

Foot and Mouth Disease Resources

Federal Agencies: Because of the potential scope of a Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) outbreak, emergency response efforts may involve a number of federal agencies. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is the lead agency in an FMD response scenario. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) also will be involved from an investigative capacity if the outbreak is suspected to be intentional, and on-the-ground response protocol will be based on systems developed within the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

- USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service:
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/emergency_response/
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security:
<http://www.dhs.gov/index.shtm>
- Federal Emergency Management Agency:
<http://www.fema.gov/>

Emergency Response Plans: The DHS National Response Plan provides the framework for all U.S. disaster response plans, although on-the-ground response to an incident starts local and gets elevated to the state and national level based on the size of the incident.

The national plan calls for all disaster/emergency situations to be managed using a military-style protocol called the Incident Command System (ICS), which is elevated to the National Incident Management System (NIMS) if the incident, like an FMD outbreak, has national implications. Everyone who would have a role in an FMD response is encouraged to become ICS certified.

- DHS National Response Plan (last updated May 25, 2006):
http://www.dhs.gov/xprepresp/committees/editorial_0566.shtm
- FEMA National Incident Management System Integration Center:
<http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/index.shtm>
- FEMA NIMS Training: <http://training.fema.gov/IS/NIMS.asp>
- FEMA ICS Resource Center:
<http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/ICSResource/index.htm>
- APHIS Veterinary Services Emergency Response Fact Sheet:
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/content/printable_version/fs_emer_response_fmd_07.pdf

State Resources: Since FMD response efforts will start locally and quickly involve a variety of state government resources, there are emergency preparedness efforts underway that will identify the available tools for managing an outbreak.

- National Association of State Departments of Agriculture FMD Resource Page:
<http://www.nasda.org/fmd/>
- Emergency Management Assistance Compact, Mutual Aid Resources:
http://www.emacweb.org/Dynamic/Map/Large_Map.cfm

Affected Species Information: FMD is a disease of cloven-hoofed animals, and an outbreak would affect the beef, dairy, pork and lamb industries as well as wildlife such as deer.

- Beef Checkoff-funded Information, News and Resources on FMD: www.FMDInfo.org
- National Pork Board FMD Fact Sheet and Bio-Security Guide: www.Pork.org
- Dairy Industry FMD Bio-Security Information:
http://www.dairyresponse.com/producer/links_onfarm.html
- U.S. Geological Survey National Wildlife Health Center: <http://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/>

Fact Sheets: FMD is a viral disease that can spread quickly among cloven-hoof livestock once introduced; but veterinarians and government experts agree it is not a public health threat. There are a number of resources containing these and other facts about the disease.

- APHIS Veterinary Service FMD Fact Sheet:
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/content/printable_version/fs_foot_mouth_disease07.pdf
- World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) Foot and Mouth Disease Card:
http://www.oie.int/eng/ressources/en_Foot%20&%20Mouth_Disease_Card.pdf
- OIE Questions and Answers about FMD:
http://www.oie.int/eng/ressources/en_FMD%20Q&A.pdf

FMD in the U.K. and other countries: There hasn't been a case of FMD in the United States since 1929; however, the disease is fairly common in other parts of the world.

- United Kingdom Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) FMD Information: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/footandmouth/>
- OIE FMD Country Status Page: http://www.oie.int/eng/info/en_fmd.htm?e1d6#Liste

Herd Bio-security: American livestock producers can do their part to protect the nation's livestock herds by knowing who's on their farm, immediately reporting any suspicious activity on or around their farms and requiring boot washes before visitors are allowed near animal pens.

- USDA Pre-harvest Security Guidelines and Checklist 2006
http://www.usda.gov/documents/PreHarvestSecurity_final.pdf
- APHIS Fact Sheet on Herd Health Protection:
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/content/printable_version/fs_foot_mouth_disease07.pdf
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security Advisory System:
http://www.dhs.gov/xinfo/share/programs/Copy_of_press_release_0046.shtm
- Center for Animal Disease Modeling and Surveillance: <http://cadms.ucdavis.edu/>

