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BOVINE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHY IN SPAIN Additional information

Translation of extracts from two faxes received on 23 and 24 November 2000 from Dr Quintiliano Pérez Bonilla, Director General of Animal Production, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Madrid:

Report date: 24 November 2000 (see also report of 22 November 2000 in *Disease Information*, **13** [46], 212).

Date of initial detection of animal health incident: 26 October 2000.

Date of confirmation of diagnosis: 22 November 2000.

Outbreaks:

Location	No. of outbreaks
Carballedo district, Lugo province, Galicia Autonomous Community	1

Total number of animals in the outbreak:

<i>susceptible</i>	<i>cases</i>	<i>deaths</i>	<i>destroyed</i>	<i>slaughtered</i>
10	1	1	9	0

Epidemiology: the affected animal died on the farm. Sampling was done within the framework of the activities of "the surveillance programme on animal spongiform encephalopathies in 2000".

A. Source of agent / origin of infection: investigations under way.

B. Other epidemiological details: the nearest cattle farm is 25 metres away from the affected farm.

Control measures:

- BSE is a notifiable disease in Spain and is subject to an official control programme.
- The other ruminants present in the farm (i.e. nine bovines) were preventively slaughtered and their carcasses destroyed.

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BOVINE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHY IN GERMANY

EMERGENCY REPORT

Text of an e-mail received on 27 November 2000 from Prof. Dr Werner Zwingmann, Chief Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry, Bonn:

Report date: 27 November 2000.

Nature of diagnosis: laboratory.

Date of initial detection of animal health incident: 26 November 2000.

Outbreaks:

Location	No. of outbreaks
Hörsten	1

Description of affected population: a four-year-old cow in a breeding farm.

Total number of animals in the outbreak:

<i>susceptible</i>	<i>cases</i>	<i>deaths</i>	<i>destroyed</i>	<i>slaughtered</i>
167	1	0	167	0

Diagnosis:

A. Laboratory where diagnosis was made: Federal Research Centre for Virus Diseases of Animals, Tübingen.

B. Diagnostic tests used: immunoblotting.

Epidemiology:

A. Source of agent / origin of infection: not yet known; investigations are ongoing.

B. Mode of spread: unknown.

C. Other epidemiological details: the cow was born in the holding.

Control measures:

- The killed animal will be destroyed in a rendering plant.
- Tracing of animal movements into and out of the infected holding.

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FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN SWAZILAND in imported animals

(Date of last previously reported outbreak: 1969).

EMERGENCY REPORT

Text of an e-mail received on 29 November 2000 from Dr Robert S. Thwala, Director of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Mbabane:

Report date: 29 November 2000.

Nature of diagnosis: clinical and laboratory.

Date of initial detection of animal health incident: 24 November 2000.

Date of laboratory confirmation: 29 November 2000.

Outbreaks:

Location	No. of outbreaks
an abattoir in Matsapha (26° 31' S – 31° 18' E)	1

Background: following the achievement of a foot and mouth disease (FMD) free status by Swaziland⁽¹⁾, the Director of Veterinary Services prioritised the investigation of all cases of cloven-hoofed animals presenting lesions or vesicles in the mouth or on the coronary band to rule out the possibility of FMD.

Epidemiology / Diagnosis:

On 23 November 2000, a group of 110 animals was imported into Swaziland.

On 24 November, 44 of the group of 110 animals were slaughtered, until a lesion was found on the tongue of an animal that was being slaughtered, leading to the stoppage of all operations at the abattoir. The abattoir was placed under provisional quarantine, with all the day's slaughter under lock and key, including its fifth quarter.

The remaining 66 animals were examined, with 2 showing lesions in the mouth and laminitis. All animals were quarantined for further examination over the week end. By 27 November, 5 animals showed signs of laminitis. Ten serum and epithelial tissue samples were taken and submitted to the Onderstepoort Institute for Exotic Diseases (South Africa) on 28 November. All 66 animals were slaughtered and treated in the same manner as those slaughtered on 24 November.

- A. **Laboratory where diagnosis was confirmed:** Onderstepoort Institute for Exotic Diseases (South Africa).
- B. **Diagnostic tests used:** blocking ELISA, typing ELISA and virus isolation tests.
- C. **Causal agent:** of 10 serum and tissue samples submitted to the laboratory, 8 were positive for FMD virus type SAT 1.
- D. **Other epidemiological details:** investigations with the source indicated that the owners were only aware of the presence of bovine virus diarrhoea (BVD) at the feedlot, and not of FMD.

Control measures during reporting period:

- abattoir placed under quarantine;
- all dip-tank areas around the industrial town of Matsapha placed under surveillance with restricted stock movement into or out of the area;
- follow-up with the authorities in the exporting country undertaken for the purposes of trace-back of the disease;
- all imports of cloven-hoofed animals and their products from the relevant province of the exporting country have been prohibited.

(1) See Resolution No. XII adopted by the International Committee of the OIE during the 68th General Session, 22-26 May 2000.

NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN MEXICO
Follow-up report No. 4
(lifting of quarantine measures in La Laguna region)

Translation of an e-mail received on 29 November 2000 from Dr Angel Omar Flores Hernández, Director General of Animal Health Department, Secretariat for Agriculture, Animal Production and Rural Development (SAGAR), Mexico City:

End of previous report period: 10 August 2000 (see *Disease Information*, **13** [30], 119, dated 11 August 2000).

End of this report period: 27 November 2000.

In compliance with national and international regulations on Newcastle disease, the quarantine measures imposed in the State of Durango and the municipalities of the State of Coahuila comprising La Laguna Region have been lifted, with effect from 11 November 2000. This concerns the quarantine applied to the farms affected by the disease⁽¹⁾, as well as to abattoirs and plants processing poultry and poultry products.

This was done following successful completion of the disease control and epidemiological surveillance activities, six months having elapsed since the last clinical case (with application of stamping-out procedures), and 6.4 incubation periods having elapsed since the last viral isolation.

The disease control and epidemiological surveillance activities that were implemented and that provided technical support, included the following:

- a) Evaluation of the animal health risk and definition of the disease control measures to be adopted after the detection of an outbreak.
- b) Quarantine imposed on the State of Durango and the municipalities of the State of Coahuila comprising La Laguna Region.
- c) Control of the movement of poultry and of poultry products and by-products, as well as of the equipment and implements used for poultry production.
- d) Control of the official documentation by SAGAR for authorizing the movement of poultry and of poultry products and by-products into and out of the zone placed under quarantine.
- e) Quarantine of poultry farms that were clinically affected and/or where the virus had been isolated.
- f) Quarantine of abattoirs and plants processing poultry and poultry products, in addition to plants processing poultry manure.
- g) Application of the minimum biosafety measures needed to operate poultry farms, abattoirs and plants processing poultry and poultry products, as well as for plants processing poultry manure and for transport vehicles.
- h) Active and passive epidemiological surveillance in industrial and backyard poultry farming.
- i) Compulsory application of the vaccination timetable using vaccines containing live virus and emulsified vaccines.
- j) Placing of sentinel birds in all production buildings on the affected poultry farms, as well as on farms where no evidence of velogenic Newcastle disease has ever been detected.

In spite of the above, the Directorate-General for Animal Health will maintain active and passive epidemiological surveillance activities, as is the case in all Newcastle disease free areas in Mexico.

(1) The outbreak of velogenic Newcastle disease, recorded in La Laguna Region at the end of March 2000, affected 93 poultry farms.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN URUGUAY
Follow-up report No. 5

Translation of an e-mail received on 30 November 2000 from Dr Carlos A. Correa Messuti, Ministry of Animal Production, Agriculture and Fisheries, Montevideo:

End of previous report period: 23 November 2000 (see *Disease Information*, **13** [46], 213, dated 24 November 2000).

End of this report period: 30 November 2000.

1. Epidemiological surveillance in the 'peripheral zone':

The activities scheduled for the third round of tracing, which had begun on 11 November 2000, were completed.

The census of all owners of cattle, sheep and pigs located in the peripheral zone, in a 20-km-wide area around the zone cleared of animals susceptible to foot and mouth disease (FMD), was completed on 27 November.

These activities corresponded to a fresh clinical inspection and blood sampling of susceptible animals. The results of the clinical and serological screening carried out in the surveillance zone corresponding to the Department of Artigas confirmed the absence of FMD.

2. Sentinel animals placed in the zone cleared of animals susceptible to FMD:

Cattle and pigs have been selected as sentinel animals as follows: 100 bovines aged one year and free from specific antibodies (verified by ELISA 3ABC technique) and 10 piglets weighing an average of 40-45 kg, also with negative antibodies for FMD.

Comments:

- a) The audit by the International Technical Mission to observe the Health Emergency, which Uruguay had requested from PANAFTOSA⁽¹⁾, Chile and NAFTA⁽²⁾, was conducted from 20 to 24 November 2000. The Mission arrived at the following conclusions:
 - The eradication of FMD in Uruguay has been conceived and ratified in practice as State policy.
 - The emergency operation that was deployed has made it possible to eliminate the outbreak of FMD. Verification of eradication is still subject to the results concerning the sentinel animals and to the subsequent investigation of viral activity.
 - The immediate release of funds for compensation, the amount being paid being in line with market prices, led to an efficient and transparent stamping-out procedure.
- b) It should be noted that markets such as the European Union and other countries have been reopened as a result of the respective risk analyses and reports, coupled with the immediate, opportune and coordinated action of the Uruguayan Authorities.
- c) There was strict adherence to the procedures recommended in the *International Animal Health Code*, Chapter 2.1.1 (Foot and mouth disease).

(1) PANAFTOSA: Pan American Foot and Mouth Disease Center.

(2) NAFTA: North American Free Trade Agreement.

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