



ECTAD South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

Regional Support Unit and Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases for South Asia, FAO, Nepal

INDIA

25 Dec 2014: Bird flu scare: 300 broilers found dead in state-run slaughter house

Panic gripped the local meat market as about 300 broilers, supplied from Haryana, were found dead as the supply arrived at Shimla Municipal Corporation (SMC)-run slaughter house early today. As a precaution in view of the bird flu scare in adjoining states of Haryana and Punjab, the remaining lot of 2,700 broilers was withheld and not sold. "It may not be a case of bird flu and the death could have been caused due to extreme cold but we have taken 17 samples for test and the report will come in three to four days," said SMC Veterinary Public Health Officer Dr Arun Sarkaik. [read more](#)

31 Dec 2014: Two rabies infected escape from Government Rajaji Hospital

Two rabies-infected people, including a girl, have gone missing from Government Rajaji Hospital (GRH) here. The patients identified from Varpatti in Pudukottai district, absconded soon after they were hospitalized some days ago, but it came to light on Tuesday. [read more](#)

PAKISTAN

28 Dec 2014: Karachi hit by foot and mouth disease (FMD), 954 times this year

With tens of thousands of cattle head being transported from across the country to Karachi every month, the city has been witnessing FMD outbreaks much more frequently than the combined figures of the three other provinces. 954 outbreaks of the disease were recorded out of the total 1,119 and 2,591 outbreaks that have been reported from across Sindh and the rest of the country, respectively. [read more](#)

OTHER

24 Dec 2014: Human H5N6 bird flu case detected in China

A human bird flu case has been detected in the Guangdong province in southern China, the country's health authorities said Tuesday. The patient, a 58-year-old resident of the provincial capital Guangzhou, was under treatment at a local hospital, according to the Guangdong Provincial Health and Family Planning Commission, Xinhua reported. The man tested positive for the H5N6 avian influenza virus during a routine check up for influenza and severe pneumonia. [read more](#)

30 Dec 2014: First Ebola boy likely infected by playing in bat tree

The severe Ebola virus disease epidemic occurring in West Africa likely stems from a single zoonotic transmission event involving a 2-year-old boy in Meliandou, Guinea, who might have been infected by hunting or playing with insectivorous free-tailed bats living in a nearby hollow tree. [read more](#)

30 Dec 2014: How H9N2 led to H7N9 (Vaccine-evading H9N2 strain in chickens paved way for H7N9)

One strain of H9N2 avian influenza virus that achieved predominance in China's chicken flocks from 2010 to 2013 served as the forerunner of the H7N9 virus that emerged in humans in 2013, contributing six of the latter virus's eight genes, according to a study published online yesterday in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. In the report, a Chinese-American research team writes that it was previously known that H9N2 viruses contributed all six of the H7N9 virus's internal genes, but how the evolution of H9N2 viruses facilitated the emergence of H7N9 was not fully understood. By examining thousands of sequences, it was found that the genetic diversity of H9N2 viruses fell sharply in 2009. From 2010 through 2013 one particular H9N2 strain emerged as predominant and flourished despite widespread vaccination of chickens against H9N2. [read more](#), [more information](#)

30 Dec 2014: Samples of imported live chickens tested positive in serological tests for H7 avian influenza (Hong Kong SAR)

Samples from a consignment of imported live chickens into Hong Kong SAR tested positive for H7 avian influenza in serological tests, whilst all swab samples collected from the same consignment of live chickens were tested negative in H7 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) tests. According to the established risk management protocol, the relevant government departments are now collecting 120 additional swab samples from the same consignment of live chickens to conduct PCR testing. Preliminary results will be available around midnight at the earliest. [read more](#)