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NEW WORLD SCREWWORM (*COCHLIOMYIA HOMINIVORAX*) IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA End of the outbreak

FOLLOW-UP REPORT No. 1

Text of a communication received on 18 January 1999 from Dr J.M. Arnoldi, Associate Administrator, Veterinary Services, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC:

End of previous report period: 19 November 1998 (see *Disease Information*, **11** [46], 163, dated 20 November 1998).

End of this report period: 14 January 1999.

No further evidence of screwworm has been found despite a high level of surveillance. The outbreak was considered eradicated on 14 January 1999 and all quarantines were released.

Some of the surveillance strategies and actions taken to date:

- News releases have been sent to accredited veterinarians, county extension agents, extension veterinarians, Texas Parks and Wildlife officials, Texas Department of Health officials, Food Safety and Inspection Service personnel, as well as the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) and Federal Veterinary Services personnel alerting them of the Texas case of screwworm. The news releases provide information on whom to contact for suspicious cases.
- The affected premises and adjacent premises had been kept under a Hold Order preventing unregulated movements from these farms. Thorough inspections of these premises have not identified any screwworm nor have histories from the owners indicated screwworm-like activities.
- The TAHC is actively increasing surveillance in the State, with primary surveillance established on Edwards county (containing the affected premises) and adjacent counties of Kimble, Sutton, Val Verde, Kinney, Uvalde, Real and Kerr.
- Livestock markets receiving livestock from the primary surveillance area are located in Pearsall, Uvalde, Hondo, Junction and San Angelo. Extra livestock inspectors have been assigned to these markets and inspect all livestock for evidence of screwworm infestation and/or open wounds. Over 8,000 cattle and 35,000 sheep and goats have been inspected at these markets.
- Slaughter establishments receiving livestock from the primary surveillance area received daily visits and inspections for infestations in addition to regular ante-mortem inspections. News releases, fact sheets and screwworm submission kits are provided to the slaughter establishments. Submissions of non-screwworm larvae have been received from slaughter establishments.

- Feed store owners, veterinary practitioners, Texas Parks and Wildlife personnel and county extension agents in the primary surveillance area received personal visits to ensure that they received the screwworm news release, fact sheet and submission kits. Additionally, these individuals were asked to aid in the distribution of the information and submission kits helping to maximise surveillance.
- Feedlots in and near the primary surveillance area have been visited by the TAHC, and daily inspections by the TAHC of animals receiving dehorning and/or castration procedures have been accomplished. Private practitioners were contacted and requested to provide follow-up histories for any clients whose animals had received surgical procedures.

Livestock owners in the primary surveillance area as well as in surrounding areas have been very cooperative and have greatly assisted surveillance activities. Laboratory submissions have doubled on average and some weeks have tripled.

Winter weather conditions in the area of the affected premises have become cold enough for screwworms not to be viable. With the advent of warmer weather in the spring, a renewed effort will be made to increase awareness of the threat of screwworm and the need for vigilance for this pest. Submissions of suspected screwworms will be expected to continue. However, the threat of screwworm from the incidence of this identified case is over.

A direct link to movements of flies, or affected animals was not determined for this case, and the appearance of a single larva remains a mystery. A continued effort to identify possible screwworms in the spring will help in determining the risk of screwworm to the United States of America.

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CLASSICAL SWINE FEVER IN SPAIN The Delegate declares the country free from the disease

Translation of a fax received on 21 January 1999 from Dr Quintiliano Pérez Bonilla, Director General of Animal Production, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Madrid:

With regard to classical swine fever, which, in April 1997, reappeared in Spain after an absence of more than ten years (see OIE *Bulletin*, vol. 110, pp 367-369), I wish to report that no clinical signs of the disease have been observed for over six months, the last outbreak having been confirmed in Sevilla province on 16 July 1998.

On this basis, and in application of Article 2.1.13.2. of the *International Animal Health Code*, the entire territory of Spain can be considered as free from classical swine fever, taking into account the control measures applied in the country, based on stamping out and a ban on vaccination.

Furthermore, the Standing Veterinary Committee of the European Union, meeting in Brussels on 13 January 1999, were unanimously in favour of a proposed Decision to rescind Decision 98/339/EC relating to protection measures against classical swine fever in Spain, consequently lifting restrictions on trade in swine imposed by the latter Decision.

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NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC
The Delegate declares the country free from the disease

FOLLOW-UP REPORT No. 1

Text of a fax received on 21 January 1999 from Dr Leoš Čeleda, Deputy Director of the State Veterinary Administration, Prague:

During 1998 three outbreaks of Newcastle disease were confirmed in the Czech Republic. The last outbreak was reported on 16 July 1998 (see *Disease Information*, **11** [28], 101, dated 17 July 1998).

As stamping-out policy with vaccination is practised in our country and no other outbreak has been reported since that time, the Czech Republic may be considered as free from Newcastle disease with effect from 16 January 1999, in accordance with the conditions laid down in Article 2.1.15.2. of the *International Animal Health Code*.

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FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN BRAZIL
in the State of Mato Grosso do Sul

EMERGENCY REPORT

Text of a fax received on 21 January 1999 from Dr José Germán Rodríguez Torres, Director, Pan American Foot and Mouth Disease and Zoonosis Center, Pan American Health Organization, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil:

We have received a communication from the Brazilian authorities indicating the existence of an FMD outbreak in the municipality of Navirai, State of Mato Grosso do Sul (29° S - 62° W) detected on 18 January 1999. The virus has been classified as type O by the Recife National Laboratory.

All farms within an area of 25 km have been placed under quarantine until all field work is completed.

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