

West Eurasia FMD Workshop-Shiraz

Regional control of FMD in West Eurasia; current activities and perspective of the EuFMD Commission


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FMD – a global threat to livestock productivity
Natural cases of type O PanAsia II strain, 2008
Iran Veterinary Organization/EuFMD/EC project




Key bottlenecks and issues affecting further progress in FMD control

- lack of incentives at national level
- lack of incentives at producer level to invest in prevention
- lack of opportunity to purchase vaccine (state controlled access, limited or no suppliers, cold-chain issue)
- lack of technical advice to guide vaccine purchase
- commonplace high risk situations: open borders/ classical transboundary rangeland issues, and wildlife-domestic interface
- lack of confidence in the vaccination approach to FMD control



EuFMD Commission

- 35 member states in Europe (26 EU +9 non-EU members)
- governed by member states
- EC (SANCO) agreement with FAO for support of actions (8 m€, to 2009)
- priorities: reducing risk of FMD incursions
 - European neighbourhood
 - pre-accession support to protect Turkey
 - virus intelligence to guide European preparedness
 - increasing recognition that EU is at risk from distant locations



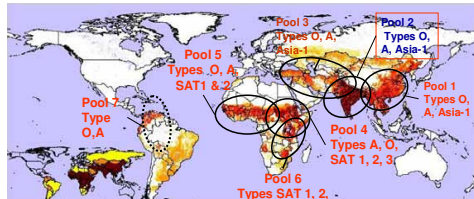
New member countries: welcome!

EuFMD Strategic Plan, 2005-9

- focus on delivery in four key categories of action in the period 2005-8:
 - Support to FMD control in "traditional risk areas"- threatening south-eastern Europe and Turkey.
 - Global FMD observation - virus circulation and risk.
 - Coordination of technical studies to address constraints to policy implementation.
 - Capacity building across Europe - raising and retaining expertise and competence in the scientific basis of FMD control and in best practises in epidemic management.

FMDV Global distribution

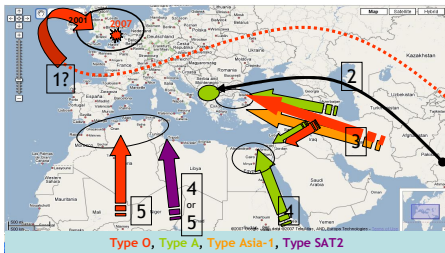
- **The Watershed Concept**
Global FMD pool - is made of mostly separate "regional" pools (~7)
Each pool has antigenically distinct virus strains - requiring adapted vaccination programs



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Incursions of FMDV to western Europe and neighborhood
from FIVE virus pools (ecosystems) in the past 12 years.



FMD in the middle-east -a dynamic situation

- in 2005-7, virus incursions were from:
 - west Asia (type A Iran 05, type O new panAsia)
 - east Africa (type A Egypt 06)
 - these added to (-and may now have replaced) the endemic strains of type O and type A
 - what next? or is the storm over?

Critical control points on the "Eurasian ruminant street", multi-partite co-operation essential

Example: EC, EUFMD/EC and FAO Project coherence and synergy in the West Eurasia region

Why focus on West Eurasia?

- one epidemiological region; with unique FMDV strains
- frequent emergence of new type A strains
- type O and type A epidemics in 2005-8 affected most countries
- most countries use vaccination; regional guidance needed
- all countries need early warning of emergent strains
- its where Europe, middle-east and central Asia meet: need a common approach based on disease risk

Perspectives on improving FMD control

- impossible
 - until movement can be controlled
 - until broad antigenic spectrum vaccines are available (and annual or less frequent shots)
- high risk
 - any progress can be quickly lost from re-invasion from neighbouring countries
- requires huge investment in repeated rounds of vaccination
 - who will pay?
- not worth trying
 - unless our neighbours do
- owners/producers do not care
 - FMD usually does not kill
- Governments give FMD a low priority
 - unless they are aiming for export markets

Coordinating national efforts to achieve regional progress

Global FMD weight of infection (prevalence estimates); FAO/EUFMD (used in the EFSA risk assessment 2006)

Coordinating national efforts to achieve regional progress

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Coordinating national efforts to achieve regional progress (Session 1)

- Opportunity:**
 - seven regional roadmaps for seven virus pools
 - regional co-ordination, regional solutions

Pool 3 - West Eurasia


- West Eurasian pool
 - may be defined by the boundaries for type A and Asia-1 genogroups
 - type O PanAsiall illustrates that some FMDV cross from South Asia into West Eurasia
 - West Eurasian pool accepted by the OIE/FAO FMD lab network (2008; Lanzhou)
 - since type A strains are UNIQUE and require TAILORED vaccines for effective control

FMDV A - New Strain (Irn-05) -limited to West Eurasia

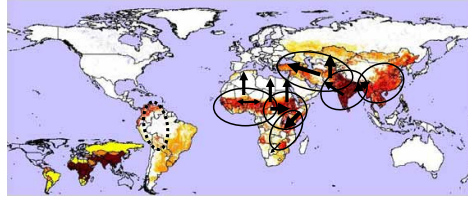


Information for action: how to ensure quality lab services are available where needed (Session 5)

- Opportunities**
 - supply all endemic countries with a minimum diagnostic capacity
 - penicillin/ rapid test systems
 - support/implement a global QA system for Reference Labs
 - fill gaps in diagnostic test kits needed for use in endemic regions



Towards global control:
long term roadmaps for coordinated control
- involving all of the virus pools





Main operational elements

- Regional Roadmaps**
 - multi-country commitment to principles
 - each region provided with minimum technical support within 2 years
 - laboratory support linked to OIE/FAO FMD ref lab network and global QA
 - funds to undertake critical risk pathway analysis at regional scale
 - suitable vaccines identified or vaccine producers address gaps
 - regional epidemiologist(s) and funds to provide basic risk information
- Global Platform and FMD Secretariat**
 - A platform to engage global support and partnerships, evolve and adapt to challenges
 - A Secretariat to support regional efforts, audit progress and communicate to all parties (Yearly FAO/OIE State of FMD progress report)



The change-agents and agencies

- GLOBAL**
 - OIE: international norms - affecting national investments
 - FAO: capacity building programmes and network support
 - Global Secretariat** under Gf-TADS comprising FAO and OIE staff;
 - advocacy and annual progress reporting across the seven FMDV pools
 - support and co-ordination between regions
 - Global OIE/FAO FMD laboratory network:** virus typing, global QA of the RL system, building capacity in each region
 - R&D network to generate new tools and optimise approaches



The implementation time -frame

- Global Secretariat < 1 year
- Regional Roadmaps and support units in all areas: 2-3 years
- Capacity audits, Critical control points identified, vaccine for all roadmaps : 5 years?
- Regional progress: 5-25 years



Situation in 20 years?
risk reduction - circulation probably remaining in reservoirs/hot spots
but some genotypes/serotypes extinct?





Thank you for your attention

...thanks also to colleagues in FAO headquarters, in the OIE, and the Executive Committee of the EuFMD and European Commission (EC-DG SANCO) for support, comments, ideas and commitment