



Contents

Wohlfahrt's wound myiasis (<i>Wohlfahrtia magnifica</i>) in Morocco	293
Newcastle disease in Brazil: final report	294

WOHLFAHRT'S WOUND MYIASIS (*WOHLFAHRTIA MAGNIFICA*) IN MOROCCO

EMERGENCY REPORT

Translation of information received on 26 December 2001 from Dr Abdeslam Fikri, Head, Animal Health Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Forestry, Rabat:

Report date: 26 December 2001.

Cases of myiasis caused by *Wohlfahrtia magnifica* larvae have been reported in the province of Al Hoceima, in the north-east of the country (35° N – 4° 20 W), in various animal species (sheep, goats, cattle and horses), but mainly in dogs.

Preliminary investigations have shown that the disease made its first insidious incursion around the end of August in stray dogs with wounds stemming from their way of life. Because these dogs do not have owners, the lesions caused by the myiasis were not detected at that time, but when the hunting season opened in October–November and cases began to appear in hunting dogs.

The myiasis is currently confined to five locations in Al Hoceima province and has no major impact on the health status of livestock. A total of 22 cases have been reported in the five locations, breaking down as follows:

- Dogs: 10 cases;
- Goats: 5 cases;
- Horses: 3 cases;
- Cattle: 2 cases;
- Sheep: 2 cases.

The deaths reported to date have only involved untreated dogs. No other case has been reported for at least three weeks, probably because of the cold weather in Morocco, which is unfavourable to the activity of the adult fly.

A more detailed epidemiological investigation is under way to establish the chronology of the spread of the myiasis and to determine its origin.

In addition, animal health measures have been decreed and will be implemented, particularly the launch of awareness-raising and information campaigns for veterinarians, livestock-breeding technicians and breeders, as well as broad prospecting across the whole country to detect myiasis lesions.

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NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN BRAZIL
Final report

Translation of information received on 27 December 2001 from Dr Denise Euclides Mariano da Costa, Director, Department of Animal Protection (DDA), Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply, Brasilia:

End of previous report period: 5 June 2001 (see *Disease Information*, **14** [23], 140, dated 8 June 2001).

End of this report period: 27 December 2001.

Probable source of infection: wild birds.

Control measures:

- Vaccination around the outbreaks followed by mass vaccination in the affected district (Nova Roma district, Goiás State). In the outbreak areas, a second dose of vaccine was administered to 19,473 birds (9,642 hens, 917 cockerels, 2,461 chickens, 5,618 chicks, 156 turkeys, 139 ducks, 388 guinea fowl and 152 songbirds) in August 2001.
- The outbreak areas were depopulated for 68 days, from 5 July to 13 September 2001, by which date the said outbreaks were considered to have been eradicated.
- On 30 July 2001, 21 days after disinfection procedures, specific-pathogen-free sentinel birds were placed in the outbreak areas. Serological tests were conducted on three separate occasions, at 7-day intervals, by the Ministry of Agriculture's Regional Laboratory for Animal Protection (Campinas, São Paulo). The technique used (haemagglutination inhibition test) gave negative results, and the quarantine measures were lifted.

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