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Strategies for preparedness in animal health emergencies

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Challenges during an animal health emergency





Impact on international trade

Avian influenza in the United States

Outbreaks	Birds
68%	7.5 million
32%	42.1 million

Direct cost of the outbreak~ 1 billion dollars







Beef exports from Argentina

Source: United Nations Commodity Trade Statistics, United Nations Statistics Division

Aftosa en Uruguay 2001 Total 2057 focos







Beef exports from the United States



Dealing with the emergency

Alternatives for disease control during an animal health emergency

- Stamping out without vaccination
- Emergency vaccination
 - Suppressive vaccination
 - Protective vaccination
- Mass vaccination
- Do nothing







Stamping out without vaccination

Historically used

- o Massive slaughter of animals is less socially acceptable and expensive
- o Logistics of carcass disposal are complex and environmentally challenging









Emergency vaccination

 A vaccination program applied in immediate response to an outbreak or increased risk of introduction or emergence of a disease

Terminology:

- Protective vaccination
- Suppressive vaccination
- Vaccinate to live
- Vaccinate to die



Suppressive vaccination

- Emergency vaccination carried out within an infected area with the objective to reduce shedding
- Carried out in conjunction with a stampingout policy
- Vaccinate to die



Protective vaccination

- Emergency vaccination carried out on holdings in a designated area in order to protect animals of susceptible species
- Stamping-out of affected premises
- Vaccinated animals are intended to be kept alive following vaccination
- Can be applied as ring vaccination
- Vaccinate to live



Mass vaccination

- Mass immunization of the susceptible population
- o No stamping-out
- Animals are intended to be kept alive following vaccination
- Vaccinate to live



FMD in Uruguay and the UK



Recovery of trade

Time for recovery of status



Disease freedom

Is disease freedom the only answer?

- Traditionally has been the goal
- May not be achievable in a reasonable time frame
- For some diseases may not be achievable at all

Are there other options?

Alternatives

Country freedom

All depend on

Regionalization

Compartmentalization

Commodity-based trade

Effective veterinary services

- Veterinary accreditation
- Para-vets, CAHWs

Producer participation

A shift in approach



Zones and compartments

Recognition of animal populations of different health status

- Zoning
 - Geographical basis
- Compartmentalization
 - Management and biosecurity



Commodity-based trade

The OIE Code explicitly mentions for each listed disease:

Commodities for which no measures are required

• e.g. milk and BSE

Commodities for which specific requirements have been established

• e.g. beef and Foot-and-Mouth disease

Commodity-based trade

 Different approaches depending on the presence or absence of the agent in the commodity

• CBT allows to trade from countries or zones where disease is still present

CBT is NOT a substitute for efficient official veterinary services
Certification processes still required

Layered mitigations

- Country or zone level
 - FMD control program
 - Surveillance
 - Herd-level
 - Vaccination
 - Animal level
 - Ante and post-mortem inspection
 - Commodity level
 - Maturation
 - Deboning

Proactive risk assessments

USDA-APHIS Center for Epidemiology and Animal Health conducted risk assessments for several products to ensure business continuity

Secure egg supply

- Secure broiler supply
- Secure milk supply
- Secure pork supply
- Secure turkey supply





Decision-making

Elements in disease control







$$WBC = \frac{P(success) \times Benefits}{Cost}$$



Trade is based on trust

Trust is based on transparency

- Efficiency of veterinary services
- Surveillance systems
- Disease reporting



Conclusions

