

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 situations in the country and related activities, the "Fortnightly e-Bulletin on Animal Disease Information of Bhutan" is issued by the 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>

Chhukha Dzongkhag***Phuentshogling Gewog******Rabies: 18 and 21 March 2021****

On 18 March 2021, a female, adult stray dog – with un-notched ears – in Phuentshogling throm area, Chhukha dzongkhag tested positive for rabies antigen. On 21 March 2021, again a stray dog – adult, male, with un-notched ears – in Toorsa area, Phuentshogling gewog, Chhukha dzongkhag had tested positive to rabies virus, when suspected and subjected to rabies antigen rapid field test.

With the recently completed mass dog vaccination campaign in the area and following strict implementation of rabies prevention and control measures – aligning with the National Rabies Prevention and Control Plan 2017 – by the rapid response teams comprising technical officials from the RLDC, Tsimasham; TVH&SL, Phuentshogling; and DLS, Chhukha dzongkhag, the situation is now stable.

Chhukha Dzongkhag***Loggchina Gewog******FMD: 29 March 2021****

An outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) in cattle was reported from Somelakha village of Loggchina gewog, Chhukha dzongkhag on 29th March 2021.

As per the flash and preliminary outbreak investigation reports shared by the Regional Livestock Development Centre, Tsimasham, the outbreak has started on 22nd March 2021, and as of 30th March, a total of 20 cattle were affected, however, no mortality was reported. The investigation team has found that

the cattle herds have not received FMD vaccination for the last 10 years. Considering the remoteness of the affected village's location and no history of mixing their cattle with the cattle herds and other FMD susceptible animals of other far-flung villages, the disease was suspected to have spread from wild animals; however, only active surveillance at the domestic-wildlife interface could provide a clear picture of the disease transmission.

All the control measures have been implemented in line with the National FMD Prevention and Control Plan 2020, and the situation is currently under control.

** Reported to National Centre for Animal Health, Serbithang*



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