FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN UGANDA

Situation analysis in Uganda
Spatial distribution and trends

Presented by
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At the
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Greetings from Uganda
Presentation outline

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• Spatial distribution and trends of FMD
Introduction

• FMD is endemic in Uganda
• It was first confirmed in 1953 and since then several control measures have been applied
• FMD serological and molecular research has been undertaken in Uganda mostly since 2006.
• Some cost benefit studies have been done but more requires to be carried out in order to establish cost effective control measures
History of FMD

- Since 1953 when the disease was first confirmed, FMD has occurred as epidemics in various years and areas.
- All outbreak serotypes have been identified. The Asia type was identified only once in buffalo in 1970. Type O and SAT2 have been the commonest in recent years. However serotype A ceased to be reported in 1976, and then reappeared nearly twenty years later in 1999.
- FMD is now considered endemic in Uganda and effort to control outbreaks and eventual eradication are underway.
Factors influencing FMD control

- Animal disease control in Uganda is guided by the Animal Diseases Act of 1964.
- Lack of a specific FMD control policy
- Existence of susceptible wildlife which act as reservoirs and mix with domestic animals very easily
- Poor animal movement regulation both within and across the national borders
Factors influencing FMD control

- Improper vaccines
  - FMD is caused by a virus with seven stereotypes which do not cross protect
- Wide host range, all cloven footed animals are susceptible
- Modes of spread varied; aerosol, contaminated vehicles, equipment/formites, other body fluids
- In apparent carriers; incubation, pharyngeal carriers
Factors influencing FMD control

• The low mortality caused by the disease is a big disincentive to control efforts.
• The role of small ruminants in FMD epidemiology is not clearly understood.
• Weak enforcement of regulations during Quarantine Restrictions facilitates the spread of the disease.
Factors influencing FMD control

• More than 80% of Uganda’s livestock is raised extensively, grazing and watering communally and moving long distances in search of pasture and water especially during prolonged dry periods.

• Delays in vaccine procurement
• Re-stocking exercises
• Tendering of markets by the local government
FMD control strategy

- FMD control in Uganda is undertaken through a multi-disciplinary approach
  - Early detection and reporting
  - Movement control
  - Quarantine restrictions
  - Vaccination with trivalent vaccine (covering the most common outbreak serotypes – SAT 1, SAT 2, and O)
  - Serological and molecular confirmations
- The main control effort focuses on cattle since it is regarded the most important livestock and it is also the one usually clinically affected
- The socioeconomic importance of the other livestock susceptible to FMD is increasing at different rates in areas depending on the changing farming systems and priorities.
FMD control strategy for export

- Uganda is undertaking an FMD control strategy targeting meat export utilizing export zone
- The policy and specific legislation law to enable export under zoning principles are being drafted
- Zoning the country
- Re-centralization of disease control activities is underway.
- Characterization of viruses in outbreaks for tracing and instituting appropriate control measures
- Formation of a technical committee and Task force.
- Determination of the role of wildlife-studies are ongoing.
- Elaboration and enforcement of animal movement control legislations including border control.
FMD control protocol

• FMD is a notifiable disease which should be reported within 48 hours of the outbreak.
• Any person responsible for animals is obliged by the Act to report animal disease outbreaks that occur in their herds.
• The farmer reports disease within 24 hours to the DVO who undertakes a clinical investigation and reports to Commissioner within the next 24 hours.
• The Commissioner constitutes an investigation team composed of an epidemiologist and laboratory scientists and reports are sent to all stakeholders (Farmer, local veterinarian, MAAIF administration, AU IBAR, OIE)
• FMD ring vaccination with an appropriate vaccine is instituted immediately.
Achievements of FMD control

• Increased research in serological, molecular and socio-economic aspects have been made. These will guide cost effective control measures
• Zoning concepts, maps, stakeholder sensitization and acceptance have been achieved
• Plans for an export abattoirs in two zones are underway
• Beef production and marketing is being improved through farmer associations.
• The Ministry is addressing improved breeds, pasture and water availability
FMD research

- FMD research is now continuous and will include vaccine production
Challenges of FMD control

- Resources are usually insufficient
- Most beef animal production is still under subsistence and extensive farming systems.
- Urgent need to commercialize the beef industry
Spatial distribution of FMD outbreaks
### Monthly reports at the epidemiology Unit

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Animals risk</th>
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</table>

Note: Overall there has been poor animal disease reporting
Spatial distribution of FMD outbreaks
Spatial distribution of FMD outbreak

2007 FMD OUTBREAKS

2008 FMD OUTBREAKS

Key
- 2007 outbreaks
- Districts

Key
- 2008 outbreaks
- Districts
Spatial distribution of FMD outbreak
Spatial distribution of FMD outbreak
Impact of FMD in Uganda

- FMD is the major challenge to access to market and to improvement of the livestock industry
- Insidious losses due to losses in weight, milk, abortions, manure and draught power.
- Lack of incentive to adhere to FMD disease control measure
We thank you for planning for us