

FORTNIGHTLY e-BULLETIN: ANIMAL DISEASE INFORMATION OF BHUTAN

Information sharing for preparedness and response...



**National Centre for Animal Health
Department of Livestock
Ministry of Agriculture and Forests
Serbithang, Thimphu**



To update field colleagues and relevant stakeholders regarding animal disease situation in the country and related activities, the "Fortnightly e-Bulletin on Animal Disease Information of Bhutan" is issued by Disease Prevention and Control Unit (DPCU), National Centre for Animal Health (NCAH), Department of Livestock (DoL). The information disseminated regarding animal disease outbreak(s) in the country is based on flash and follow-up reports received from the outbreak investigation team. For real-time update, please visit our website, <http://www.ncah.gov.bt>

Thimphu Dzongkhag

Kawang gewog

Capripox in gorals

Mortality of Himalayan brown goral (*Nemorhaedus hodgsoni*), locally known as Bja Ra, in Chagri monastery area, Kawang gewog, Thimphu dzongkhag was confirmed on 16 December 2020 to be due to *Capripox* virus infection.

The outbreak which started on 16 October 2020 was investigated several times by the disease outbreak investigation team (DOIT) comprising of technical officials from the Nature Conservation Division (NCD), National Centre for Animal Health (NCAH) and Dzongkhag Livestock Sector (DLS), Thimphu dzongkhag. The samples (serological and virological) were tested earlier against FMDV and PPRV, two of the diseases suspected along with goat pox, and the results were negative. Later, after receiving the multiplex PCR reagents for *Capripox* from Vienna, the archived samples were subjected to RT-PCR and tested positive for *Capripox* virus.

All the necessary control measures have been implemented and advised by the DIOT.

Dagana Dzongkhag

Tseza Gewog

Anthrax: 1 January 2021*

A clinical case of anthrax was reported from Jangshagang village of Tseza gewog under Dagana dzongkhag on 1 January 2021. As per the flash report shared, the affected cattle, a young jatsha, has shown clinical signs suggestive of anthrax – such as bleeding from orifices and recumbency – since 30 December 2020 and later died of the infection. Anthrax outbreaks has been sporadically reported from the dzongkhag in the past.

The dzongkhag livestock sector, Dagana, in line with the “Guidelines for preparedness, surveillance and control of anthrax in human and animals in Bhutan 2013”, implemented all the necessary control measures.

Lhamoi Dzingkha Gewog

Rabies: 4 January 2021*

A clinical case of rabies affecting an adult female stray dog (un-notched year) was reported from Daragaon village of Lhamoi Dzingkha gewog, Dagana dzongkhag on 4 January 2021. The affected stray dog was caught and kept under observation, which later died of the infection. Meanwhile, all the exposed and suspected to have exposed people have been undergoing post-exposure prophylaxis.

Other control measures have been implemented by the dzongkhag livestock sector, Dagana in line with the National Rabies Prevention and Control Plan 2017.

Chhukha Dzongkhag

Phuentshogling Gewog

Rabies: 8 January 2021*

A 1-year-old female calf in Khaireny village, Phuentshogling gewog, Chukha dzongkhag tested to rabies on 7 January 2021. The disease outbreak investigation team comprising of officials from Thromde Veterinary Hospital and Satellite Laboratory (TVH&SL) and Livestock Extension Centre (LEC), Phuentshogling has conducted a detailed investigation of the reported outbreak. As per the report shared, the affected calf was bitten by a stray dog – from across the border – and reported to the LEC on 25 December 2020. After proper wound washing and antiseptic dressing, the calf was kept under observation, however, on 7 January 2021, the calf succumbed to the infection after showing clinical signs suggestive of rabies. The brain sample was subjected to rapid antigen testing and detected positive to rabies virus.

All the necessary control measures have been implemented by the team.

Samtse Dzongkhag

Samtse Gewog

Rabies: 12 January 2021*

A case of rabies in stray dog was reported from Samtse College of Education area, Samtse dzongkhag on 11 January 2021. As per the flash report shared, a young male stray dog (un-notched ear) suspected to be rabid was reported to have bitten 2 residents of the college, following which the dog was caught and kept under observation. On 11 January 2021, the suspected dog died of the infection and tested positive to rabies antigen rapid test.

All the necessary control measures including PEP for exposed people were implemented by the dzongkhag livestock sector, Samtse.

* Reported to National Centre for Animal Health, Serbithang



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