

South Asia Weekly Animal Disease E-Information

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

BANGLADESH

10 Feb 2016: Massive number of crows dying in Rajshahi city

Around 50 crows died in different areas of Rajshahi city due to unknown reason in the last seven days. Reports of dead crows at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH) campus started from February 3 and some 17 crows were found dead near RMCH boundary wall on the next day. Another dead crow was found near the RMCH's Centre for Nuclear Medicine and Ultrasound premises yesterday. Officials from Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research, Field Disease Investigation Laboratory of Joypurhat and Central Disease Investigation Laboratory, Dhaka visited the RMCH campus and collected samples of dead crows for examination. [read more](#)

31 Jan 2016: Leptospirosis detected in fever patients

Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control & Research (IEDCR) director said they identified leptospirosis while testing food-borne illnesses in 10 hospital patients under a new surveillance system that went from May 2014 to Dec 2015. When tested the fever cases for leptospirosis, 7.1 percent were found to carry the disease. The IEDCR surveillance was not aimed at finding mortality from the disease, but it found two patients had died of leptospirosis at Dhaka Medical College Hospital. They were from a village in Narshingdhi. Most of the patients, nearly 12 percent, were found admitted at Uttara Adhunik Medical College Hospital in Dhaka, followed by Habiganj Sadar Hospital, over 9 percent, and Satkhira Sadar Hospital, nearly 8 percent. [read more](#)

INDIA

06 Feb 2016: More awareness needed on rabies vaccination

Anti rabies vaccines are available free of cost at many government and Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC) hospitals but citizens lack awareness about it. In 2013-2014, NMC recorded 10,532 cases of dog bites while in 2014-2015, it was 10,643 cases. In calendar 2015, however, it was considerably lower at 7,281. NMC veterinary officer informed that free anti rabies vaccinations were available at all the NMC hospitals and around 10,026 vaccines were supplied free for treating stray animal bites. At Pachpaoli Maternity Home, over 1000 vaccines were used last year. "Most of them were used for treating dog bites. About 50-60 were used in cases of cat, monkey or pig bites," said an official. [read more](#)

04 Feb 2016: Suspected FMD outbreak in Ukhrul district in the state of Manipur

At least 60 cattle have died due to foot and mouth disease (FMD) at the northern Ukhrul villages of Luireishimphong and Marangphung. According to Ramnganing, headman of Marangphung village, 20 cows died within two days after the infection while in Luireishimphong village more than 40 cattle including calves died due to FMD infection after the FMD outbreak in January 2016. The villagers stated that cattle in the neighbouring villages sharing the same grazing field have also been infected. [read more](#)

NEPAL

03 Feb 2016: Fluoroquinolones fail to treat patients with enteric fever in Nepal

A randomized controlled trial of gatifloxacin, a fourth-generation fluoroquinolone, for the treatment of enteric infections was forced to end early due to the emergence of drug resistance, according to researchers. In addition, the trial's comparator drug, ceftriaxone, was suboptimal in a large number of patients with culture-negative enteric fever. [read more](#)

OTHERS

09 Feb 2016: Zika: UN agriculture agency provides expertise to help curb spread of virus

Under the lead of the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations system, including the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), is mobilizing a coordinated response to Zika aimed at minimizing the threat in affected countries and reducing the risk of further international spread. "FAO with its resources and expertise is ready to do its part in addressing this emergency which continues to evolve," said the agency's Director-General, José Graziano da Silva in a statement issued today. Zika virus is transmitted to humans primarily by *Aedes* mosquitoes; a critical measure to combat the spread of the disease is to intensify control of mosquito populations in affected and at-risk areas. [read more](#)

06 Feb 2016: UN agriculture agency warns of threat to food security from overuse of antibiotics

The overuse of antibiotics and other antimicrobial agents is impacting rural livelihoods and food security, and requires globally coordinated efforts, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) said today. Speaking to European ministers of health and agriculture at a conference on antimicrobial resistance in Amsterdam, FAO Deputy Director-General Helena Semedo emphasized that antimicrobial agents foster increasing resistance among the very microbes that cause the infections and disease they were designed to quell, thereby threatening to reverse a century of progress in human and animal health. "Antimicrobial resistance is a global threat that in this inter-connected world cannot be solved in Europe alone," Ms. Semedo said. [read more](#)

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