



RELATIVE OCCURRENCY OF FMD OUTBREAKS AND THE CREATION OF DISEASE FREE ZONES IN UGANDA



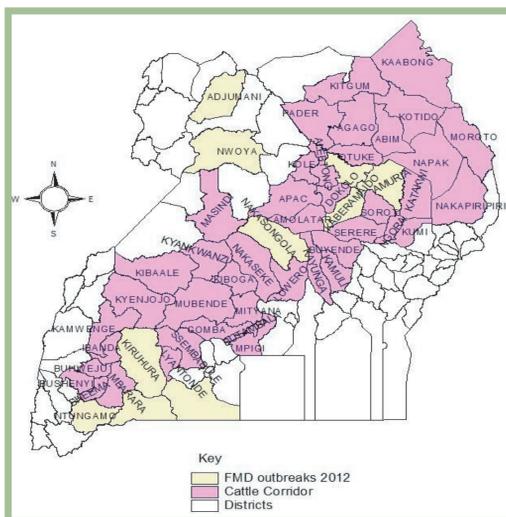
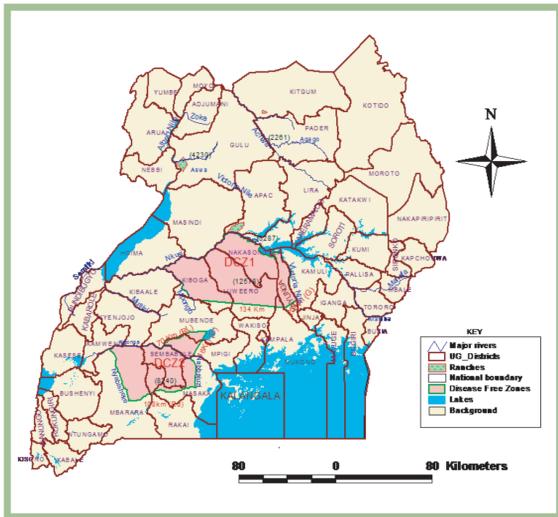
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INTRODUCTION

Foot -and -mouth disease (FMD) is endemic in Uganda and most other African countries and has significant socio-economic impact. To promote disease control and livestock trade, four disease zones (DCZ's) were mapped and earmarked to eventually become disease free zone by 2020. However, due to projected resource limitations only two zones (DCZ 1 and DCZ 2) are due for initial consideration.

LOCATION OF EARMARKED DISEASE CONTROL ZONES

LOCATION OF OCCURENCY OF OUTBREAKS JANUARY-JULY 2012 ALONG THE "CATTLE CORRIDOR" DISTRICTS OF UGANDA



RESULTS

FMD outbreaks by month were reported in 11 out of 111 districts; March (Kaberaimaido, Alebtong and Amuria), April (Nakasongola and Adjumani), June (Nwoya, Isingiro, Ntungamo, Rakai, Kiruhura and Kyegegwa). With exception of Adjumani and Nwoya Districts, affected districts lie along the cattle corridor and are closely related to disease control zones 1 and 2.

DISCUSSION

Most 6/11 (54.5%) FMD outbreaks occurred during the dry season month of June. Seasonal livestock migrations across national borders especially on the Southern border, and in some cases interaction with wildlife in the national parks probably play a significant part in the epidemiology of FMD in Uganda. DCZ's can be a good baseline for endemic countries to progress to FMD freedom along the Progressive Control Pathway.

CONCLUSION

Establishment of disease free zones is not necessarily depended on the pattern of occurrence of FMD outbreaks.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Huge investments and careful planning must be considered if the necessary interventions must be met.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Occurency of FMD outbreaks (January-July, 2012) was summarized from the reports at the Ministry of Agriculture, Animals Industries and Fisheries in Uganda. Outbreaks were mapped relative to the location of the high cattle density "South West - North East" stretch along the Country the cattle corridor) and the DCZ's.



Exotic cattle under semi-intensive production system (paddocked fenced farms). The risk for FMD occurrence in such farms is considered low due to limited interaction without her animals. Fencing of individual farms should be considered key in setting up Disease Control Zones



Local cattle under free ranging production system (unfenced farm) in Uganda . Such a cattle herd may move to distant areas and is considered risky in the spread of FMD.

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