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FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN BOTSWANA Confirmation of diagnosis (follow-up report No. 3)

Information received on 3 February 2003 from Dr Micus Chivasanee Chimbombi, Director of Animal Health and Production, Ministry of Agriculture, Gaborone:

End of previous report period: 24 January 2003 (see *Disease Information*, **16** [5], 30, dated 31 January 2003).

End of this report period: 3 February 2003.

Diagnosis:

Since the foot and mouth disease (FMD) virus could not be isolated, characterisation could not be done and hence available serological and clinical information forms the basis of this confirmation. Titration results indicate an FMD SAT 1 virus, in both bovine and kudu serum samples.

Epidemiology:

There have been no more cases since the last outbreak. The outbreak is under control, and almost all cattle in the infected zone have been destroyed (see table below).

Summary of destruction figures from the infected zone (updated data)

<i>crush</i>	<i>bovines</i>	<i>swine</i>
Matopi	1,043	-
Tsiteng	1,112	-
Strauss (Mokata)	300	58
Annah Blackbeard Farm	246	-
Maswikiti	371	-
Old Blackbeard Farm	301	-
Strauss (Shashe)	226	-
Total	3,599	58

The confirmation of SAT 1 as a cause of the current outbreak underscores the fact that the current outbreak is not a continuation of the 2002 outbreak, but rather an independent and entirely new outbreak. Additionally, it is the same serotype affecting cattle and the kudu.

Control measures during reporting period:

- a. **Area demarcation:** see Follow-up report No. 1.
- b. **Biosecurity:** see Follow-up report No. 1.
- c. **Quarantine and movement restrictions:** see Follow-up report No. 1. The area remains blockaded to prevent any incursion by animals from the surveillance zone.
- d. **Stamping out:** the mopping-up exercise, using ground teams and aerial surveys, continues.
To date, 3,599 cattle have been destroyed and we estimate that there are fewer than 200 cattle still to be destroyed.
- e. **Surveillance:**

In cattle: Surveillance (clinical and serological) is continuing in the surveillance zone and the rest of the country.

In the surveillance zone, preliminary clinical and serological results indicate no evidence of the disease. The second round of clinical surveillance and serological sampling is complete, with 23,509 of the estimated 40,000 cattle having been inspected and serum samples collected from them. There were no lesions or other clinical signs suggestive of FMD. The third round of inspection will be in two weeks' time.

Clinical inspections and sero-sampling from a statistically-derived sample size of animals in the rest of Veterinary Disease Control Zone Nos. 6 and 7 as well as country-wide will commence soon to confirm the absence of FMD in the national herd.

In small stock: In the infected zone FMD surveillance will start on 5 February 2003. All flocks will be inspected and sero-sampled.

In the surveillance zone, FMD surveillance in small stock will start mid-February 2003.

In pigs: Pigs in the surveillance zone will be inspected in mid-February 2003.

In wildlife: The FMD survey in resident cloven-hoofed wildlife species (kudu [*Tragelaphus strepsiceros*] and impala [*Aepyceros melampus*]) to establish the extent of the disease is continuing. A sizeable number of animals have been captured, inspected and sampled for FMD. This area has a relatively small number of wildlife compared to other areas country-wide. Clinical findings did not reveal any signs of FMD.

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FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN SYRIA
Additional information

SEE DISEASE INFORMATION, 15 (51), 267, DATED 20 DECEMBER 2002, 16 (1), 1, DATED 3 JANUARY 2003, AND 16 (5), 29, DATED 31 JANUARY 2003

Information received on 5 February 2003 from Dr George Khoury, Director of Animal Health Services, Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform, Damascus:

Report date: 5 February 2003.

With reference to the foot and mouth disease (FMD) outbreak in Damascus Province that occurred in February 2002, a modified stamping-out policy was applied in the infected farm.

The farm is still under quarantine restrictions. Movement of live animals from one province to another is still prohibited and controlled.

No new suspected cases have been detected since the outbreak. A survey was conducted within a diameter of 70 km around the outbreak (see table below). The results of the survey showed that all the samples were negative to the FMD antigen detection test.

Laboratory results of FMD virus surveillance by antigen detection in Damascus province

Region	Date of collection	No. of samples	Species	O	A	C	Asia1	SAT1	SAT2	SAT3
Doma	5-7 March 2002	30	bov	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Daraya	15-16 March 2002	24	bov	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Al Quswa	20 March 2002	23	bov	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jaramana	2 April 2002	18	bov	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arbeen	5 April 2002	20	bov	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hammoria	8 April 2002	8	bov	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Zammalka	12 April 2002	7	bov	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The Central Veterinary Laboratory in Syria is implementing FMD sero-monitoring under an FAO⁽¹⁾ Technical Cooperation Project. To date, 290 serum samples from different places have been tested (see table below). All these samples were negative for the presence of any field strain, and showed a high level of antibodies against strains A₂₂, O and Asia1, which are all included in the vaccine used.

Laboratory results of FMD sero-monitoring

No. of samples	Location	Species	Date of collection	3ABC FMD Ab detection		FMD Ab detection types					
						A ₂₂		O ₁		Asia1	
				+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-
37	Damascus	bov	3 Dec. 2002	--	37	37	--	37	--	37	--
18	Jaramana, Damascus	bov	3 Dec. 2002	--	18	18	--	18	--	18	--
33	Khan cheah, Damascus	bov	9 Dec. 2002	--	33	33	--	33	--	33	--
42	Doma, Damascus	bov	15 Dec. 2002	--	42	42	--	42	--	42	--
46	Erbeen, Damascus	bov	24 Dec. 2002	--	46	46	--	46	--	46	--
15	Kafer soseh, Damascus	bov	18 Jan. 2003	--	15	15	--	15	--	15	--
35	Homs	bov	20 Jan. 2003	--	35	35	--	35	--	35	--
30	Deir Alzour	bov	22 Jan. 2003	--	30	30	--	30	--	30	--
34	'G. O. of cattle'	bov	23 Jan. 2003	--	34	34	--	34	--	34	--

(1) FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

**NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
in the State of Arizona**

EMERGENCY REPORT

Information received on 6 February 2003 from Dr Peter Fernandez, Associate Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Washington, DC:

Report date: 5 February 2003.

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

Date of initial detection of animal health incident: 4 February 2003.

Estimated date of first infection: 13 January 2003.

Outbreaks:

Location	No. of outbreaks
La Paz County, State of Arizona	1

Description of affected population: Newcastle disease has been confirmed in a backyard flock consisting of 50 birds. No commercial poultry is affected.

Total number of animals in the outbreak:

species	susceptible	cases	deaths	destroyed	slaughtered
avi	approx. 250	...	approx. 10	approx. 50	0

Diagnosis:

A. Laboratory where diagnosis was made: National Veterinary Services Laboratories, Ames, Iowa.

B. Diagnostic tests used: virus isolation.

C. Causal agent: the avian paramyxovirus-1 isolate has a fusion cleavage site sequence consistent with that of exotic Newcastle disease virus. The sequence is RRQKR/FVGAIL.

Epidemiology:

A. Source of agent / origin of infection: unknown. An evaluation of bird, people and fomite movement is ongoing. The nucleotide sequence of the Arizona isolate has 100% homology through 185 bases at the fusion cleavage site with the California Newcastle disease virus⁽¹⁾, which would indicate that the Arizona and California isolates are identical.

B. Mode of spread: direct contact, fomites.

Control measures:

- Quarantine of affected backyard premises. APHIS is currently developing a federal quarantine for the affected area in Arizona.
- There is one contact premises that is under quarantine and is scheduled to be depopulated.
- Depopulation of affected/exposed game fowl.
- Epidemiological investigations are ongoing to determine the extent of spread. APHIS and the State of Arizona have increased active surveillance of the backyard bird population and have established a Task Force in Arizona.

(1) See *Disease Information*, 15 (40), 194, dated 4 October 2002 *et seq.*

Note from the OIE Central Bureau: Since this is the first occurrence – within the context of this epizootic – of Newcastle disease in the State of Arizona, the OIE Central Bureau has decided to publish the above emergency report despite our previous note (see *Disease Information*, 16 [4], 24, dated 24 January 2003) to the effect that no further cases of Newcastle disease in the United States of America reported to the OIE within the context of this epizootic would be notified in *Disease Information*.

NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN RUSSIA

(Date of previous outbreak of Newcastle disease in Russia reported to the OIE: April 2002).

Extract from the monthly report of Russia for November 2002, received from Dr Mikhail V. Kravchuk, Director of the Veterinary Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Moscow:

<i>Location</i>	<i>No. of outbreaks in November 2002</i>
Kursk region (Kurskaya oblast')	1

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>
avi	26,807	15,168	15,168	0	11,639

Note: To date, no information for December 2002 and January 2003 has been received at the OIE Headquarters.

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FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN VENEZUELA Summary of outbreaks in November 2002

Extract from the monthly report of Venezuela for November 2002, received from Dr Nancy Medina de Lopez, Director of the Autonomous Service of Agricultural Health (SASA), Ministry of Agriculture and Lands, Caracas:

<i>Location</i>	<i>No. of outbreaks in November 2002</i>
State of Mérida	4
State of Zulia	4

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	3,932	322	0	0	0
ovi	401	1
sui	23	0	0

Notes:

- The monthly report of Venezuela for December 2002 indicates the absence of new outbreaks of foot and mouth disease.
- To date, no information for January 2003 has been received at the OIE Headquarters.

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