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Worldwide Report

EPIDEMIOLOGY

No. 285

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WORLDWIDE REPORT

EPIDEMIOLOGY

No. 285

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INTESTINAL PARASITIC INFECTION PREVALENT AMONG STUDENTS

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 24 May 82 p 3

[Text]

About 57 per cent of the students of Dacca University, who come to the university's Medical Centre for treatment suffer from intestinal parasitic infection.

Dysentery is the commonest of all kinds of parasitic infections from which majority of the students suffer. According to experts, all of three kinds of dysentery - Amoebic, Bacillary and Giardia — are caused owing to non-hygienic condition of the residential halls. The problem is compounded by lack of awareness about personal hygiene among the food handlers.

Overcrowding is another reason for infection and spread of some common diseases. These include dysentery, helminthic infestations, peptic (gastric or duodonal) ulcer and occasional gastritis.

Regarding the spread of the disease the doctors of the medical centre said the students could not afford to maintain hygienic condition. They do not use soap after toilet. Cyst can easily pass from their hands to the food, the plate, glass or spoons.

When asked about the preventive measures, the doctors said that food-handlers should be given medical check-up, drinking water should have adequate chlorination along with clean Hall surroundings.

Besides dining halls itself are dirty and are breeding grounds of flies.

Peptic ulcer is another major disease from which about 35 per cent of the residential students suffer. Irregularity in food intake, hot spicy food, too much nervous strain are among reasons for the disease.

About 100 student were attacked with chicken pox during the current academic year (1981-82) as against 41 in 1980-81 and 89 students 1971-72.

Sex borne disease is also common among the students and "everyday we find two to four patients, suffering from venereal disease", a doctor of the medical centre said.

About 300 to 500 students visit the medical centre every day. About Taka 90 thousands are spent monthly for medicine given to the patients free of cost.

The doctors said, "We're often accused of prescribing the same medicine for different kind of diseases. This is not true. Students misunderstand us because we don't have different brands of the same medicine".

Students often complain that the residential halls are the worst places where "germs and men live together". They blame hall authorities for the unhygienic condition. Often the concerned employees failed to discharge their duties in cleanliness, they said. However, comment of the hall authorities on if students themselves were partly to blame for unhygienic condition were not available.

BRIEFS

KHULNA DIARRHEA OUTBREAK--Khulna, May 8: At least 44 persons including 36 children died of diarrhoea and 1,300 others were admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Mirerdanga during the last one month ending at May 4, according to official sources. The diarrhoea broke out on a large scale in Khulna city and its suburbs in the first week of April. It was still taking its toll. Local medical practitioners feared that the number of diarrhoea attacks and death could be higher as many have gone in for private medical treatment without reporting to the overcrowded and ill-equipped hospital at Mirerdanga. The hospital has the capacity to accommodate only 20 patients. The floors and verandahs of the hospital have been put into use to meet rush of patients. It is also learnt that the supply of necessary medicine is not adequate to cope with the situation. The outbreak of the disease is attributed to a continued hot spell and sultry weather, shortage of pure drinking water, lack of knowledge of personal hygiene and economic hardship. Most of the patients came from the poor and disadvantaged sections of the society, the physicians said. [Text] [Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 9 May 82 p 1]

CHOLERA DEATH RATE--Oral replacemant solution (ORS) during the diarrhoeal disease episode has dramatically reduced the mortality in the rural areas of the country. The oral rehydration programme brought down the diarrhoeal death rate among children in Companiganj from 15.6 per 1,000 in 1975-76 to 6.2 in 1977-78. Mortality rates from diarrhoea in the 'programme' and 'control' villages were respectively 0.6 and 2.9. The annual attack rate in Teknaf was 123 per 1,000 people. Male children up to 14 years have higher cholera attack rates than female children. But females aged between 15 and 45 have almost twice the cholera attack compared to the male in the same age group, an ICDDR, B finding says. The vicious cycle of diarrhoea and mal-nutrition are an important cause of high morbidity and consequent mortality. It has been estimated that over 2.5 lakh people, mostly children, die of diarrhoeal diseases annually in the country. Available statistics reveals more than 30 cases of diarrhoea per year per 1,000 patients are admitted to hospitals. And about 17 cases are of serious nature. [Saleem Samad] [Excerpt] [Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 7 Jun 82 p 1]

MYSTERY DISEASE DEATHS--Chittagong, June 8: At least five persons died and 65 others were attacked with an unknown type of disease in Taknaf and Ukhia

in Cox's Bazar subdivision in Chittagong upto Tuesday, SDO Cox's Bazar confirmed the news to Times. This mysterious disease was learnt to have spread in the area over the last one week. The primary symptom of the disease is vomiting tendency headache and leaves the patient unconscious. Upto now 50 persons were admitted in Teknaf Hospital and 20 were admitted to Ukhia hospital. Of them five persons died in Teknaf. Some believe it to be viral encephalites while others think it as cases of food poisoning. [Text]
[Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 9 Jun 82 p 8]

CSO: 5400/7076

AUTHORITIES DECLARE FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE ERADICATED

Restrictions, Observation Zone End

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 2 Jun 82 p 7

[Text] The last observation zone for foot-and-mouth disease around Vedskølle near Skælskør in Zealand has been repealed as of today, and the disease is regarded by the veterinary authorities as having been completely eradicated. On the other hand, Erik Stougaard, director of the veterinary service, expects that it will take several months for the large international markets to be reopened, especially the Japanese market.

Next Friday, the Danish authorities will inform the international office for livestock diseases in Paris that it is now 30 days since the latest outbreak of the disease was ascertained, and, as a result, according to the international regulations, Denmark will again automatically be given the status of a country free from foot-and-mouth disease.

The repeal of the observation district in Zealand will mean that all restrictions concerning the slaughter and transport of cattle and pigs will be lifted. However, the veterinary department will maintain its ban on the transport of animals from Zealand and Funen to the rest of the country. The decision has been made to facilitate the reopening of the distant chief markets.

The export to the EC has been resumed to the normal extent, but the United States, Japan and a number of other countries will decide independently when they will again permit the import of Danish pork and beef.

Sweden now again permits the import of dairy products but maintains its import ban on meat, which has hit businessmen in the towns on the Sound severely in that they, to a large extent, live on the shopping trips across the Sound by Swedish consumers. The state has so far paid 16 billion kroner by way of compensation to the farmers hit by the foot-and-mouth disease, but the total bill is expected to exceed 20 billion kroner.

Sweden Keeping Import Ban

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 2 Jun 82 Sect III p 5

[Text] The Swedish import ban on meat and meat products will be maintained for at least another 6 months, whereas dairy products from Denmark will be imported anew.

This decision was made by the Swedish Agricultural Board last Tuesday seeing that, for a period of 4 weeks now, no further cases of foot-and-mouth disease have been ascertained in Denmark.

The continued import ban also applies to livestock, whereas horses are no longer comprised by it, and the Swedish Agricultural Board will, for the time being, maintain a certain amount of preparedness in case of new outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease in Denmark.

7262

CSO: 5400/2165

MYSTERY DEATHS REPORTED NOT DUE TO MALARIA

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 9 Jun 82 p 8

[Text]

THE National Malaria Eradication Programme (NMEP) experts have ruled out virulent cerebral Malaria as the cause of the 30 mysterious deaths in Jalpaiguri district of West Bengal between April and May.

An NMEP spokesman told PTI that it has rushed its malaria officer from Shillong to the affected district. Scientists from the Tropical School of Medicine in Calcutta have also been sent to the place to determine the cause of death.

The spokesman said that analysis of blood samples have revealed that the most common malaria parasite in the area was P Vivax. Malaria cause by this parasite is usually not fatal, he said.

The occurrence of falciparum parasite which causes virulent form of malaria is only seven per cent in the affected area and hence this cannot be the cause of death, the spokesman said.

Of the 30 person dead, blood samples had been analysed in two cases which showed the presence of vivax parasite that is unlikely to be the cause of death according to NMEP.

The tropical school of medicine experts are also said to believe the death was not due to malaria. They are yet to submit their report to the Health Ministry.

COVER FOR PLAYERS

Players coming to participate in the Asian Games this November are to be given 'preventive

cover' against Malaria, according to officials of the NMEP.

Many of the players will be coming from malaria endemic countries where the virulent falciparum parasite is common. NMEP has advised the concerned embassies to provide the players with anti-malaria drugs as a prophylactic cover for the duration of the Games.

An NMEP spokesman said this is in the interest of the players although November is not a peak season for malaria. Adequate amounts of drugs have been stocked for this purpose, NMEP said.

The spokesman said that malaria cases in Delhi had come down drastically from 300,000 cases in 1978 to 8687 cases between January and May this year.

However, the incidence of falciparum parasite, which causes cerebral malaria, has increased from 15 cases in 1980 to 107 this year. This was mainly due to import of labour for the Asian Games work from falciparum endemic states, the spokesman said.

The country as a whole had only 2.6 million malaria cases in 1981 compared to 6.4 million in 1976 he said.

POSSIBLE KALA AZAR VECTOR IDENTIFIED IN BIHAR

Madras THE HINDU in English 3 Jun 82 p 10

[Text]

HUBLI, June 2.

There appears to be another prevalent vector responsible for the attacks of kala azar, the dreaded tropical disease, in the country, besides the one already known. This has been revealed in a study conducted by the Zoological Survey of India.

An analysis of 20,000 sand flies collected in North Bihar during three years from November 1978 put the percentage of *phlebotomus argentipes* the only proven vector of kala azar so far in India, at three while the presence of the newly identified, *phlebotomus papatasi* has been reckoned at 86 per cent.

A report of the Department of Environment of the Government of India quoting the Zoological Survey of India made available here says that there is every probability of the predominant species playing the role of vector either alone or along with *P. argentipes*. But this needs further confirmation. *P. bapatasi* has been a suspected vector of kala azar elsewhere.

The sand fly menace: With the launching of the National Malaria Eradication Programme, the widespread use of DDT had kept the sand flies, the vector of kala azar, under

control. But later the sand flies began to reappear and in 1977, a kala azar epidemic struck Bihar, afflicting one lakh persons and killing 4,000.

The study in North Bihar involved bi-monthly surveys in 11 localities of Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi, Darbhanga and Samasthipur districts.

This is considered the first such detailed study of the population fluctuation of sand flies, undertaken during the time of the epidemic, in India.

During the first year (1978-79), the sand fly population was comparatively less apparently because of the regular application of DDT. In the subsequent years, a spurt in the population was noticed.

The fly is practically non-existent in North Bihar during the extreme winter. Their peak period is during the monsoon months — from July to October.

Normally DDT is effective for six months. But in North Bihar, the effect does not last even for two months, because, a many houses are mud-walled and the walls are periodically applied with wet soil, which lessens the effect of the DDT.

CSO: 5400/7074

BRIEFS

GASTRITIS IN MADHYA PRADESH--Bhopal, May 22: At least 30 deaths have been reported in the wake of an outbreak of gastro-enteritis in five districts of the state in the last six weeks. Sehore district alone accounts for 15 deaths since mid-April, according to official sources. The other affected districts are Dewas, Raipur, Bilaspur and Khandawa. The total number of cases of gastro-enteritis reported so far exceeds 250. The state health department has identified six other districts as epidemic-prone on the basis of figures in respect of cases reported in these districts in the last three years. The figures indicate widespread outbreak of gastro-enteritis during the period in Chattapur, Dhar, Durg, Jhabua, Shajapur and Tikamgarh districts. However, the incidence of the disease appears to be more widespread than what the official figures indicate, at the latest official data is a week or more behind date. It is stated that several cases in remote villages go unreported. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 23 May 82 p 8]

CSO: 5400/7073

REPORTED RABIES OUTBREAK, CONTROL MEASURES

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 7 Jun 82 p 3

[Article by Lue Hinnen]

[Text] There has been a reported outbreak of rabies in Zorzor District, Lofa Country. It broke out some two weeks ago as a result of stray dogs bites in that area.

Two rabies infested dogs bit a total of 13 persons in Zorzor City. Since then, there have been reported cases in other areas of the District, Killewu and Kpai-yea; as well as in Koyama, Guinea, just across the border from Zorzor.

According to Dr Mark Monson, Chief Medical officer at the Curran Lutheran Hospital, there are presently 26 patients affected by the disease. He said the patients are presently undergoing treatment at the hospital. Dr Monson said the Curran hospital has been treating those patients exposed to rabies, with human Dipliod Cell Vaccine.

The newly improved vaccine which is being provided for the Curran Hospital by the Ministry of Health, Dr Monson said is the first of its kind to be administered in Liberia. "The vaccine is so new that the exact usage has not yet been clearly established," he explained.

Dr Monson said the amateur radio operators in Lofa Country are also helping to combat the disease in the area. Amateur radio is an international organization for communication found in various countries. It is apolitical and is used in cases of emergency.

Since Zorzor has no telephone system, the amateur radio station, EL5G, which is operated by Dr Monson serves as the only means of communication between the Lutheran hospital and the J.F.K. Medical Center for instructions.

When contacted, the Deputy Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health, Dr Ivan Camarner, told the NEW LIBERIAN in a telephone interview on Thursday that a team from the Public Health Bureau of the Ministry was sent to Zorzor last Friday to give vaccine to individuals within the area who were affected from the disease.

Dr Camarner added that the team was also instructed to physically eliminate all stray dogs found in the streets of Zorzor that are carrier of the disease.

Meanwhile he said, Public Health have taken swift measures in containing the rabies disease outbreak, adding that further comments would be made on the incidence upon the team's return from Zorzor.

CSO: 5400/5642

LIBERIA

BRIEFS

MEASLES DEATHS IN BONG COUNTRY--About ten persons are said to have died recently of measles in the Jorwah area, Panta Chiefdom, Bong Country. This was revealed by Mr Wuo Leador Garteh, acting director of nurses at the Ahmed Sekou Toure Health Center in Jorwah Headquarters. Mr Garteh called on authorities of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare to provide the center with transportation, fuel oil and laboratory equipment. He said, "We need transportation in order to reach out to the masses to educate them because most of them think we don't have treatment for measles and other diseases. For that reason they are going to sandcutters". [By Debester Y. Jarlwood] [Excerpt] [Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 11 Jun 82 pp 1, 8]

CSO: 5400/5642

MALAWI

BRIEFS

CHILDREN VACCINATED--RUMPHI, Thursday--Some 499 children of up to two years age bracket have been vaccinated against polio in Rumphu, an official of the Ministry of Health here said. The number of children so far vaccinated represents an encouraging figure. [Text] [Blantyre DAILY TIMES in English 21 May 82 p 5]

CSO: 5400/5620

MOZAMBIQUE

BRIEFS

CHIMOIO CHOLERA DEATHS--The cholera outbreak which was detected about a month ago in Chimoio Town has been brought under complete control. Since the outbreak of the disease in Chimoio, over 51,000 people have been vaccinated against cholera. The health services in Chimoio have reported that the disease cost the lives of five people. All those who had been taken to the hospital have now been discharged. [Text] [EA160044 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0600 GMT 15 Jun 82]

CSO: 5400/5632

BRIEFS

GANSU ENDEMIC DISEASE PREVENTION--Pingliang Prefecture, Gansu Province, has achieved new progress in preventing endemic diseases. Since the third plenary session, party committees have conducted extensive and intensive propaganda on the principle, policy and scientific methods for preventing endemic diseases. The prefecture has established 11 salt processing centers, making it possible for pastoral areas to have adequate supplies of iodized salt. Some 406 water projects aimed at preventing endemic diseases and improving water have been built, solving the problem of drinking water for 90,000 people and 30,000 head of draft livestock. Some 27,500 people in rural areas suffering from thyroid gland problems have been cured. [SK052206 Lanzhou Gansu Provincial Service in Mandarin 1125 GMT 4 Jun 82]

CSO: 5400/4003

YOUNG PEOPLE REPORTEDLY USED AS GUINEA PIGS FOR NEW VACCINE

Dakar JAY DOOLE BI in French No 28 May 82, p 4

[Text] In the latest JOURNEES MEDICALES DE DAKAR, it was announced that the "Tours-Dakar group" had perfected a vaccine against viral hepatitis B, a disease which might lie at the root of Primitive Liver Cancer (PLC).

On the other hand, this has not been publicized; and it is also under experimental conditions that the commercial and financial backdrop behind this affair has been woven.

In any case, the decision was made to try out this vaccine on 200,000 young Senegalese who will be followed up for 20 years. The main region chosen for this operation is the locality of Niakhar.

Under what conditions will this operation be carried out? Do we have the right to ask?

Did the "chosen" peoples consent to this?

Or indeed were they taken secretly as guinea pigs?

It is vain to speculate on the proportion of risk; an experiment remains an experiment.

But beyond this aspect, it is important to consider what two multinationals have already put themselves up against so they might cut out for themselves the lion's share in the marketing of the vaccine.

In 1972, Prof Blumberg of the Philadelphia Institute for Cancer Research discovered the existence of HB_s antigen in certain human serums.

Following this discovery, the multinational pharmaceutical firm of Merck Sharp and Dohme (MDS) developed a vaccine against viral hepatitis B which, in theory, was to be marketed after June 1982.

But the Americans are not the only ones in the fray for a market which looks to be very juicy.

Indeed, in 1976, Prof Maupas of the Tours Virology Institute announced the perfecting of a manufacturing process for the same type of vaccine.

Maupas will be "managed" by the firms of Matra, Renault and especially Elf-Aquitaine, whose subsidiary, Institut Pasteur Production, will set up a vaccine production sub-branch in Dakar for the 200,000 Senegalese. This will constitute a market of over 5 billion CFA francs.

In the economic war thus declared between the French and the Americans, it looks like Senegal is a testing ground, a puppet in the hands of the French camp.

This also is an aspect of neocolonialism!

9927

CSO: 5400/5979

MENINGITIS EPIDEMIC REPORTED IN SENEGAL-ORIENTAL REGION

Dakar JAY DOOLE BI in French No 28 May 82, p 4

[Text] For more than a month, people in Senegal-Oriental have been living with great anxiety, indeed in great disarray since meningitis has reached the endemic state.

Several serious cases, some deaths among them, have been recorded in Tamba and especially in the countryside (Cotiary, Goudiry, Lamina), particularly among the young.

Curiously, local authorities refuse to talk in terms of an epidemic. According to them, there is only a threat which, furthermore, is directed only at those 2 and 22 years old and which will be quickly brought under control by "effective measures to stop it."

In any case, at JAAAY DOOLE BI, we want to state simply the following:

--When the epidemic was declared and duly made note of by a specialist in infectious diseases, Senegalese authorities did not inform the WHO. Why?

The French authorities if informed would have stipulated as a condition of "aid" that the existence of the epidemic be confirmed by a French specialist sent to the site.

As might be imagined, during all this time, meningitis was wreaking its havoc.

In the Tamba health center, people arrived at such a pace that the wards could no longer contain them. Then, someone hit upon the brilliant idea of setting up a tent in the courtyard to accommodate the sick.

This tent where the sick lie, some on makeshift beds (at latest report, it would appear that some beds were brought in), others on the ground itself, on a mat, and in the blazing heat (42°C in the shade), in and of itself expresses the drama in which the population of Senegal-Oriental is living.

Furthermore, Senegal-Oriental, the country's largest region, very distant from the large urban centers and an area very prone to epidemics, still does not have one single hospital.

The medical staff, very dedicated in the main but overwhelmed and placed under impossible working conditions, see all their efforts going to waste in the face of the pressing shortages of infrastructure, equipment and medicine.

When, then, will they get this hospital?

Certainly when the imperialist interests, along with capitalist projects such as MIFERSO (Iron Mining Company of Senegal-Oriental), require the large exploiters to move into the region with their families. Then certainly they will build a hospital, a high school, and so on...for the exploiters, and the health of the working people will sell very dear.

9927

CSO: 5400/5979

SHINYANGA REGION RABIES QUARANTINE

Dar es Salaam SUNDAY NEWS in English 6 Jun 82 p 1

[Text]

TWENTY-FOUR residents of Shinyanga town were recently bitten by an unidentified dog suspected to be rabid.

According to the Shinyanga District Veterinary Officer, Dr. S. Malimana, the quarantine imposed throughout the region against rabies is still in force.

He urged residents in the town to kill all stray dogs and cats or report them to his office. Those with pets should chain them, after ensuring that they have been vaccinated.

Meanwhile, the Acting Regional Medical Officer, Dr. J. Kweba, has urged all the people bitten by dogs to report immediately to the hospital for treatment.

CSO: 5400/5630

BRIEFS

KILIMANJARO RABIES EPIDEMIC SPREADING--Armed forces in Kilimanjaro Region might be asked to participate in an anti-rabies campaign to control the fast spreading epidemic which has already cost 12 lives. The Regional Medical Officer, Dr. E.E. Kiwelu, told Shihata in Moshi on Monday that it was imperative for all government institutions to be mobilized to fight the epidemic. So far, 61 dogs have been found to be rabid. Kiwelu said 49 other people were in a critical condition. "In fact they are at home dying quietly or some of them are already dead now," Dr. Kiwelu said adding that there was nothing he could do as there was not a single dose of anti-rabies vaccine to treat the disease in any of the region's hospitals or dispensaries. Dr Kiwelu further said that many lives would continue to be lost as the disease spreads with no effective prescriptions to cure the victims. "Worse still, the veterinary section has no bullets for killing stray dogs, cats and squirrels," he added. In such a situation, Dr Kiwelu said he had proposed the use of the armed forces in the control of the disease at a recent meeting of the Party Regional Executive Committee. [Text] [Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 9 Jun 82 p 3]

CSO: 5400/5627

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

BRIEFS

CHOLERA, PLAGUE, TYPHUS--Dr Jabd al-Wahab al-Muḥayab, UAE Health Ministry under secretary for preventive medicine, has received a report from the preventive medicine central department about the health situation in the UAE during the first 4 months of 1982. The report indicates that the UAE is free of cholera, the plague and typhus. [GF051820 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 4 Jun 82 p 2]

CSO: 5400/4725

ZAIRIANS' INFLUX CAUSES CHOLERA CONTROL PROBLEMS FOR COMMITTEES

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 4 Jun 82 p 2

[Text] THE Luapula Province cholera surveillance committee has encountered problems in its control of the spread of cholera because of the influx of Zaireans, provincial political secretary Mr Stephen Sikombe said in Mansa yesterday.

Mr Sikombe said efforts by the team of health officers to bring the situation under control were hampered by the free movement of people along the border with Zaire.

Although there had been no new cases reported since the recent outbreak in which seven people died at Chipungu in Nchelenge district, there was a possibility of a re-currence because of lack of immigration control between Luapula Province and the Shaba province in Zaire.

Villagers on the Zambian side were getting immunisation doses from health officers but their counterparts on the Zairean side had no such facilities and this hampered the fight against the disease.

The Ministry of Health has sent more staff and drugs to Nchelenge district.

Minister of State for Health Mr John Mwendela said in Lusaka yesterday the situation in the area was now under control because of the presence of permanent surveillance team which had been reinforced by more staff from Lusaka.

CSO: 5400/5635

BRIEFS

NEW CURE FOR SHEEP DISEASE--Scientists of prarasitology at the National Research Centre have discovered a new line of treatment for sheep affected with parasitic worms known as nematodes. These worms live in the intestine of sheep, causing acute inflammation in the lining cells of the intestine, thus affecting the food absorption. More than 30 percent of the sheep in Egypt die because of chronic anaemia resulting from this malady, centre officials said. The new line of treatment was succeeded in killing the parasitic worms in more than 90 percent of treated sheep, the officials said yesterday. [Cairo THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE in English 10 Jun 82 p 2]

CSO: 5400/5017

GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS TB, BRUCELLOSIS ERADICATION

Budapest MAGYAR MEZOGAZDASAG in Hungarian No 18, 5 May 82 p 19

[Article by Dr Gyorgy Dudas; Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Administration of Legal Affairs Main Department]

[Text] The new, legally binding decree on animal health, and the executive ordinance issued by the Minister of Agriculture and Food (MEM) appeared in April of last year and came into force on 1 Jan 1982.

Guided by the high level regulations, a thorough review and modernization of animal health regulations was undertaken. As a result of this work, MEM ordinance No 29/1981 (30 Dec) was also issued dealing with state support for the eradication of tb and brucellosis in cattle stocks.

Last year, eradication of tb from the entire cattle stock of the country was successfully completed. In addition to the devoted work and material contribution by individual and large-scale animal keepers, this is also due to a considerable extent to the allocated state support. By successfully completing this task, considerable sums were freed which ensure the material support for reaching another goal, the eradication of brucellosis. Of course, the eventuality of a new, local reappearance of tb can not be excluded. Therefore, the new provision of law makes possible support against both diseases.

Personal and Material Conditions of Support

The legal provision ties support to a number of conditions.

In the case of large agricultural establishments (agricultural cooperatives, branch cooperatives, state farms, farm associations), the primary condition is to isolate cattle infected by such diseases from the healthy stock.

In the case of individual animal keepers, the primary condition is that the cattle stock of all large-scale agricultural farms belonging to the village or town must already be free of tb and brucellosis.

In defining the personal and material conditions of eradication, the legal provision also contains regulations on which the state support of pronouncedly large farms is based. Namely, those working on disease-free farms or on farms

slated for disease eradication--depending on their work assignment--must have the knowledge necessary to maintain disease-free conditions, to recognize brucellosis, to prevent its spreading and also to protect healthy animals from infection. Direction is the task of the farm veterinary. In addition to the former tasks, it is very important to continuously observe the animals and this activity is assigned to a caretaker in every stable.

The material conditions of state supported eradication were also defined as follows:

- a) on enclosed farms surrounded by permanent fencing, disinfection must be provided for people and vehicles;
- b) an isolated delivery stable and stable for diseased animals is indispensable. From these, return to the cow stables can be made only after disinfection and permission of the attending veterinary;
- c) calf raising stables with air space separated from the cow stables must be established and they must be supplied with a professionally run milk kitchen equipped with installation for boiling the milk;
- d) artificial insemination must be used exclusively;
- e) immediately after their birth, the calves must be raised on bottle alone, without nursing;
- f) growing heifers and bulls must be raised isolated from the adult stock;
- g) protective clothing must be worn at all times on the farms and leaving the farms in protective clothing is forbidden;
- h) work clothes and the instruments most needed for performing the tasks must be supplied, separately by each farm, to the veterinary and to other animal health specialists.

Of primary importance for the goal of preventing reinfection is the regulation that individuals having tb or suspected of having tb can not work on cattle raising farms, and persons working or regularly visiting there must have negative tb records.

Petition Concerning Eradication

An additional condition for the state support for eradication is that large-scale agricultural establishments and individual owners of animals must also contribute their own material equipment to eradication. Also, the cattle must be individually marked and, based on it, a continuous animal health record must be kept.

A primary goal is the maintenance of tb-free conditions and the eradication of brucellosis on gradually expanding contiguous areas. Thereby, large-scale cattle establishments consisting of several farms can undertake eradication by individual farms, one at a time.

Petitions for eradication from large-scale agricultural establishments and from individual cattle owners--together with the eradication plan--must be submitted to the Megye or Capital City animal health stations. Permission for eradication, based on recommendation by the station, is granted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, also taking into account the extent of contribution by the large-scale agricultural establishments themselves. For public health reasons, and to maintain freedom from tb or to establish a larger brucellosis-free area, the Ministry can order compulsory eradication on certain large-scale farms and in villages.

How is evaluation of the stock carried out?

1) Evaluation of large-scale cattle stocks on the basis of their infection with brucellosis is done by the stations. In preparation for the evaluation, it must be examined whether there was any incidence of clinically manifested brucellosis within the stock during the previous two years; in its absence, as a result of simultaneous serological testing of all mature animals, the stock must be classified in the following groups:

The stock is classified "A" if

- a) clinical manifestation of brucellosis did not occur for two years;
- b) injection with B19 vaccine was not done at all or only at age 2-4 months of the cattle;
- c) serological testing of the blood of mature animals is negative, or positive in no more than 1 percent of the animals but these animals were immediately removed and their stall was vigorously disinfected;
- d) in the case of abortion or retention of the placenta, laboratory tests excluded the role of brucellosis;
- e) it is free of tb;
- f) restocking was made from their own stock or from stock classified "A".

In heifer stocks, if the serological tests carried out at the time of maturity are negative, pregnant heifers coming from these stocks are classified "A".

The stock is classified "B" if

- a) although no clinical signs of brucellosis occurred within the past two years, but the screening serological tests revealed infection;
- b) a rate of calf increase below the average Megye value is certified by the artificial insemination main station or by the animal health institute performing the tests as not having been caused by brucellosis.

The stock is classified "C" whenever acute brucellosis was diagnosed within the past two years.

2) The cattle stock of individual farmers is evaluated by the official veterinary, the stock of villages and cities is evaluated by the station according to the following criteria:

a) in the case of abortions, test samples must be sent to the animal health institute in charge and, at the same time, blood samples from every mature cattle kept in the yard must also be sent to the institute;

b) when mature animals are sold or in the case of interventional purchase of calves, serological testing must be carried out on all cattle older than 4 months kept in the yard;

c) the veterinary official at the place of origin of the animal must certify that the cattle transported for further keeping in the village comes from a brucellosis-free environment and that the serological tests performed no earlier than within 30 days before transportation gave favorable results.

Stocks of individual animal keepers and village cattle stocks owned by various individuals can be certified free of brucellosis if the results of the above examinations are routinely favorable. Given to the individual animal owners, certificates of brucellosis-free animals are valid until revoked.

Depending on the epidemiological situation, the station may also order the serological testing of cattle in the entire Megye or of cattle in the ownership of individual animal keepers in designated areas of the Megye. In this case, approval must be obtained from the Ministry.

2473

CSO: 5400/3006

BRIEFS

WARNING ON STRAY DOGS--An appeal has been made to the general public to report, any menace of stray dogs in their premises. The appeal was made by the Permanent Secretary in the Kano State Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Alhaji Datti Ahmed, at the launching ceremony of the National Antirabies campaign at the Kundila Veterinary Clinic. He urged people bitten by dogs to report immediately to the nearest hospital for treatment and the dogs to be taken to a veterinary clinic for examination. He observed that similar campaigns were embarked upon some years back to control and eradicate major livestock diseases. The permanent secretary said the campaign was pursued with vigour to ensure strict control of movement of cattle and massive vaccination. He announced that for the past fifteen years the state had not witnessed any outbreak of rinderpest. He then appealed to the Federal Government to provide more facilities to the livestock inspection stations on our borders for the proper control of livestock movements to check migration of affected cattle into the country. Alhaji Datti assured that the government would intensify efforts to control the disease in the state, adding that anti-rabies in the state was made available at veterinary clinics. The permanent secretary also reminded the general public of the laws governing the keeping and handling of pets [Adekunle Oyebanji] [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English. 24 May 82 p 1]

CSO: 5400/5620

TANZANIA

BRIEFS

FOOT-AND-MOUTH QUARANTINE--SHINYANGA--The entire area of Ibadakuli, Chamaguha and Chibe wards in Shinyanga District has been placed under quarantine following an outbreak of mouth and foot and a livestock skin disease. The Shinyanga Livestock Officer, Ndugu S. Nahimana, has said that no cows, goats, pigs, or sheep were allowed in or out of this area. Skins and other animal products have also been placed under quarantine. [Text] [Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 7 Jun 82 p 3]

CSO: 5400/5629

CAMPAIGN ON RABIES LAUNCHED IN KAMPALA

Dampaign on Dogs

Kampala UGANDA TIMES in English 17 May 82 p 3

[Excerpts] A rabbies vaccination campaign starts in and around Kampala today. All dog owners are advised to take their dogs to the nearest vaccination for treatment.

According to a document signed by the acting Veterinary Officer, Kampala, Dr B. A. K. Businge Rusoke, the daily exercise will normally start at 9.00 a.m.

The exercise starts today with Mulago, near the Catholic church, Kamwokya, Kololo Airstrip and Naguru, near the club. The vaccinating team will move from place to place at given times.

The programme ends on June 4 at Kajansi Dispensary.

The treatment will be free of charge.

All field staff in the district have been asked to report to the office of the District Veterinary Officer this morning.

Animals To Be Impounded

Kampala UGANDA TIMES in English 22 May 82 p 3

[Text] People who keep and graze their animals in the city have been warned by the office of the Town Clerk to stop it. Otherwise they will have their animals impounded.

The City Council Public Relations Officer, Mr James Mutabazi, said, the grazing of animals in the city was unlawful. The warning affects all those who live within the city boundaries.

The warning came at a recent monthly Council meeting. The Council noted that there were a number of animals roaming in the city. It pledged that more efforts would be made by the law enforcement officers to impound animals found roaming in the city.

Mr Mutabazi said the Council was concerned about the traffic hazards caused by such animals. Some people stayed with their animals even in flats, causing a lot of damage to the flats.

There were also people who lived with animals in the same houses, and this presented health problems to human beings.

This was not the first warning, he asserted. He hoped that this time many would respond positively.

Appeal to Owners

Kampala UGANDA TIMES in English 24 May 82 p 3

[Text] Dog owners in Kampala District have been called upon to respond to the campaign against rabbies in order to make it a success. The appeal was made by the acting District Veterinary Officer, Dr Businge-Rusoke.

The campaign, which started on May 17, is to end on June 4.

The Commissioner of Veterinary, says from May 14 all dogs must be tied and this order also authorises anybody to destroy any stray dog within the district.

This order will operate until further notice.

Rabies is a killer disease, said Dr Rusoke. It is transmitted by way of bites by the affected animal.

He asked people to cooperate and bring their dogs for the exercise so that the disease is controlled.

He said the disease was prevalent in many parts of Uganda.

Recently, many people have been reported as having died of it. This campaign, he said, was a free service to the public offered by the Veterinary Department.

The department has been giving vaccinations every year but people have not been responding well, the official said.

People who missed the exercise in their areas have been advised to take their dogs to clinics at Wandegeya or Makerere.

Dr Rusoke noted that there were many stray dogs in the district. These were left uncared for after the liberation war. This had made it difficult for the department to take census of dogs. And these presented problems of controlling rabies.

He added: "All stray dogs will be destroyed."

CSO: 5400/5620

BRIEFS

CORRIDOR DISEASE DEATHS--More than 100 head of cattle have died in the last few days in Chief Mapanza's area in Choma following the outbreak of corridor disease. This was revealed yesterday by Mbabala Member of Parliament Mr Edward Nyanga who is on a two-week tour of his constituency. The killer disease had mostly affected Kachenje, Makonka, Mung'unza and Chanzangwe areas where cattle were said to be dying everyday. Mr Nyanga, who appealed to the veterinary and tsetse control department to send officers there to control the situation said the disease originated from Monze because the two districts share boundaries and livestock mix during grazing. But senior livestock officer Mr Isaac Mwenya said Monze district had lost more cattle. He said that a team of veterinary officers would be despatched to the area. [Text] [Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 5 Jun 82 p 5]

OUTBREAK OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH--Meanwhile, about 800 cattle belonging to the Cold Storage Board of Zambia (CSBZ) put in quarantine since last month will remain in restriction for another six weeks following a fresh outbreak of the foot-and-mouth disease in Choma. A spokesman for the minister of Agriculture and Water Development said in Lusaka that the disease had affected some of the herds which had not been vaccinated earlier because of lack of vaccines. The spokesman was optimistic the disease would be brought under control soon. The animals which were destined for Livingstone for slaughter were put in restriction in accordance with a ban on livestock movement in the Southern Province because of the presence of the disease. [Excerpt] [Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 5 Jun 82 p 5]

CSO: 5400/5634

PRESENCE OF ANTHRAX THROUGHOUT COUNTRY AFFIRMED

Harare THE HERALD in English 3 Jun 82 pp 1, 3

[Article by Chemist Mafuba]

[Excerpts]

IT is now inevitable that "Operation Cattle Rescue" will fall "far short" of its intended capacity because of the poor response at communal pen sales, says the chairman of the Cattle Producers' Association, Mr Keith Harvey.

Presenting his report to the CPA Congress, Mr Harvey said it had been anticipated that some 30 000 to 40 000 head would have to be processed monthly, with a total take-off in excess of 200 000.

"So far this year the Cold Storage Commission has bought less than 38 000, even though their buyers have been prepared to take all classes of stock, including rejects," he told the delegates.

"It is now inevitable that the rescue exercise will fall far short of its planned capacity, even if the communal stock owners reverse their present resistance to the sales.

"It is, unfortunately, also equally inevitable that before the onset of the next rainy season thousands of their cattle will be dead."

The congress was told that the Veterinary Services Department was functioning satisfactorily in most areas by the department's acting director, Dr Bob McKenzie.

Two-hundred dip tanks out of a total 1 700 were

not operating.

Contractors had completed six new dip tanks and 10 more were under construction, while a further 100 would be built between July this year and June next.

"In some areas cattle owners have willingly supplied their labour and the department has supplied materials to reconstruct tanks which were not functional," he said.

It was anticipated that the dipping service would become more efficient, and tick-borne diseases would be adequately controlled, provided the necessary equipment and staff were made available.

A new system of persuading farmers to appreciate the value of disease control had been introduced.

While outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease had been brought under control, Dr McKenzie warned that vigilance was needed as there could be no guarantee of separation between cattle and the game animals which carried the disease.

Funds were being made available by the European Economic Community to launch a vaccination campaign. The programme brought EEC approval for beef exports to community countries.

Dr McKenzie said a Government official was in Brussels talking to EEC representatives on

the matter.

Regrettably, he said, numerous human deaths caused by anthrax had been reported in addition to hundreds of cases detected early enough to respond to treatment.

"It must now be accepted that anthrax is present throughout the country," he said. "A continuing threat, especially to cattle, will exist for many years."

Fortunately for Zimbabwe, an effective vaccine against the disease was available.

"Every stock owner is advised to ensure that his cattle are vaccinated every nine months to protect them against this disease."

Twenty-seven people died this year of rabies, the highest recorded in any one year, he said.

Last year 265 600 dogs were vaccinated, but this was considerably below the annual average of 330 000 dogs vaccinated between 1970 and 1975.

"It is to be hoped that with an improvement in the security situation the department will be able to obtain satisfactory nationwide vaccination cover in the dog population," he said.

On tsetse fly and trypanosomiasis control, he said this year priority would be given to the "serious situation" in

Gokwe where flies from the Chirisa Safari Area are threatening to re-invade southwards into the Lupane District, and eastwards into the Copper Quee and Chenjiri small-scale commercial farming areas.

At the same time the Urungwe communal area, Vuti and Karoi farming areas would be protected by a band of ground-spraying staff.

Spraying teams in the Chipuriro District would tackle the invasion through the drainage system by flies which is now threatening the Umvukwes and Raffingora farming areas.

CSO: 5400/5619

BRIEFS

COFFEE RUST REPORTED--Vice Minister of Agriculture and Food Luis Humberto Figueroa Munoz, has announced that 90 percent of the nation's coffee plantations have been more or less affected by coffee rust. He said that up to now the effects of the fungus have not been felt but it has spread over the entire Guatemalan coffee area. For this reason permanent steps are being taken in the affected areas by a joint commission consisting of Guatemalan and Mexican experts. The ministry, the National Coffee Association [ANACAFE] and the coffee growers themselves are cooperating in this activity. He added that to counteract the effects of the disease, modern technology must be applied to Guatemalan coffee production so as to increase its income, and it will be necessary to invest in better equipment in order to eradicate the rust. [Text] [Guatemala PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 29 Apr 82 p 12] 9204

CSO: 5400/2162

APHID INFESTATION POTENTIAL THREAT TO LUCERNE CROP

Fields Sprayed

Auckland NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 8 May 82 p 2

[Text]

The dangerous spotted alfalfa aphid, regarded as virtually the "foot and mouth" of the lucerne world, has now been found on 11 farms between Helensville and Huntly.

Scientists have sprayed about 70 hectares of lucerne on these properties and believe they have killed every aphid.

But they will not know whether the pest has been contained until the spring when conditions are more favourable for its spread.

Meanwhile they will be keeping a watch over the winter.

A leading entomologist, Mr P. S. Dale, who is in charge of the plant health diagnostic centre at Mt Albert, said yesterday that over the next few months scientists would be monitoring the farms where the aphid had been found and lucerne stands elsewhere.

"But unless there is some further development," he said, "we do not expect to be carrying out any further extensive search until the spring."

Extensive surveys have been completed in both the North Island and the

South Island to trace a pest which is a potentially dangerous threat to a valuable New Zealand feed crop — 150,000 hectares of lucerne.

New Zealand has had another pest, the blue-green aphid, for years but so far the more serious spotted variety has not been found outside the Auckland province.

The spotted aphid, which is minute, sucks plant juices and injects a toxin. It can kill young plants and caused havoc in Australian lucerne crops in 1977.

The pest was found on seven Auckland farms last month and a further search located it on a further four.

Danger Minimized

Christchurch PRESS in English 14 May 82 p 17

[Excerpts]

The announcement of the arrival of the spotted alfalfa aphid in 12 lucerne crops from Helensville to Huntly does not particularly concern D.S.I.R. lucerne breeder, Dr Michael Dunbier.

"Although it is the most serious aphid pest of lucerne," said Dr Dunbier, "if we look at it in terms of the overseas experience, it is unlikely to be as severe a pest here as it has been in Australia.

"There are three major reasons why the pest is unlikely to be of major econo-

mic significance in New Zealand," said Dr Dunbier.

"First, our climate is quite different from that in the South Western and Great Plains states of the United States or South Eastern Australia where the pest caused problems. We have much cooler summer temperatures more akin to the northern states of America where the aphid is not a problem.

"Second, all but two of our cultivars are resistant to the aphid.

"Finally, we have known since 1977 that the pest's

arrival was imminent and the D.S.I.R. has been actively breeding for resistant cultivars using germplasm from the United States and the testing facilities offered to us by Australian partners."

Now all the lucerne cultivars on the New Zealand market except "Saranac" and "Wairau" are resistant to the spotted aphid.

"However, a word of warning must be sounded to farmers as only 15 to 20 per cent of the national area is in these new resistant varieties," said Dr Dunbier.

If, in the unlikely event that the pest does establish itself in New Zealand, researchers are well prepared to assist farmers with control measures. Chemical control is available and biological control by a small wasp is possible. This aspect is currently being investigated by the Entomology Division of D.S.I.R.

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

BRIEFS

PEST, CROP DISEASE--According to the general survey station for crop diseases and pests under the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fishery, due to unfavorable weather conditions in various localities, cotton aphids have been reported in Hubei, Jiangsu, Anhui, Shaanxi, Shanxi, Henan, Shandong and Hebei provinces since last May. Hubei and Shaanxi are most seriously hit. Besides, rice blast has become prevalent in Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Hunan, Jiangxi and Zhejiang provinces. The station called on various provinces to pay good attention to field inspection in order to prevent crop diseases in June. [OW271247 Beijing Domestic Service in Mandarin 1000 GMT 26 May 82 OW]

CSO: 4007/429

SEMINAR DELEGATES WARN OF IMMINENT SPREAD OF GRAIN BORER

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 8 Jun 82 p 3

[Article by Brown Lenga]

[Text]

THE seminar on the control of the Great Grain Borer locally known *Scania*, being held here, has warned of an imminent spread of the pest to more regions in the country if urgent measures are not taken.

After five days of discussions at Nzega, delegates from all over Tanzania advised the Government to declare the out-break of *Scania* one of the nation's enemies and launch a country-wide campaign to educate the peasants on the best methods of combating the pest.

The Seminar observed that the pest might have been imported into the country after decentralization in 1972 due to laxity on imported cereals which were brought in without proper inspection.

The seminar which also baptised the pest *duduzi* (prostephanus tranctus) instead of *Scania* a word which participants said had no meaning to many Tanzanians, urged the mass media to lead in the campaign.

"*Duduzi*" is a Tabora local word for any pest that attacks stored crop.

In a twelve-point resolution, the seminar, whose delegates were mostly farm and crop experts from all over Tanzania, insisted that if the Government did not launch a nation-wide

campaign to eradicate the pest, there was a danger that the pest would do more damage to stored crops in the affected five Mainland regions.

The affected regions are Tabora, Morogoro, Mwanza, Shinyanga and Rukwa.

The seminar directed the Ministry of Agriculture to review the structure of its Produce Inspectorate Services (PIS).

The seminar, therefore, advised the Government to strengthen and improve the PIS as one of the urgent measures against introduction of similar crop damaging pests.

The Government was advised to approach neighbouring African countries so as to devise a joint programme of combating and controlling the spread of *duduzi*.

The seminar warned that should any of the neighbouring governments ignore this call, they should not blame Tanzania if the pest spread beyond its borders.

The five-day seminar, began on May 31.

VIETNAM

BRIEFS

HAIPHONG HARMFUL INSECTS--About 6,500 hectares of 5th-month spring rice in Haiphong Municipality have been ravaged by harmful insects, mostly rice blast bug and brown leafhopper. The municipal agricultural office has assigned cadres to various coastal areas to eliminate the harmful insects while the water conservancy sector is supplying water to drought stricken areas to save ricefields from dying. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 18 May 82]

CSO: 5400/5631

FAO ANNOUNCES NEW MEASURES TO BAR GRAIN BORER'S FROM TANZANIA

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 3 Jun 82 p 2

[Text] GRAIN entering Zambia from Tanzania must be thoroughly checked at the border with immediate effect to detect the greater grain borer.

And if the commodities, which include maize, groundnuts, dried cassava roots and paddy rice, are found to have the pest they should be treated or preferably rejected outright.

The warning was issued in Lusaka yesterday by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) when it announced new drastic measures to prevent the pest from spreading into Zambia from Tanzania.

It was reported from Dar es Salaam last month that the vermin which had already caused losses to farmers in five regions in Tanzania might soon spread to Zambia as officials reported that the Latin American native grain eater was now in Rukwa region bordering Zambia.

Tanzania agricultural officials said Rukwa's Mpanda district was the latest area to be infested by the borer which is locally nicknamed "Scania."

They held a meeting with FAO experts on measures to fight the pest which was first reported in Tabora. It had since infested Mwanza, Shinyanga, Morogoro and now Rukwa.

FAO representative in Zambia Mr Hackman Owusu-Agyemang said last week he was not aware the borer was a threat to Zambia and promised to verify the reports with FAO headquarters in Rome.

When contacted yesterday, Mr Owusu Agyemang said he had received a reply and that the UN agency had informed the Zambian Government as far back as October 21 last year through the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Development of the outbreak of the grain borer in Tanzania.

He said Tanzania had not been able to determine precisely the extent of the pest outbreak and FAO would send two consultants there soon to investigate the problem and recommend control measures.

It is suggested that produce such as maize, groundnuts, paddy rice and dried cassava roots imported from Tanzania should be inspected at the Zambian border.