PROGRESS IN FMD CONTROL IN IRAN AND PERSPECTIVE ON LONGER TERM CONTROL IN THE REGION

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INTRODUCTION

Comparison of FMD outbreaks in 2007 and 2006 shows a significant decrease in the number of outbreaks in 2007 although there was an epidemic because of Type O Pan Asia. (1626 outbreaks in 2006 and 1114 outbreaks in 2007) The Condition continued in 2008 with stability in Type O Pan Asia but more decrease in the number of outbreaks in March and April. Meanwhile Type A seems to be more sporadic although need to be under special surveillance. There is no record of circulation of Type Asia1.

RESULTS

Data show that most of the outbreaks occurred in villages (monthly reports, active village clinical surveillance). Occurrence of the disease in other Epidemiological units is not too high, but is the matter of attention for control of disease. In the year 2007 the pattern of the disease is rather same as 2006 with concentration of disease mostly in the central provinces. Overall disease density analysis show better situation in 2007.

Implementation of regular clinical investigation and circulating virus identification with a rapid outbreak reports through electronic reporting system linked to Georeferenced database (GIS_VET) helped Iran to improve the knowledge of disease by outbreak mapping, vaccination mapping, and field studies and have led to different prevention and response for better decision about the control of disease. In this respect decrease in the number of outbreaks may be due to:

- Implementation of more regular vaccination, biosecurity measures, and better knowledge of animal movements.
- In the case of an outbreak in units, provinces determine the control zone and vaccinate all the susceptible animals in 3 kilometer zone. (targeted vaccination)
- Provinces are allowed to use the vaccine only in the specified phases.
- Guidelines are prepared for provinces and recommend them regularly to implement the work plan precisely.
- Ongoing training.

CONCLUSION

Movement of the animals and animal products between the countries around Iran (export and import of animals which may be legal or illegal), and circulation of the different type of the FMD virus in the Central Asia and Middle East which are evidently in contact with the other countries in the Africa and Asia, and the geographical location of Iran which is critical in the region, required an effective gathering and sharing of information among those responsible for disease control in the region, and mutual co-operation in FMD surveillance should assist each of the countries involved to reduce the risk of FMD by earlier action following the alerts and early warning messages. Global roadmap for control and eradication of disease is a need which is well understood.