

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>

Samtse Dzongkhag***Samtse Gewog******Rabies: 20th and 23rd February 2021****

Two stray dogs with unnotched ear from point of entry (POE) and check post (ICP) areas under Samtse gewog, Samtse dzongkhag were reported to have tested positive to rabies (rapid Ag test) on 20th and 23rd February 2021, respectively. Samples collected from the latter case was referred to the National Veterinary Laboratory, NCAH, Serbithang and subjected to Fluorescent Antibody Test (FAT), the WHO and OIE recommended test for rabies diagnosis, and tested positive to rabies virus on 26th February 2021.

In response to the outbreaks, RRTs were activated to implement various prevention and control measures as guided by the National Rabies Prevention and Control Plan 2017. To gather support from relevant stakeholders during implementation of rabies outbreak containment measures, a coordination meeting was convened on 24 February, chaired by the Dasho dzongda.

With the on-going mass dog vaccination campaign, conducted collaboratively by the RLDC, Tsimasham and DLS, Samtse with the fund support from DPM flagship programme and FAO-TCP, having already covered all the rabies outbreak high-risk areas under the dzongkhag, the situation has stabilized.

Chhukha Dzongkhag***Bongo and Chapchha Gewogs******FMD: 25th and 27th February 2021****

Following the foot and mouth disease (FMD) outbreak in Gengu village of Darla gewog, Chhukha dzongkhag on 8th February 2021, two more FMD outbreaks have been reported from Chhukha dzongkhag, one each from Bjachey-Chungkha villages under Bongo gewog and Rimtakha village of Chapchha gewog on 25th and 27th February 2021, respectively.

As per the flash reports shared, a total of 10 cattle in 3 households in these villages were affected; however, no mortality has been reported.

In line with the National FMD Prevention and Control Plan 2020, all the control measures have been implemented by the Dzongkhag Livestock Sector, Chhukha dzongkhag.

Chhukha Dzongkhag

Sampheling Gewog

Suspected Rabies: 27 February 2021*

On 27 February 2021, a stray filly (young female horse) in Pasakha area, Sampheling gewog, Chhukha dzongkhag was suspected to have infected with rabies virus. As per the flash report shared, the horse – after showing typical neurological signs and behaviour suggestive of rabies – was kept under observation and died on 26 February 2021. On testing the brain sample using rapid antigen testing kit, it tested weak positive to rabies virus. For confirmation of the disease, the sample collected will be referred to the NCAH, Serbithang.

Aligning with the National Rabies Prevention and Control Plan 2017, all the necessary control measures have been implemented by the Thromde Veterinary Hospital and Satellite Laboratory, Phuentshogling and Dzongkhag Livestock Sector, Chhukha.

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



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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/>

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