

Contents

| | |
|--|-----|
| Foot and mouth disease in Greece: follow-up report | 113 |
| Foot and mouth disease in Mongolia: follow-up report | 115 |
| Foot and mouth disease in Mongolia: final report | 116 |

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN GREECE
Follow-up report

FOLLOW-UP REPORT No. 2

Text of an e-mail received on 28 July 2000 from Dr Vasilios Stylos, Head, Animal Health Directorate, Ministry of Agriculture, Athens:

End of previous report period: 17 July 2000 (see *Disease Information*, **13** [27], 103, dated 21 July 2000).

End of this report period: 27 July 2000.

It should be noted that a joint EC/FAO¹ fact finding mission was carried out in Evros from 25 to 27 July 2000. The principal comments and observations made by this mission are also addressed in this report.

1. Description of outbreaks

Table 1.- Recapitulative table of outbreaks, with a breakdown by epidemiological cluster

- The cluster of confirmed outbreaks Nos 00/01, 00/02 and 00/03 belongs to the same epidemiological unit due to multiple direct contacts in common grazing pastures and watering troughs within or adjacent to the "infected zone".

Outbreak No. 00/03 is clearly a secondary outbreak as it is contiguous to outbreak No. 00/02.

It was more difficult to differentiate between outbreak No. 00/01 and outbreak No. 00/02 because they were identified simultaneously, the animals presented approximately the same stage of lesions and were equally exposed to primary infection. The definitive designation was based on within-herd incidence propagation and a subjective, but expert, assessment of lesion age.

All three outbreaks were located within the same protection and surveillance zone (see previous report).

- Outbreak No. 00/04 was identified as a probable contact within the framework of forward tracing from the "infected zone", where the herd was initially reared before being relocated to new premises on 8 July, just before the initial suspicion was raised. This herd was killed and destroyed on 17 July on purely epidemiological grounds and in the absence of clinical signs. Confirmation of infection was obtained on 20 July by positive serology.

New protection and surveillance zones were established, overlapping the previous ones.

- Outbreak No. 00/05 was identified within the framework of general disease awareness and active clinical surveillance throughout the Prefecture of Evros. The affected herd comprised dairy cattle permanently housed in premises 500 m from Evros river and no epidemiological link with known outbreaks or contacts (25 km to the south) has been established. Animate or inanimate vectors may have played a role in transmitting the disease, but in the absence of any link the outbreak has been designated a primary outbreak. Laboratory confirmation of infection was obtained on 24 July by positive serology.

New protection and surveillance zones were established, overlapping previous ones.

- Outbreak No. 00/06 is *provisionally* designated as such on the basis of mild clinical symptoms identified on 27 July within the framework of systematic surveillance carried out twice-a-week inside established protection and surveillance zones. The herd in question is situated inside the Evros Delta surveillance zone and is scheduled to be destroyed, along with contiguous herds, on 28 July.

The protection and surveillance zones of Evros Delta are currently being extended to cover a radius of 3 and 10 km, respectively.

2. New protection and surveillance zones

- Location of outbreak No. 00/04: 41° 53' N - 26° 27' E. The protection and surveillance zones established around the outbreak cover areas with a radius of 3 and 10 km, respectively.
- Location of outbreak No. 00/05: 40° 57' N - 26° 34' 40" E. The protection and surveillance zones established around the outbreak cover areas with a radius of 3 and 10 km radius, respectively.
- Location of outbreak No. 00/06: 40° 49' 10" N - 26° 20' 30" E. Protection and surveillance zones, as well as a detailed census of the susceptible livestock population inside these zones, are being currently assessed.

Table 2.- Susceptible livestock population inside protection and surveillance zones

3. General epidemiological considerations

3.1. Source of primary infection

The working hypothesis stated previously with regard to the origin of the primary incursion is now confirmed. The OIE World Reference Laboratory for foot and mouth disease (Pirbright Laboratory, United Kingdom), has confirmed that the "Greek" isolate of FMD virus serotype Asia 1 is genetically identical to the Turkish strain isolated in various parts of that country since late 1999 and advancing steadily westwards.

3.2. Means of infection

After having carried out an on-the-spot investigation, it is the shared opinion of the foreign and Greek experts that the most likely means of transmission of FMD into Greece is direct contact of animals along "weak" points of the border line. At least two such points have been identified near outbreaks Nos 00/02 and 00/05, which can easily explain the circumstances leading to transmission of infection.

3.3. Large scale serological surveillance for epidemiological purposes

The particular conditions and findings concerning outbreak No. 00/05 leave question marks as to the true time of incursion and the exact location of the index case, especially in the absence of any epidemiological link with previous known outbreaks.

In order to investigate further the epidemiological profile of this outbreak, large scale serological surveillance of small ruminants in the vicinity is planned.

(1) EC: European Commission; FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

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FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN MONGOLIA Follow-up report

FOLLOW-UP REPORT No 2

Text of an e-mail dated 12 June and received on 3 August 2000 from Dr Ochirhuugiin Ulambayar, Chief, State Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture and Industry, Ulan Bator:

End of previous report period: 17 May 2000 (see *Disease Information*, **13** [19], 76, dated 19 May 2000).

End of this report period: 12 June 2000.

Outbreaks:

| Location | No. of outbreaks |
|--|------------------|
| Ulaanbadrakh <i>soum</i> (county), Dornogovi province (43° 6' N - 110° 4' E) | 26 herds |

Total number of animals in the outbreaks:

| <i>species</i> | <i>susceptible</i> | <i>cases</i> | <i>deaths</i> | <i>destroyed</i> | <i>slaughtered</i> |
|----------------|--------------------|--------------|---------------|------------------|--------------------|
| bov | 1,918 | 677 | 132 | 545 | 0 |
| ovi | 8,275 | 347 | 195 | 152 | 0 |
| cap | 6,397 | 307 | 149 | 158 | 0 |
| cml | 572 | 59 | 8 | 51 | 0 |

Control measures during reporting period:

- all sick animals present in the affected localities were destroyed and no more cases of FMD have been detected since 1 June 2000;
- strict quarantine measures have been continued around the infected herds;
- the whole of Ulaanbadrakh and Hubsugul counties are under quarantine;
- restriction measures have been implemented within Dornogovi province;
- ring vaccination of 917,600 animals is in progress.

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FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN MONGOLIA
Final report

FOLLOW-UP REPORT NO 3

Text of an e-mail received on 1 August 2000 from Dr Ochirhuugiin Ulambayar, Chief, State Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture and Industry, Ulan Bator:

End of this report period: 31 July 2000.

Outbreaks:

| Location | No. of outbreaks |
|--|------------------|
| Ulaanbadrakh <i>soum</i> (county), Dornogovi province (43° 6' N - 110° 4' E) | 26 herds |

Total number of animals in the outbreaks:

| <i>species</i> | <i>susceptible</i> | <i>cases</i> | <i>deaths</i> | <i>destroyed</i> | <i>slaughtered</i> |
|----------------|--------------------|--------------|---------------|------------------|--------------------|
| bov | 1,918 | 685 | 133 | 552 | 0 |
| ovi | 8,275 | 347 | 195 | 152 | 0 |
| cap | 6,397 | 307 | 149 | 158 | 0 |
| cml | 572 | 62 | 8 | 54 | 0 |

Control measures during reporting period:

- restriction measures have been implemented within Ulaanbadrakh and Hubsugul counties in Dornogovi province;
- no more cases of foot and mouth disease have been reported since 13 June 2000. Quarantine measures were lifted on 7 July 2000.

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