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ENZOOTIC ABORTION OF EWES IN CHILE **Positive serology in a quarantine station**

EMERGENCY REPORT

Translation of a fax received on 28 August 1998 from Dr E. Correa Melo, Director, Department of Animal Protection, Ministry of Agriculture, Santiago:

Date of issue of this report: 7 August 1998.

In May 1998, in a quarantine station holding 200 sheep being imported from a European country, some of the animals were found to be positive to the following diseases: enzootic abortion of ewes (ovine chlamydiosis), Q fever and maedi-visna.

Diagnoses were established at the Central Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory of the Ministry of Agriculture of Chile, and were confirmed by the following international reference laboratories: Central Veterinary Laboratory, Weybridge (United Kingdom) and the National Veterinary Services (Ames, Iowa, United States of America). The animals were killed, and destroyed by incineration.

Chile considers itself free from these diseases in that they have not been diagnosed in its ovine population and, given the procedure applied following the detection hereby notified, the country maintains its free status.

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MAEDI-VISNA IN CHILE **Positive serology in a quarantine station**

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Q FEVER IN CHILE **Positive serology in a quarantine station**

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Q FEVER IN ARGENTINA
Positive serology in imported goats

EMERGENCY REPORT

Translation of a fax received on 28 August 1998 from Dr L.O. Barcos, President of the National Department of Agrarian Health (SENASA), Ministry of Economy, Public Works and Services, Buenos Aires:

Date of issue of this report: 19 August 1998.

The owner of a farm located in the town of Gualeguaychú, in the province of Entre Ríos, where a goat herd was being established with a recently imported group of animals, informed the SENASA that he suspected the presence of Q fever, following the onset of symptoms compatible with the disease in staff working on the premises. In view of this, SENASA placed the premises under quarantine.

Q fever was confirmed by the Laboratory of the Zoonosis Department of the Municipal Hospital of Buenos Aires (reference laboratory for this disease). Serological tests were positive for six of the eight persons presenting symptoms, who had all been in direct contact with the animals while kidding.

The Directorate of SENASA Laboratories and Technical Control provided serological confirmation by indirect immunofluorescence (IIF) of the infection in 51 kids recently born in the affected farm.

In view of the reported cases, SENASA visited the premises concerned, together with the Head of the Zoonosis Department, an expert in this field at the Municipal Hospital of Buenos Aires, in order to review the epidemiological situation in respect of the outbreak of the disease and to recommend disease control measures for both humans and animals.

SENASA subsequently took blood samples from all 269 adult goats, 57% of which were found to be seropositive by IIF.

In view of the characteristics of this zoonotic disease, the subclinical presentation in the majority of the animals, the persistence of the pathogen in the environment, the high risk of transmission to humans as well as animals, the high serological prevalence in the animals studied, and the positive results obtained in animals that had previously given negative results, SENASA decided, in application of Resolution No. 850/98, to implement a stamping-out policy covering all goats present in the establishment, with the aim of avoiding any spread of the disease.

A total of 390 goats were slaughtered and their carcasses buried on 24 July 1998.

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