



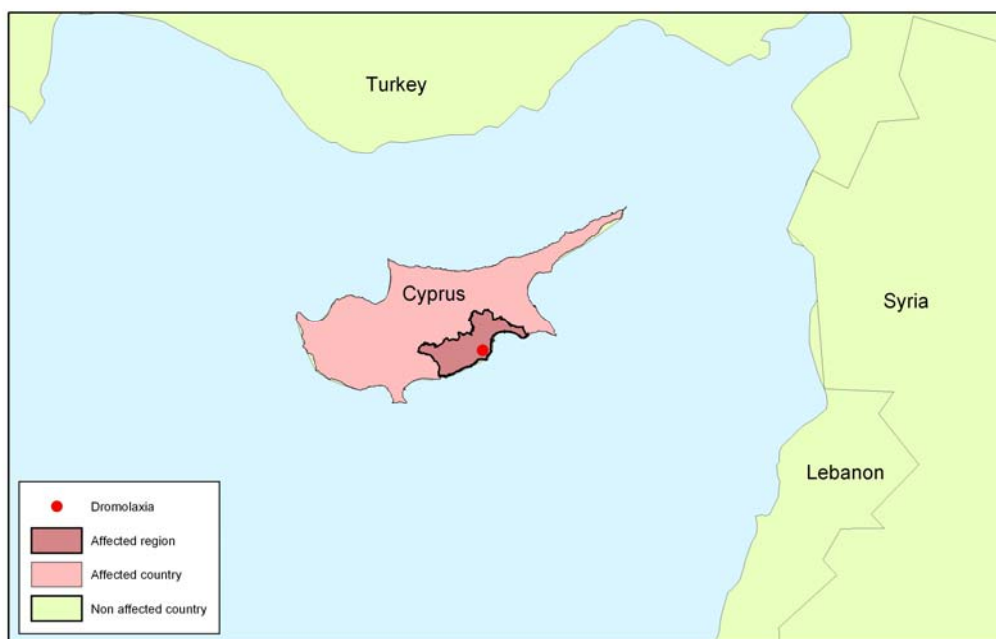
Ref: VITT 1200/FMD - Cyprus  
Date: 6 November 2007

## Foot and Mouth Disease – Cyprus

**Note:** Defra Food and Farming Group - International Trade Core Function (FFG-ITCF) monitors outbreaks of high impact diseases around the world. Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) is among those diseases of major concern.

### Disease Report

On 6 November 2007, the Cypriot veterinary authorities reported an outbreak of FMD (type O virus) in three sheep flocks from Dromolaxia in the Larnaca district. (see map). The disease was confirmed on 5 November by the World Reference Laboratory for FMD, Pirbright, UK. The last reported outbreak of FMD in Cyprus was in 1964 (OIE, 2007). Infected flocks are being culled and control measures have been set up in accordance with EU rules.



Produced by Simon Roberts  
November 2007  
Robinson Projection  
Central Meridian: 30.00

Foot and Mouth Disease in Cyprus  
November 2007

ArcGIS 8 Development Team  
March 2000  
Source: ESRI Data & Maps CD  
Created in ArcGIS 8 using ArcMap

### Situation Assessment

The last reported incident of FMD in Cyprus was in 1964. There have been recent outbreaks of FMD on the Turkish mainland. The last one was April 2007. Turkey maintain a programme of routine vaccination against FMD (serotypes O, A and Asia1) which are endemic in Anatolia – the Asian part of Turkey. The last outbreak occurred close to earlier outbreaks in sheep and cattle were reported in early 2007 (OIE, 2007a; OIE, 2007b) and outlined in Defra's preliminary outbreak assessment (Defra, 2007). These outbreaks were caused by FMD types O and A (strain A Iran 05). The location of the latest outbreak of FMD Type O in European Turkey was also close to the borders of

Greece and Bulgaria. These new outbreaks highlighted the potential risks for the spread of FMD into unaffected countries and regions through uncontrolled movements of susceptible animals.

Two Sovereign Base Areas (SBAs) in Cyprus have implemented effective contingency plans and are working closely with the veterinary authorities.

TRACES (EU electronic notification system) **does record** the movement of live susceptible animals and germplasm because they require veterinary certification under EU rules. In general, data in TRACES is dependant on accurate entry at the point of origin. TRACES **does not record** meat and other products intended for human consumption because these do not require official veterinary certification under EU rules.

Interrogation of TRACES between the dates of 1 July to 4 November 2007 showed three consignments from Great Britain to Cyprus. Two consignments were of bovine semen and certified as per EU rules.

One consignment was of live goats which were exported from Cambridgeshire on 30 July 2007. This was before FMD restrictions were imposed on Great Britain following a case of FMD in Surrey at the beginning of August 2007. In addition, this area is well outside the area where FMD was detected in Great Britain in the August and the September clusters. Subsequent extensive surveillance activities in Great Britain did not detect any cases of FMD outside the established control zones in Surrey.

Defra's database shows that thirteen export health certificates have been issued for meat and dairy products to Cyprus. These were certified in accordance with EU rules that applied to Great Britain due to FMD.

Interrogation of TRACES shows no imports of live susceptible animals and germplasm from Cyprus to the UK for the past few months.

## Conclusion

The likelihood of the introduction of FMD by legal trade from Cyprus to the UK before and after this outbreak is considered negligible. The likelihood of FMD virus being introduced by illegal imports from any affected part of the world remains present and is difficult to estimate. The importance of ensuring that enforcement agencies are vigilant and that a ban on swill feeding is effectively applied is again emphasised.

We do not intend to carry out and publish a full risk assessment on this outbreak but will continue to monitor the situation.

## References

Defra. (2007). Foot and Mouth disease – Turkey – an update.  
<http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/diseases/monitoring/pdf/fmd-turkey010307.pdf>

OIE. (2007). Foot and mouth disease, Turkey. OIE Alert Message TUR 28-02-07. Received by e-mail 28 February 2007.