

Contents

Newcastle disease in the United Kingdom/Great Britain	203
Newcastle disease in France	205
Highly pathogenic avian influenza in Thailand: follow-up report No. 61	207
Foot and mouth disease in the People's Republic of China: follow-up report No. 4	208
Newcastle disease in Botswana	209
Avian influenza in the Philippines: invalidation of diagnosis	211
Miscellaneous: Suspect avian disease in Russia	212

NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM/GREAT BRITAIN

(**Date of previous outbreak of Newcastle disease in Great Britain reported to the OIE:** April 1997).

IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION REPORT

Information received on 16 July 2005 from Dr Debby Reynolds, Director General for Animal Health and Welfare, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), London:

Report date: 15 July 2005.

Reason for immediate notification: re-occurrence of a listed disease or infection in a country or zone/compartiment following a report declaring the outbreak(s) ended.

Precise identification of agent: avian paramyxovirus serotype 1 lineage 5B.

Date of first confirmation of the event: 12 July 2005.

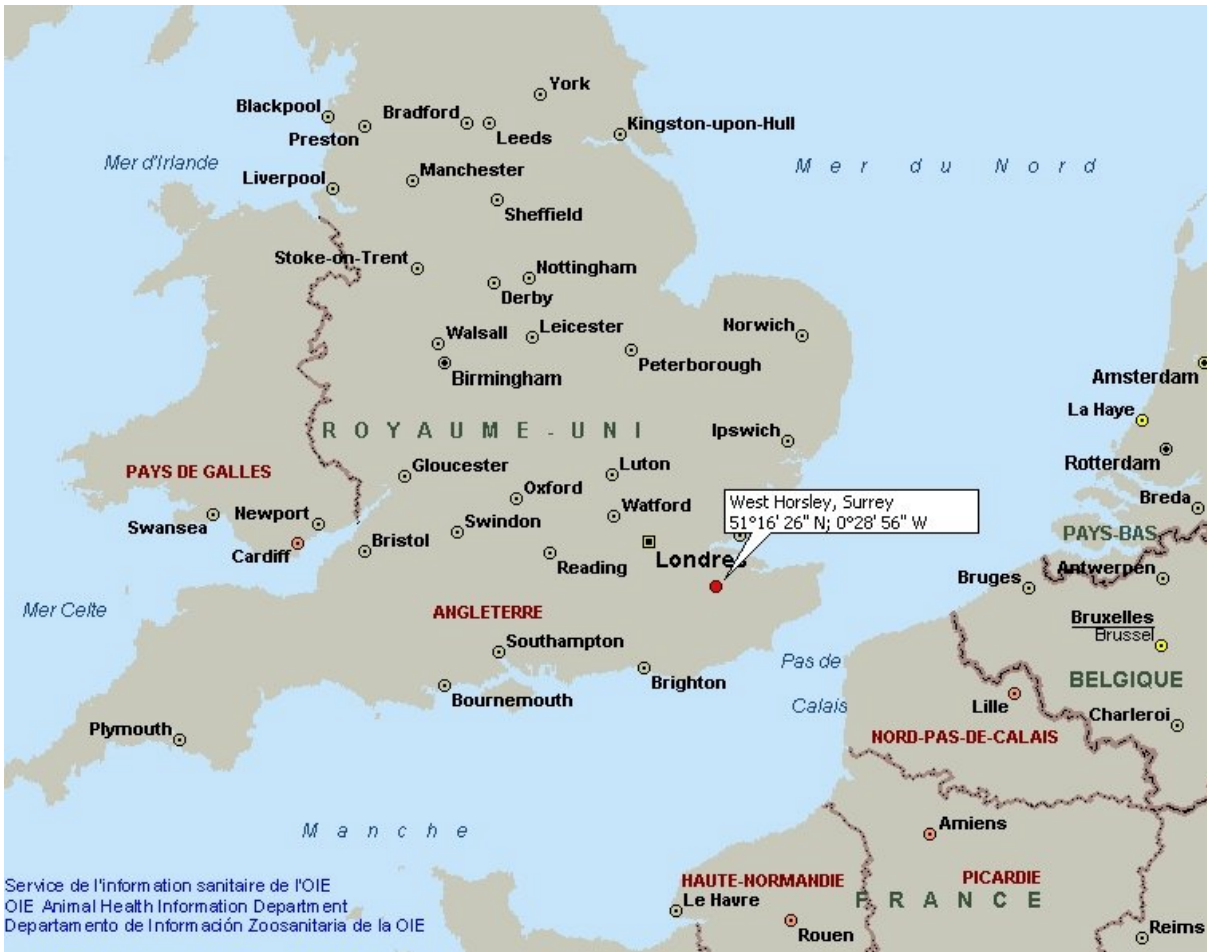
Nature of diagnosis: clinical and laboratory.

Details of outbreak:

First administrative division	Lower administrative division	Type of epidemiological unit	Name of the location	Latitude	Longitude
Surrey	West Horsley	farm	West Horsley	51° 16' 26" N	0° 28' 56" W

Date of start of the outbreak	Species	Number of animals in the outbreak				
		susceptible	cases	deaths	destroyed	slaughtered
...	avi	approx. 11,000

Description of affected population: semi-wild pheasants reared for shooting.



Diagnosis:

<i>Laboratory where diagnosis was made</i>	<i>Diagnostic tests used</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Results</i>
VLA Weybridge	haemagglutination inhibition test	12 July 2005	positive
	virus isolation	14 July 2005	positive
	molecular sequencing	15 July 2005	virulent sequence

Source of outbreak or origin of infection: unknown or inconclusive.

Control measures:

- stamping out;
- movement control inside the country;
- screening;
- zoning;
- prophylactic vaccination of poultry undertaken routinely.

*
* *

NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN FRANCE

(Date of previous outbreak of Newcastle disease in France reported to the OIE: December 1999).

IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION REPORT

Translation of information received on 19 July 2005 from Dr Monique Eloit, Deputy Director General, General Directorate for Food (DGAL), Ministry of Agriculture, Food, Fisheries and Rural Affairs, Paris:

Report date: 19 July 2005.

Reason for immediate notification: re-occurrence of a listed disease or infection in a country or zone/compartment following a report declaring the outbreak(s) ended.

Date of first confirmation of the event: 19 July 2005.

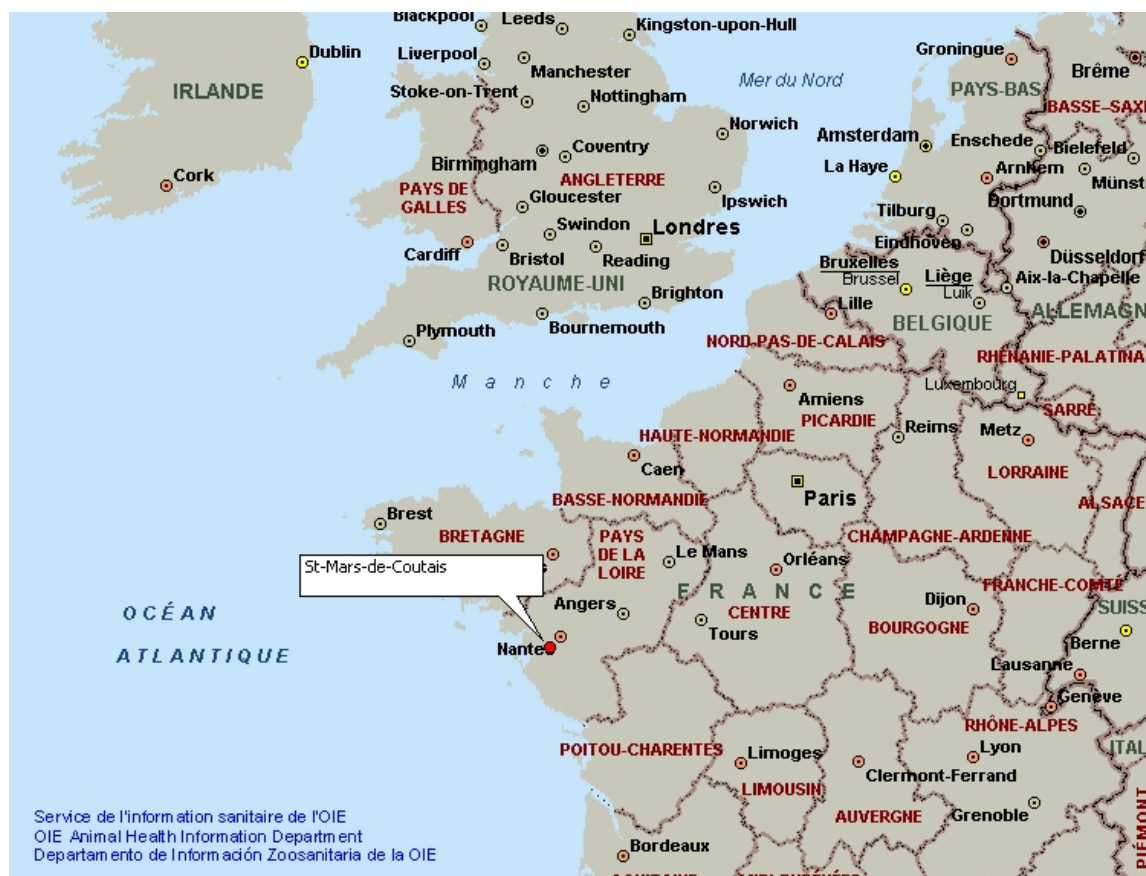
Clinical disease: yes.

Nature of diagnosis: suspicion, laboratory.

Details of outbreak:

First administrative division	Lower administrative division	Type of epidemiological unit	Name of the location	Species	Number of animals in the outbreak				
					susceptible	cases	deaths	destroyed	slaughtered
Pays-de-la-Loire region	Loire-Atlantique department	farm	St-Mars-de-Coutais	avi	approx. 55,000*

* approximately 35,000 partridges and 20,000 pheasants



Description of affected population: pheasants.

Diagnosis: 20 pheasants showed positive serological results for Newcastle disease associated with subtle clinical signs. Virological tests are being carried out; the results will be available by 21 July 2005 at the earliest.

Laboratory where diagnosis was made	Diagnostic tests used	Date	Results
Côtes-d'Armor Department Laboratory	haemagglutination inhibition test	19 July 2005	positive; geometric mean titre: 217.5 (Newcastle disease is highly suspected at this stage)

Source of outbreak or origin of infection: unknown or inconclusive (contact with wild animals?).

Control measures

A. Undertaken: quarantine.

B. To be undertaken: preventive stamping out.

Other details/comments:

- The affected farm is located on two different sites.
- No birds have left the affected farm since 1 June 2005, with the exception of one shipment to England on 22 June.
- The affected farm is epidemiologically linked to the farm in Surrey, United Kingdom, which was declared infected with Newcastle disease on 15 July 2005.

*
* *

HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA IN THAILAND
Follow-up report No. 61

Information received on 15 and 20 July 2005 from Dr Yukol Limlamthong, Director General, Department of Livestock Development (DLD), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Bangkok:

End of previous report period: 8 July 2005 (see *Disease Information*, **18** [28], 199, dated 15 July 2005).

End of this report period: 20 July 2005.

Date of first confirmation of the event: 23 January 2004.

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

Details of new 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 outbreaks				
						susceptible	cases	deaths	destroyed	slaughtered
SuphanBuri province	NongYaSai, NongRatchawat	village	village No. 5	15 juil. 2005	avi	15	10	10	5	...
SuphanBuri province	NongYasai, NongYasai	village	village No. 8	15 juil. 2005	avi	90	33	33	57	...
SuphanBuri province	PiharnDang, Muang	village	village No. 3	15 juil. 2005	avi	95	40	40	55	...
SuphanBuri province	PohPraya, Muang	village	village No. 6	18 juil. 2005	avi	45	8	8	37	...
SuphanBuri province	RaiRot, Muang	village	village No. 7	13 juil. 2005	avi	114	45	45	69	...
SuphanBuri province	SalaKhao, Muang	village	village No. 1	5 juil. 2005	avi	122,222*	14,880	14,880	107,120	...
SuphanBuri province	SuanTang, Muang	village	village No. 2	13 juil. 2005	avi	16,000**	1,638	1,638	14,362	...
SuphanBuri province	TahRahad, Muang	village	village No. 3	13 juil. 2005	avi	40	10	10	30	...

* quail; ** broilers

Description of affected populations in the new outbreaks: the broiler farm and the quail farm used traditional husbandry methods with minimal biosecurity. All the other cases reported involved native chickens which were free ranging or with minimal biosecurity.

Diagnosis:

Laboratories where diagnosis was made	Diagnostic tests used	Results
National Institute of Animal Health, DLD	- agar-gel precipitation test; - haemagglutination test; - pathogen isolation by egg inoculation; - intracerebral pathogenicity index test.	positive

Note: A first batch of quail samples from SalaKhao was submitted to a University laboratory and officially re-submitted to the National Institute of Animal Health for confirmation, with positive results on 14 July 2005.

Source of new outbreaks: unknown or inconclusive.

Control measures undertaken:

- stamping out;
- quarantine;
- movement control inside the country;

- screening;
- zoning;
- disinfection of infected premises/establishments.

Vaccination prohibited: yes.

Other details/comments: the case findings resulted from the second nationwide active surveillance campaign, being conducted from 1 to 31 July 2005. The purpose of this surveillance is to evaluate the present status of highly pathogenic avian influenza after the second wave of outbreaks (between 3 July 2004 and 12 April 2005).

*
* *

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA Follow-up report No. 4

Information received on 20 July 2005 from Mr Jia Youling, Director General, Veterinary Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture, Beijing:

End of previous report period: 24 June 2005 (see *Disease Information*, **18** [26], 178, dated 1 July 2005 and **18** [27], 189, dated 8 July 2005).

End of this report period: 20 July 2005.

New outbreaks:

Location	No. of outbreaks
Gansu province, Pingliang city, Jingning county	1
Qinghai province, Huangnan district, Tongren county	1

Description of affected population in the new outbreaks: beef cattle.

Total number of animals in the new outbreaks:

Location of the outbreak	species	susceptible	cases	deaths	destroyed	slaughtered
Gansu	bov	290	66	0	290	0
	ovi / sui	164	0	0	164	0
Qinghai	bov	168	95	0	168	0

Diagnosis:

A. Laboratory where diagnosis was made: national reference laboratory for foot and mouth disease, Lanzhou Veterinary Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences.

B. Diagnostic tests used: liquid-phase blocking ELISA⁽¹⁾ and RT-PCR⁽²⁾ (17 July 2005).

C. Causal agent: foot and mouth disease virus type Asia 1.

Epidemiology:

A. Source of agent / origin of infection: under investigation.

B. Mode of spread: under investigation.

Control measures during reporting period:

- stamping out;
- ring vaccination;
- quarantine;

- movement control inside the country;
- zoning.

- (1) ELISA: enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay
(2) RT-PCR: reverse transcriptase – polymerase chain reaction

*
* *

NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN BOTSWANA

(Date of previous outbreak of Newcastle disease in Botswana reported to the OIE: January 2003).

IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION REPORT

Information received on 21 July 2005 from Dr Musa Fanikiso, Director of Animal Health and Production, Ministry of Agriculture, Gaborone:

Report date: 20 July 2005.

Reason for immediate notification: re-occurrence of a listed disease or infection in a country or zone/compartiment following a report declaring the outbreak(s) ended.

Date of first confirmation of the event: 15 July 2005.

Date of start of the event: 7 July 2005.

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

Details of outbreak:

First administrative division	Lower administrative division	Type of epidemiological unit	Name of the location	Species	Number of animals in the outbreak				
					susceptible	cases	deaths	destroyed	slaughtered
South Eastern region	Lobatse district	village	Woodhall 2	avi	1,736	171	170	1	0

Description of affected population: backyard free-ranging and enclosed local chickens (*Gallus gallus domesticus*) of all ages (27% chicks) and both sexes.

Diagnosis: on 7 July 2005 reports were received of chickens with signs of greenish diarrhoea before death. On investigation respiratory distress was also noted.

Laboratory where diagnosis was made	Diagnostic tests used	Date	Results
Botswana National Veterinary Laboratory, Gaborone	- haemagglutination test; - haemagglutination inhibition test.	15 July 2005	titres: 1:128

Source of outbreak or origin of infection: unknown or inconclusive.



Control measures

A. Undertaken:

- Movement restriction into and out of Woodhall 2 (affected area) is in place.
- Disinfection of infected premises.
- Prophylactic vaccination of poultry is undertaken routinely.
- 163 chickens in five households closest to the outbreak were vaccinated immediately, under official veterinary supervision.
- A public awareness campaign is being undertaken, informing owners to vaccinate chickens within a 10-km zone around the outbreak; as a result, 20,000 doses of Newcastle disease vaccine have been sold within the locality.

B. To be undertaken: screening.

*
* *

AVIAN INFLUENZA IN THE PHILIPPINES INVALIDATION OF DIAGNOSIS

Information received on 22 July 2005 from Dr José Q. Molina, Director, Bureau of Animal Industry, Department of Agriculture, Quezon City:

End of previous report period: 12 July 2005 (see *Disease Information*, **18** [28], 197, dated 15 July 2005).

End of this report period: 20 July 2005.

All the tests conducted at the Australian Animal Health Laboratory (AAHL) — an OIE Reference Laboratory for avian influenza — have been completed, except for the second passage of the inoculation test, for which similar results from the first passage are expected, and the final official report will be available by the end of this week.

Official interim results:

- The real-time PCR⁽²⁾ tests against H5N1 using primers designed to test the current Asian highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) virus lineage and against all influenza A viruses using M-gene type primers gave negative results.
- Virus isolation tests in SPF⁽¹⁾ embryonated chicken eggs also gave negative results. There was no effect on the embryos up to 72 hours post-inoculation (they were all alive, no deaths were observed).
- The haemagglutination test on homogenates from the inoculated SPF eggs designed to test for haemagglutinating antibodies also gave negative results.
- The haemagglutination inhibition tests showed negative results for HPAI H5N1 using specific antiserum from the virus isolate from Vietnam and positive results for low pathogenic avian influenza (LPAI) H5 and H9 using antisera from Australia (H5-1973), Malaysia (H9-2003) and Wisconsin (H9), but only in ducks and not in chickens.

Our conclusions from the tests results are:

- 1) The Philippines is free from HPAI H5N1 virus infection and disease.
- 2) The Philippines does not have LPAI virus infection or disease in chickens.
- 3) The Philippines has had previous LPAI exposure in ducks but the LPAI virus is no longer present and therefore we do not have active LPAI infection, even in ducks. The specific serotypes of the LPAI virus to which the ducks were exposed cannot be determined because of the negative virus isolation results. Furthermore, although multiple H serotypes of LPAI virus were detected, it is possible that there was simply a cross reaction between and among the different serotypes in serology and that there may only have been one serotype of LPAI virus involved.

In regard to the positive RT-PCR⁽³⁾ result from the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine, Philippine Department of Health, it is our consensus in discussions with our technical working group and shared by Regional WHO⁽⁴⁾ Manila technical staff in discussions with the AAHL, that it is a false-positive result, possibly due to an inappropriate primer having been used.

Surveillance for avian influenza is therefore being intensified, especially in ducks. We are also improving duck farm biosecurity programmes to manage the risk of their being infected by migratory birds, which we think is the source of the LPAI virus that we have detected.

(1) SPF: specific pathogen free

(2) PCR: polymerase chain reaction

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

(4) WHO: World Health Organization

MISCELLANEOUS: SUSPECT AVIAN DISEASE IN RUSSIA

Information received on 22 July 2005 from Dr Evgueny A. Nepoklonov, Head of the Main Veterinary Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Moscow:

Report date: 22 July 2005.

A disease of poultry was registered in five villages in Novosibirsk district (in the southern part of the country), among birds in non-commercial premises of open type.

The first signs were observed on 15 July 2005. A significant increase in mortality was detected on 18 July. The latest information, available at 4 pm (GMT+3) on 20 July 2005, suggests that more than 350 birds of different species (geese, ducks, turkeys, chickens) have died.

Some of the clinical signs are consistent with an outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI). However, some details of the outbreak are not typical of HPAI (no evident species specificity, mosaic pattern of disease spread within a settlement). Pathological material has been sent to the reference centre of the Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance (FSVPS). The results of the laboratory diagnosis are expected on 23 July 2005.

*
* *

All OIE (World Organisation for Animal Health) publications are protected by international copyright law. Extracts may be copied, reproduced, translated, adapted or published in journals, documents, books, electronic media and any other medium destined for the public, for information, educational or commercial purposes, provided prior written permission has been granted by the OIE.

The designations and denominations employed and the presentation of the material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the OIE concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries.

The views expressed in signed articles are solely the responsibility of the authors. The mention of specific companies or products of manufacturers, whether or not these have been patented, does not imply that these have been endorsed or recommended by the OIE in preference to others of a similar nature that are not mentioned.