

# FMD Training: lessons learnt in 'RealTime' and plans for 2011-2012

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# Background

- By 2009, few European state vets had direct experience of FMD
- Small number of MS had national training courses demonstrating FMD in research centres: difficult to arrange, limited numbers
- No training available addressing practical field control of FMD
- This lack of field experience was identified as a weakness in Europe's ability to respond to FMD

# Real Time FMD Training Programme

## Key Objectives:

- Trainees to see clinical FMD in a field outbreak
- Learn to estimate lesion ages and thus construct timelines for infection and infectivity
- Carry out epidemiological investigation on site
- Learn principles of biosecurity and how to apply these in field conditions
- Learn control measures for field outbreaks
- Correct sampling for diagnosis and interpretation of tests

# Real Time FMD Training Programme

## Secondary objectives:

- Trainees use penside FMD tests in field
- Train host country vets
- Collect virus samples for molecular characterisation and vaccine matching
- Build a picture of the field epidemiology of FMD in the areas hosting the courses

# Location of Training Courses

2009-2010:  
8 courses in  
Erzurum,  
eastern Turkey



2010-2011:  
4 courses in  
Nakuru, Kenya



# Format of Training Course

- Three places offered to each member state over 3 years
- Four courses run per year
  
- Three trainers per course (two Euro, one host country): recognised FMD experts with field experience
- 8-10 trainees plus 1-2 host nation vets per course
- Monday: lectures, preparatory work, orientation
- Tues & Wed: visit to at least one FMD outbreak – clinical exam, lesion ageing, epi investigation, diagnostic sampling, practical biosecurity, etc
- Thursday: analyse findings, correlate clinical & lab findings with epi, write report on output

# Field Training



# Field Training





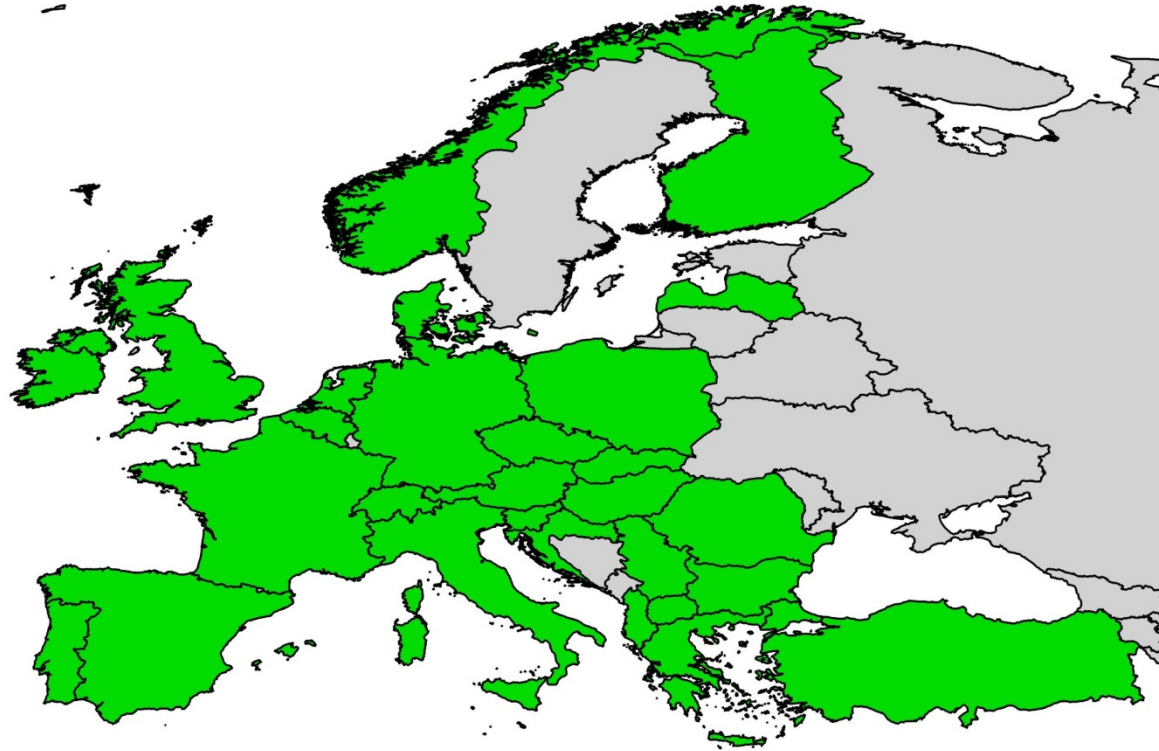
# Selection of Trainees

- Three places per EuFMD member state
- Trainees nominated by CVO
- Usually people who would be involved in controlling an outbreak
- Range of roles: labs, field work, policy, management

# Output of Training Programme

88 EuFMD MS  
vets trained  
to date

Green: states with  
vets trained



Israel & Cyprus also trained; not shown on map

USA (2), Australia (1) and New Zealand (1) vets trained (self funded)

**Course provides field experience and formal training → improves ability of European vets to respond effectively to FMD**

# Output of Training Programme

- Large cohort of vets now trained
- Veterinary services now in stronger position to respond to FMD outbreaks
- Example: Bulgarian trainee deeply involved in control of recent events there
- Many ancillary benefits: virus isolates characterised, epidemiological knowledge of FMD in Erzurum & Nakuru regions, many host nation vets trained, wide exchange of knowledge between state veterinary services

# Future plans for 2011-12

- Training courses to continue in Kenya, 4 per year
- 2-3 places offered per member state

Additional options:

1. Separate training course into lab-focussed and field/epi-focussed
2. Ensure NRL vets and contingency planning vets attend
3. Run “refresher” courses in Europe for past trainees
4. Establish “train the trainer” courses in Europe for graduates of the course to train their colleagues –particularly for larger countries
5. Possibility of further training for select cohort to develop in depth expertise (possibly in conjunction with formal post-grad studies elsewhere)

# Suggestions?

- Any suggestions or comments on the FMD training needs of member states?
- How should the courses evolve?

The hard work of our trainers is gratefully acknowledged, as is the dedicated work of the EuFMD staff who do an excellent job organising the courses

The generous cooperation of the Turkish and Kenyan authorities and our Turkish and Kenyan colleagues is acknowledged

Any questions?