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NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN FRANCE IN PIGEONS Follow-up report No. 1 (confirmation of diagnosis)

Translation of information received on 18 November 2005 from Dr Monique Eloit, Deputy Director General, General Directorate for Food (DGAL), Ministry of Agriculture, Food, Fisheries and Rural Affairs, Paris:

End of previous report period: 8 November 2005 (see *Disease Information*, **18** [45], 423, dated 11 November 2005).

End of this report period: 18 November 2005.

Date of first confirmation of the event: 7 November 2005.

Date of start of the event: 31 October 2005.

Diagnosis (updated information):

Laboratory where diagnostic tests were performed	Diagnostic tests used	Date	Results
Côtes-d'Armor Department Laboratory	- haemagglutination inhibition test; - virus isolation.	7 Nov. 2005	positive for APMV1
...	intracerebral pathogenicity index test	17 Nov. 2005	ICPI=1.04
AFSSA ⁽¹⁾ Ploufragan (national reference laboratory)	sequencing	...	*

* Amino acid sequence at the fusion protein cleavage site:

S G G ¹¹²R R Q K ¹¹⁶R ¹¹⁷F I G

Source of outbreak: unknown or inconclusive. Contact with wild birds is suspected.

Control measures undertaken:

- stamping out (the remaining 8,200 pigeons in the affected farm were preventively killed on 7 November 2005 and then destroyed);
- quarantine;
- movement control inside the country;
- in accordance with the regulations in force (European Union Council Directive 92/66/EEC), a 3-km-radius protection zone and a 10-km-radius surveillance zone have been set up;
- disinfection of infected premises/establishment.

Vaccination prohibited: no.

Other details/comments:

- There were no movements of birds from this farm to other countries during the 21-day risk period before the onset of the clinical signs (the first clinical signs were observed on 31 October 2005).
- The only species of birds reared on the farm were pigeons for slaughter purposes only.
- The preliminary epidemiological investigation conducted in farms situated within a 3-km radius of the outbreak found no clinical signs of Newcastle disease.

Final report: no.

(1) AFSSA: *Agence française de sécurité sanitaire des aliments* (French Agency for Food Safety)

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HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
Follow-up report No. 9

Information received on 18, 20, 22 and 23 November 2005 from Mr Jia Youling, Director General, Veterinary Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture, Beijing:

End of previous report period: 17 November 2005 (see *Disease Information*, **18** [46], 435, dated 18 November 2005).

End of this report period: 23 November 2005.

Precise identification of agent: highly pathogenic avian influenza virus subtype H5N1.

Date of first confirmation of the event: 7 June 2005.

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
Hubei province	Shishou city	village	Swan economic developing area	Nov. 2005	avi	7,300	3,500	3,500	3,800	0
Inner Mongolia autonomous region	Molidawa Dawo'er autonomous county	village	Wulan	15 Nov. 2005	avi	...	176	176	3,202	0
Ningxia autonomous region	Yinchuan city	village	Shangqian Cheng	17 Nov. 2005	avi	1,130	294	230	900	0
Shanxi province	Xiaoyi city	village	Gaoyang	10 Nov. 2005	avi	9,386	8,103	8,103	1,283	0
Xinjiang autonomous region	Miquan city	village	Niuzhuangzi	15 Nov. 2005	avi	6,120	2,064	2,064	4,056	0
Xinjiang autonomous region	Urumchi city	village	Daban Cheng	16 Nov. 2005	avi	125	38	38	87	0
Xinjiang autonomous region	Urumchi city	village	Wulabo	12 Nov. 2005	avi	56	8	8	48	0
Yunnan province	Chuxiong city	village	Hehua	17 Nov. 2005	avi	11,000	2,500	2,500	8,500	0

Description of affected population in the new outbreaks: chickens and geese.

Diagnosis:

Laboratory where diagnostic tests were performed	Diagnostic tests used	Date	Results
Harbin Veterinary Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Harbin (national reference laboratory for avian influenza)	- haemagglutination inhibition test; - RT-PCR ⁽¹⁾ .	16-23 Nov. 2005	positive
	intravenous pathogenicity index (IVPI) test	16-23 Nov. 2005	positive (highly pathogenic)

Source of new outbreaks: contact with wild birds.

Control measures undertaken:

- stamping out applied to 254,464 birds around the outbreaks;
- quarantine;
- movement control inside the country;
- screening;
- zoning;
- vaccination;
- disinfection of infected premises/establishments;
- dipping/spraying.

Final report: no.

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

INFECTION WITH *BONAMIA OSTREAE* IN MOROCCO

IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION REPORT AND FINAL REPORT

Translation of information received on 21 November 2005 from Dr Hamid Benazzou, Director of Animal Production Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Rabat:

Report date: 15 November 2005.

Reason for immediate notification: first occurrence or re-occurrence in a country or zone /compartment of the country, if the country or zone/compartment of the country was previously considered to be free of that particular disease.

Date of first confirmation of the event: 13 October 2005.

Date of start of the event: 20 June 2005.

Clinical disease: yes.

Nature of diagnosis: basic laboratory tests.

Details of occurrence:

First administrative division	Lower administrative division	Type of epidemiological unit	Name of the location	Species	Number of animals in the occurrence				
					susceptible	cases	deaths	destroyed	slaughtered
Laayoune province	Akhfennir rural district	farm	Khnifiss lagoon	mol	700	580	0	580	0

Description of affected population: flat oysters (*Ostrea edulis*) in closed farming.

Diagnosis:

Laboratories where diagnostic tests were performed	Diagnostic tests used	Date	Results
Laboratory for Veterinary Tests and Research, Agadir	positive
National Fisheries Research Institute, Casablanca	positive
IFREMER ⁽¹⁾ (OIE Reference Laboratory for mollusc diseases)	positive

Source of occurrence or origin of infection: introduction of new live aquatic animals.

Control measures undertaken: official destruction of clinically diseased aquatic animals.

Treatment of affected animals: no.

Final report: yes.

(1) IFREMER: *Institut français de recherche pour l'exploitation de la mer* (French Research Institute for Exploitation of the Sea)

NEWCASTLE DISEASE IN ROMANIA

(Date of previous outbreak of Newcastle disease in Romania reported to the OIE: December 1985).

IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION REPORT

Information received on 22 November 2005 from Dr Gabriel Predoi, Director General, National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority, Bucharest:

Report date: 22 November 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: 16 November 2005.

Date of start of the event: 15 September 2005.

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

Details of outbreaks:

First administrative division (County)	Lower administrative division (district)	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
Constanta	Silistea	village	Silistea	14 Oct. 2005	avi	170	170*	123*	47	0
Tulcea	Salva Rusa	...	lazurile	20 Oct. 2005	fau	...	1**	1**

* hens

** partridge

Description of affected populations:

- The affected hens were an unvaccinated backyard flock.
- The partridge was found dead in the wild and sent to the laboratory by the Sport Association of Hunters and Fishermen, Babadag, Tulcea County.

Diagnosis:

Laboratory where diagnostic tests were performed	Samples examined	Diagnostic tests used	Date	Results
Institute for Diagnostic and Animal Health (National Reference Laboratory)	- 1 organ sample taken from 1 hen; - 1 sample of allanto-amniotic fluid taken from eggs inoculated with brain, organs and cloacal swabs taken from hens; - 1 tracheal swab and 1 cloacal swab taken from 1 partridge.	- intracerebral pathogenity index test on one-day-old SPF chicks; - virus isolation in embryonated eggs.	16 Nov. 2005	positive

Source of outbreaks or origin of infection: contact with wild birds.

Control measures undertaken:

- stamping out applied to the infected backyard flock;
- quarantine;
- movement control inside the country;
- screening;
- zoning;
- disinfection of infected premises.

Vaccination prohibited: no.

Final report: no.

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**HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA IN ROMANIA
Follow-up report No. 8**

Information received on 22 November 2005 from Dr Gabriel Predoi, Director General, National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority, Bucharest:

End of previous report period: 16 November 2005 (see *Disease Information*, **18** [46], 439, dated 18 November 2005).

End of this report period: 22 November 2005.

In accordance with the zoosanitary provisions in force (i.e. Ministry of Agriculture and Food Order No. 156/27.12.1999 regarding the announcing, the declaring and notification of some transmissible diseases of animals, and the 'Programme for surveillance, prevention and control of diseases of animals and diseases transmissible from animals to humans, and for animal protection and protection of environment for the year 2005'), the three outbreaks of Ceamurlia-de-Jos⁽¹⁾, Maliuc⁽²⁾ and Vultur⁽²⁾, have been eradicated, as follows:

A. Outbreak reported in backyard premises in Ceamurlia-de-Jos, Ceamurlia-de-Jos district, Tulcea County:

The outbreak was declared extinguished after 38 days, since the serological examination of sentinel poultry gave negative results ([*Analysis Bulletin* No. 16698 – 16985/11.11.2005]). In addition, the sentinel poultry did not manifest any signs of disease suggesting highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI).

Three successive disinfections were carried out.

The quarantine measures were lifted on 11 November 2005.

The outbreak was declared extinguished as of 21 November 2005.

B. Outbreak reported in swans in Maliuc, Maliuc district, Tulcea County, and outbreak reported in backyard premises in Vultur, Maliuc district, Tulcea County:

The outbreaks were declared extinguished after 35 days, since the tests carried out (RT-PCR⁽³⁾ test for the detection of specific viral genome for HPAI [*Analysis Bulletin* No. 17941-1800/21.11.2005]) gave negative results for the primary pathological material examined.

The sentinel poultry did not manifest any signs of disease suggesting HPAI.

Three successive disinfections were carried out in both localities.

The quarantine measures were lifted on 21 November 2005 and the outbreaks were declared extinguished.

For the moment, the single active outbreak in Romania is that of Caraorman⁽⁴⁾, Tulcea County.

Final report: no.

(1) See Immediate notification report and Follow-up report No. 1 in *Disease Information*, **18** (41), dated 14 October 2005, and Follow-up report No. 3 in *Disease Information*, **18** (42), 357, dated 21 October 2005

(2) See Follow-up report No. 2 in *Disease Information*, **18** (42), 355, dated 21 October 2005, and Follow-up report No. 3 in *Disease Information*, **18** (42), 357, dated 21 October 2005

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

(4) See Follow-up report No. 7 in *Disease Information*, **18** (46), 439, dated 18 November 2005

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AMERICAN FOULBROOD IN CHILE
Follow-up report No. 3

Translation of information received on 22 November 2005 from Dr Hernan Rojas Olavarria, Head, Department of Animal Protection, Department of Agriculture and Animal Production (SAG), Ministry of Agriculture, Santiago:

End of previous report period: 11 November 2005 (see *Disease Information*, **18** [46], 434, dated 18 November 2005).

End of this report period: 22 November 2005.

Precise identification of agent: *Paenibacillus larvae* subsp. *larvae*.

Date of first confirmation of the event: 20 October 2005.

Date of start of the event: 15 October 2005.

Nature of diagnosis: clinical and laboratory.

Details of new outbreaks:

First administrative division	Lower administrative divisions	Type of epidemiological unit	Name of the location (sector)	Latitude	Longitude	Date of start of the outbreak	Species	Number of animals* in the outbreaks		
								susceptible	cases	destroyed
V Region	San Felipe, San Felipe commune	apiary	San Felipe	32°44'26.50302"S	70°49'29.7173"W	5 nov. 2005	api	100	4	2
V Region	San Felipe, San Felipe commune	apiary	San Felipe	32°44'58.7708"S	70°49'47.4714"W	6 nov. 2005	api	100	5	0
V Region	San Felipe, San Felipe commune	apiary	Quebrada de Herrera	32°41'21.3116"S	70°44'39.4894"W	21 oct. 2005	api	29	3	0
V Region	San Felipe, San Felipe commune	apiary	Quebrada de Herrera	32°41'19.5113"S	70°44'49.8591"W	20 oct. 2005	api	65	1	1
VII Region	Curicó, Curicó commune	apiary	Huañuñe	35°2'24.2391"S	71°9'56.9466"W	5 nov. 2005	api	48	1	1
VII Region	Talca, Péncahue commune	apiary	Los Litres	35°14'33.5650"S	71°36'52,7423" W	9 nov. 2005	api	280	17	17

* hives

Diagnosis:

Laboratory where diagnostic tests were performed	Diagnostic tests used	Date	Results
Department of Laboratories and Plant and Animal Quarantine Stations, Lo Aguirre, Santiago de Chile (official SAG laboratory)	PCR ⁽¹⁾	15-17 Nov. 2005	positive

Source of new outbreaks: contact with affected hives.

Control measures undertaken:

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

Final report: no.

(1) PCR: polymerase chain reaction

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN RUSSIA
Virus type Asia1 (follow-up report No. 3 [final report])

Information received on 23 November 2005 from Dr Evgueny A. Nepoklonov, Head of the Main Veterinary Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Moscow:

End of previous report period: 7 September 2005 (see *Disease Information*, **18** [37], 301, dated 16 September 2005).

End of this report period: 21 November 2005.

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

Date of start of the event: 6 June 2005.

No new outbreaks of foot and mouth disease (FMD) due to virus serotype Asia1 have been detected since 10 September 2005.

By 15 October 2005, quarantine had been lifted in all affected locations (see details in the table below).

Details of outbreaks (updated information):

First administrative division	Lower administrative division (district)	Type of epidemiological unit	Name of the location	Species	Number of animals in the outbreaks					Lifting of quarantine
					susceptible	cases	deaths	destroyed	slaughtered	
Amur region (Amurskaya oblast')	Svobodnyy	village	Busse	bov	171	42	0	171	0	11 July 2005
				o/c	37	0	0	37	0	
				sui	9	0	0	9	0	
Khabarovsk Territory	Bikine	farm	village of Dobrolyubovo	bov	106	71	0	106	0	29 Sept. 2005
Khabarovsk Territory	Bikine	farm	village of Lonchakovo	bov	32	32	0	32	0	29 Sept. 2005
Khabarovsk Territory	Viazemsky	village	Vidnoye	bov	20	18	0	20	0	14 Oct. 2005
Khabarovsk Territory	Viazemsky	farm	village of Sheremet'yev	bov	56	56	0	56	0	27 Sept. 2005
Primorskiy Territory	Khanka	village	Pervomaisky	bov	95	32	0	95	0	12 Oct. 2005
				o/c	37	0	0	37	0	
Primorskiy Territory	Khassan	village	Slavyanka	bov	12	10	0	12	0	6 Oct. 2005
Primorskiy Territory	Khorol	village	Luchki	bov	106	36	1	105	0	10 Oct. 2005
				ovi	1	0	0	1	0	
Primorskiy Territory	Khorol	farm	village of Sivakovka	bov	335	318	0	335	0	10 Oct. 2005
				sui	1	1	0	1	0	
Primorskiy Territory	Kirovsky	village	Pavlo-Fedorovka	bov	326	326	0	326	0	27 Sept. 2005
Primorskiy Territory	Lesozavodsk	farm	village of Nevskoye	bov	280	82	0	280	0	7 Oct. 2005
Primorskiy Territory	Mikhailovka	village	Abramovka	bov	214	70	0	214	0	6 Oct. 2005
				o/c	39	0	0	39	0	
Primorskiy Territory	Pozharskoye	village	Ignat'yevka	bov	113	53	0	113	0	29 Sept. 2005
Primorskiy Territory	Spassk	village	Krasny Kut	bov	142	73	0	142	0	29 Sept. 2005
				o/c	14	0	0	14	0	
				sui	1	0	0	1	0	

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

Control measures applied:

- stamping out;
- quarantine;
- movement control inside the country;
- screening;
- zoning;
- vaccination (see details below);
- disinfection.

Vaccination in response to the outbreaks:

First administrative division	Species	Total number of animals		Details of the vaccine
		vaccinated	revaccinated	
Khabarovsk Territory	bov	42,530	42,389	inactivated sorbat FMD vaccine O, A, Asia1
	o/c	7,357	7,333	inactivated sorbat FMD vaccine O, A, Asia1
	sui	38,835	29,754	inactivated emulsion FMD vaccine Asia1
Primorsky Territory	bov	100,824	99,105	inactivated sorbat vaccine O, A, Asia1
	o/c	35,112	34,456	inactivated sorbat vaccine O, A, Asia1
	sui	56,063	38,594	inactivated emulsion FMD vaccine Asia1

Note: Before the outbreaks, animals were not vaccinated against FMD of Asia1 serotype.

Final report: yes.

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AMERICAN FOULBROOD IN NORWAY
Follow-up report No. 2 (final report)

Information received on 24 November 2005 from Dr Keren Bar-Yaacov, Chief Veterinary Officer, Norwegian Food Safety Authority, Brumunddal:

End of previous report period: 18 October 2005 (see *Disease Information*, **18** [42], 363, dated 21 October 2005).

End of this report period: 24 November 2005.

Precise identification of agent: *Paenibacillus larvae* subsp. *larvae*.

Date of first confirmation of the event: 29 September 2005.

Date of start of the event: 12 September 2005.

All infected hives have been destroyed. No new outbreaks have been reported.

Final report: yes.

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EQUINE ENCEPHALOMYELITIS (EASTERN) IN BELIZE

(**Date of previous outbreak of Eastern equine encephalomyelitis in Belize reported to the OIE:** 1997).

IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION REPORT

Information received on 24 November 2005 from Dr Victor Gongora, Director of Animal Health, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Belmopan:

Report date: 24 November 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: 18 November 2005.

Date of start of the event: 18 October 2005.

Nature of diagnosis: clinical and laboratory.

Details of outbreak:

First administrative division	Lower administrative division	Type of epidemiological unit	Latitude	Longitude	Species	Number of animals in the outbreak				
						susceptible	cases	deaths	destroyed	slaughtered
Cayo district	Teakettle	village	1905964 N	16304687 E	equ	2	1	0	0	0

Description of affected population: a four-year old mare that has never been vaccinated against equine encephalomyelitis.

Diagnosis:

Laboratory where diagnostic tests were performed	Diagnostic tests used	Date	Results
National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL), Ames, Iowa, United States of America	IgM capture ELISA ⁽¹⁾	18 Nov. 2005	positive (> 1:400)

Note: the mare tested negative to West Nile fever and Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis on IgM capture ELISA.

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

Control measures

A. Undertaken:

- control of arthropods;
- screening.

B. To be undertaken:

- vaccination.

Treatment of affected animal: no.

Other details/comments:

- This is the first reported case since 1997, when Eastern equine encephalomyelitis was diagnosed in a single horse in a nearby area.
- Given the recent cases of dengue fever in humans, the Ministry of Health has been spraying to control the mosquito population and screening for dengue throughout Belize, particularly in Cayo district.
- Triple vaccination for Eastern, Western and Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis is recommended for all horses in Belize.

Final report: no.

(1) ELISA: enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay

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**HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA IN THAILAND
Follow-up report No. 77**

Information received on 25 November 2005 from Dr Yukol Limlamthong, Director General, Department of Livestock Development (DLD), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Bangkok:

End of previous report period: 17 November 2005 (see *Disease Information*, **18** [46], 436, dated 18 November 2005).

End of this report period: 24 November 2005.

No new outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza were reported during the week under report.

Final report: no.

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MISCELLANEOUS: AVIAN INFLUENZA IN CANADA

IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION REPORT

Information received on 19 and 20 November 2005 from Dr Brian Evans, Executive Director, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Ottawa:

Report date: 20 November 2005.

Reason for immediate notification: detection of an H5 subtype of avian influenza in a single domestic duck, reported as per *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* recommendations*.

Precise identification of agent: influenza virus type A H5 subtype, low pathogenicity, North-American strain; N subtype pending.

Date of first confirmation of the event: 18 November 2005.

Date of start of the event: 17 November 2005.

Clinical disease: no.

Nature of diagnosis: laboratory.

Details of outbreak:

First administrative division (province)	Lower administrative division (district)	Type of epidemiological unit	Species	Number of animals in the outbreak				
				susceptible	cases	deaths	destroyed	slaughtered
British Columbia	Chilliwack	farm	avi	55,000

Description of affected population: meat ducks.

The suspect bird was a 40-day-old meat duck collected at processing. The bird was in excellent body condition with submitting criteria of dermatitis. No other visible lesions and no indication of any active disease process were observed on post-mortem examination.

Diagnosis:

Laboratories where diagnostic tests were performed	Diagnostic tests used	Date	Results
Provincial Agriculture	- PCR ⁽¹⁾ (matrix); - real-time PCR; - conventional PCR thermocycling (H5).	18 Nov. 2005	positive
National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease (NCFAD), Winnipeg	(H5)RT-PCR ⁽²⁾ on cloacal swab and allantoic fluids.	20 Nov. 2005	positive for influenza virus type A subtype H5
	RNA molecular analysis	20 Nov. 2005	low pathogenic North-American sequence
	- N type molecular diagnostic as well as conventional methods; - haemagglutination and haemagglutination inhibition on allantoic fluids.	pending	pending

Source of outbreak or origin of infection: under investigation. Contact with migratory water fowl cannot be excluded.

Control measures undertaken:

- quarantine of the source farm and the owner's other operations;

- establishment of a 5-km surveillance zone around the source farm;
- voluntary lock down and movement controls on all commercial units within the 5-km zone pending application of formal quarantine;
- sampling of the source farm;
- culling of birds in the source farm;
- sampling of commercial poultry operations in the 5-km zone;
- sampling of owner's other operations;
- suspension of export certification from the 5-km zone.

Vaccination prohibited: no.

Other details/comments:

Results of sampling conducted in the Province of British Columbia under a national migratory waterfowl sampling and surveillance programme for avian influenza has demonstrated the presence of H5N2 and H5N9 subtypes, all of which have been determined to be low pathogenic and consistent with historically reported North American strains with significant structural differences from the Asian strain of current international animal and human health concern.

Final report: no.

(1) PCR: polymerase chain reaction

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

* Note by the OIE Animal Health Information Department: this disease is included in the new OIE list of diseases approved in May 2005 and due to come into force in January 2006.

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MISCELLANEOUS: WEST NILE FEVER IN BELIZE

IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION REPORT

Information received on 24 November 2005 from Dr Victor Gongora, Director of Animal Health, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Belmopan:

Report date: 24 November 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: 18 November 2005.

Date of start of the event: 22 August 2005.

Nature of diagnosis: clinical and laboratory.

Details of outbreak:

First administrative division	Lower administrative division	Type of epidemiological unit	Latitude	Longitude	Species	Number of animals in the outbreak				
						susceptible	cases	deaths	destroyed	slaughtered
Belize district	Crooked Tree	village	965066	337306	equ	9	1	0	0	0

Description of affected population: the affected animal is an unvaccinated 9-year-old gelding.

Diagnosis: the affected horse was seen with ataxia and lip smacking on 22 August 2005 but showed no nervous signs when examined by BAHA⁽¹⁾ veterinarians.

<i>Laboratory where diagnostic tests were performed</i>	<i>Diagnostic tests used</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Results</i>
National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL), Ames, Iowa, United States of America	IgM capture ELISA ⁽²⁾	18 Nov. 2005	positive (> 1:400)

Source of outbreak or origin of infection: contact with wild birds.

Control measures

A. Undertaken:

- control of arthropods;
- screening.

B. To be undertaken:

- vaccination.

Treatment of affected animal: no.

Other details/comments:

- The affected horse suffered a short-lived illness and recovered uneventfully.
- The affected village is in a popular bird sanctuary area where migrant birds are commonly seen.
- Although horses have owners, they roam freely in the community.
- Although vaccine is available in Belize, no horses in this community have ever been vaccinated.
- No more cases were seen in the community.
- Given the recent cases of dengue fever in humans, the Ministry of Health has been spraying to control mosquito populations throughout Belize.

Final report: no.

(1) BAHA: Belize Agricultural Health Authority
(2) ELISA: enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay

* Note by the OIE Animal Health Information Department: this disease is included in the new OIE list of diseases, approved in May 2005 and due to come into force in January 2006.

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