

NEWS IN BRIEF

MAJOR DISEASE EVENTS

There has been a massive epidemic of type 0 in West Eurasia (most affected: Iran, Turkey), worst since 2007 and possibly of the past 10 years. FMD incursions into free areas: S. Korea (3 incursions), Japan (1), Mongolia. In northern Zambia, type 0 incursion from Pool 5 (Eastern Africa), a possible threat to Southern African areas where types 0 and A are absent. Ecuador: issues with type O/A circulation. Very high animal values/meat price seem to be a feature in several regions, following high feed/cereal prices, smuggling/long distance transport (and thereby rapid spread).

EMERGENCY RESPONSES

Emergency vaccine delivery (EU bank, via EuFMD/FAO) to Iran in May 2010, Zambia (December 2010). CMC-AH mission to Mongolia in December. Offers of assistance to Japan.

FMD PROGRESSIVE CONTROL PATHWAY (PCP)



Read more at http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/commissions/en/eufmd/pcp.html

The Progressive Control Pathway (PCP) is an increasingly well accepted as tool for planning at national level, monitoring progress at regional-global level. The Consultative Group (CG) meeting organized by FAO In October, produced revised PCP Stages and Minimum Requirements. The OIE is likely to adopt a new procedure to recognize "national Control programmes whose strategy is FMDV elimination" in May 2011; there is good progress in discussions to agree how this recognition fits with the PCP in an integrated FAO/OIE Framework for promoting FMD control. A significant revision of the PCP –FMD in 2010 is to create clear "gateways" for transition from one Stage to another, and incorporate marketing chain analysis /socio-economic assessments in Stage 1 (where National Strategy is being developed).

FAO projects increasingly use PCP as tool in identification of gaps and planning project outcomes, e.g. TCP Bhutan (2010), Regional FMD Project Andean countries (2010), West Eurasia (about 10 countries, EuFMD/EC and GTFS/Italy projects), TCP Kyrghizstan (2010), GCP Pakistan (2011) Middle-east (Egypt –PCP Stage 1). There still are gaps in sub-Saharan Africa.

The projects in Andean region, and recently in TransCaucasus, Iran place greater emphasis on legal frameworks and market chain/socio-economics to identify feasibility and benefits, potential impacts of changing control measures.

GLOBAL WORKING GROUP ON FMD



Good progress to establish the Working Group (WG), with Peter de Leeuw (FAO) and Jemi Domenech (France, representing OIE since October 2010). ToRs and working practises being developed, expect to be fully active in 2011, supporting a full WG comprising international FMD experts. Global FMD Conference: offer from India to host in late 2011/early 2012, no final decision between China/HK, Thailand and India – decision expected January 2011.

FMD CONTROL
REGIONAL ROADMAPS



The Regional Roadmaps address the seven FMD virus pools; most active programs in Pool 1 (SEAC-FMD), Pool 3 (West Eurasia 2020 Roadmap) and Pool 7 (South America). Pool 2: South Asia; FAO called for meeting in October 2010, postponed to January 2011, on development of long term Roadmap for FMD (PPR, HPAI) in South Asia; good prospects. Pools 4,5 and 6 (Sub-Saharan Africa): urgent need for follow up to Nairobi-1 meeting (2009) which developed vision and subregional Roadmaps for SSA. Follow up meeting likely in mid-2011 ("Nairobi-2").

NETWORKS

FMD LABORATORY

Definite progress made in 2010 to boost/establish/animate/support FMD Lab Networks in several regions. These networks are linked to Regional Reference Centres and the Global FAO/OIE FMD lab network but also to FAO led Lab Networks developed on HPAI (e.g. Africa).

Pool 2. South Asia: FAO recognised PD-FMD, ICAR India as reference centre and project developed but not yet implemented to support lab networking in SAARC.

Pool 3. West Eurasia FMD Lab network: started, meetings, training, information sharing, annual workplan. FMD Institute (Ankara) is the leader with the support of several European Labs.

Pool 4. West Africa: funds from EuFMD/EC in 2010, network linked/part of RESOLAB but specific workplan for FMD developed. Gaps: vaccine matching – none offer this in region.

Pool 5. Eastern Africa: first meeting, training, workplan developed, second meeting planned Feb 2011. Gaps: vaccine matching – none offer this in region.

Pool 6. Southern Africa: Lab network active, through FAO (RAHC). Training to establish SP tests (LPBE) in NRLs for vaccination program monitoring.

FMD EPIDEMIOLOGY

Newly established under West Eurasia Roadmap; network of epidemiologists to assist in development/translation of PCP principles into practise was recommended by EuFMD Open Session (Vienna) and could develop as a "global transversal support to assist FAO and member countries apply PCP in practise; and because the world needs sufficient expertise at national-regional level on FMD epidemiology!

Read more at http://www.wrlfmd.org/

GLOBAL FAO/OIE REFERENCE LABORATORY

Annual Report 2009 (published in March 2010); Annual Meeting (October 2010, UK) with representation from all virus pools. Secretariat of Network remains with Pirbright (WRL-FMD, Head - Jef Hammond).

The OIE/FAO Lab Annual Meeting was held at WRL Pirbright 4-5 October 2010. This annual meeting is an excellent opportunity to share information and discuss challenges, as it brings together scientists from FMD reference labs all over the world. At this meeting, FMD control strategies were discussed, including new ways of bringing together the global information on FMD activity and vaccine matching issues. The characteristics of viruses circulating in the seven global viral pools were reviewed and it was decided that it was necessary to add an eighth viral pool. Within each pool, there are multiple serotypes, but the topotypes are mainly confined to the particular pool.

FMD INFORMATICS

Read more at http://empres-i.fao.org/empres-i/home

Integrating lab data into EMPRES-i; the WRL-FMD agreed to transmit FMD reports in automated way, monthly, to enable EMPRES-i uploading in addition to current e-mail reports. This agreement was a condition of an LoA but not yet (January 2011) achieved.

FMD VACCINATION USE



FLI developed a system for recording vaccination programs for use in EuFMD projects, likely to migrate to EMPRES-i in 2011 to establish a "West Eurasia Vaccination Database".

FMD REAL-TIME
TRAINING PROGRAM

Read more at http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/commissions/en/eufmd/training.html

The EuFMD, with EC support, has completed 10 real-time Courses (in 2009-10), training veterinarians from Europe (circa 70), North Africa (3), and a trial run to include US, Australia and New Zealand vets (NTC1 course, in Kenya in November). All vets have seen FMD in the field. The 2010 FMD Real-Time training courses have been as popular and successful again this year. Five courses were held in Erzurum, Turkey with the final, francophone, course being completed in October. These courses serve a dual purpose in training veterinarians from countries where FMD is not endemic, and also building capacity in the host country and studying the local epidemiology of FMD.

All participants have had the opportunity to see FMD and conduct an outbreak investigation under field conditions, including application of field epidemiology techniques to investigate the source and spread of the virus, collection of diagnostic samples and the interpretation of laboratory results.

In each course, the results of the investigation have been summarised in a comprehensive report, available on our designated <u>Wikipedia site</u>. Together with the photographic material on <u>Flickr</u> and videos on <u>You Tube</u>, we are rapidly developing a valuable database with a wealth of information on lesions, laboratory results and field investigations. The next two courses are planned from 21-25 February and 28-04 March 2011 in Kenya, a period of maximum expected incidence of infection in the region where training will occur. <u>Click here</u> to see the full list of upcoming training courses.



2ND WEST EURASIA FMD ROADMAP PROGRESS MEETINGS

Held in December 2010 in Istanbul with the participation of 13 countries. The main objective of this meeting was to review the progress along the Regional Roadmap towards the vision identified at the Shiraz Meeting in 2008, of a "West Eurasia region free of clinical FMD by 2020".

A secondary objective was to share information on FMD virus circulation within the West Eurasia FMDV ecosystem to assist planning of preventive measures in the short –term.

OPEN SESSION OF THE EUFMD STANDING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (VIENNA)

The EuFMD Open Session was held in Vienna from 29th September – 1st October 2010. The event brought together researchers, veterinarians and industry from all over the world to discuss issues around the meeting theme "FMD: New tools and challenges for progressive control". Presentations highlighted the most recent development in vaccines, diagnostics and epidemiology and also provided concrete examples of the FMD Progressive Control Pathway (PCP) in practice. The presentations and recommendations stemming from the meeting are available here.

EUFMD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Two Sessions in 2010: Stockholm (79th - documents available here) and Vienna (80th).

CONSULTATIVE GROUP MEETING

To review the existing PCP framework, a meeting was organised by FAO at WRLFMD and run concurrently with the yearly meeting of the OIE/FAO FMD Reference Laboratories. The meeting was attended by internationally recognized experts with experience in design or monitoring of national control programmes. The PCP Stage definitions were clarified, particularly the points that demarcate one Stage from another. The main point of clarification was that attainment of OIE recognition of FMD-free with vaccination marks the end of Stage 4, and OIE recognition of FMD-free without vaccination indicates the end of Stage 5 and the completion of the PCP pathway. PCO alignment with existing regional programmes (such as SEA-C-FMD) and PCP Stage assessment procedures were also discussed. The PCP documentation will be updated soon, and published on the EuFMD website. (click here)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Read more at http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/commissions/en/eufmd/up_ev.html

81ST EXECUTIVE COMMITTE EuFMD

To be held in Budapest on the 2nd of February 2011.

1ST VETERINARY FORUM FOR THE SOUTH-EAST EUROPEAN REGION

To be held in Budapest on the 3rd and 4th of February 2011.

39TH GENERAL SESSION OF THE EUFMD

To be held in Rome, FAO HQ from the 27th to 29th of April 2011.

LINKAGE FAO AND FMD RESEARCH



Letter of Agreement (LoA) being prepared (to start 2011) to support linkage EuFMD research group and the GFRA (Global FMD research Alliance) with outputs to include a Annual "State of FMD research", to better identify gaps, directions, earlier uptake of new advances. FAO/IAEA CRP on FMD: to begin 2011, first meeting in Rome (FAO) in January 2011.