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NCDA FMD web site

sent by: Roger McCraw 03/28/01

I just want to call your attention, if you have not seen it, to the NCDA FMD web site. You may get to it by clicking on:

<http://www.ncagr.com/vet/diseaseAlerts.htm>

This site provides links to a thorough set of information on FMD.

At the beginning of the home page is a listing of contact people at the State Veterinarian's office. I would encourage you, please, **(1)** to direct media inquiries to the State Vet's office for responses and **(2)** if you get questions from producers that you feel very comfortable in answering, do so. If you do not feel comfortable in answering the question, or if it is a question regarding regulatory policy, please let the State Vet's office address the issue. We will provide you all the information we can and are happy to answer any questions or provide any assistance we can——but——we are not veterinarians nor do we have a regulatory role.

We must encourage our beef, sheep and goat producers to begin to take seriously the issue of biosecurity. Most of them have had an "open door" policy to outsiders——human and animal. We must

begin practicing biosecurity in our visits to farms and activities on farms and the producers must do the same for their own benefit, even if FMD never occurs in the US. I would call your attention, in particular, to the topics below. They will be very helpful, although, for the most part, they were developed in Europe. You may wish to adapt some of these for use with your producers or activities you are involved with.

How to Protect Your Farm

<http://www.maff.gov.uk/animalh/diseases/fmd/leaflets/factsht2.pdf>

Effective FMD Disinfectants

<http://www.ncagr.com/vet/FMDDisinfectants.htm>

Advice on Precautions for Organized Events

<http://www.maff.gov.uk/animalh/diseases/fmd/leaflets/factsht4.pdf>

Precautions to be Exercised By People Working in the Countryside

<http://www.maff.gov.uk/animalh/diseases/fmd/leaflets/factsht6.pdf>

Best wishes for success in prevention.

This special edition is to put all the recent e-mailed information on the subject of FMD in the last month.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS ADVISED TO BE WARY OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

Dr. David Marshall, North Carolina's state veterinarian, is cautioning livestock industry representatives and other citizens to aid in the effort to prevent the introduction of Foot-and Mouth disease (FMD) into the country.

Foot-and-Mouth disease is a highly contagious viral disease that affects all cloven hoofed animals, including swine, cattle, sheep, goats, and deer. Clinical signs include blisters and sores on the mouth, tongue, lips, teats, and between and around the claws. While not always fatal, animals that survive become debilitated, lose production capacity, and can serve as viral shedders in spreading the disease. Humans are not infected, and there is no treatment or approved vaccine for animal use.

"Foot-and mouth disease is probably considered as the most devastating of all livestock diseases, primarily because of its highly infectious nature and the ability to infect multiple species," said Marshall. "We are extremely concerned here in North Carolina for a variety of reasons. Our large swine population, as well as the presence of numerous military bases puts us at high risk. In addition, a fair amount of our population travel overseas and we have a widespread international trade presence in meat and meat food items, as well as other agricultural products. The contagious nature of it is evident as we have seen it spread from one

source premises in England on February 19th to the entirety of the United Kingdom, Belgium, and suspected cases in France and Denmark in a matter of weeks"

While the USDA has issued a ban on the importation of animals and animal related products from all countries with FMD, there are a variety of ways that it could enter the country. The virus can be mechanically transmitted on people's shoes, clothes, other personal effects, and equipment. It can remain airborne and spread up to a radius of approximately 40 miles. In addition, the feeding of contaminated food items and waste food products is a major source of spread. "I am particularly concerned with the introduction of the virus by animals and products originating in FMD affected countries entering the US secondarily through non infected countries," said Marshall. "It would be prudent to be wary of any imported agricultural or meat food product during this high risk period."

The North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is recommending the following precautions as an aid in preventing introduction:

—Increase farm biosecurity measures by limiting traffic and personal access of persons not directly affiliated with farm operations.

—Be aware of the international travel status of farm employees and restrict access if they have traveled overseas within the past 30 days.

—Limit introductions of new additions to the herd. If necessary, be aware of the background and health status of the additions, isolating and observing them for a period of 10-14

days prior to introduction.

—Refrain from feeding to animals any garbage or waste food products of any type.

—Educate farm employees not to receive any gifts or products, particularly food or meat items, from relatives that may reside overseas.

—Restrict the purchase or use of feed, forage, hay, vaccines, and medications to those produced domestically. Purchase or lease no used farm equipment unless confident of its domestic origin.

"While a safety net is in place to aid in the prevention of the introduction of this virus, the nature of this disease makes it vitally important that all North Carolinians, particularly those who travel internationally and are involved in the agricultural industry, become educated and aid in the effort on the local level," said Marshall. "This is a situation to be overly cautious and not take anything for granted."

Livestock owners are asked to be especially observant of the health status of their animals and investigate any animal showing clinical signs suggestive of FMD. Signs include blisters or sores on the muzzle, feet, teats, or mouth; lameness associated with foot lesions; or lack of appetite or excessive slobbering associated with mouth lesions. While other diseases can cause similar clinical signs, anything suspicious should be pursued through veterinary examination. Producers and veterinarians are encouraged to report any suspicious case to the NCDA & CS, Veterinary Division at (919) 733-7601.

Members of the Department of Animal Science:

sent by: Dr. Ken Esbenshade

Attached is a policy statement from the North Carolina Agricultural Research Service regarding biosecurity issues associated with Foot and Mouth Disease. Please adhere to these guidelines.

Revised Guidelines...

The state and federal veterinarians met last night and recommended that the time period between travel out of North America and exposure to livestock here be extended from five to fourteen days. Therefore, we have altered our guidelines to reflect this change.

Steven Leath

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Foot and Mouth Biosecurity Issues for Public Events

Due to the fact that our country's livestock is at the greatest risk for Foot and Mouth Disease in 80 years we feel that some changes in biosecurity with regard to our livestock are in order. In conjunction with NCDA we will be issuing separate biosecurity guidelines for day to day operations at all our facilities, and these guidelines will

be distributed in the next few days. The information here is to serve as policy for events where we expect livestock to be directly exposed to the public.

Small classes on our facilities are still acceptable providing the new biosecurity guidelines are followed. For more public events we recommend continuing with plans for events that are already firmly scheduled and for which commitments are in place. Any of these events that are normally scheduled for which firm commitments are not in place should be cancelled. New events should not be scheduled. We believe that very few events will actually take place under these guidelines. When we hold events that are scheduled we have these further guidelines:

Emphasis should be on animals other than cloven footed animals.

If cloven footed animals are included their numbers should be minimized and they should be in double paddocks or pens so as to provide a buffer and thereby prevent direct contact between animals and humans.

These animals should be culled and taken directly to market or preferably to slaughter and not returned to the herds.

Where practical, announcements should be made to inform participants that if they have been out of North America in the last fourteen days they should not participate in the event or approach any livestock.

Number of Cases of Foot and Mouth Disease Worldwide

Sent by: Roger McCraw

Livestock Agents:

There have been a number of questions regarding the extent of the FMD outbreak around the world. Below is information received from the APHIS Emergency Management Operations Center (EMOC) that will be of interest to you.

Please note as you look through the material that all the countries listed have the Type O FMD virus except Argentina which has Type A. There are at least 7 types and many subtypes of the FMD virus.

Thanks.

Roger

Subject: EMOC Notice 13: Recent Foot-and-Mouth Disease Outbreaks Worldwide

This Emergency Management Operations Center (EMOC) Notice includes information on all foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) outbreaks that are occurring in the United Kingdom, Colombia, The Netherlands, France, Northern Ireland, The Republic of Ireland, and Argentina.

The United Kingdom FMD Outbreak (Type O)

As of 4:00 p.m., EST, April 1, 2001, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) has reported a total of 909 confirmed cases of FMD in Great Britain. The outbreaks are in Anglesey (13 cases), Berkshire (2 cases), Borders (2 cases), Cheshire (10 cases), Co Durham (50 cases), Cornwall (3 cases), Cumbria (372 cases), Derbyshire (8 cases), Devon (96 cases), Dumfries and Galloway (115 cases), Essex

Past EAH e-Newsletters

(10 cases), Gloucestershire (41 cases), Herefordshire (26 cases), Kent (4 cases), Lancashire (8 cases), Leicestershire (3 cases), Monmouthshire (7 cases), Northants (1 case), Northumberland (24 cases), North Yorkshire (8 cases), Oxfordshire (2 cases), Powys (28 cases), Shropshire (4 cases), Somerset (1 case), Staffordshire (32 cases), Tyne and Wear (16 cases), Warwickshire (4 cases), West Midlands (1 case), West Yorkshire (3 cases), Wiltshire (6 cases), Worcestershire (18 cases).

Of the 55 million livestock animals in the United Kingdom, 955,000 (1.7% of the total population) animals have either been slaughtered or identified as being for slaughter. Of that 955,000 animals, just under 610,000 animals have already been slaughtered, 345,000 animals are still awaiting slaughter, and 178,000 carcasses still need to be disposed of.

The following attachment is a map showing the areas infected with FMD in the United Kingdom.
(See attached file: uk_fmd20010402.pdf)

The following charts show a timeline by date of the cumulative confirmed cases and new cases of FMD in the United Kingdom.
(See attached file: cumutimeline20010401.pdf)
(See attached file: newcasetimeline20010401.pdf)

The following link is for the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Food's homepage.
<http://www.maff.gov.uk>

The Republic of Ireland FMD Outbreak

The Office International Des Epizooties has confirmed a case of FMD in The Republic of Ireland. The outbreak is in the County Louth.

No new cases of FMD have been reported in The Republic of Ireland since the initial confirmed case on March 22, 2001.

France FMD Outbreak (Type O)

International Services has confirmed two cases of FMD in France. The outbreaks are in the Departments of Mayenne and Mitry-Mory.

No new cases of FMD have been reported in France since the last confirmed case on March 25, 2001.

The following attachment is a map showing the areas infected with FMD in France.
(See attached file: fr_fmd20010402.pdf)

The Netherlands FMD Outbreak (Type O)

The Foreign Agricultural Service has confirmed 12 cases of FMD in The Netherlands. The outbreaks are in Kootwijkerbroek, Oene, Olst, Oosterwolde, and Welsum.

The following attachment is a map showing the areas infected with FMD in The Netherlands.
(See attached file: nl_fmd20010402.pdf)

The following link is for The Netherlands' Agriculture, Nature Management, and Fisheries homepage.
<http://www.minlnv.ln/international>

Colombia FMD Outbreak (Type O)

International Services has confirmed three cases of FMD in Colombia. The outbreaks are located in the Departments of Boyaca (1 case) and Narino (2 cases).

No new cases of FMD have been reported in Colombia since the last confirmed case on March 23, 2001.

The following attachment is a map showing the areas infected with FMD in Colombia.
(See attached file: co_fmd20010329.pdf)

Argentina FMD Outbreak (Type A)

The Office International des Epizooties has confirmed 73 cases of FMD in Argentina. The outbreaks are in Buenos Aires (55 cases), Cordoba (2 cases), La Pampa (5 cases), San Luis (5 cases), and Santa Fe (6 cases).

The following attachment is a map showing the areas infected with FMD in Argentina.
(See attached file: ar_fmd20010402.pdf)

North Carolina FMD Foreign Animal Disease Investigation

USDA can confirm that no cases of FMD exist in the United States. As part of a routine foreign animal disease investigation, tests on tissue samples from hogs in North Carolina with possible FMD-like symptoms showed no evidence of the disease. USDA continues to take every precaution to prevent FMD. This case illustrates the effectiveness of USDA's rapid response safeguarding system and shows the cooperation between States, industry, and the USDA.

General Information

The following phone numbers and webpages have been set up to notify travelers of what locations are closed in the United Kingdom and in The Republic of Ireland.

For the United Kingdom call 800-462-2748 or log onto <http://www.travelbritain.org>
For The Republic of Ireland call 800-223-6470 or log onto <http://www.irelandvacations.com>

To assist with national preparedness, the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture has agreed to explore the acceptable methods of carcass disposal in their State. Each State is to assume the largest herd in the State had to be depopulated and carcasses disposed of as close to the premises as possible. States are also to take into consideration all State regulations they will have to comply with or change in order

to do this disposal. Reports will be shared with APHIS as soon as this exercise is completed.

APHIS' Foreign Animal Disease Training Module on FMD (text and photos) has been posted to APHIS' FMD webpage. APHIS' FMD webpage also contains APHIS' revised FMD factsheet, past EMOC notices, the traveler's information sheet, and the questions and answer sheet for FMD. The following link will guide you to APHIS' FMD webpage.

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov>

The APHIS Emergency Operations Center has been activated to assist the public and industry members with their concerns dealing with FMD.

Individuals will be manning the phones in the Operations Center from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., EST, 7-days a week. The toll Free number is 1-800-601-9327. International callers can reach the center by dialing 01-301-734-9257.

Please remind all livestock owners and producers to stay alert and take precautionary measures in order to promote good biosecurity.

Updates regarding the FMD outbreaks will be provided as new information becomes available. If you have any questions please contact the Emergency Programs staff at 301-734-8073, 800-940-6524, or EMOC@APHIS.USDA.GOV.

Please forward this information to other Federal, State, and industry counterparts as necessary.

— Definitions —

Emergency Management Issue is for information with no impact on APHIS
Emergency Management Notice is an ongoing incident with potential impact on APHIS
Emergency Management Warning is an ongoing incident with almost certain impact on APHIS ■ ■ ■