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HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA IN THAILAND Follow-up report No. 48 (correction)

Please note that Bang Pla Ma and U Thong districts are located in SuphanBuri Province instead of Phitsanulok Province as erroneously published in *Disease Information*, vol. **18** No. 10 (p 80) distributed on 11 March 2005.

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HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA IN THAILAND Follow-up report No. 49

Information received on 17 March 2005 from Dr Yukol Limlamthong, Director General, Department of Livestock Development (DLD), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Bangkok:

End of previous report period: 10 March 2005 (see *Disease Information*, **18** [10], 80, dated 11 March 2005).

End of this report period: 17 March 2005.

Identification of agent: highly pathogenic avian influenza virus subtype H5N1.

Details of outbreaks:

First administrative division	Lower administrative division	Type of epidemiological unit	Name of the location	Date of start of the outbreak	Species	Number of animals in the outbreak				
						susceptible	cases	deaths	destroyed	slaughtered
Sukhothai province	Ban Dan Lan Hoi district	village	Wang Nam Khao	9 March 2005	avi	50	21	21	29	0

Description of affected animal population in the new outbreaks: native chickens.

Control measures undertaken:

- stamping out;
- quarantine;

- movement control inside the country;
- screening;
- zoning;
- disinfection of infected premises/establishments.

Treatment of affected animals: no.

Vaccination prohibited: yes.

Other details/comments:

- These outbreaks are part of the highly pathogenic avian influenza epizootic affecting the country since the re-occurrence of the disease on 3 July 2004.
- Since the beginning of February 2005, the DLD has been conducting active surveillance nationwide.

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MISCELLANEOUS: THE DELEGATE OF ROMANIA CONFIRMS THE ABSENCE OF SWINE VESICULAR DISEASE IN HIS COUNTRY

Translation of information received on 17 March 2005 from Dr Gabriel Predoi, Director General of the National Authority for Animal Health and Food Safety (ANSVSA), Bucharest, in response to a request, for verification, from the OIE Animal Health Information Department:

Date of report: 17 March 2005.

We are hereby issuing a reminder that Romania is free from swine vesicular disease, the most recent outbreak having been recorded in 1985.

Active surveillance programmes for various diseases, including swine vesicular disease, are implemented in Romania in accordance with the annual national programme of strategic actions. In 2004, 6,575 serological tests for the disease were performed, all with negative results.

Regarding the information published in the press that led to the current situation, we think there was a mix up over the name of the disease. The media appear to have confused classical swine fever, a disease that occurs in Romania given the country's policy of not vaccinating against this disease, with swine vesicular disease. We believe that the confusion arose from a misreading of a press release issued by the Romanian press agency ROMPRES on 9 March 2005, regarding the ban on the export of pigs and pig meat from Romania to Bulgaria due to the classical swine fever situation in Romania.

To clarify the situation, the National Authority for Animal Health and Food Safety has issued a press release.

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