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Foot and Mouth Disease – Kyrgyzstan

Note: Defra Food and Farming Group - International Animal Health (FFG-IAH) monitors outbreaks of high impact diseases around the world. Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) is among those diseases of major concern.

Disease Report

An outbreak of foot and mouth disease (FMD) has been reported from Batken in Kyrgyzstan (OIE, 2007). The outbreak started in late May and was confirmed as FMD serotype A at the end of May. Vaccination is being applied as a control measure. The

last outbreak of FMD in Kyrgyzstan was in 2006.



Situation Assessment

FMD serotype A is endemic in this region including in Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan, a near neighbour of Kyrgyzstan. It also occurs in Turkey.

Kyrgyzstan is not included in those countries allowed to export susceptible livestock or their

products to the EU (including the UK).

Conclusion

This outbreak does not significantly affect the current situation regarding FMD in this region. There is a negligible risk from legal trade in susceptible livestock because the EU rules (and the UK) prohibit imports of susceptible animals and their products from Kyrgyzstan. The likelihood of the introduction of the virus by illegal imports remains and is difficult to estimate. This emphasises the importance of ensuring that enforcement agencies are vigilant and that a ban on swill feeding in the UK is effectively applied. At this time, FFG-IAH does not intend to carry out and publish a full risk assessment on this outbreak and will continue to monitor the situation.

References

OIE. (2007a). KGZ 08-06-07 OIE Alert Message. Foot and mouth disease, Kyrgyzstan. Received by e-mail 08/06/2007.