



## ECTAD South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

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

### INDIA

#### 23 Mar 2015: Crow deaths due to bird flu in Sultanpur, Uttar Pradesh

After Amethi, presence of bird flu was confirmed in Sultanpur district here on Sunday. Since the avian flu virus was confirmed in wild crows, culling could not be undertaken. All poultry farms and units in the area have been put on surveillance to track further activity of the virus. Confirming the news, Sultanpur district magistrate Aditi Singh said, "Three days ago, two wild crows were found dead in Haliapur area. Their samples were sent for testing to the National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases in Bhopal which confirmed the virus. [read more](#)

### SRI LANKA

#### 22 Mar 2015: Wear a mask to take necessary precautions against the A(H1N1) epidemic

Health authorities have instructed tour operators organising pilgrimages to India to advise their elderly clients to take necessary precautions against the A(H1N1) epidemic — also called Indian swine flu — which has killed about 2,000 people while about 31,000 have fallen victim. The Health Ministry has warned especially the elderly, mothers-to-be and those with chronic illnesses to take precautions if they are going to India. They have been advised to use surgical masks and keep tissues or handkerchiefs in hand, use hand sanitizers and avoid large gatherings. "This strain of influenza virus H1N1 is not new to Sri Lanka, as we experienced an outbreak in 2009. However, it can spread like seasonal flu and risk groups are highly vulnerable," said the Health Ministry's Chief Epidemiologist Dr. Paba Palihawadane. She said tourists, businessmen and students coming from India were possible carriers and Sri Lankans traveling to India risked the possibility of catching the virus. [read more](#)

### OTHERS

#### 20 March 2013: Global trends in antimicrobial use in food animals

Demand for animal protein for human consumption is rising globally at an unprecedented rate. Modern animal production practices are associated with regular use of antimicrobials, potentially increasing selection pressure on bacteria to become resistant. Despite the significant potential consequences for antimicrobial resistance, there has been no quantitative measurement of global antimicrobial consumption by livestock. We address this gap by using Bayesian statistical models combining maps of livestock densities, economic projections of demand for meat products, and current estimates of antimicrobial consumption in high-income countries to map antimicrobial use in food animals for 2010 and 2030. We estimate that the global average annual consumption of antimicrobials per kilogram of animal produced was 45 mg·kg<sup>-1</sup>, 148 mg·kg<sup>-1</sup>, and 172 mg·kg<sup>-1</sup> for cattle, chicken, and pigs, respectively. Starting from this baseline, we estimate that between 2010 and 2030, the global consumption of antimicrobials will increase by 67%, from 63,151 ± 1,560 tons to 105,596 ± 3,605 tons. Up to a third of the increase in consumption in livestock between 2010 and 2030 is imputable to shifting production practices in middle income countries where extensive farming systems will be replaced by large-scale intensive farming operations that routinely use antimicrobials in sub therapeutic doses. For Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa, the increase in antimicrobial consumption will be 99%, up to seven times the projected population growth in this group of countries. Better understanding of the consequences of the uninhibited growth in veterinary antimicrobial consumption is needed to assess its potential effects on animal and human health. [read more](#)

#### 24 Mar 2015: Eradicating sheep and goat plague (PPR) by 2030

Goats and sheep in many countries are increasingly threatened by peste des petits ruminants (PPR), also called sheep and goat plague. This highly contagious viral disease causes losses of between \$1.5 and 2 billion every year. PPR has spread to around 70 countries in Africa, the Middle East and Asia, to regions where hundreds of millions of the world's poorest people live. But PPR can be defeated, as proven by the example of rinderpest, which in 2011 became the first animal disease to be eradicated by humankind. The eradication of PPR will have a major positive impact, not only on the livelihoods of poor farmers, but also on the post-2015 Development Goals and the UN's Zero Hunger Challenge. It will also highlight the role played by the veterinary profession in poverty alleviation and food security. From 31 March to 2 April 2015 representatives from around 70 countries including Ministers and OIE national Delegates, the heads of FAO and OIE (Dr José Graziano da Silva and Dr Bernard Vallat), donor agencies, the scientific community, the private sector and civil society – will meet in Abidjan [read more](#)

#### 25 Mar 2015: New vaccine against poultry diseases by US Department of Agriculture (USDA) scientists

Microbiologist Qingzhong Yu and his colleagues at the Agricultural Research Service's Southeast Poultry Research Laboratory (SEPR) in Athens, Georgia, created a vaccine that is effective against infectious laryngotracheitis (ILT) and Newcastle disease (ND). ILT and ND are two of the most economically important infectious diseases of poultry. They cause sickness and death in domestic and commercial poultry as well as in some wild birds throughout the world. By using reverse genetics technology, Yu was able to generate new dual vaccines by inserting a gene from the infectious laryngotracheitis virus (ILTV) into the Newcastle disease virus (NDV) LaSota vaccine strain, which has been used for more than 50 years to protect poultry from ND. [read more](#)

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