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### RABBIT HAEMORRHAGIC DISEASE IN CUBA Follow-up report No. 2

*Translation of an e-mail received on 2 April 2001 from Dr Emerio F. Serrano Ramírez, Director General of the Institute of Veterinary Medicine, Ministry of Agriculture, Havana:*

**End of previous report period:** 12 February 2001 (see *Disease Information*, 14 [10], 41, dated 9 March 2001).

**End of this report period:** 28 March 2001.

#### New outbreaks:

Location	No. of outbreaks
Havana province	3

**Description of affected population in the new outbreaks:** backyard animals.

#### Total number of animals in the new outbreaks:

species	susceptible	cases	deaths	destroyed	slaughtered
lep	3,378	461	461	2,043	874

#### Diagnosis:

- Laboratory where diagnosis was made:** National Epizootiology and Diagnosis Centre.
- Diagnostic tests used:** post-mortem examination, haemagglutination test, electron microscopy.

#### Epidemiology:

- Source of agent / origin of infection:** investigations under way.
- Mode of spread:** under study.
- Other epidemiological details:** the mortality rate is only 30% in adult rabbits. In previous epizootics the rate was markedly higher.

**Control measures during reporting period:** control programme covering the whole country; quarantine and movement control inside the country; stamping-out policy; vaccination prohibited.

**FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM / GREAT BRITAIN**  
**Follow-up report No. 5**

*Summary of data received up to 4 April 2001 from Dr J.M. Scudamore, Chief Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, London:*

**End of previous report period:** 27 March 2001 (see *Disease Information*, **14** [13], 70, dated 30 March 2001).

**End of this report period:** 4 April 2001.

**Number of new outbreaks:** 301.

**Summary of confirmed outbreaks as of 4 April 2001:**

Location (County)	Number
Anglesey	12
Berkshire	1
Cheshire	10
County Durham	52
Cornwall	3
Cumbria	405
Derbyshire	8
Devon	101
Dumfries & Galloway	121
Essex	10
Gloucestershire	48
Gwent	2
Gwynedd	1
Herefordshire	27
Kent	5
Kirkcudbrightshire	1
Lancashire	9
Leicestershire	3
Monmouth	8
Montgomeryshire	1
North Yorkshire	9
Northamptonshire	1
Northumberland	28
Oxfordshire	2
Powys	28
Roxburghshire	2
Shropshire	6
Somerset	1
Staffordshire	37
Stockton-on-Tees	1
Tyne & Wear	13
West Yorkshire	3
Warwickshire	4
West Midlands	1
Wiltshire	7
Worcestershire	19
Total number of outbreaks	990

**Total number of animals in outbreaks as of 4 April 2001:**

<i>species</i>	<i>susceptible</i>	<i>cases</i>	<i>deaths</i>	<i>destroyed</i>	<i>slaughtered</i>
bov	162,326	...	...	...	...
ovi	483,615	...	...	...	...
cap	184	...	...	...	...
sui	16,434	...	...	...	...

\*  
\* \*

**FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN FRANCE  
Follow-up report No. 3**

*Translation of an extract from an e-mail received on 3 April 2001 from Dr Isabelle Chmitelin, Deputy Director General, General Directorate for Food, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Paris:*

**End of previous report period:** 28 March 2001 (see *Disease Information*, **14** [13], 70, dated 30 March 2001).

**End of this report period:** 3 April 2001.

**Control measures and serological survey:**

a) Animals epidemiologically linked with the United Kingdom (correction):

To date, 49,227 animals (corresponding to 104 farms distributed in 37 departments) have been euthanised, i.e. 20,621 sheep and 1 pig, all originating from the United Kingdom, as well as 27,507 contact sheep, 537 contact cattle, 364 pigs and 197 contact goats.

To date, 5,076 blood samples have been collected, 5,048 of which (corresponding to 172 farms) tested negative by ELISA<sup>(1)</sup>.

b) Animals epidemiologically linked with the Netherlands (correction):

To date, 4,391 animals (corresponding to 12 farms distributed in 10 departments) were euthanised, i.e. 131 cattle, 1,817 pigs and 505 small ruminants all originating from the Netherlands, as well as 451 cattle and 1,487 contact small ruminants.

Blood samples collected from these animals are being tested at the AFSSA<sup>(2)</sup>. The preliminary results gave 253 negative tests.

c) Animals epidemiologically linked with the outbreak in Seine-et-Marne:

A total of 1,232 sheep epidemiologically linked with the outbreak in Seine-et-Marne were pre-emptively culled.

**Lifting of sanitary measures:**

Taking into account the favourable development of the health status of France in regard to foot and mouth disease and in accordance with the decision approved by the Standing Veterinary Committee of the European Union when it met on 27 March 2001, the European Commission has confirmed the partial lifting of the embargo on untreated animal products and products of animal origin (meat, milk and by-products) with effect from 3 April 2001, at 0 hour. Seine-et-Marne, Val-d'Oise and Seine-Saint-Denis are the only departments still affected by restrictions on trade in untreated products.

(1) ELISA: enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay.

(2) AFSSA: French Agency for Food Safety.

## FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN IRELAND Additional information

*Text of a fax received on 3 April 2001 from Dr Michael Colm Gaynor, Chief Veterinary Officer, Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development, Dublin:*

**Report date:** 1 April 2001.

On 22 March 2001, the first outbreak of foot and mouth disease (FMD) for 60 years was reported in Ireland (see *Disease Information*, 14 [12], 66, dated 23 March 2001). Additional information on the outbreak is given below. So far, there have been no further outbreaks of FMD.

**Location of the outbreak:** Broughattin, Proleek, County Louth (see opposite map).

### **Total number of animals in the outbreak:**

<i>species</i>	<i>susceptible</i>	<i>cases</i>	<i>deaths</i>	<i>destroyed*</i>	<i>slaughtered</i>
ovi	447	8 **	0	447	0
bov	113	0	0	113	0

\* culling was on 20 March for the affected batch and on 22 March for remaining animals.

\*\* 8 ewes of a batch of 97 ewes with 98 lambs.

**Diagnosis:** on 20 March 2001 eight ewes were found to present ulceration of the dental pad, hard palate and the inside of the lip. Five of these ewes were also lame. The lesions were thought to be 3-5 days old.

- A. Laboratory where diagnosis was confirmed:** Institute for Animal Health, Pirbright, United Kingdom (on 22 March 2001).
- B. Diagnostic tests used:** antigen capture ELISA<sup>(1)</sup> and tissue culture.
- C. Causal agent:** FMD virus type O.

### **Epidemiology:**

- Following confirmation of FMD in a sheep flock in the United Kingdom / Northern Ireland<sup>(2)</sup>, 2 km from the border with Ireland, a part of County Louth, Ireland, was declared a control zone on 1 March 2001. The suspicion of FMD in Ireland was first notified on 20 March, during a routine veterinary inspection of flocks within the 10-km surveillance zone of the outbreak in the United Kingdom / Northern Ireland. Extensive investigations have taken place into the possible source of the outbreak in County Louth. There had been no animal movements within the previous month. The tracing of people and vehicles is ongoing and two potential human contacts are being investigated.
- The possibility of wind-borne infection from the outbreak in the United Kingdom / Northern Ireland, 9 km away, cannot be ruled out but is unlikely.
- Based on serological evidence, the estimated date of introduction is between 25 February and 1 March.

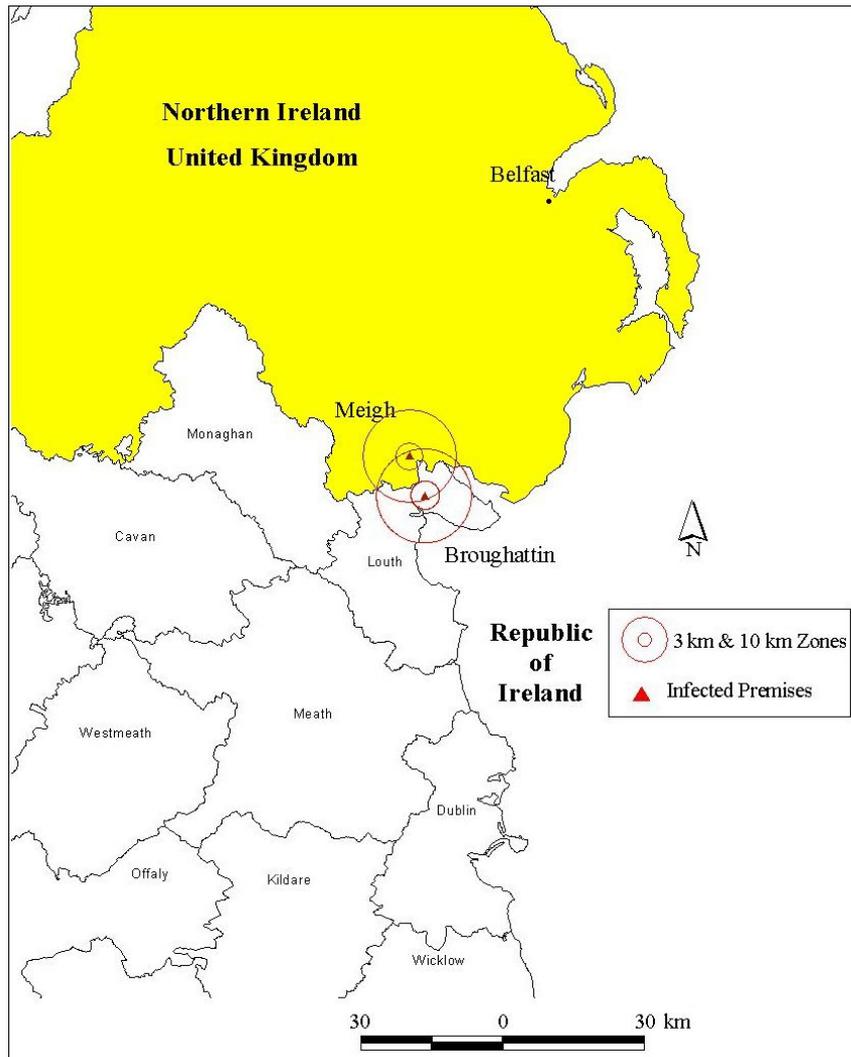
### **Control measures:**

#### a) Movement controls:

A nation-wide ban on animal markets had been imposed on 23 February, after the confirmation of FMD in the United Kingdom. A nation-wide ban on all animal movements had been imposed on 28 February, with movements direct to slaughter allowed under permit from 6 March.

When the outbreak of FMD was confirmed in the United Kingdom / Northern Ireland, close to the border with Ireland, a protection and surveillance zone was established on 1 March along the border with the United Kingdom / Northern Ireland adjacent to the outbreak, in compliance with European Union Council Directive 85/511.

The outbreak in Ireland was thus confirmed within the zone in which movement controls were already in place on animals, animal carcasses and other animal products. The zone was extended southwards following the confirmation of outbreak.



b) Cull of susceptible animals:

- The infected holding was slaughtered out, and the carcasses buried *in situ*.
- A pre-emptive cull of all susceptible species within 1 km of the infected premises took place.
- In addition, the culling of all sheep<sup>(3)</sup> within 3 km of the infected place took place immediately thereafter.
- Further culling of sheep<sup>(3)</sup> and wildlife in areas considered to be at risk has also taken place and has now been extended as a precautionary measure to the whole of the peninsular area in which the outbreak took place.

Up to 1 April, 26,801 sheep, 600 cattle, 123 goats, 55 pigs and 15 deer have been killed in the protection, surveillance and cull zones in County Louth.

**Surveillance:**

Serological surveillance is being carried out in contact sheep flocks and contiguous flocks to the confirmed infected premises, and in sheep flocks which may have received sheep imported from other countries currently infected with FMD. Serological surveillance is also being carried out in cattle, deer and other susceptible species.

To date, 101 reports of suspicions of FMD have been investigated. In the case of 24 of these, FMD could not be ruled out, and tissue and blood samples were sent for testing to Pirbright Laboratory. Aside from the one case itself, none have been positive.

(1) ELISA: enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay.

(2) See *Disease Information*, 14 (10), 42, dated 9 March 2001.

(3) The cull has concentrated on sheep due to the experience of the behaviour of the FMD virus strain of type O currently circulating in Europe. This strain has a low morbidity within sheep flocks, and clinical signs are difficult to detect.

**FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN ARGENTINA**  
**Follow-up report No. 3**

*Summary of data received up to 3 April 2001 from Dr Eduardo Jesús Greco, Deputy Executive President, National Service for Agrifood Health and Quality (SENASA), Secretariat for Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Food, Buenos Aires:*

**End of previous report period:** 24 March 2001 (see *Disease Information*, **14** [13], 69, dated 30 March 2001).

**End of this report period:** 3 April 2001.

**New outbreaks:**

Location	No. of outbreaks
Buenos Aires province	60
Cordoba province	6
La Pampa province	6
San Luis province	2
Santa Fe province	2

**Summary of confirmed outbreaks as of 3 April 2001:**

Location	No. of outbreaks
Buenos Aires province	115
Cordoba province	8
La Pampa province	11
San Luis province	7
Santa Fe province	8
Total No. of outbreaks	149

**Total number of animals in outbreaks as of 3 April 2001:**

<i>species</i>	<i>susceptible</i>	<i>cases</i>	<i>deaths</i>	<i>destroyed</i>	<i>slaughtered</i>
bov	116,324	4,932	...	...	...

\*  
\* \*

**CLASSICAL SWINE FEVER IN ROMANIA**

**(Date of last previously reported outbreak:** 1974).

**EMERGENCY REPORT**

*Text of an e-mail received on 4 April 2001 from Dr Gheorghe Ontanu, Deputy Director General, National Sanitary Veterinary Agency, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forests, Bucharest:*

**Report date:** 3 April 2001.

**Nature of diagnosis:** clinical, post-mortem and laboratory.

**Date of initial detection of animal health incident:** 3 April 2001.

**Estimated date of first infection:** 1 April 2001.

**Outbreaks:**

Location	No. of outbreaks
Cristuru Secuiesc (46° 18' N – 25° 02' E), district of Harghita	1

**Total number of animals in the outbreak:**

species	susceptible	cases	deaths	destroyed	slaughtered
sui	552	14*	7	7	0

\* one unvaccinated sow and 13 piglets under the age of vaccination<sup>(1)</sup>.

**Diagnosis:**

- A. **Laboratory where diagnosis was made:** Institute for Diagnosis and Animal Health (national reference laboratory for classical swine fever).
- B. **Diagnostic tests used:** method for identification of viral antigen, using direct immunofluorescence on sternal marrow.

**Epidemiology:**

- A. **Source of agent / origin of infection:** unknown.
- B. **Mode of spread:** from sow to piglets.

**Control measures:**

- slaughter and destruction of infected animals;
- quarantine; setting up of a 3-km-radius protection zone and a 10-km surveillance zone; movement control inside the country;
- compulsory emergency vaccination of all flocks of porcine animals;
- control of wildlife reservoirs.

(1) In Romania, the first vaccination for classical swine fever is carried out in young porcine animals at the age of 60 days, the second at 120 days, and the third at 240 days. The grown-up animals are vaccinated at six-monthly intervals.

\*  
\* \*

**NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN SWEDEN  
Lifting of the restriction measures**

*Text of a fax received on 5 April 2001 from Dr Bengt Nordblom, Chief Veterinary Officer, Swedish Board of Agriculture, Jönköping:*

**Report date:** 5 April 2001.

No further outbreaks of Newcastle disease have been reported since the one on 6 February 2001 (see *Disease Information*, **14** [6], 28, dated 9 February 2001).

All poultry flocks within a radius of 3 km from the outbreak have been clinically examined by official veterinarians. No clinical signs of the disease were observed.

All restrictions on the farm and in the area concerned have now been lifted in accordance with European Union Council Directive 92/66/EEC.

\*  
\* \*

**FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN THE NETHERLANDS**  
**Follow-up report No. 2**

*Extracts from an e-mail received on 6 April 2001 from Dr Frederik H. Pluimers, Chief Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Management and Fisheries, The Hague:*

**End of previous report period:** 29 March 2001 (see *Disease Information*, **14** [13], 72, dated 30 March 2001).

**End of this report period:** 5 April 2001.

**New outbreaks:**

Location	No. of outbreaks
Gelderland province	9
Overijssel province	1

**Total number of animals in the new outbreaks:**

species	susceptible	cases	deaths	destroyed	slaughtered
bov	1,354	35	0	1,354	0
ovi	144	0	0	144	0
cap	736	30	0	736	0

**Source of agent / origin of infection:** the Overijssel outbreak (No. 2001/13) is contiguous to outbreak No. 2001/01 (Olst, Overijssel).

**Control measures during reporting period:**

- quarantine and movement control inside the country;
- stamping-out policy;
- testing;
- vaccination.

Around outbreaks Nos 2001/02<sup>(1)</sup>, 03<sup>(1)</sup>, 04<sup>(2)</sup>, 05<sup>(2)</sup>, 06, 07, 11, 12, 14 and 15, which are situated at a short distance from each other, one large area for "suppressive" vaccination and preventive culling has been established, as was agreed by the European Union (EU).

Around the other five outbreaks (Nos 2001/01, 08, 09, 10 and 13) the areas for "suppressive" vaccination and preventive culling have a radius of 2 km.

According to EU legislation, vaccination of endangered species will be made possible.

(1) See *Disease Information*, **14** (12), 67 dated 23 March 2001.

(2) See *Disease Information*, **14** (13), 72 dated 30 March 2001.

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\* \*

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