

CMC-AH Crisis Management Centre Animal Health

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M. Bengoumi, DVM, PhD
FAO/SNE Animal Production & Health Officer
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Team composition and dates

- M. Bengoumi (Team leader)
- A. Petrini (Epidemiology expert)
- J. Pinto (FMD expert)
- A. Schiavone (Operations Officer)

1 – 6 May Libya (Tripoli and Benghazi)

Contents

- Introduction
- Main Findings
- Conclusions (Recommendations & Emergency Action Plan)

INTRODUCTION:

FMD O notification of LIBYA to OIE on 31 January 2012, 29 outbreaks in Tripoli region

FMD SAT2 notification of LIBYA to OIE on 12 March 2012, Benghazi region

Request for assistance by Libyan Ministry of Agriculture, Animal and Marine Wealth 28 April 2012

INTRODUCTION:

Mission objectives

- Assess the FMD situation in Libya
- Provide suggestions to improve FMD surveillance and control measures
- Conduct field outbreak investigations and collection and shipment of samples
- Assist on the elaboration of an Action Plan

INTRODUCTION:

Program of the mission

- Tripoli
 - Meeting: CVO MoA and staff
 - Visit of the central lab
 - Field visits to FMD suspected outbreaks sites
 - Sample collection, packaging and shipment to Ref. Lab.
 - UN Country team

- Benghazi
 - Meeting: veterinary staff
 - Visit of the local lab
 - Field visits to FMD confirmed and suspected outbreaks sites
 - Sample collection, packaging and shipment to Tripoli

MAIN FINDINGS:

- Last case reported 17 April 2012 in West area of Tripoli
- Local teams are investigating suspected outbreaks
- New cases investigated by mission team & Libyan Vet staff on 3 May
- Ring vaccination in January, in Tripoli and western area for a total of 500,000 doses for cattle and small ruminants
- No vaccination in Benghazi area
- No minimum biosecurity measures are applied by farmers
- Restriction of animal movements difficult to enforce.

MAIN FINDINGS:

- In the pens connecting the private slaughter house, the team found dromedaries, cattle and sheep from Sub Saharan regions.
- Difficult to assess situation beyond Tripoli and Benghazi areas even for the local vet services.
- Vet and Lab staff are working in close collaboration as one team in investigating outbreaks
- Team visited the farm where SAT2 strain was isolated last February and also a farm with epidemiological links with the first outbreak

MAIN FINDINGS:

Animal movements & markets

- Formal: Imports from Germany, Romania, Spain, Ukraine.
- Informal: Tunisia, Egypt, Sudan, Chad, Niger, Algeria. (in the same farm we can find different exotic breeds), including African buffaloes in Tripoli.
- Animal markets are held weekly in different areas
- Markets visited are not organized (informal), no administration, no veterinary control (open area where animals are sold)
- Existence of several private non compliant slaughter houses

MAIN FINDINGS:

Sampling and shipping

- Sample flow is very limited because of low lab capacities
- Tripoli: the farm visited by team in Jeffara, Nejila Gharbiia area, includes 70 cows of which 10 were infected. 3 adult cows (blood and swabs), 2 heifers (blood and swabs). 4 blood samples taken from sheep.
- Benghazi: Team Investigation on suspected cases (cattle) clinical examination of animals and sampling in one farm (6 blood samples, 5 tissue and 5 swabs), in Talhya.
- Team assisted for the shipment of collected samples to an OIE/FAO reference laboratory



CONCLUSIONS:

- Disease is spreading in country
- Need to strengthen capacities of Vet. Services

FMD threatens to worsen food security and security in the country and region :

- Fragile existing food security situation in post revolution era
- High mortality rates in young animals
- Meat prices are increasing
- Milk production decreasing
- Culling not a suitable strategy in the current situation
- Poverty rates may increase due to the decrease of revenues in the livestock sector

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Strengthen surveillance

of the disease (passive and active), extending the activities to all the regions and all production systems (feedlots, markets, slaughter houses etc).

2. Awareness and communication campaign

on the disease prevention and control (emphasizing the socio economic impact of FMD).

RECOMMENDATIONS:

3. Mass Vaccination:

- Phase 1: elaborate a mass vaccination strategy based on the result of the samples collected up to 4th May, confirmed by a ref lab. Implement general vaccination campaign
- Phase 2: Update the mass vaccination strategy based on the results of the surveillance activities (recommendation 1) and monitoring of the Phase 1

4. Strengthen multi-stakeholder collaboration

(including producers, traders, other administration units) and engage strongly with regional and international networks and organizations exploring the possibility of requesting a PVS follow up (medium to long term).

RESULTS:

3. Sheep : Serotype O

4. Cattle : serotype O

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