

Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| African horse sickness in South Africa: in the Western Cape Province | 23 |
| Newcastle disease in Australia: follow-up report | 24 |
| Foot and mouth disease in Taipei China: in goats | 26 |

**AFRICAN HORSE SICKNESS IN SOUTH AFRICA
in the Western Cape Province**

(Date of last previously reported outbreak in the province: May 1999).

EMERGENCY REPORT

Text of a fax received on 18 February 2000 from Dr Emily Mogajane, Program Manager, Agricultural Production, Department of Agriculture, Pretoria:

Report date: 17 February 2000.

Nature of diagnosis: post-mortem and laboratory.

Date of initial detection of animal health incident: 14 February 2000.

Estimated date of first infection: 8 February 2000.

Outbreaks:

| Location | No. of outbreaks |
|---|------------------|
| 33° 23' S - 18° 43' 30 E (Malmesbury district, Western Cape Province) | 1 farm |

Description of affected population: one horse died acutely.

Total number of animals in the outbreak:

| <i>susceptible</i> | <i>cases</i> | <i>deaths</i> | <i>destroyed</i> | <i>slaughtered</i> |
|--------------------|--------------|---------------|------------------|--------------------|
| ± 2,000 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |

Diagnosis:

- A. Laboratory where diagnosis was made:** Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute (OIE Reference Laboratory for African horse sickness).
- B. Diagnostic tests used:** ELISA.

Epidemiology: the Western Cape Province is a controlled area for African horse sickness (AHS). This area is divided into a free zone, a surveillance zone (buffer area) and a protection zone. The outbreak notified in this report is in the AHS surveillance zone and has not affected the AHS-free zone.

- A. Source of agent / origin of infection:** under investigation.
- B. Mode of spread:** insect borne.

Control measures during reporting period:

- immediate movement control in the Malmesbury district;
- vaccination campaign instituted in the Malmesbury district.

NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN AUSTRALIA Follow-up report

FOLLOW-UP REPORT NO. 1

Text of an e-mail received on 21 February 2000 from Dr Gardner Murray, Chief Veterinary Officer, Department of Primary Industries and Energy, Canberra:

End of previous report period: 4 February 2000 (see *Disease Information*, **13** [5], 20, dated 4 February 2000).

End of this report period: 21 February 2000.

New outbreaks:

| Location | No. of outbreaks |
|--|------------------|
| Rossmore, 33° 57' S - 150° 46' E (10 km South-South-East of the Orchard Hills farm reported in <i>Disease Information</i> , 13 [2], 3, dated 14 January 2000) | 1 farm |
| Calala, 31° 8' S - 150° 57' E (near Tamworth) | 1 farm |

Description of affected population in the new outbreaks:

- Outbreak of Rossmore: a layer farm.
- Outbreak of Calala: a breeder farm of approximately 14,000 birds.

Diagnosis:

- Outbreak of Rossmore: very few deaths and little evidence of clinical illness in the flock.
- Outbreak of Calala: the farm recorded low mortality (20 deaths in four days), with affected birds showing clinical signs of incoordination, nervous tremors and green-stained vents.
 - A. Laboratory where diagnosis was confirmed:** CSIRO Australian Animal Health Laboratory.
 - B. Diagnostic tests used:** histopathological, immunohistochemical and molecular virological testing.
 - C. Causal agent:** virulent virus has been isolated from the Rossmore property, but isolation attempts are still proceeding with respect to the Calala property.

Control measures during reporting period:

- Outbreak of Rossmore: the farm has been placed in quarantine and it is proposed to vaccinate the flock according to established protocols.
- Outbreak of Calala: the owners of the farm chose pre-emptively to depopulate and render carcasses at their own expense, as a precautionary measure. This was completed over the last weekend.

Summary table of details relating to all Newcastle disease incidents in New South Wales (NSW)

| Report date | Location of incident | Enterprise | Implemented measures |
|-----------------------------|---|---|--|
| 17 Dec. 1999 | Mangrove Mountain | Commercial farms | NSW decision to implement a vaccination programme in the former <i>surveillance zone</i> around Mangrove Mountain in an attempt to eliminate the low virulent progenitor strain detected in some re-stocked farms. This zone was termed a <i>Newcastle disease free zone practising vaccination</i> . |
| 24 Dec. 1999 | Mangrove Mountain | Commercial farms | Evidence of the presence of virulent viruses with amino acid sequences at the cleavage site of the F protein of RRQRRF was detected in 3 poultry flocks in the area previously described as the <i>Newcastle disease free zone practising vaccination</i> . This area was renamed the <i>Newcastle disease infected zone practising vaccination</i> . |
| 12 Jan. 2000 ⁽¹⁾ | Orchard Hills | Multi-aged layer farms of 15,000 caged birds producing table eggs for metropolitan Sydney | Farm quarantined; vaccination of flocks within a 3-km radius. |
| | Llandillo (<i>PCR product from 1 bird only - no virus isolated</i>) | Multi-aged layer farms of 9,500 caged birds producing table eggs for metropolitan Sydney | Farm quarantined; strategic vaccination of flocks within a 3-km radius. |
| 4 Feb. 2000 | Moonbi (near Tamworth) | Pullet rearing farm | Farms quarantined; sampling and surveillance of all farms within a 3-km radius. |
| 15 Feb. 2000 | Rossmore, western Sydney | Layer farm | Farm quarantined; proposal to vaccinate flock; movement of sanitised eggs to Sydney metropolitan retail outlets allowed under permit. |
| 21 Feb. 2000 | Calala, near Tamworth | Breeder farm | Slaughtered and rendered. |

(1) These two farms experienced problems in starter pullets some four to eight weeks after introduction. Mortality was only slightly raised and other age groups within the sheds remained healthy. There was only one sick bird on the Llandillo farm. The farms were quarantined and the movement of sanitised eggs to local retail outlets was allowed under permit. These farms are now healthy and back to normal egg production.

*
* *

**FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN TAIPEI CHINA
in goats**

EMERGENCY REPORT

Text of a fax received on 22 February 2000 from Dr Watson H.T. Sung, Deputy Director General, Bureau of Animal and Plant Inspection and Quarantine, Council of Agriculture, Taipei:

Report date: 18 February 2000.

Nature of diagnosis: clinical and laboratory.

Date of initial detection of animal health incident: 7 February 2000.

Outbreaks:

| Location | No. of outbreaks |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Changhwa prefecture | 1 |

Total number of animals in the outbreak:

| species | susceptible | cases | deaths | destroyed | slaughtered |
|---------|-------------|-------|--------|-----------|-------------|
| cap | 270 | 22* | 22* | 248 | 0 |

*one- or two-day-old kids.

Diagnosis: on 14 February 2000, a goat farmer informed the Livestock Diseases Control Center (LDCC) in Changhwa prefecture that kids on his farm were dying suddenly over a period of a week. Tiger heart and alveolar emphysema were found in one of the kids that had survived.

A. Laboratory where diagnosis was made: National Institute for Animal Health.

B. Diagnostic tests used: sera, oesophageal-pharyngeal fluid and milk samples were collected for the detection of FMD infection. The following tests were conducted:

- virus isolation (in progress);
- RT-PCR (positive);
- DNA sequencing test;
- neutralisation test (C 724X);
- viral non structural protein ELISA (positive).

C. Causal agent: results of DNA sequence analysis: VP1 is 99.4% similar to type O/Taiwan/99.

Epidemiology:

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

B. Mode of spread: under investigation.

C. Other epidemiological details: all goats in this farm, with the exception of kids under three months old raised for slaughter, were vaccinated against FMD on 26 January 2000.

Control measures during reporting period:

- stamping out (all goats on this farm were destroyed and rendered on 16 February 2000);
- destruction of the milk produced in the farm;
- strict environmental hygienic control and quarantine measures have been implemented around the infected farm (within a radius of about 3 km);
- mass vaccination against FMD was strengthened.

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.