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The Netherlands

Livestock and Products

No New Cases of Foot & Mouth Disease, Reported for Two Days 2001

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Report Highlights:

The intensive livestock area in the southeast of The Netherlands (Northern Brabant) appears to be free of FMD. Confirmed cases are limited to fifteen cases in the eastern provinces. Regarding transport restrictions, the country will be separated into six regions.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
The Hague [NL1], NL

Economic Effects

Since the crisis, the number of animals destroyed is reportedly about 100,000. The economic loss, excluding exports, is estimated at about US\$ 200 million. Annual Dutch exports of cloven hoofed animals and derived products, poultry and eggs, and dairy is; US\$ 3.1 billion, US\$ 1.8 billion and 2.9 billion, respectively. For each of this three sectors, exports to third countries account for about 15 percent of total exports.

Present Status of FMD Infections

Three suspected cases in Northern Brabant (Sprang Capelle, Berghem and Maren-Kessel) appear to be free of FMD. Only a small farm in Elsendorp (Northern Brabant) and a farm in Vaassen (Gelderland) remain suspected. The Dutch MinAg feared that FMD was spreading in the southeast of The Netherlands, a region which has the highest density of intensive pig farming in the country.

Confirmed FMD Cases

All confirmed cases are found in the provinces of Gelderland and Overijssel, between the cities Apeldoorn and Zwolle:

- (1) 03/21 Olst (province of Overijssel)
- (2) 03/21 Welsum (municipality Dalfsen, province of Overijssel)
- (3) 03/22 Oene (municipality of Epe, province of Gelderland)
- (4) 03/24 Nijbroek (municipality of Voorst, province of Gelderland)
- (5) 03/25 Oene (second case)
- (6) 03/28 Tongeren (municipality Epe, province of Gelderland)
- (7) 03/28 Terwolde (municipality of Voorst, province of Gelderland)
- (8) 03/29 Kootwijkerbroek (municipality of Barneveld, prov. of Geld.)
- (9) 03/29 Oosterwolde (municipality of Oldebroek, prov. of Geld.)
- (10) 03/29 Oosterwolde (second case)
- (11) 03/30 Oene (third case)
- (12) 04/01 Vaassen (municipality Epe, province of Gelderland)
- (13) 04/03 Olst (second case)
- (14) 04/03 Oene (fourth case)
- (15) 04/03 Oene (fifth case)

Actions Taken to Contain FMD

On Tuesday, April 3 at 8.00 pm, the Dutch MinAg enforced a quarantine area around the infected farms in which transportation is restricted and all cloven hoofed animals will be vaccinated. The zone, about 75 square miles, between the cities Apeldoorn, Zwolle and Deventer, holds 1,500 farms, 54,000 cattle, 46,000 pigs, 10,000 sheep, and 3,500 goats. The Standing Veterinary Committee gave permission for this measure. Conforming to EC Decision 2001/223, vaccinated cloven hoofed animals must be destroyed within two months. Vaccinated cattle, however, can be kept alive for a year and used for domestic consumption. Conditions are that slaughtering must take place within the quarantine area and meat and milk must undergo special treatment. The disadvantage of keeping vaccinated cattle alive is that exports from this zone will be prohibited for a year (instead of only three months).

Import and Transport Restrictions

All products under transport restrictions are not allowed to be imported. As from April 7 midnight, The Netherlands will be divided in six compartments (see attachment or map on: <http://www.zibb.nl/pages/boerderij/pages/images/a20011315316363.JPG>), and restrictions were amended to the following conditions and products:

- pigs, transport is allowed within a compartment, between compartments only in emergency;
- horses and poultry, from specialized farms also transport between compartments is allowed;
- semen, ova and embryos, transport is free;
- milk, animal feed and destruction material, direct transport between compartments is allowed;
- manure, transport only within the compartments.

Visits to livestock farms are prohibited, with the exception of the farm owners, veterinarians and other emergency services. All transport vehicles and other materials must be disinfected leaving livestock farms.

Export Restrictions

Since Tuesday, March 27, the Ministry of Agriculture announced that restrictions on the trade were relaxed and adjusted to EC Decision 2001/223:

- Provinces of Overijssel, Gelderland, Flevoland and Northern Brabant : meat and dairy products from this provinces must undergo special treatment and is for domestic consumption only. Export restrictions for products from Northern Brabant will probably released within a few days.
- Other provinces: the Dutch Product Boards must draft a protocol ("Product conforming to Commission Decision 2001/223/EC") by which the National Inspection Service for Livestock and Meat (RVV) can certify. Exports of live cloven hoofed animals is still prohibited.
- Import restrictions Germany: "Import of food products of animal origin from countries in which FMD is found is prohibited. An exception is made for canned products."
- Import restrictions Belgium: "Import of food products of animal origin from countries in which FMD is found is prohibited. Even if the product is produced in another country. It is possible to get a clearance by the Belgian MinAg."