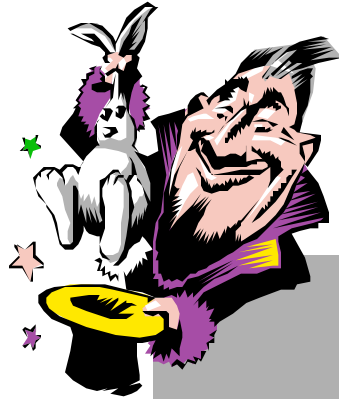


National Emergency Animal Pests/Disease Preparedness Plan



Caribbean Poultry Association's
Table Egg School 2004.

University of the West Indies, Trinidad

Dr. Maxine Parris-Aaron

IICA Guyana & Suriname

Animal Pests/Diseases Emergencies

- **Their Nature and Consequences:**
 - may occur when there are unexpected outbreaks of epidemic diseases or other animal health-related events
 - thus resulting in serious socio-economic consequences for the country.
- **They are usually caused by:**
 - outbreaks of trans-boundary animal diseases (TADs), which are of significant economic, trade and/or food security importance.

Animal Pests/Diseases Emergencies

- **Disastrous Consequences:**
 - compromised food security through serious loss of protein;
 - Major production losses for livestock products such as meat;
 - Losses of valuable livestock of high genetic potential which may restrict opportunities for upgrading the production potential of local poultry industries by making it impossible to import exotic high-producing breeds that are extremely susceptible to TADs;

Animal Pests/Diseases Emergencies

- **Disastrous Consequences** (contd.):
 - add significantly to the cost of livestock production since costly disease control measures need to be applied;
 - disrupt or inhibit trade in livestock, germplasm or livestock products, either within a country or internationally



Animal Pests/Diseases Emergencies

- **Disastrous Consequences** (contd.):
 - inhibit sustained investment in livestock production , thus trapping livestock producers in uneconomic, peasant-type agriculture;
 - Result in public health consequences where diseases can be transmitted to humans (zoonoses) ;
 - Result in environmental consequences when wildlife population is affected;
 - Cause unnecessary pain and suffering to animals

National Emergency Animal Pests/Disease Preparedness planning



- **Benefits of Emergency Animal Pests/Disease Preparedness planning:**

- allows for the quick recognition of a pest/disease while it is still localized and the initiation of prompt action to contain and progressively eliminate the pest/disease. This markedly enhances the chances of eradication.

N.B The target should always be to eliminate progressively and finally eradicate a TAD and prove that national or zonal freedom has been regained

National Emergency Animal Pests/Disease Preparedness planning

- **Fundamental Components of Animal Disease Emergency preparedness Planning -**

Main aim is the mounting of an early effective action in the face of an emergency, the two components are:

- **Early Warning;** and
- **Early Reaction**



National Emergency Animal Pests/Disease Preparedness planning

- These two components require a number of **inputs** namely,
 - a specific written contingency plan,
 - operating procedures,
 - testing of the plan,
 - training of the relevant staff,
 - development of capabilities at national and community level;

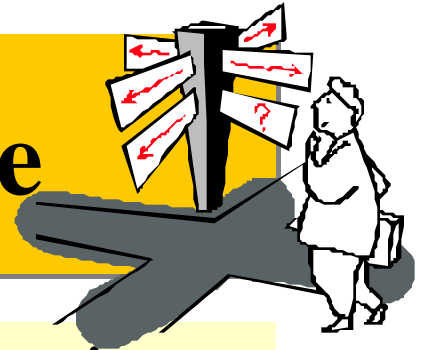


National Emergency Animal Pests/Disease Preparedness planning



- **Required inputs** (contd.):
 - Development of mechanisms to involve other necessary government and private sector services and the farming community;
 - development of capacity to apply all the necessary resources to counter the disease in an effective way (including equipment, personnel, finances), and
 - Advanced establishment of appropriate legal and administrative structures to deal with an emergency.

Early Warning of Disease

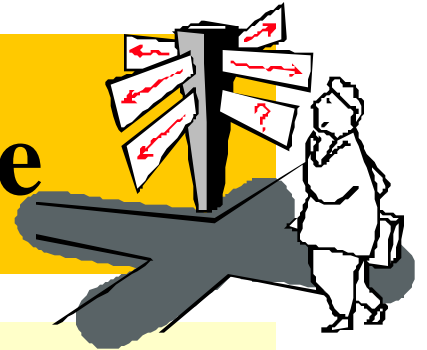


- Enables rapid detection of the introduction of or a sudden increase in the incidence of any pest/disease of livestock.

The success of a country's capability for **Early Warning** will depend on:

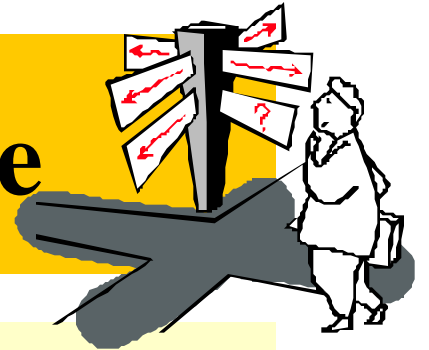
- good farmer and public awareness programmes which involves improvements in farmer/veterinarian interface;
- training of field veterinary officers and auxiliary

Early Warning of Disease



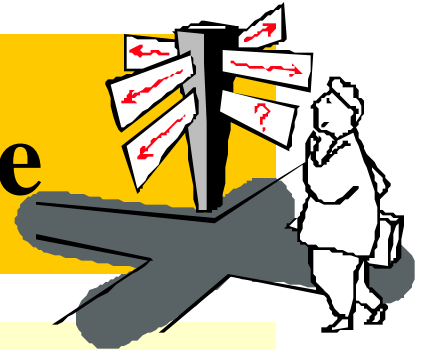
- (contd.):
staff in clinical and gross pathological recognition of serious epidemic diseases, collection and transportation of diagnostic specimens and need for prompt action;
- sustained active surveillance to supplement monitoring, based on close coordination between field and laboratory/epidemiology veterinary services and the use of techniques such as participatory questionnaires, serological surveys and abattoir monitoring;

Early Warning of Disease



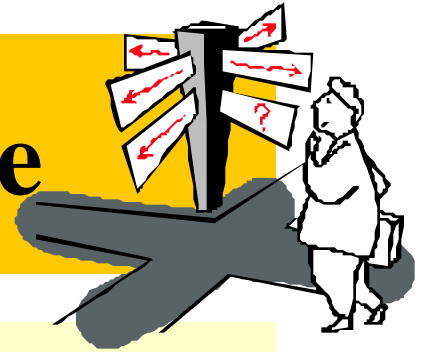
- (contd.):
 - establishment of reliable livestock identification systems for enhancement of disease-tracing capabilities;
 - dependable emergency disease-reporting mechanism to national veterinary services headquarters;
 - the implementation of an emergency information system.

Early Warning of Disease



- (contd.):
 - enhancement of laboratory diagnostic capabilities for priority diseases within national laboratories;
 - Development of strong linkages between national laboratories and regional reference laboratories including the routine submission of specimens for specialized antigenic and genetic characterization of disease-causing agents;
 - Strengthening of national epidemiological capabilities to support emergency preparedness and disease management strategies; and

Early Warning of Disease



- (contd):
 - prompt and comprehensive international disease reporting to OIE and neighboring countries etc.

Early Reaction to Disease Outbreak



- This means carrying out without delay, control activities needed to contain the outbreak and then to eliminate it in the shortest possible time in the most cost effective way and could be achieved by :
 - development of a national emergency disease contingency plan which should be established, tested and refined through simulation exercises;
 - Establishment of a consultative committee on emergency animal disease (or a national animal disease emergency task force) charged with the

Early Reaction to Disease Outbreak



- (contd.)
responsibility of implementing the national disease emergency plan;
- installation of diagnostic capabilities for all high-threat diseases;
- ensure arrangements for involvement of private sector;
- arrangement for epidemic livestock diseases to be included in national disaster plan so that police, army and other services can be involved as and when necessary.

Early Reaction to Disease Outbreak



- (contd.):
 - preparation of legislative and administrative framework to permit all necessary disease control actions to be implemented without delay;
 - Arrangements whereby funding for disease control campaign can be quickly provided;
 - Ensuring that veterinary services are structured in such a way as to facilitate disease reporting and implementation of nationally coordinated disease control/eradication campaign without delay;

Early Reaction to Disease Outbreak



- (contd.):
 - provision of trained personnel and other necessary resources;
 - compensation for any animals or property destroyed as part of the disease control campaign wherever applicable;
 - compensation arrangements whereby farmers or others can be paid fairly and quickly;
 - Ensure access to quality-assured vaccine if necessary;

Early Reaction to Disease Outbreak




- (contd.):
 - harmonization of disease control programmes and cooperation with neighboring countries to ensure a regional approach;
 - determination of the available international agencies involved in epidemic disease control/containment including PAHO/WHO-PANAFTOSA and establishment of required communication channels with them.

National Emergency Animal Pests/Disease Preparedness Plan



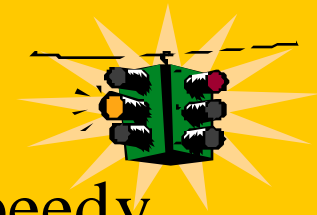
- **What can you do as poultry producers/other private sector personnel;**
 - In most of the Caribbean countries, through the recently concluded SAQS project, funded by the EU, the first draft of a Preparedness Plan has been completed and submitted for editing.
 - All except two(2) have been returned with comments to the countries for final editing, presentation to the subject Minister(s), validation by Cabinet, duplication and distribution to relevant stakeholders

National Emergency Animal Pests/Disease Preparedness Plan

- **What can you do as poultry producers/other private sector personnel**(contd):
- this is a generic document to which appendices can be prepared to address specific diseases of concern to individual countries and the region;
- Producers/Feed Millers etc. must be pro-active in the finalization of the generic document and the preparation of the appendices – speak to the Chief Veterinary Officer in the country and seek to have a representative become part of the National Emergency Committee;

National Emergency Animal Pests/Disease Preparedness Plan

- **What can you do as poultry producers/other private sector personnel** (contd.):
 - Contribute to the collection of data regarding disease occurrence on your farm;
 - Seek to co-sponsor programmes to educate your Members on the use of the Emergency Preparedness Plan;
 - Assist in lobbying governments for the speedy acceptance and implementation of the plans and the provision of emergency funding for its execution if and when required.



National Emergency Animal Pests/Disease Preparedness Plan

- **What can you do as poultry producers/other private sector personnel**
(contd.):
 - contribute to the establishment of a store of emergency supplies – overalls, boots, dispos. etc.



Thank You for your attention

