



ECTAD South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

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BANGLADESH

05 Apr 2015: Bangladesh reports nine Nipah virus cases to date in 2015

The Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) has reported a total of nine human Nipah virus cases this year as of February 2015. Of the nine cases, six fatalities, or a 67% case-fatality rate has been reported. These cases are from 6 different districts. The districts are: Nilphamari, Ponchoghor, Faridpur, Magura, Naugaon, Rajbari. Median age of the Nipah cases 13 years (Range: 2 to 45 years). 5 (56%) were male. One cluster was identified in Naugaon, consists of three Nipah encephalitis cases, according to the IEDCR. Of these two are laboratory confirmed cases. [read more](#)

INDIA

06 Apr 2015: Anthrax scare in Odisha's Similipal Tiger Reserve

With more than 100 domestic animals suspected to have died of anthrax in the villages surrounding the famed Similipal Sanctuary of Odisha within a week, the threat of the dreaded disease spreading to wildlife inside the tiger reserve looms large. "Cattle, goats, pigs all are dying. Since a month they are dying," said Laxman Marandi, resident of Balma village. More than 100 pigs, 20 cows and more than 50 goats have died within a week in the villages surrounding the sanctuary. Diseased domestic animals are being treated in almost all villages in the periphery of the sanctuary. "Pigs stop taking food, defecate blood in their stools and are dead within no time. Most of the animals go to forested areas for grazing," said Rabindra Mahanta, a villager. [read more](#)

04 Apr 2015: Chennai sees rise in scrub typhus

City doctors are seeing an increasing number of patients with scrub typhus, a fever usually seen in rural areas. From a disease caused by mites, prevalent during winter, it is now seen all through the year, say doctors. Infectious diseases specialist Dr V Ramasubramanian says one in every ten fever patients is found to have scrub typhus. "It is a very treatable condition, provided the patient comes in early. We are now seeing people even from posh areas within the city," he says. The lack of affordable testing facilities for the illness is a dampener for early diagnosis, he points out. [read more](#)

10 Apr 2015: Alert for bird flu after fowl deaths-Uttarakhand

An alert has been sounded at the Corbett Tiger Reserve (CTR) and Lansdowne Forest Division (LFD) after a large number of fowl were found mysteriously dead in the poultry farms of adjoining areas in Kotdwar and Ramganga. Samples from some of the dead birds have been sent to the high-security Animal Disease Lab in Bhopal and the reports are expected in about four days. Sources said a large number of fowl died in the past five days in chicken breeding centres that border the Corbett reserve and Lansdowne Forest Division, triggering a massive scare among forest officials who feel all precautions must be taken so that in case of bird flu the virus doesn't spread to animals that feed on fowl. [read more](#)

NEIGHBORING COUNTRY

01 Apr 2015: H7N9 was detected at China-Myanmar border

The potentially fatal avian influenza A strain H7N9 has surfaced in China-Myanmar border areas such as Laukkai, Chin Shwe Haw and Muse Townships. The Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department under the Myanmar Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development has been doing surveys and research since early 2013 on H7N9, commonly known as bird flu virus, in cooperation with World Health Organization (WHO). A sample of avian influenza A tested recently in the border area was found to contain strains H9 and H5, which need to be present together to spark an incidence of H7N9. Individuals are usually infected after consuming contaminated poultry. It was not reported whether anyone has been infected. [read more](#)

OTHERS

03 Apr 2015: Do we need One Health Surveillance?

The growing discussion and promotion of One Health approaches in many different forums, both scientific and non-scientific, is an indication of the increasing popularity of integrated strategies for improving population health. If One Health remains popular and, over time, matures into One Health Practice (OHP), there may be requirements for new infrastructure to support this emerging field of public health. Public health surveillance is a necessary component of the infrastructure that supports current public health and veterinary public health practices. A relevant question is then: as One Health continues to grow, will there be a need for new or different surveillance methodologies to support OHP?. [read more](#)