

## Contents

Bluetongue in Croatia: serological findings in sentinel bovine animals (follow-up report No. 1)	357
Classical swine fever in Japan: detection of vaccine cases (follow-up report No. 2)	359
Bluetongue in Spain: follow-up report No. 4	360
Infectious salmon anaemia in the United Kingdom/Great Britain: suspected outbreak	363
Highly pathogenic avian influenza in Peninsular Malaysia: follow-up report No. 6	365
Rift Valley fever in Saudi Arabia: serological findings (follow-up report No. 1: end of the outbreak)	366
Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia in Nigeria: in July and August 2004	366
Foot and mouth disease in Nigeria	367
Bluetongue in Portugal: follow-up report No. 1	367
Bluetongue in Morocco: follow-up report No. 5	368
Highly pathogenic avian influenza in Thailand: follow-up report No. 34	369
Newcastle disease in South Africa	370

### BLUETONGUE IN CROATIA

#### Serological findings in sentinel bovine animals (follow-up report No. 1)

Information received on 26 November 2004 from Dr Mate Brstilo, Director of the Veterinary Administration, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Zagreb:

**End of previous report period:** 5 November 2004 (see *Disease Information*, **17** [46], 335, dated 12 November 2004).

**End of this report period:** 26 November 2004.

#### New outbreaks:

Location	No. of outbreaks
Dubrovnik (Dubrovačko-Neretvanska) county, locality of Metković	1
Dubrovnik (Dubrovačko-Neretvanska) county, locality of Župa dubrovačka	3
Dubrovnik (Dubrovačko-Neretvanska) county, locality of Dubrovačko primorje	2
Dubrovnik (Dubrovačko-Neretvanska) county, locality of Rijeka dubrovačka	1
Dubrovnik (Dubrovačko-Neretvanska) county, locality of Konavle	1
Total	8

**Number of animals in the new outbreaks:**

<i>Location of the outbreaks</i>	<i>species</i>	<i>susceptible</i>	<i>cases</i>	<i>deaths</i>	<i>destroyed</i>	<i>slaughtered</i>
Metković	bov	6	1*	0	0	0
Župa dubrovačka	bov	4	4*	0	0	0
Dubrovačko primorje	bov	7	7*	0	0	0
Rijeka dubrovačka	bov	1	1*	0	0	0
Konavle	bov	6	1*	0	0	0

\* without clinical signs

**Diagnosis:**

**A. Laboratories where diagnosis was made:**

- Croatian Veterinary Institute regional laboratory in Split;
- Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale dell'Abruzzo e del Molise 'G. Caporale', Teramo, Italy.

**B. Diagnostic tests used:** cELISA<sup>(1)</sup>, virus neutralisation test.

**C. Causal agent:** bluetongue virus serotypes 9 and 16.

**Epidemiology:**

**A. Source of agent / origin of infection:** under investigation. Bluetongue virus serotype 16 had never been confirmed in Croatia before this event.

**B. Other epidemiological details:** the ruminant population density in the area where the circulation of bluetongue virus was detected is very low, with sparsely distributed holdings.

**Control measures:**

- zoning;
- quarantine;
- ban on the movement of susceptible animals out of Dubrovacko-Neretvanska county;
- screening.

(1) cELISA: competitive ELISA

**CLASSICAL SWINE FEVER IN JAPAN**  
**Detection of vaccine cases (follow-up report No. 2)**

*Information received on 26 November 2004 from Dr Masako Kurimoto, Director of Animal Health and Animal Products Safety Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Tokyo:*

**End of previous report period:** 6 August 2004 (see *Disease Information*, **17** [32], 229, dated 6 August 2004).

**End of this report period:** 26 November 2004.

Two new events were reported in relation with the vaccine cases of classical swine fever (CSF) detected in March, July and August 2004 (see summary table below).

**Summary table of each event of classical swine fever in Japan in 2004:**

No.	Location (prefecture)	Type of farm	Number of pigs*	Date of		Disease Information issue reference
				diagnosis	completion of cleaning and disinfection	
1	Kanoya-shi (Kagoshima)	Fattening pig farm	1,144	22 March	30 March	<b>17</b> (13), 94 dated 26 March <b>17</b> (20), 138 dated 14 May
2	Kanoya-shi (Kagoshima)	Farrow-to-finishing-type pig farm	521	22 July	26 July	<b>17</b> (31), 218 dated 30 July
3	Takaono-sho (Kagoshima)	Fattening pig farm	657	4 Aug.	7 Aug.	<b>17</b> (32), 229 dated 6 Aug.
4	Kanoya-shi (Kagoshima)	Farrow-to-finishing-type pig farm	879	29 Aug.	7 Sept.	
5	Kanoya-shi (Kagoshima)	Farrow-to-finishing-type pig farm	468	17 Sept.	8 Oct.	

\* Refers to pigs from which virus was isolated and pigs that were reared together in the same premises

The following information is on the final outcome produced by the control measures, such as epidemiological surveillance and inspections to confirm the classical swine fever free situation, that were actively carried out and were completed in November 2004.

**Virus**

Based on the result of genetic analysis of virus sequences, it was concluded that all the viruses isolated in the 2nd to the 5th events were identical with the one in the 1st event caused by the use of unapproved vaccine.

**Control measures**

In all cases, control movement was applied within a 3-km radius around the infected premises immediately after detection, and that restriction was lifted when the premises were confirmed to be free of infection by means of on-site inspection, serological tests and virus isolation tests. All pigs in the five premises where infected animals were detected were destroyed.

**Epidemiological investigations**

To investigate the situation regarding the use of unapproved vaccines, the Animal Hygiene Centre carried out on-site inspections in the five infected farms. However, apart from in the 1st event (in March 2004), it was not possible to verify evidence implying the illegal use of unapproved vaccine.

As for the investigation to determine the source of unapproved vaccines, in spite of strenuous efforts being made in cooperation with the appropriate Ministries and prefectural government and with relevant organisations, no useful information could finally be obtained on vaccine sales, analysis, marketing, etc.

### **Confirmatory tests for CSF free situation**

On-site inspections, serological tests and disease investigations (including pathological diagnosis and virus isolation) have been implemented in all 1,008 pig farms located in Kagoshima prefecture. No evidence of any CSF outbreaks was found.

On-site inspections, serological tests and disease investigations in all pigs in 68 farms located in the area under movement restrictions in Kanoya have been carried out since 28 October 2004, with an interval of more than 40 days after confirmation of the 5th (last) case.

Since 12 August 2004, all pig farm owners in Kanoya have been required to report weekly on the number of dead animals and the existence of any clinically suspected cases, in accordance with Article 52 of "the Domestic Animal Infectious Diseases Control Law".

In addition, prefectural veterinary officers have carried out further inspection on dead pigs if necessary.

To date, no cases have been detected despite these strict control measures.

### **Conclusion**

Considering the fact that on-site inspection, serological tests and analysis of dead pigs have been implemented and that no suspected cases have been reported for a given period, as stated above, infection with CSF virus induced by application of unapproved vaccine has been eradicated.

\*  
\* \*

## **BLUETONGUE IN SPAIN Follow-up report No. 4**

*Translation of information received on 26 November 2004 from Dr Arnaldo Cabello Navarro, Deputy Director General of Animal Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Madrid:*

**End of previous report period:** 2 November 2004 (see *Disease Information*, **17** [45], 330, dated 5 November 2004).

**End of this report period:** 25 November 2004.

### **New outbreaks:**

Location	No. of outbreaks
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Cadiz province, Alcala de los Gazules municipality	3
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Cadiz province, Algar municipality	3
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Cadiz province, Algeciras municipality	1
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Cadiz province, Arcos de la Frontera municipality	10
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Cadiz province, Barbate de Franco municipality	2
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Cadiz province, Benalup municipality	5
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Cadiz province, Benaocaz municipality	4
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Cadiz province, Castellar de la Frontera municipality	1
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Cadiz province, Conil de la Frontera municipality	1
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Cadiz province, El Bosque municipality	6

Location (contd)	No. of outbreaks (contd)
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Cadiz province, El Gastor municipality	2
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Cadiz province, Grazalema municipality	7
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Cadiz province, Jerez de la Frontera municipality	13
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Cadiz province, Jimena de la Frontera municipality	21
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Cadiz province, Medina-Sidonia municipality	4
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Cadiz province, Paterna de Rivera municipality	2
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Cadiz province, Prado del Rey municipality	4
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Cadiz province, San Roque municipality	1
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Cadiz province, Tarifa municipality	4
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Cadiz province, Ubrique municipality	3
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Cadiz province, Vejer de la Frontera municipality	1
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Cadiz province, Villamartin municipality	6
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Cadiz province, Zahara municipality	1
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Ceuta province, Ceuta municipality	2
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Huelva province, Almonte municipality	3
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Malaga province, Cartama municipality	1
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Malaga province, Casarabonela municipality	6
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Malaga province, Casares municipality	2
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Malaga province, Coin municipality	6
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Malaga province, El Burgo municipality	2
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Malaga province, Estepona municipality	1
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Malaga province, Gaucin municipality	4
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Malaga province, Istan municipality	1
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Malaga province, Mijas municipality	3
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Malaga province, Pizarra municipality	1
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Malaga province, Tolox municipality	3
Andalusia Autonomous Community, Malaga province, Velez-Malaga municipality	1
Extremadura Autonomous Community, Badajoz province, Badajoz municipality	2
Extremadura Autonomous Community, Badajoz province, Cheles municipality	1
Extremadura Autonomous Community, Badajoz province, Don Benito (Las Monjas) municipality	8
Extremadura Autonomous Community, Badajoz province, Guarena municipality	2
Extremadura Autonomous Community, Caceres province, Alcuescar municipality	2

Location (contd)	No. of outbreaks (contd)
Extremadura Autonomous Community, Caceres province, Almoharin municipality	12
Extremadura Autonomous Community, Caceres province, Arroyomolinos municipality	5
Extremadura Autonomous Community, Caceres province, Benquerencia municipality	1
Extremadura Autonomous Community, Caceres province, Caceres municipality	1
Extremadura Autonomous Community, Caceres province, Jaraiz de la Vera municipality	1
Extremadura Autonomous Community, Caceres province, Montanchez municipality	1
Total	177

**Diagnosis:**

- A. Laboratory where diagnosis was made:** Central Veterinary Laboratory, Algete.
- B. Diagnostic tests used:** ELISA<sup>(1)</sup> and PCR<sup>(2)</sup>.
- C. Causal agent:** bluetongue virus serotype 4.

**Epidemiology:**

- A. Source of agent / origin of infection:** unknown.
- B. Mode of spread:** unknown.

**Control measures:**

- control of arthropods;
- modified stamping out;
- processing of dead animals in authorised plants in accordance with the standards in force;
- movement control inside the country;
- zoning.

(1) ELISA: enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay

(2) PCR: polymerase chain reaction

**INFECTIOUS SALMON ANAEMIA IN THE UNITED KINGDOM/GREAT BRITAIN**  
**Suspected outbreak**

EMERGENCY REPORT

Information received on 26 November 2004 from Dr Debby Reynolds, Director General for Animal Health and Welfare, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), London:

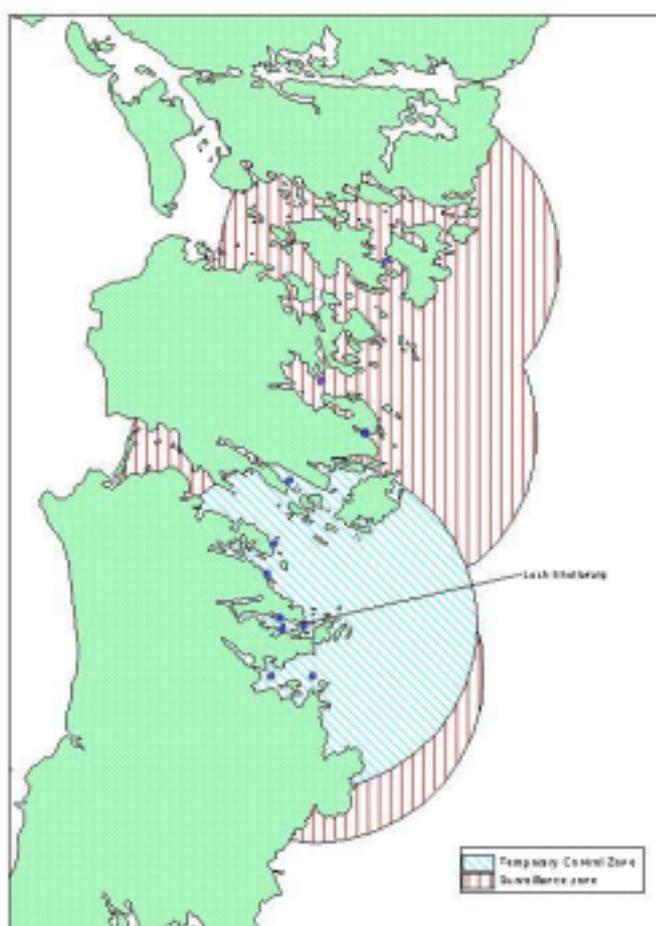
**Date of the report:** 26 November 2004.

**Date of initial detection of animal health incident:** 2 November 2004.

**Outbreaks:**

Location	No. of outbreaks
Scotland, Western Islands, South Uist, Loch Sheilavaig	1 farm

*South Uist Temporary Control Zone and Surveillance Zone*



**Description of affected population:** farmed Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*).

**Diagnostic details:** the farm has been experiencing abnormal mortality. However, infectious salmon anaemia (ISA) virus has not been isolated and post-mortem findings (predominantly gill damage) are not typical of ISA. The basis for suspicion is evidence of the presence of the virus using the indirect fluorescent antibody test and RT-PCR<sup>(1)</sup> as described in Decision 2003/466/EC of the Commission of the European Communities. Samples from the farm are being examined at the national Reference Laboratory in Aberdeen.

**Summary of macroscopic findings and laboratory test results**

	On 2 November 2004	On 10 November 2004
<b>Macroscopic findings</b>	<p>Fish in one cage behaving abnormally, congregating at the surface.</p> <p>Variable sea lice load (3-11 per fish).</p> <p>Liver colour normal to slightly pale in all fish.</p> <p>1 fish with enlarged spleen.</p> <p>1 fish with petechial haemorrhage on pyloric caeca.</p> <p>No ascites in any of the fish examined.</p>	<p>Fish in one cage behaving abnormally, congregating at the surface.</p> <p>Fish from this cage had pale gills though haematocrit was not measured.</p> <p>Majority of fish had high sea lice load.</p> <p>1 fish, which had been dead for a considerable period of time, had a dark liver.</p> <p>1 fish which had been taken alive was found to have a slightly dark liver and enlarged spleen at post mortem but no other significant pathology was observed.</p> <p>No ascites in any of the fish examined.</p>
<b>Histology</b>	<p>All fish were examined histologically.</p> <p>Moderate gill pathology with <i>Trichodina</i> infection in all fish.</p> <p>Mild liver, kidney, spleen, heart and intestinal pathology in most fish. Not consistent with ISA.</p>	<p>The single fish with slightly dark liver and enlarged spleen was examined histologically. Mild pathology was observed in gill, liver, kidney, spleen, heart and pancreas. Not consistent with ISA.</p>
<b>Indirect fluorescent antibody test</b>	2/6 positive	0/150 positive
<b>RT-PCR (Mjaaland primers, kidney sample)</b>	0/1 pool positive	0/30 pools positive
<b>RT-PCR (Mjaaland primers, gill sample)</b>	Not tested	23/30 pools positive
<b>Real-time PCR<sup>(2)</sup> (kidney sample)</b>	Not tested	6/30 pools positive
<b>Virology</b>	ISA virus test due for completion on 2 December 2004.	ISA virus test due for completion on 17 December 2004.
<b>Other diagnosis</b>	Infectious pancreatic necrosis virus isolated from 1/1 pool.	
<b>Mortality rate</b>	Approximately 3% per week from one cage.	Approximately 3% per week from one cage.
<b>Comments</b>	<p>Routine inspection visit.</p> <p>6 moribund fish sampled.</p>	<p>Follow-up visit.</p> <p>150 fish sampled.</p>

**Control measures:**

Action has been taken to contain all sources of infection in accordance with article 5 of Directive 93/53/EEC of the Council of the European Communities introducing minimum measures for the control of certain fish diseases and in accordance with the Contingency Plan for Great Britain which was submitted to the European Commission in accordance with article 15 of that Directive.

The measures include prohibiting all movements of fish, ova and gametes into and out the farm, requiring disinfection at access points and placing controls on the movement of persons, vehicles and equipment.

To afford maximum guarantees for the prevention of spread of disease, a 'temporary control zone' based on the tidal excursion model has been established in accordance with European Commission Decision 2003/466/EC. A 'surveillance zone' of overlapping tidal excursion zones has also been established.

Epidemiological investigations are being undertaken.

It is understood that no movements of live or dead fish have taken place to countries outside the United Kingdom in recent months from the farm currently suspected of being infected with ISA.

- (1) RT-PCR: reverse transcriptase – polymerase chain reaction  
(2) PCR: polymerase chain reaction

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\* \*

## HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA IN PENINSULAR MALAYSIA Follow-up report No. 6

*Information received on 27 November 2004 from Dr Hawari Bin Hussein, Director General, Department of Veterinary Service, Ministry of Agriculture, Kuala Lumpur:*

**End of previous report period:** 2 November 2004 (see *Disease Information*, **17** [45], 328, dated 5 November 2004).

**End of this report period:** 26 November 2004.

Avian influenza virus sub-type H5 was detected on 19 November 2004 within the framework of intensive surveillance. The positive sample was traced to village chickens in Pulau Besar village, Tumpat district, State of Kelantan (06° 10' 85.5" N – 102° 10' 69.5" E). This village is within a 10-km radius of the index outbreak.

Egg inoculation showed no embryonic mortality 3 days after inoculation. Further tests will be conducted.

Susceptible chickens, ducks and other birds were culled as a precautionary measure. Culling and disinfection were completed on 22 November 2004.

No clinical cases of highly pathogenic avian influenza were observed during intensive surveillance.

*Additional information received on 1 December 2004 from Dr Hawari Bin Hussein, Director General, Department of Veterinary Service, Ministry of Agriculture, Kuala Lumpur:*

**Date of the report:** 1 December 2004.

The RT-PCR<sup>(1)</sup> test result showed that the avian influenza virus reported on 26 November 2004 [see above] was sub-typed N1. Thus, the virus was confirmed as avian influenza H5N1.

- (1) RT-PCR: reverse transcriptase – polymerase chain reaction

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\* \*

**RIFT VALLEY FEVER IN SAUDI ARABIA**  
**Serological findings (follow-up report No. 1: end of the outbreak)**

*Information received on 28 November 2004 from Dr Abdulghaniy Y. M. Al Fadhl, Director of Animal Quarantine, Ministry of Agriculture, Riyadh:*

**End of previous report period:** 18 September 2004 (see *Disease Information*, **17** [40], 285, dated 1 October 2004).

**End of this report period:** 28 November 2004.

Specialists monitor and investigate all clinical evidence suggestive of Rift Valley fever by field and laboratory (serological surveillance) methods. To date, there have been no clinical cases of Rift Valley fever nor has there been any further serological evidence of infection. The animal health situation is therefore stable.

Moreover, the results of tests to detect the virus in mosquitoes were negative.

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\* \*

**CONTAGIOUS BOVINE PLEUROPNEUMONIA IN NIGERIA**  
**in July and August 2004**

*(Date of previous outbreak of contagious bovine pleuropneumonia in Nigeria reported to the OIE: March 2003).*

*Extract from the monthly report of Nigeria for July 2004, received from Dr Foluso Emman Fasanmi, Director of the Department of Livestock and Pest Control Services, Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Abuja:*

<i>Location</i>	<i>No. of outbreaks in July 2004</i>
State of Kano (in the northern part of the country)	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>
bov	14	...	2	...	...

*Extract from the monthly report of Nigeria for August 2004, received from Dr Foluso Emman Fasanmi, Director of the Department of Livestock and Pest Control Services, Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Abuja:*

<i>Location</i>	<i>No. of outbreaks in August 2004</i>
State of Kano (in the northern part of the country)	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>
bov	75	15	2	0	0

Note by the OIE Animal Health Information Department: the Delegate of Nigeria to the OIE has been requested to provide further information on the outbreaks. It should be noted that the monthly report of Nigeria for September 2004 states the absence of any new outbreaks of the disease. To date, no information for October and November 2004 has been received at the OIE Headquarters.

## FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN NIGERIA

(Date of previous outbreak of foot and mouth disease in Nigeria reported to the OIE: February 2003).

Extract from the monthly report of Nigeria for September 2004, received from Dr Foluso Emman Fasanmi, Director of the Department of Livestock and Pest Control Services, Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Abuja:

Location	No. of outbreaks in September 2004
State of Imo, Owerri district (in the southern part of the country)	1

Total number of animals in the outbreak:

species	susceptible	cases	deaths	destroyed	slaughtered
bov	10	2	0	0	0

Note by the OIE Animal Health Information Department: the Delegate of Nigeria to the OIE has been requested to provide further information on the outbreak.

\*  
\* \*

## BLUETONGUE IN PORTUGAL Follow-up report No. 1

Translation of information received on 30 November 2004 from Dr Carlos Agrela Pinheiro, Director General of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries, Lisbon:

**End of previous report period:** 25 November 2004 (see *Disease Information*, **17** [48], 353, dated 26 November 2004).

**End of this report period:** 26 November 2004.

**New outbreaks:**

Location	No. of outbreaks
region of Alentejo, Elvas district, Juromenha municipality	1
region of Alentejo, Beja district, Vidigueira municipality, Pedrógão parish	1

**Description of affected population in the new outbreaks:** sheep.

**Number of animals in the new outbreaks:**

Outbreak reference No.	species	susceptible	cases	deaths	destroyed	slaughtered
05/2004	ovi	71	20	2	69	0
06/2004	ovi	240	5	1	...	...

**Diagnosis:** the cases were laboratory confirmed on 26 November 2004 (the virus genome was identified by RT-PCR<sup>(1)</sup>) and the infected farms were informed on the same day.

**Epidemiology:**

- A. Source of agent / origin of infection:** epidemiological investigations are being carried out to identify the source of contamination.

**B. Other epidemiological details:**

- Outbreak Ref. 05/2004: this outbreak occurred at a short distance from the border with Spain.
- Outbreak Ref. 06/2004: the flock was first screened on 4 November 2004 within the framework of surveillance of farms that had received animals coming from Spain. On 19 November, sampling was repeated on the reactors (6 animals).

**Control measures:**

- quarantine;
- ban on the movement of animals of susceptible species in the area surrounding the infected farms;
- restriction zones have been set up;
- insect traps are being used to monitor for the presence of vectors;
- application of insecticide in the whole flock (outbreak No. 06/2004).

(1) RT-PCR: reverse transcriptase – polymerase chain reaction

\*  
\* \*

**BLUETONGUE IN MOROCCO  
Follow-up report No. 5**

*Translation of information received on 30 November 2004 from Dr Hamid Benazzou, Head, Animal Health Division, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Rabat:*

**End of previous report period:** 12 November 2004 (see *Disease Information*, **17** [47], 346, dated 19 November 2004).

**End of this report period:** 26 November 2004.

**New outbreaks:**

Location	No. of outbreaks
Sidi Kacem province, Zirara rural district	4

**Description of affected population in the new outbreaks:** sheep.

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

<i>species</i>	<i>susceptible</i>	<i>cases</i>	<i>deaths</i>	<i>destroyed</i>	<i>slaughtered</i>
ovi	310	19	7	0	0

**Control measures:**

- quarantine;
- external antiparasitic treatment of the affected flocks;
- strengthening of epidemiological surveillance of the disease at the national level;
- increasing the awareness of farmers and local authorities;
- movement control inside the country.

\*  
\* \*

**HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA IN THAILAND**  
**Follow-up report No. 34**

*Information received on 2 December 2004 from Dr Yukol Limlamthong, Director General, Department of Livestock Development, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Bangkok:*

**End of previous report period:** 25 November 2004 (see *Disease Information*, **17** [48], 354, dated 26 November 2004).

**End of this report period:** 2 December 2004.

***New outbreaks:***

Location	No. of outbreaks
KamphaengPhet province, Bungarmakee district	1
KamphaengPhet province, Lan Krabu district	1
LopBuri province, Ban Mi district	2
LopBuri province, Khok Samrong district	1
LopBuri province, Tha Wung district	1
NakhonPathom province, Bang Len district	1
NakhonRatchaSima province, Muang district	2
NakhonRatchaSima province, Phi Mai district	1
NakhonRatchaSima province, Sung Noen district	1
NakhonSawan province, Kao Liao district	1
PhetchaBun province, Muang district	3
Pichit province, Taphan Hin district	1
PhitsanuLok province, Bang Krathum district	8
PhitsanuLok province, Muang district	1
PhitsanuLok province, Phrom Piram district	2
Sukhothai province, Ban Dan Lan Hoi district	1
Sukhothai province, Kong Krailat district	1
Sukhothai province, Muang district	1
Sukhothai province, Sri Suchanalai district	1
SuphanBuri province, Doemabang Nangbuat district	1
SuphanBuri province, Si Prachan district	1
SuphanBuri province, U Thong district	1
Uthai Thani province, Muang district	1
Uttaradit province, Muang district	1
Total	36

**Description of affected population in the new outbreaks:** local poultry, meat-type ducks, laying ducks, laying hens, broilers, quails.

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

<i>species</i>	<i>susceptible</i>	<i>cases</i>	<i>deaths</i>	<i>destroyed</i>	<i>slaughtered</i>
avi	# 12,964	# 903	# 903	#12,061	0

# Incomplete total

**Control measures:**

- screening;
- quarantine;
- stamping-out policy;
- zoning;
- movement control inside the country.

Vaccination remains prohibited.

\*  
\* \*

## NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN SOUTH AFRICA

(**Date of previous outbreak of Newcastle disease in South Africa reported to the OIE:** September 2003).

EMERGENCY REPORT

Information received on 2 December 2004 from Dr Emily Mmamakgaba Mogajane, Assistant Director General, National Regulatory Services, National Department of Agriculture, Pretoria:

**Date of the report:** 2 December 2004.

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

**Date of initial detection of animal health incident:** 30 September 2004.

**Estimated date of primary infection:** 18 September 2004.

**Outbreaks:**

Location	No. of outbreaks
Kwazulu-Natal Province, Camperdown/Richmond districts	1*

\* three neighbouring farms, considered as a single outbreak

**Description of affected population:** young broiler breeders, broilers and non-commercial chickens.

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

species	susceptible	cases	deaths	destroyed	slaughtered
avi	460,500	...	6,904	30,000	325,000

Newcastle disease initially occurred in broiler breeders (8 and 12 weeks old) on 30 September 2004. One house on each of two sites (there are three to four houses per site) was affected. A total of 1,901 out of 100,000 birds died.

The disease was also detected in non-commercial chickens on 8 October 2004. These chickens are located in the Richmond district, approximately 200 meters from the breeder farm. Reports were received of illness and deaths amongst chickens and post-mortem examination revealed pathological signs of viscerotropic Newcastle disease.

Newcastle disease also occurred on a broiler rearing site, east/south-east of the breeder site. The farm comprises 12 houses with a total number of 360,000 birds of which 5,000 died within 3 days. The birds in one of the houses of 30,000 birds (26 days old) were gassed and buried on site. The remaining birds were revaccinated and slaughtered later, as they were close to slaughter age.

**Diagnosis:**

- A. Laboratory where diagnosis was made:** Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute/Allerton.
- B. Diagnostic tests used:** the disease was diagnosed by post-mortem examination and confirmed by virus isolation and RT-PCR<sup>(1)</sup>.
- C. Causal agent:** velogenic viscerotropic Newcastle disease virus.

**Epidemiology:**

- A. Source of agent / origin of infection:** the source of infection is being investigated.
- B. Mode of spread:** direct and indirect contact.

**Control measures:**

- Breeders: revaccination of all birds, dead birds removed and burned on the respective sites, disinfection, increased biosecurity awareness, all security fences checked. No staff contact with other sites allowed.
- Broilers: culling, revaccination and delayed slaughter.
- Non commercial chickens: vaccination campaign for all community chickens in the area.

South Africa is not considered as free from Newcastle disease and outbreaks occur sporadically.

Newcastle disease is a controlled and notifiable disease in South Africa, and vaccination is compulsory for all chickens, ostriches and racing pigeons.

(1) RT-PCR: reverse transcriptase – polymerase chain reaction

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