

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>

Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag***Dewathang Gewog******Rabies: 25 January 2021****

A jersey-cross cow in Martang village, Dewathang gewog, Samdrup Jongkhar dzongkhag was reported to have tested positive to rabies (rapid antigen test) on 25 January 2021. On investigation, the case's clinical manifestation was observed from 21 January 2021, however, it was left unreported to the gewog's livestock in-charge.

Dewathang gewog has recorded several rabies cases and outbreaks since late 2019. In response, mass anti-rabies vaccination campaigns were conducted in the dzongkhag, the last being carried out in December 2020. Since all the dogs, the only source of rabies recorded in Bhutan, in the area were vaccinated, the above reported case was thought to be a residual case from past outbreaks in the area.

Aligning with the National Rabies Prevention and Control Plan 2017, all the prevention and control measures have been implemented by the Dzongkhag Livestock Sector, Samdrup Jongkhar.

Chhukha Dzongkhag***Darla Gewog******Infectious bursal disease – an update: 26 January 2021****

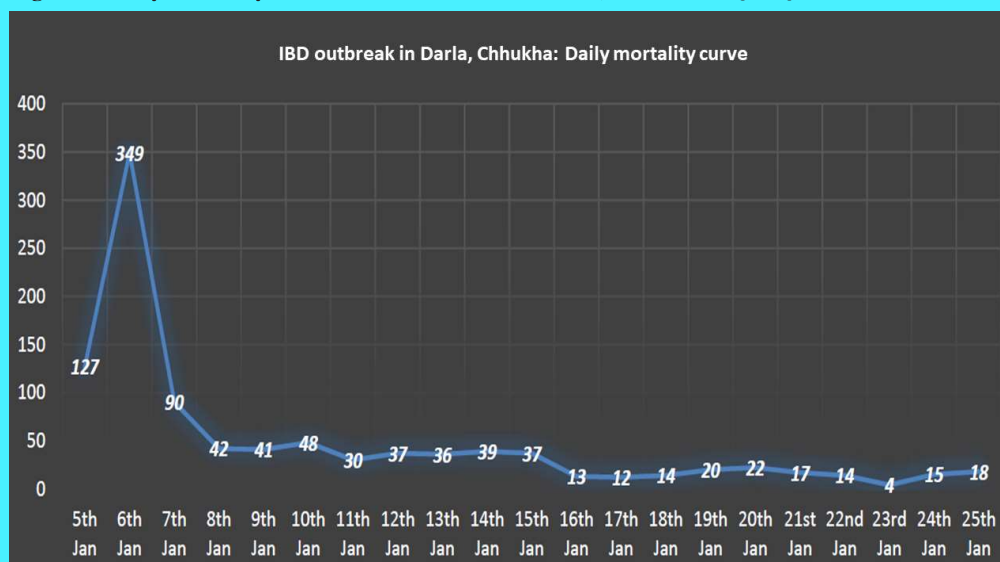
An outbreak of Infectious bursal disease (IBD), also called as Gumboro, was reported earlier on 7 January 2021 from Chumilakha and Rinchentse villages under Darla gewog, Chhukha dzongkhag and confirmed by the National Centre for Animal Health (NCAH) on 10 January 2021. Since then, several rounds of

investigation were conducted by the Regional Livestock Development Centre (RLDC), Tsimasham and the Dzongkhag Livestock Sector (DLS), Chhukha.

As per the detailed investigation report shared on 26 January 2021, the outbreak was found to have started around 2 January 2021, and as of 25 January, a total of 1025 broiler chickens – from the total of 3000 birds – in 5 farms (4 in Chumilakha and 1 in Rinchentse) have succumbed to the infection. Upon intensive investigations by the technical team, the outbreak was predicted to have caused due to inconsistent vaccinations against IBD and poor farm biosecurity practices.

Following implementation of all the control measures, a decline in the trend of daily mortality was observed, as shown in the figure below.

Figure 1: Daily mortality curve of IBD outbreak in Darla, Chhukha (5 - 25 Jan 2021)



Source: DOIT, RLDC, Tsimasham

Samtse Dzongkhag

Tashichhoeling Gewog

Rabies: 26 January 2021*

A stray dog (un-notched ear) in lower Peljorling village of Tashichhoeling gewog, Samtse dzongkhag was reported to have tested positive to rabies (rapid antigen test) on 26 January 2021. As per the flash report shared, 15 susceptible animals (10 dogs, 3 cattle, 1 goat, 1 cat) were suspected to have exposed to the infection and they have been kept under observation. During the calendar year 2020, Samtse dzongkhag alone reported 6 outbreaks of rabies, accounting to 30 percent of the total rabies outbreaks in Bhutan – the highest in the country.

All the control measures have been put into place by the Dzongkhag Livestock Sector, Samtse.

Chhukha Dzongkhag

Loggchina Gewog

Goat pox: 31 January 2021*

Outbreaks of goat pox, which was confirmed by RT-PCR at the National Centre for Animal Health on 27 January 2021, were reported from Amdo-Dolepchen and Toribari-Dubini villages of Loggchina gewog, Chhukha dzongkhag. In collaboration with the Dzongkhag Livestock Sector, Chhukha, detailed outbreak investigations were conducted by TVH&SL, Phuentshogling and RLDC, Tsimasham on 26 and 27 January 2021.

As per the investigation reports shared, the first case was observed on 11 January 2021, and as of 27 January, a total of 26 goats were affected in these villages and 5 of them have succumbed to the infection. The outbreaks were assumed to be have caused as a result of infection spillover from wildlife due to various reasons: reports from farmers of having encountered carcasses of Himalayan gorals in the surrounding forests, recent cases of goral mortality caused by *Capripox* virus in Thimphu and some suspected cases in other parts of the region, and the domestic goats in these villages sharing common grazing grounds with wild ruminants.

All the prevention and control measures have been implemented by the outbreak investigation teams from the region.

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



Copyright © 2020 National Centre for Animal Health, All rights reserved.

For comments or queries, e-mail to us at ncah2013@gmail.com

Our mailing address is:

National Centre for Animal Health

Department of Livestock

Serbithang, Thimphu. Post Box 155

Phone No. 00975-2-351083/351093. Fascimile No. 00975-2-351095

Toll Free No. 1244. Email: ncah2013@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.ncah.gov.bt/>

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).