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**RINDERPEST IN TURKEY**  
**Correction**

*Extract from a communication received on 24 November 1998 from Dr Celal Özcan, General Director of Protection and Control, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Ankara:*

Our communication dated 3 November 1998, published in *Disease Information*, **11** (44), 155, of 6 November 1998, contained a typing error in the last sentence, which should have read:

"In Thrace region, vaccination against rinderpest ceased on 1 **October** 1998." (instead of 1 January).

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**FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN KAZAKHSTAN**  
**Lifting of quarantine measures**

FOLLOW-UP REPORT NO. 1

*Extract from the monthly report of Kazakhstan for October 1998, received on 7 December 1998 from Dr Shakhaidar J. Tursunkulov, President of the Veterinary Committee, Ministry of Agriculture, Astana:*

**End of previous report period:** 30 September 1998 (see *Disease Information*, **11** [42], 151, dated 23 October 1998).

**End of this report period:** 25 November 1998.

In view of the lifting of quarantine measures in Dzhambul (Jambyl) region on 25 October 1998, Kazakhstan should be considered free from foot and mouth disease in cattle.

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**RINDERPEST IN JORDAN**  
**The Delegate declares his country "provisionally free" from the disease**

*Text of a fax received on 6 December 1998 from Dr Asaad Abu Al-Ragheb, Director of the Veterinary Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Amman:*

The Veterinary Department decided to halt vaccination and declares provisional rinderpest free status from 1 January 1998.

The last recorded cases of rinderpest occurred in 1971 (during the 1969-1973 Near East panzootic). Therefore, the Veterinary Department made vaccination compulsory for local and exotic breeds and vaccinated 31,000 head of cattle. Generally, annual vaccination of cattle was carried out until 1997. Sera were collected from non-vaccinated animals and were negative to the ELISA test. Furthermore, there were no reports of clinical cases of rinderpest during this time. In consequence, we decided to halt vaccination and declare provisional rinderpest free status.

Following the outbreak of peste des petits ruminants (PPR) that was reported officially at the Jordan Cooperative Organisation in Mafrak governorate in 1993, vaccination of small ruminants with rinderpest vaccine was implemented. As Jordan has decided to declare provisional freedom from rinderpest, only PPR vaccine is now used in small ruminants.

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**INFECTIOUS SALMON ANAEMIA IN THE UNITED KINGDOM / GREAT BRITAIN**  
**Follow-up report**

FOLLOW-UP REPORT NO. 3

*Text of a fax received on 8 December 1998 from Dr J.M. Scudamore, Chief Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Surbiton:*

**End of previous report period:** 29 September 1998 (see *Disease Information*, **11** [39], 139, dated 2 October 1998).

**End of this report period:** 7 December 1998.

There have been no new cases of infectious salmon anaemia (ISA) since the previous report. Thus, it remains the case that the disease has been confirmed on ten marine salmon farms in Scotland. A further eleven sites are suspected of being infected.

We are continuing to contain and eradicate sources of infection, in accordance with the legislation of the European Union. All farms in the wider coastal area around the infected sites remain under official surveillance and are subject to regular health inspections.

The epizootic investigations are continuing to identify possible sources of the ISA infection and to determine the extent of any spread of the disease.

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

*Translation of a fax received on 9 December 1998 from Dr Romano Marabelli, Director General of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Public Health, Rome:*

**End of this report period:** 9 December 1998.

The last outbreak of Newcastle disease appeared in Italy in the town of Santa Croce sull'Arno (Pisa province) on 22 May 1998, and was eradicated on 30 May 1998 (see OIE *Bulletin*, vol. 110, No. 3 [May-June 1998], p. 189). Among the measures undertaken were the slaughter and destruction of all the susceptible animals in the flock.

Considering the recommendations of the *International Animal Health Code* regarding Newcastle disease, since six months have passed since the eradication of the last outbreak, Italy is to be considered free from Newcastle disease.

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**BLUETONGUE IN CANADA**  
**In a sentinel herd in Okanagan Valley**

EMERGENCY REPORT

*Text of a fax received on 10 December 1998 from Dr N.G. Willis, Executive Director, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Winnipeg:*

**Nature of diagnosis:** laboratory.

**Date of initial detection of animal health incident:** 28 October 1998.

**Estimated date of first infection:** September 1998.

**Location of animal health incident:** Okanagan Valley, province of British Columbia, approximately 16 km north of the 49th parallel (the border with the United States of America).

**Description of affected population:** two animals in a sentinel herd of seven.

**Background:**

In 1987, a sentinel herd programme was put in place in the southern range of Okanagan Valley, at sites of highest historical seroprevalence. The sentinel animals are distributed in six sites, at seven animals per site, at the southern end of the Okanagan Valley, internationally recognised as the only region of Canada where bluetongue has been known to occur. The pre-selected animals are tested at approximately three week intervals from June until the middle of October.

Two incursions have been detected since the beginning of the sentinel herd programme, in late August 1987 and in September 1988.

**Diagnosis:**

The herd had been previously sampled on 15 September 1998, and reported negative. The first positive report was on 28 October, from a sample taken on 13 October. The positive animal was resampled on 4 November for virus isolation.

The seven animals, including the positive animal, were resampled on 12 November. On 19 November, the National Centre for Foreign Animal Diseases confirmed the initial result on the above animal and reported an additional positive animal. On 24 November, an additional sample was taken from this second animal for virus isolation.

On 4 December, the laboratory reported that the virus had been isolated from the first serological reactor's blood.

- A. **Laboratory where diagnosis was confirmed:** National Centre for Foreign Animal Diseases, Winnipeg.
- B. **Diagnostic tests used:** the virus was isolated after one passage in embryonated chicken eggs and cell culture. The isolate was identified using a group-specific monoclonal antibody and a serum neutralisation test.
- C. **Causal agent:** bluetongue virus serotype 11.

**Epidemiology:**

There has not been any significant die-off in the deer population, there have been no significant disease occurrences in the cattle population of the area, and, more importantly, there has been nothing unusual in the sheep population.

Experience to date indicates that transmission of bluetongue occurs in Canada only at sporadic intervals and only in the Okanagan Valley.

**Control measures during reporting period:** measures are in place to ensure that susceptible animals from the Okanagan Valley are identified prior to being moved to other locations in Canada.

**Conclusion:** considering the nature of the disease and its finding in a sentinel herd of the Okanagan Valley, the finding does not affect the health status of the Canadian livestock population outside this area.

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