



Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations

# RINDERPEST IS ERADICATED BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

IT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL THAT  
WE REMAIN VIGILANT AND TAKE  
PROMPT ACTION TO INVESTIGATE  
ANY CATTLE DISEASE EVENT THAT  
RESEMBLE RINDERPEST.

If you suspect Rinderpest, **REPORT** it immediately to the official Veterinary Service office!

## WHAT WAS RINDERPEST?

RINDERPEST WAS A DEVASTATING INFECTIOUS  
DISEASE THAT AFFECTED CATTLE, BUFFALOES  
AND SEVERAL WILD SPECIES

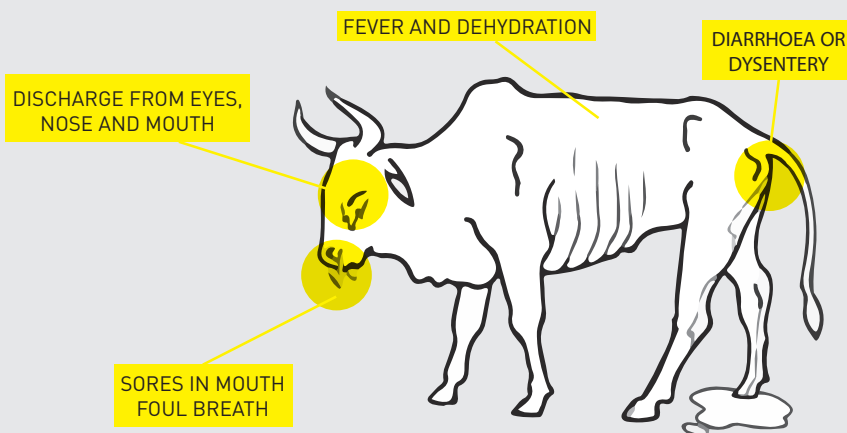
Over millennia, periodic outbreaks killed millions of cattle in Africa, Asia, Middle East and Europe. After more than a century of hard work, rinderpest was declared globally eradicated in 2011. However, we need to make sure it never comes back.

## WHAT ARE THE CLINICAL SIGNS OF RINDERPEST?

A suspected case of rinderpest shows the “4Ds”:  
**DEPRESSION, DISCHARGES, DIARRHOEA & DEATH**,  
together with fever and/or mouth lesions.



Necrosis and erosion of the  
upper gums and dental pad



1. DEPRESSION
2. DISCHARGE



3. DIARRHOEA



4. DEHYDRATION & DEATH



## HOW DOES RINDERPEST SPREAD?

RINDERPEST IS TRANSMITTED BY CLOSE CONTACT BETWEEN INFECTED AND UNINFECTED ANIMALS

Movement and mixing of infected cattle and buffalos in pastures, at watering holes and in markets were responsible for the rapid spread of the disease.

## WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU SUSPECT RINDERPEST?



### STEP 1

Immediately isolate the affected animal. Don't let them move from where they are.



### STEP 2

Immediately report to veterinary authorities!



### STEP 3

Collect information from livestock holders on the outbreaks.



### STEP 4

Prepare a written report of the suspected outbreak to provide to veterinary authorities for further investigations. The authorities should dispatch well-trained investigation teams as a matter of urgency.

# SAFEGUARD YOUR COUNTRY AND THE WORLD FROM RINDERPEST!



CONTACT:

Rinderpest-Secretariat@fao.org  
[www.fao.org/ag/rinderpest.html](http://www.fao.org/ag/rinderpest.html)