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PESTE DES PETITS RUMINANTS IN ISRAEL

EMERGENCY REPORT

Text of an e-mail received on 13 July 1998 from Professor A. Shimshony, Director of Veterinary and Animal Health Services, Ministry of Agriculture, Beit Dagan:

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

Date of initial detection of animal health incident: 6 July 1998.

Estimated date of first infection: 3 July 1998.

<i>Location</i>	<i>No. of outbreaks</i>
Jerusalem District	1

Description of affected population: goats, lambs and kids in a children's zoo.

Total number of animals in the outbreak:

<i>species</i>	<i>susceptible</i>	<i>cases</i>	<i>deaths</i>	<i>destroyed</i>	<i>slaughtered</i>
ovi	7	0	0	0	0
cap	22	17	2	15	0

Diagnosis:

A. Laboratory where diagnosis was made: Kimron Veterinary Institute, Beit Dagan.

B. Diagnostic tests used: AGID (agar gel immunodiffusion) and PCR (polymerase chain reaction).

Epidemiology:

A. Source of agent / origin of infection: under investigation.

C. Other epidemiological details: due to humane considerations and the possibility and decision to maintain the small, isolated facility in complete quarantine for a long period, 12 unaffected animals were not destroyed.

Control measures during reporting period: movement control inside the country; modified stamping out; vaccination.

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SHEEP POX IN GREECE

EMERGENCY REPORT

Text of a fax received on 16 July 1998 from Dr N. Meravoglou, Director General of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture, Athens:

Nature of diagnosis: clinical and laboratory.

Date of initial detection of animal health incident: 4 July 1998.

Estimated date of first infection: 20 June 1998.

<i>Location</i>	<i>No. of outbreaks</i>
Inoi, Evros Prefecture	1

Description of affected population: the flock was constituted in April 1998 with animals coming from different flocks in Evros. Since then, there have been no movements of animals on or off the premises.

Total number of animals in the outbreak:

<i>species</i>	<i>susceptible</i>	<i>cases</i>	<i>deaths</i>	<i>destroyed</i>	<i>slaughtered</i>
o/c*	182	182	0

* 140 sheep, 18 goats, 11 lambs, 13 kids.

Diagnosis:

Suspicion was raised on 4 July 1998 on the basis of clinical signs (fever, inappetence, skin eruptions, subcutaneous nodules).

Preliminary laboratory diagnosis by AGID (agar gel immunodiffusion) test was obtained on 13 July 1998 and definitive laboratory confirmation by virus neutralisation on 15 July 1998. All goats were seronegative to virus neutralisation.

Epidemiology:

The exact origin and means of infection remain obscure and inquiries are still ongoing.

The flocks from which the animals originated were traced and examined clinically and serologically with negative results. The outbreak is therefore considered a primary outbreak.

In 1997, a total of 58 outbreaks of sheep pox were reported in Evros, the last of them on 19 December 1997. Following the outbreaks, clinical, epidemiological and serological surveillance was carried out in the infected villages, which produced negative results and led to the lifting of all local restrictions. The village of Inoi was not affected in 1997.

Control measures during reporting period:

All susceptible animals in the affected flock were stamped out and destroyed on 7 July.

There are 4 sheep flocks contiguous to the infected establishment, comprising 500 animals in total. These flocks have been placed under clinical surveillance, with negative results to date, and serological surveillance, with no results yet available.

Routine control measures have been applied, including: cleansing and disinfection (twice) of depopulated premises; establishment of a protection zone (3-km radius) and a surveillance zone (10-km radius) around the infected premises; census of all susceptible animals inside the zones and standstill on all movements of animals, animal products and feedstuffs out of the zones; suspension of animal markets, fairs and artificial insemination; information campaign among the agricultural and professional community; vaccination has not been carried out or contemplated as a control measure.

NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

EMERGENCY REPORT

Text of a fax received on 16 July 1998 from Dr L. Celeda, Deputy Director of the State Veterinary Administration, Prague:

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

Date of initial detection of animal health incident: 15 July 1998.

Estimated date of first infection: 7 July 1998.

<i>Location</i>	<i>No. of outbreaks</i>
Klasterecnad Ohri, Chomutov district	1

Description of affected population: backyard flock.

Total number of animals in the outbreak:

<i>susceptible</i>	<i>cases</i>	<i>deaths</i>	<i>destroyed</i>	<i>slaughtered</i>
20	5	5	15	0

Diagnosis:

A. Laboratory where diagnosis was made: State Veterinary Institute, Prague.

B. Diagnostic tests used: virus isolation.

Control measures during reporting period: stamping-out; 3-km protection zone and 10-km surveillance zone set up; vaccination.

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POISONING BY *SIMARUBA AMARA* IN ARGENTINA in equids (follow-up report)

[issued on 17 July 1998 under the following title:]
Unidentified condition in equids in Argentina

FOLLOW-UP REPORT No. 2

Translation of a fax received on 16 July 1998 from Dr L.O. Barcos, President of the National Department of Agrarian Health (SENASA), Ministry of Economy, Public Works and Service, Buenos Aires:

End of previous report period: 18 June 1998 (see *Disease Information*, **11** [25], 92, dated 26 June 1998).

End of this report period: 15 July 1998.

Clinical manifestations

Characterised principally by oedema and/or inflammation of the lips and nostrils, nasal erosions and secretion, erosive lesions of 2 to 5 mm in the mouth (palate, cheeks, gums, interior of lips and upper and lateral surfaces of the tongue). In a small number of affected animals, there were anal and genital erosions, inflammation and secretions.

Epidemiological status

During the period from 29 May (first cases) to 15 June (last registered case), there were 124 affected equids out of a total of 600 (with no sex or age predilection) in 4 establishments in and near the Federal Capital. In all cases, the course of the disease was favourable, with remission of symptoms at 5 to 7 days after onset. Morbidity was 20-30% in two establishments and lower in the other two (13% and 1%, respectively). Two deaths during this period were unrelated to the problem. In the rest of Argentina, and in adjacent countries from which horses transited the affected region and returned to origin within the previous 45 days, no cases were detected. Epidemiological investigation did not establish any relation between affected and unaffected animals which, being of different origins, mingled and shared equestrian events prior to the appearance of the first cases.

Diagnostic advances

Laboratory tests ruled out vesicular stomatitis (Indiana and New Jersey types), African horse sickness, glanders, dourine, equine viral arteritis, equine adenovirus, equine rhinopneumonitis (HVE1 and HVE2), piroplasmosis (*B. equi* and *caballi*) as a possible cause of disease. It has not been possible to establish an aetiological agent. Still pending microbiological and toxicological investigations have not given any conclusions.

Control measures

Official Resolution No. 802, which came into force on 8 July 1998, lifted restrictions on the 4 premises which had cases, maintained the state of alert and vigilance to detect any cases and imposed strict movement control on premises with equine populations. Equestrian events and import-export are authorised.

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