



Summary of Selected Disease Events

April – June 2005

I. OIE Listed Diseases

Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy

United States : A 12-year-old non-ambulatory Brahma cross cow from Texas was tested for bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in late 2004. BSE testing at that point yielded inconclusive results. Additional testing in 2005 yielded positive results. Sixty-seven adult animals, identified as the index herd, have all tested negative for BSE. The 12-year-old animal did not enter the human food or animal feed chain.

As a result of the case, the USDA has changed its BSE testing protocol. Previously, inconclusive findings from a rapid screening test were further tested using only the immunohistochemical (IHC) test. Now, if a rapid screening test results in an inconclusive finding, both the IHC and the Western blot tests will be used.



Austria : A second case of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) was discovered in Austria . An 11-year-old dairy cow in the Vorarlberg federal province of Austria was found dead on May 26, 2005. The dairy cow previously showed suspicious signs of BSE. The small farm originally had eight cows and two pigs. The remaining seven cows were tested and showed no signs of BSE.

This is Austria 's second case of BSE. In December 2001, the first recorded case of BSE in Austria was discovered in a 5-year-old-cow in the federal province of Lower Austria (Niederosterreich).

It is still unknown how the recent BSE cow became infected. Since 1991, Austria has banned feeding animal meal to farm animals. Control measures included quarantine, culling of all cattle on the farm and sampling.

Sources: USDA APHIS Factsheet, World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), ProMedMail, Lexis/Nexis Associated Press

For more information, please see the USDA APHIS webpage at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/lpa/issues/issues.html>

Foot and Mouth Disease (serotype Asia 1)



China : On May 12, 2005, China confirmed an outbreak of foot and mouth disease (FMD), virus type Asia 1. The estimated date of infection is April 18, 2005.

As of July 1, 2005, over 400 cases of FMD Asia 1 were reported with more than 4,000 cows destroyed. The regions affected include Jiangsu province, Beijing municipality, Hebei province, Xinjiang Autonomous

Region and Shandong province. The source of the disease is still under investigation.

Control measures taken include stamping out, ring vaccination, quarantine, movement control inside the country, and zoning.

Russia : Russia confirmed an outbreak of foot and mouth disease (FMD), virus type Asia 1, on June 15, 2005. The village of Busse in the Amur region of Russia was the only area affected. The single outbreak was located at a small farm, 300 miles from the border of China . FMD virus serotype O is endemic in Russia but this is the first reported occurrence of FMD virus serotype Asia 1 in Russia .



Forty-two cases were found. The susceptible animal population of the village included cattle, small ruminants, and pigs. All the susceptible animals were destroyed.

The source of the outbreak is unknown or inconclusive. Control measures include stamping out, quarantine, movement controls, screening, zoning and vaccinations.

Sources: ProMedMail, World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)

Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease in Indiana, United States

An outbreak of rabbit hemorrhagic disease (RHD) occurred in a backyard rabbitry in Vanderburgh County, Indiana, on May 27, 2005. The outbreak was confined to the index premises where 104 rabbits were euthanized on June 8. Cleaning and disinfection followed the euthanization.



A Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) investigation conducted by USDA Animal Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services, the Indiana Board of Animal Health and the Kentucky Department of Agriculture was initiated on June 3, 2005. The investigators found that many of the 200 rabbits on the premises suddenly died during the previous 10 days. The investigation revealed that about a dozen rabbits from Kentucky had recently been introduced into the herd. All investigations related to this incident were considered closed as of June 23, 2005. The investigation did not reveal a possible origin of the infection.

The US rabbit industry is multi-faceted and comprised of meat and fur production, research rabbit production and hobbyists who raise rabbits for pets, shows and private consumption. The US does export rabbits and rabbit products, but its share of world exports is small. US imports of rabbits and rabbit products are also small when compared to other livestock industry imports.

Source: CEI impact worksheet, World Organization of Animal Health (OIE), ProMedMail

For additional information, please see the Center for Emerging Issues (CEI) Impact Worksheet on RHD in the US at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/cei/worksheets.htm>.

Caprine Arthritis/Encephalitis in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Bosnia and Herzegovina officials reported that in the second quarter of 2005, one outbreak of caprine arthritis/encephalitis (CAE) was found in the Republic of Srpska. The source of the outbreak is unknown. Forty cases were found with twenty-nine deaths. This disease had never before been reported by Bosnia and Herzegovina .

Control measures included stamping out and strict sanitation measures.

Sources: World Organization of Animal Health (OIE), ProMedMail

Goat Pox in Vietnam



Vietnamese animal health officials reported an outbreak of goat pox that began in January 2005. The four provinces affected are Cao Bang province,

Bac Giang province (two locations), Lang Son province and Ha Tay province. Over 940 cases were reported, including over 790 (84 percent) deaths.

This is the first reported occurrence of goat pox in Vietnam ; the outbreak is attributed to illegal animal movement. Vietnam produced 800,000 goats and 6,450 metric tons of goat meat in 2004, but did not export live goats or goat products. Symptomatic treatment has been provided to the goats.

Source: CEI impact worksheet, World Organization of Animal Health (OIE), ProMedMail

For additional information, please see the Center for Emerging Issues (CEI) Impact Worksheet on Goat Pox in Vietnam at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/cei/worksheets.htm>.

Infectious Pancreatic Necrosis in Slovakia

Because of a monitoring program for viral hemorrhagic septicemia and infectious hemotopoietic necrosis, Slovakia discovered an outbreak of infectious pancreatic necrosis (IPN) on a premised involving several species of fish. No information was available on which species were found to be positive for IPN. The fish farm located in Galanta County, in the western part of Slovakia . IPN had never been reported in Slovakia .

At the time, the major fish species farmed at the Galanta County fish farm for human consumption were *Oncorhynchus mykiss*, *Esox lucius*, *Carpio cyprinus*, *Acipenser* spp. and *Huso huso*. The source of the virus is unknown.

The Galanta District Veterinary and Food Administration (DVFA) implemented the following controls: any movement of fish from the farm will be controlled and every consignment of live fish from the area should be clearly identified as coming from the infected area.

Source: OIE

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, Subtype H5N1 in Asia

During the second quarter of 2005, China , Vietnam and Thailand continued to report new cases of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in poultry. Vietnam and Cambodia reported a total of five new cases of HPAI in humans.

China announced two new outbreaks of HPAI in geese, both in the Xinjiang Province of China. The two outbreaks resulted in about 520 deaths with an additional 1,800 destroyed. China has also reported HPAI in migratory birds in Qinghai Lake area. HPAI was found in black-headed gulls, shelducks, bar-headed geese, and cormorants. A team of World Health Organization representatives dispatched to China in late June estimated the total loss of migratory birds at over 5,000. No human cases of HPAI have been reported in China .

For the second quarter of 2005, Vietnam reported the HPAI virus in 6,700 poultry. Vietnam also reported three human deaths, bringing the total human deaths in Vietnam to 38.

Thailand experienced three outbreaks in April, affecting 100 chickens, with 2904 birds slaughtered for preventative measures. No new human cases were reported for this quarter.

Cambodia has not reported any new bird infections for this quarter; however, they did confirm two new human deaths, bringing the total number of human deaths since January 2004 to four. All of the human cases have been isolated to Kampot Province.

Source: World Health Organization (WHO), Avian Influenza World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

For information about influenza in Asia, please see

1. Center for Emerging Issues (CEI) at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/cei/worksheets.htm>
2. World Health Organization, Avian Influenza http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza
3. World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) http://www.oie.int/eng/info/hebd/a_isum.htm
4. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/subjects/en/health/diseases-cards/special_avian.html

II. Other Significant Disease Events

Poultry Disease/Unknown in Brazil



Brazilian authorities slaughtered 17,000 chickens from a farm in the town of Jaraguari, after 6,000 chickens died from an unknown poultry disease. Evidence of nonvirulent Newcastle disease virus was detected serologically; however, since this virus alone would not produce the mortality observed, officials continued to test for other diseases. No further results regarding the cause of disease have been reported. In early June 2005, Brazil ruled out avian influenza as the cause of the illness. Control measures reported include a roadblock surrounding the index farm and

slaughter of remaining chickens.

Sources: Associated Press, Latin American News Digest

Chronic Wasting Disease in Deer in the US (New York)

In the second quarter 2005, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) confirmed the discovery of chronic wasting disease (CWD) in five captive and two wild deer. This is the first time CWD was found in deer in New York State.

All seven deer (captive and wild) came from Oneida County, in central New York. The five captive deer came from two different fenced herds. The two wild deer were found in the same area as the captive herds.

After the discovery of CWD in the captive deer, DEC and the US Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services implemented an intensive monitoring program on the wild deer population. New York State officials depopulated the two captive herds affected. Seven captive herds that encountered the sick animals were quarantined.

One of the captive deer that tested positive was served and eaten at the Verona Fire Department's Annual Sportsmen's feast prior to the receipt of the positive test results. Oneida County Health Department said people who ate the deer should not worry about contracting the disease.

Sources: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), Associated Press, Star-Gazette (Elmira, New York)

For additional information on CWD in New York, please see:

- ◆ New York State Department of Environmental Conservation -

<http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/wildlife/deer/cwd.html>

- ◆ US Geological Survey – National Wildlife Health Center -

http://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/disease_information/chronic_wasting_disease/index.jsp

Equine Herpesvirus in the US (Kentucky)

Beginning in mid-May, five horses from the Churchill Downs racetrack in Kentucky, showed signs of the neurological form of equine herpesvirus type-1 (EHV-1). Two barns had horses showing severe signs of EHV-1. Two horses, one from each barn, were euthanized after progressing to a recumbent state. A third barn had three horses showing a milder neurological disorder.

The horses in all three barns were quarantined and segregated from the general equine population. Added surveillance and monitoring of all equine at Churchill Downs was employed. By mid-June, the quarantine on all three barns was lifted.

Sources: *theHORSE.com* Article #5876, Kentucky Department of Agriculture

Vesicular Stomatitis in the Western US

As of July 3, 2005, 25 premises in Arizona, New Mexico, Texas and Utah were under quarantine from an outbreak of vesicular stomatitis virus, type New Jersey. The current outbreak, which started on April 27, 2005, includes 33 premises under quarantine.

Control measures include control of arthropods, quarantine and on-going surveillance.

Current Statistics as of July 3, 2005

Current number of premises and animals as of July 3, 2005:	Arizona	New Mexico	Texas	Utah	Total
Positive premises under quarantine	20	3	0	2	25
Premises on 21-day countdown for removal of quarantine	8	1	0	0	9
Current counties with positive premises	5	3	0	2	10
Positive equine species	22	3	0	2	27
Positive bovine species	0	1	0	0	1

Cumulative Statistics as of July3, 2005

Cumulative number of premises and animals since April 27, 2005:	Arizona	New Mexico	Texas	Utah	Total
Total premises under quarantine	25	5	1	2	33
Total premises released from quarantine	5	2	1	0	8
Total positive equine species	28	6	2	2	38
Positive bovine species	0	1	0	0	0

Counties with Positive Premises as of July 3, 2005

State	County (number of Premises)
Arizona	Graham (1), Maricopa (10), Navajo (2), Pinal (1), Yavapai (6)
Total - Arizona	5 counties, 20 premises
New Mexico	Bernalillo (1), Luna (1), Socorro (1)
Total - New Mexico	3 counties, 3 premises
Utah	Davis (1), Garfield (1)
Total - Utah	2 counties, 2 premises

Sources: USDA, APHIS, National Surveillance Unit, Vesicular Stomatitis Situation Report.

For additional information, please see the National Surveillance Unit (NSU) Vesicular Stomatitis reports at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/ncahs/nsu/surveillance/vsv/vsv.htm>

This summary was produced in April 2005 by the Center for Emerging Issues, a part of USDA's Veterinary Service. This and other reports are available on the internet at: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/cei/index.htm>. Comments and questions concerning this edition may be addressed to Liz Williams at elizabeth.s.williams@aphis.usda.gov or 970-494-7329.