



### EuFMD

Please check our website at  
<http://www.fao.org/ag/eufmd.html>

## FMD “NETspertise” FMD Expertise and Training Network

Dear All,

With the launch of our FMD field-based training courses for real-time training and the need to reach a wider group through virtual training, we will evaluate new channels of communication (Facebook and Twitter), to develop the **FMD expertise and training network**.

The first two **FMD Real-time Training Courses [ETC]** of the EuFMD have just ended. Participants in the ETCs have provided a lot of material, uploaded in the [Eufmd-Training Facebook page](#) with several comments, pictures and videos realized during the courses.

We would like to thank every single participant and trainer for their dedication, professionalism and willingness to share knowledge.

Please do **get involved in the real time FMD networking!**

### UPDATE



Items in this newsletter:

- Asia1 in the Middle East
- Global FAO/OIE Conference on FMD Control
- Real Time Training courses in FMD investigation [ETC]
- Training course on FMD diagnosis – IAH
- Roadmap towards FMD Control in West Eurasia
- 38th General Session of the EuFMD
- e-Communications
- Reports
- Upcoming meetings on FMD

### ASIA1 IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Following the **identification of serotype Asia1** in samples from **Bahrain** (on 09/05/2009 [http://www.wrlfmd.org/fmd\\_genotyping/2009/WRLFMD-2009-00021-Bahrain-Asia1.pdf](http://www.wrlfmd.org/fmd_genotyping/2009/WRLFMD-2009-00021-Bahrain-Asia1.pdf)), the EuFMD Secretariat reviewed the reported use of vaccination against Asia1 in the Middle-East/West Eurasia area. The previous confirmed identification of Asia1 in countries to the West of Pakistan was in 2002 (in Turkey). The source of this infection is unknown, but the usual reservoirs of Asia1 are considered to be in Pakistan and the Indian subcontinent. [Click here](#) for the **summary**.

### GLOBAL FAO/OIE CONFERENCE ON FMD CONTROL



Panteón de los Héroes  
(Asunción, Paraguay)

This was a highly significant event organized by OIE and FAO with the support of the EC; more than 600 participants mainly from the official services, from about 100 countries attended. Some of the main recommendations from the Erice Conference 2008 (Open Session of the Standing Technical Committee, EuFMD) were proposed by FAO and were approved as recommendations for action, including the control of FMD through regional Roadmaps in each of the main virological regions, using at national level the **Progressive Control Pathway approach as a main tool for promoting change**. The PCP and Regional Roadmaps approaches are outlined in a [3 minute movie](#).

The **EuFMD presentations in the Paraguay Conference**:

- [Foot-and-Mouth Disease situation and control strategies in Europe](#)
- [Progressive Control of FMD: proposed pathway and criteria for evaluating progress](#)



### NETspertise on FMD

Following the Paraguay meeting, FAO will try to enhance FMD networks at regional and global level. **You are part of this initiative!** We have a long way to go to make networking a daily reality. A **Twitter** account has been created to be used as a service for asking and answering relevant queries, finding persons who can technically assist, in a quick and simple way.

Please, visit:

1. The [Twitter](#) EuFMD page
2. The Eufmd-Training [Facebook](#) page
3. The FMD Reference Laboratories Information System - [ReLaIS](#)

### REAL-TIME TRAINING COURSES IN FMD INVESTIGATION



### NEXT FMD TRAINING COURSE DATES 2009 Erzurum, Turkey

- **Course 3:**  
12th - 16th October (ETC3)
- **Course 4:**  
18th - 23rd October (ETC4)

### TRAINING COURSE ON FMD DIAGNOSIS - IAH

### ROADMAP TOWARDS FMD CONTROL IN WEST EURASIA



Istanbul, Turkey

**Real-Time training means really seeing FMD!** and simulating an emergency situation, being forced **to decide** what samples to collect, what information is needed **to plan** actions, what to do next ...

These courses are organized by EuFMD and have been made possible through the support of the EC and in collaboration with the General Directorate of Protection and Control (GDPC, Turkey). The first two courses were held in June, but over the next 3 years it is expected that around 12 courses will be organized, with the aim to train at least 3 veterinarians from every EuFMD Member State, and from European neighbouring states (in future the courses could include other countries).

The **aim** is **to provide veterinarians with experience** in the clinical recognition of FMD in ruminants and to develop and maintain a cadre of veterinarians with up to date experience on FMD.

### The format

**One week** field based course in a region (Erzurum, Turkey) with high incidence of FMD, and working with international and local experts, in the investigation of suspect FMD outbreaks, in **small sized groups, and with immediate laboratory analysis (using the penside test and other rapid tests)**.

Participants may see lesions ranging from 2 to 6 days and older; the second course investigated two suspect outbreaks, FMD was confirmed in both, with lesions from as early as day 1. Penside tests (Lateral Flow Devices, Svanodip®) were used on site with positive results. [Click here](#) for the full program.

### FMD Diagnostics Course at IAH, Pirbright Laboratory, UK

The Institute of Animal Health of Pirbright (UK), the FAO World Reference centre for FMD, has carried out the **annual 3-weeks training course in May 2009**.

Four participants from Egypt were supported by FAO, and the EuFMD Commission sponsored 2 persons from the Iraqi Veterinary Service (TADS Laboratory), with the aim to re-establish a working link between the IAH Laboratory and the TADS laboratory of Baghdad. The course has been designed in consultation with EuFMD/FAO officers and is focused on the specific needs of participants from the Near-East countries.

West Eurasia is the epidemiological region in which unique strains of serotypes O, A and Asia1 circulate, with regional emergence and rapid spread of epidemics affecting countries from Pakistan to Turkey and Iraq to Kazakhstan. Ten of the fifteen affected countries are in the European region, and the [38th General Session of the EuFMD Commission](#) agreed to the principle of providing long term support to the [West Eurasia Roadmap initiative](#). **The first Annual Meeting on progress of the West Eurasia FMD Control initiative will take place in Istanbul, Turkey, on 7-9th October 2009, during the FMD week.**



Activities in support of the West Eurasia initiative include:

### Regional FMD Vaccination database

The Friedrich-Loeffler-Institute (FLI), Federal Research Institute for Animal Health (Germany) and the EuFMD are developing a regional FMD Vaccination database. States of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, I.R. of Iran, Iraq, The Syrian Arab Republic and Turkey are expected to participate in vaccination data sharing.

### West Eurasian FMD lab network

With the support of EuFMD and GTFIS/INT/907/ITA project, increased lab networking has begun between labs in of Denmark (Lindholm), I.R. of Iran, Iraq, Italy (IZS, Brescia), Pakistan, Turkey and WRL (UK).

The 38th General Session of the EuFMD was held in Rome from 28 to 30 April 2009. Participants agreed on a **list of recommendations** including: FMD control and prevention, biorisk standards, FMD training initiative, financial matters, role and activities of the EuFMD and related issues.

### New 4 year Strategic Plan

The Plan for 2009-2012 was adopted during the Session, and places emphasis on risk reduction across the Eastern borders of Europe, support to global surveillance for circulating FMDV, increased networking on technical issues including vaccine selection and surveillance design, and a new initiative on FMD training.

[Click here](#) to read the **new priorities for the Standing Technical Committee**.

### New Biorisk management standards for laboratories handling FMD virus

The 38th Session adopted the [revised FMD biorisk management standards](#), which had been prepared by a Working Group of the EuFMD Standing Technical Committee. All European countries are expected to comply with this standard, which is referenced in the EU legislation on FMD.

### Election of the Executive Committee and the Standing Technical Committee

The EuFMD Secretariat is pleased to announce the election of the new Chairman of the Executive Committee **Dr Ulrich Herzog** (Austria) and the new Vice-Chairs **Dr Leif Denneberg** (Sweden) and **Dr Nigel Gibbens** (UK). **Sincere and special thanks** to the outgoing Chairman **Dr Peter de Leeuw** (The Netherlands) for his commitment and support to the EuFMD Commission during his chairmanship.

Please, note the **composition of the Standing Technical Committee**: Aldo Dekker, new Chairman (The Netherlands), Kris de Clercq (Belgium), Georgi Georgiev (Bulgaria), Stefan Zientara (France), Bernd Haas (Germany), Helen Hondrokouki (Greece), Donal Sammin (Ireland), Hagai Yadin (Israel), Emiliana Brocchi (Italy); Andrzej Kesy (Poland), Fernando Boinas (Portugal), Naci Bulut (Turkey), David Paton (UK), Jef Hammond (UK).

**We thank Mark Bronsvort and Haken Vigre**, for their involvement as experts in 2007-2008. Find below the link to the full report of the 38th General Session of the EuFMD.

### NEW Resources in the Training Bank

**YouTube:** <http://www.youtube.com/user/EUFMD> or search for EuFMD!

#### New FMD videos available:

- [PCP, a tool for promoting action against FMD from national to global scale](#)  
A video on the FMD Progressive Control Pathway (PCP) presented at the OIE/FAO Global Conference on FMD meeting, held in Asunción, Paraguay from 24th to 26th of June 2009
- [EUFMD](#). A video on the activities and role of EuFMD
- [FMD suspect cases at Domiat Governorate](#)  
A video provided by Dr Y. Basyouni, Veterinary Services (Govs) of Egypt

## 38TH GENERAL SESSION OF EuFMD



Participants during the Session

## e-COMMUNICATIONS



Video on Progressive Control Pathway approach



**Flickr:** see [Dr Basyouni account](#) for new movies and pictures on FMD in Egypt.  
See [EuFMD account](#)

**Ftp Web:** <ftp://ext-ftp.fao.org/AG/Data/agah/EuFMD/>

This cyberspace has been created to share heavy files with you. Find relevant documentations such as presentations, reports, guidance notes and more.  
To upload documents send an email to [E-EuFMD@fao.org](mailto:E-EuFMD@fao.org)

**Do keep sending** your FMD related videos and news to allow us to share your experiences and to upgrade our common Training Bank.

**Express your opinion and preferences** through the EuFMD YouTube, Facebook and Twitter channels.

- [Minimum standards for laboratories working with Foot-and-Mouth disease virus \*in Vitro\* and \*in Vivo\*](#) (adopted by the 38th General Session of EuFMD, 28th 30th April 2009).
- [Full Report of the 38th General Session of EuFMD](#), held in FAO HQs, Rome, Italy. 28th - 30th of April 2009.

*Many thanks for your contributions,  
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## REPORTS



### UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Closed Session of the Standing Technical Committee (NEW DATES)**

Kranjska Gora, Slovenia  
23rd - 25th of September 2009

### THE FMD WEEK IN ISTANBUL

- **FAO-EUFMD/EC/OIE Tripartite Group Meeting on Foot-and-Mouth Disease Control in the Southern Balkans**  
Istanbul, Turkey  
5th of October 2009
- **Executive Committee meeting**  
Istanbul, Turkey  
6th - 7th of October 2009
- **Annual meeting on West Eurasia FMD Roadmap Progress. Follow up to the Shiraz meeting**  
Istanbul, Turkey  
7th - 9th of October 2009

Should you wish to tag or highlight and FMD related event, do contact us at [E-EuFMD@fao.org](mailto:E-EuFMD@fao.org). Please specify date, location and link to websites if available.

