



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Voluntary Report - Public distribution

Date: 9/18/2007

GAIN Report Number: UK7024

United Kingdom

Livestock and Products

Update on UK outbreak of FMD

2007

Approved by:

Debra Henke

U.S. Mission to the EU

Prepared by:

Jennifer Wilson/Julie Nicholson

Report Highlights:

Since August 3, 2007, five farms in the locality of the Pirbright Animal Health Laboratory in Surrey, England have tested positive for Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD). The first four farms that were affected were beef cattle farms, and the latest confirmed case involves a farm with a sheep, pigs and beef cattle. This report provides a brief time-line of events since the outbreak was confirmed in early August by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra).

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Annual Report
London [UK1]
[UK]

Since the first confirmed case of Foot and Mouth Disease in Surrey County on August 3, 2007, there have now been a total of five cases. All of the cases are located within 10-11 miles of the Pirbright Laboratory site, thought to be the source of the outbreak. Pirbright is home to the publicly funded Institute of Animal Health and Merial – a private pharmaceutical company with American and French owners.

The strain of FMD virus that has been consistently identified in the Surrey outbreak is not one that has been found recently in animals. It is most similar to strains used in international diagnostic laboratories and in vaccine production, including at the Pirbright Laboratory (Type 01 BFS67).

Please find below a time-line of key events in connection with Great Britain's 2007 outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD). Great Britain includes England, Wales, Scotland, but excludes Northern Ireland.

Note: Where suspicion of FMD is present, the UK's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) has followed the prescribed measures laid down by the European Union for notifiable disease outbreaks. This includes the putting in place of 3km (1.9 miles) Protection Zones and 10km (6.2 miles) Surveillance Zones around suspected cases.

Date	Event
Aug 3	First outbreak confirmed on beef cattle farm in Normandy, Surrey County, England, 3-4 miles from Pirbright laboratory. Defra imposed a Great Britain national movement ban on all ruminants and pigs. Defra also halted all exports from Great Britain of susceptible animals and animal products.
Aug 6	EU Commission adopted a decision identifying Great Britain as a high-risk area from which no live animals susceptible to FMD or products from these animals could be exported to other EU Member States.
Aug 7	Second outbreak confirmed on a beef cattle farm in Milford, also in Surrey County and 3-4 miles from the Pirbright laboratory.
Aug 7	Initial Health and Safety Executive (HSE) Report published on potential breaches of bio-security at the Pirbright laboratory site.
Aug 8	National movement ban imposed on August 3 partially relaxed in Scotland.
Aug 10	Defra released a preliminary epidemiological report citing Pirbright as the likely source of FMD infection. The report also concluded that while further FMD cases in the infected area were likely from secondary spread from the two infected farms, spread outside of Surrey County was very unlikely.
Aug 23	EU decided to lift the trade ban on Great Britain (effective August 25) for live animals and meat product exports from outside the 10km radius Surveillance Zone. It was also announced that the movement bans in Great Britain (GB) would be lifted on August 24 outside the Surveillance Zone, with some precautionary measures remaining in place.
Sept 7	UK released its final epidemiology report concluding that the outbreak was probably caused by leaking drains, heavy rain and construction vehicle traffic at the Pirbright facility. The UK also removed the 10km radius Surveillance Zone and declared the UK to be FMD free.
Sept 11	EU lifted all trade restrictions except for live biungulates from the former FMD Surveillance Zone.
Sept 12	UK confirmed a third case of FMD at a cattle farm in Egham, Surrey County. This farm is located approximately 29 miles via road from the site of the second FMD case, and 10-11 miles from the Pirbright laboratory. As with the earlier cases, the UK implemented Protection and Surveillance Zones around this third case, and exports of cattle, sheep, pigs and other ruminants from GB

	to EU Member States were once again prohibited.
Sept 14	UK confirmed a fourth case at a cattle farm very close to the location of the case reported on September 12 in Egham, Surrey County.
Sept 18	UK confirmed a fifth case of FMD, again very close to the location of the case reported on September 12 in Egham, Surrey County. This latest case involves a farm with sheep, pigs and beef cattle.

A complete time-line of events (together with accompanying documents) is available on the Defra website at: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/diseases/fmd/latest-situation/archive.htm>

For background on the initial outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) in the UK in August 2007, please see GAIN reports UK7017, UK7018, UK7019, UK7020 and UK7023 available at: <http://www.fas.usda.gov/scripts/AttacheRep/default.asp>