- Causal agent:** FMD virus serotype O.

Epidemiology:

- Source of agent / origin of infection:** unknown, but cattle could have acquired infection from sheep and goats.
- Mode of spread:** by aerosol transmission and/or fomites.
- Other epidemiological details:** infected cattle might not have been vaccinated against FMD or their immunity could have decreased. Sheep and goats, some of which are imported, are regularly introduced into the farms.

Control measures during reporting period:

- Treatment of infected animals by veterinarians in private practices in the area;
- 723 non-infected cattle in 57 farms were vaccinated against FMD.
- Dairy farmers in Sulaibiya were informed of the outbreaks of the disease in Kebd and advised to take the necessary precautions – having their animals properly protected by vaccination and avoiding animal movement into the area from Kebd.

CONTAGIOUS CAPRINE PLEUROPNEUMONIA IN KUWAIT Follow-up report

FOLLOW-UP REPORT No. 1

Text of an e-mail received on 21 April 1998 from Dr Sultan A.S. Khalaf, Deputy Director General, The Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources (PAAF), Safat:

End of previous report period: 23 February 1998.

End of this report period: 21 April 1998.

A quick pilot survey on contagious caprine pleuropneumonia (CCPP) was conducted in goats in the main livestock production areas to determine the distribution of the disease after two outbreaks were confirmed in mid-February 1998 (see *Disease Information*, **11** [11], 37, dated 20 March 1998).

A total of 3,349 goats in 31 flocks of goats or goats commingled with sheep were clinically observed and a proportion sampled serologically for the presence of CCPP antibodies.

Occurrence of CCPP in February 1998

Location	Number of new outbreaks	Species	Number of animals in the outbreaks				
			susceptible	cases	deaths	destroyed	slaughtered
Abdalli*	1	cap	340	157	150	0	0
Khiran*	1	cap	29	17	10	0	0
Fintas	1	cap	130	15	9	0	0
Subiya	1	cap	60	6	0	0	0
TOTAL	4		559	195	169	0	0

* These data were included in the emergency report.

Occurrence of CCPP in March 1998

Location	Number of new outbreaks	Species	Number of animals in the outbreaks				
			susceptible	cases	deaths	destroyed	slaughtered
Kebd	1	cap	3	3	0	0	0
Salmi	1	cap	82	0	0	0	0
Jahra	1	cap	56	4	1	0	0
Kebd	1	cap	110	10	2	0	0
Mina Abdella	1	cap	3	1	0	0	0
TOTAL	5		254	18	3	0	0

Description of affected population in the outbreaks: the infected flocks were kept under a semi-intensive system or extensively farmed.

Diagnosis: clinical diagnoses were confirmed serologically.

Epidemiology:

- A. Source of agent / origin of infection:** source of infection unknown, but suspected to have originated from one or more infected goats introduced into the country and later resold.
- B. Mode of spread:** uncontrolled animal movements and very high turnover rate of small ruminant markets are other important epidemiological factors that favour the spread of the disease.

Control measures during reporting period: treatment of sick animals has been the control measure so far employed. However, a reliable vaccine source is still being explored.

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.