



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

eufmd
european commission for
the control of foot-and-mouth disease



EuFMD TRAINING

More than 600 veterinarians and 50 countries have benefitted from our training courses since the establishment of the programme in 2009

Real Time Training: field experience, clinical diagnosis, lesion ageing, epidemiology, biosecurity -
Online FMD Emergency Preparation Course - FMD Modelling as a Decision Support Tool - FMD Laboratory Techniques - FMD Vaccination - Introductory Epidemiology - e-Learning - Multi-lingual training - Tailored courses.



#eufmd

The European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth disease (EuFMD) works with its Member States to provide a training programme that aims to improve capacity for Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) emergency response and to enhance contingency planning and preparedness activities.

Active, interactive training

EuFMD's training courses are intended to be interactive, with practical group work, field activities and discussion replacing traditional lecture style teaching where possible. E -learning modules, delivered through EuFMD's dedicated online platform, are often used to help prepare trainees and enhance knowledge retention. The courses are led by international experts with a wealth experience in both FMD and training.

Tailored courses, multi-lingual trainers

Many of EuFMD's courses are given in English language, but it is possible to provide training in alternative languages and multi-lingual trainers are available. Courses can be tailored and adapted according to the requirements of a specific training group.

How do I take part in an EuFMD training course?

Participants from EuFMD member states take part in training courses through the "training credits" system, which is co-ordinated by a focal point in each member state.

It is also possible for those from non-member countries and private organizations to take part in EuFMD's courses.

Please contact eufmd-training@fao.org for more information and a cost schedule.

Real Time Training



EuFMD's Real Time Training courses provide a unique opportunity to gain first hand experience in the diagnosis and investigation of an FMD outbreak. Over 600 participants from 50 countries have benefitted from these courses since 2009.

As the number of veterinarians with first hand experience of FMD declines over time, the Real Time courses play a vital role in developing a cadre of personnel who have seen field cases of FMD and have detailed knowledge of FMD diagnosis and investigation. Additionally, our trainees play an important role in raising awareness of FMD in their home countries, promoting vital early detection of the disease, should an outbreak occur.

What does the course involve?

Courses last one week and take place in countries with endemic FMD, currently Turkey, Kenya and Nepal. EuFMD works in partnership with the host country veterinary services and provides assistance and training for local FMD control as part of the Real Time programme.

• Pre and post course e-learning

Trainees complete pre- course e-learning, to provide background knowledge so that the training itself can be as interactive as possible. Refresher training helps participant to consolidate knowledge after the course.

• Group presentations and discussions

The course covers FMD pathogenesis, clinical diagnosis, lesion ageing, laboratory diagnostics, outbreak investigation, epidemiology and biosecurity. Discussions are interactive and there is plenty of opportunity to cover topics of interest in more depth.

• Field visits

Trainees visit a current FMD outbreak; apply full biosecurity measures, examine affected animals, take laboratory samples and carry out epidemiological interviews with farmers. They also conduct a local area survey in an area recently affected by the disease leading to an understanding of risk factors for local spread of the disease.



- **Group work**

Participants work in groups throughout the course, and aim to produce a final report and presentation, consolidating the knowledge gained.

Who is the course suitable for?

The course is suitable for veterinarians who would be involved in diagnosis or epidemiological investigation of an FMD outbreak. It is also suitable for stakeholders, such as farming or industry representatives.

No prior experience is required, but enthusiasm, flexibility and a willingness to learn is! Participants should be self-motivated to pass on the knowledge they gain to colleagues and the wider community when they return home.

"It is very important that this training was real world, and field based, with the opportunity for participants to see actual cases of FMD, examine sick animals in compliance with all rules and requirements of biosafety, and collect samples, data and materials to analyse the situation in the area". (Trainee feedback survey)



Online FMD Emergency Preparation Course



The screenshot shows the eFMD e-Learning interface. At the top, there are navigation links: Home, Navigate, About, Settings, Help, Contact, Language, and a user profile indicator. Below this is a sub-navigation bar with Home, FMD Emergency Preparation, and other course options. A sidebar on the left titled 'Navigation' lists 'My home', 'My profile', 'Current course', 'FMD Emergency Preparation' (which is expanded), 'Participants', and 'My courses'. Another sidebar titled 'Course completion status' shows progress: 'Status in progress' (All criteria below are required), 'Required criteria' (Status), and 'Activity completion' (10 of 11). At the bottom of the page, there is a video player showing a person speaking about the course.

This online course is designed to allow rapid and economically efficient dissemination of information regarding the diagnosis and investigation of FMD to a large group of trainees. It can be used as part of preparedness training, or alternatively during an emergency response. The course, developed in partnership with the Royal Veterinary College, UK, is highly interactive with online videos, quizzes, discussion forums and live webinars.

The course covers:

- FMD aetiology and pathogenesis
- Clinical diagnosis, lesion ageing
- Contingency planning, legislation, contents of the EU directive
- FMD epidemiology, outbreak investigation
- Biosecurity

What does the course involve?

The course involves 80-100 participants, and is open for 4 weeks, during which time participants complete 8-10 hours of self directed study. The course opens and closes with a one hour webinar (interactive online seminar) and tutorial support is provided by EuFMD expert trainers throughout the course through a discussion forum, which tends to lead to lively debate. To complete the course trainees must pass a comprehensive assessment. The course is delivered in English language several times a year to trainees from multiple countries. Alternatively the course can be run for a large group of trainees from one country, translated if necessary and adapted with country specific content. Through EC funding the course has been translated into all European languages.

What do trainees say about the course?

80% of 40 trainees surveyed during a recent course rated the course as “very good” and “very relevant” to their needs. 100% would recommend others take part in the course.

 “This is a great opportunity for those who cannot travel to obtain training”;

“Very good, well prepared, very informative....great and interesting discussions through the forum”. (Trainee feedback survey)

To vaccinate or not to vaccinate: using modelling to investigate FMD control options



This course investigates the use of decision support tools, including epidemiological modelling and socio-economic analysis, to support contingency planning for FMD. In particular, it focuses on the use of the tools to guide decision making in the use of vaccination as a control strategy. The aim of this course is not to teach trainees in depth modelling techniques, but rather to create “intelligent customers” of such tools who are able to commission modelling studies and critically interpret their outputs, and in so doing become an important link between modellers and decision makers.

e-Learning



The course begins with a three week e-learning induction covering an introduction to epidemiological modelling, types of models and planning a modelling project.

Workshop

The e-learning is followed by a week long interactive, scenario-led workshop. In a “learning by doing” approach, participants work in teams to answer a challenge posed by a hypothetical CVO, producing a report on their findings at the end of the week. Group work is interspersed with presentations and activities to guide each stage of the process. Participants use a working epidemiological model with a simple user interface to generate epidemiological data which is then fed into economic analysis. Control strategies are weighed against each other using a multi criteria decision analysis and stakeholder consultation.

The workshop also includes practical discussion on how participants might set up modelling studies in their own countries, and details of models currently available in Europe and beyond.

Who is the course suitable for?

The course is suitable for those with no prior experience of working with models, however those with more experience will also benefit. The course's flexible nature allows EuFMD's expert trainers to cover more advanced aspects with interested participants.



“I enjoyed getting into the details of the disease and the control strategies available, and having the opportunity to discuss with participants from other countries about these matters.”

“I enjoyed the multi-disciplinary approach which combined epidemiology, modelling and economics”. (Trainee feedback survey)

Additional training courses

Alongside courses detailed in this brochure, EuFMD works with its member states to identify knowledge and proficiency gaps and provide training to address these. Courses suggested or planned for the future include:

- Online introduction to epidemiology and biostatistics
- Advanced modelling and socio-economics
- Practical aspects of vaccination
- Practical epidemiology for progressive control (for countries with endemic FMD)

Contact us

e-mail

eufmd-training@fao.org

web

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