

South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

Regional Support Unit for South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (RSU-SAARC)

BANGLADESH

09 Oct 2015: Foot and mouth disease in cattle increases alarmingly in Rangpur

Foot and mouth disease in cattle has increased alarmingly at different areas of Taraganj upazila in the district recently, much to the worry of the cattle owners and farmers. At least 25 cattle died of the disease and around 100 cattle have been affected at different villages in the upazila during last couple of weeks. Sources said the disease first attacked a small number of cows of Akhirarpar village in the upazila. But subsequently it spread into neighbouring villages. [read more](#)

INDIA

10 Oct 2015: Upgrade check - posts, prevent diseases: The Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR)

The Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR) has recommended the upgradation of check-posts along Kerala's border, as the first line of defense against the transmission of animal diseases from neighbouring states. Assistant Director General of ICAR, who was in the city to participate in the two day annual review meeting of the All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Animal Disease, Monitoring and Surveillance (ADMAS), stressed the need to equip the border check-posts to carry out a battery of tests to detect animal diseases. "Every consignment that crosses the border should be tested for infectious and contagious diseases affecting livestock and poultry." However, officials from the State pointed out that check-posts were manned by livestock inspectors and field officers instead of veterinary doctors required for the job. [read more](#)

07 Oct 2015: Russia bans import of Indian beef after finding foot and mouth disease virus

Russia has banned buffalo meat imports from India after its observers found foot and mouth disease virus in a consignment. According to sources, Russia had earlier this year decided to import buffalo meat from India following prolonged talks and inspection of meat processing units in Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra. The decision will hit at least three meat processing units in Aligarh, Barabanki and Rampur in Uttar Pradesh and another unit in Aurangabad, Maharashtra. Russian inspectors found the virus in the meat during examination of consignments and immediately took the decision to stop import from these units, the sources said. They added that the government has asked these units to ensure that such lapses do not recur. [read more](#)

06 Oct 2015: Goat Pox behind mass deaths of Serows in Mizoram

Goat Pox is behind the mass deaths of Serows, a wild goat-antelope animal that is Mizoram's state animal and a Schedule-1 protected species under India's Wildlife Protection Act, according to veterinary experts who warn "Serows in Mizoram are under threat of extinction" and that the disease is zoonotic, meaning it can also spread to humans. Wildlife health experts said there are at least 50 known Serow deaths so far, and more are likely to have died undetected in the wild. Investigations into the cause of Serow deaths have shown that Goat Pox is the cause, and further studies are underway. Goats and Serows are closely related species, and there is a high probability that the current outbreak originated and spread from goats. [read more](#)

PAKISTAN

13 Oct 2015: Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever claims one more life, toll rises to 17

Another patient of Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever (CCHF) virus expired during treatment at the hospital today, taking the death toll to 17 in the country. According to details, the patient stated to be hailing from Marriabad area of the district Quetta, Balochistan, was shifted to Fatima Jinnah Chest and General Hospital, Quetta late Monday night after his condition deteriorated where he breathed his last on Tuesday morning. Four people have died of CCHF in Quetta after Eidul Azha while toll due to the virus across the country has climbed to 17. Three CCHF affected patients were under treatment at Fatima Jinnah Hospital Quetta and nine in other hospitals across the country. [read more](#)

OTHERS

5 Oct 2015: Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) -an uncertain future

MERS cases have been recorded in 26 countries, but all can be traced back to the Middle East as the source of infection. Most cases-1223 with 520 deaths-have occurred in Saudi Arabia, with a case fatality rate of about 43%. At the time of writing (early September), Saudi Arabia is reporting new cases every day. South Korea contributes the next highest number of cases-186 with 36 fatal-with no new cases since July. A Lancet review cautioned that "health authorities, governments, and the research community should be prepared for the emergence of a MERS [coronavirus] with increased capacity for transmission and pandemic potential". [read more](#)