

CURRENT STATUS OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

Communication from Peru

The following communication is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Peru.

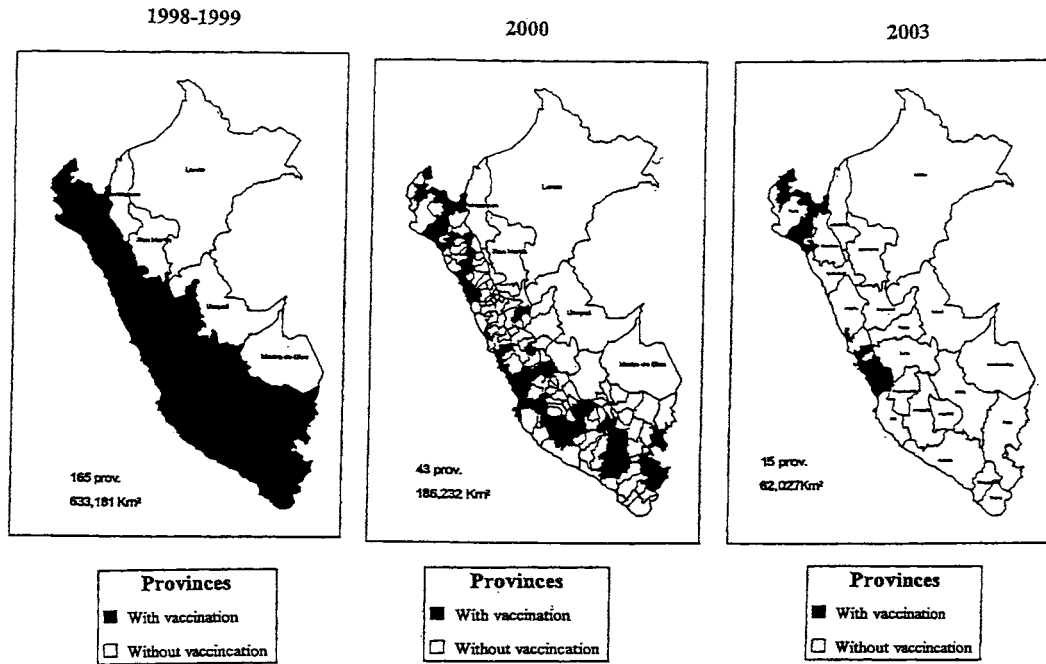
1. Peru remained free from foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) from October 2000 until June 2004. In other words, for three years and seven months consecutively, there were no cases of the disease anywhere within the national territory.
2. On 11 June 2004, there was an outbreak of type O foot-and-mouth disease, which was diagnosed by the animal health laboratory of the National Agricultural Health Service (SENASA). As the official authority in Peru, SENASA took the following steps: declaration of a state of health emergency; activation of the emergency health care team; sealing off of the affected establishments; identification of the origin of the outbreak; establishment of a quarantine programme; sanitary sacrifice and destruction of the affected animals; delimitation of the surveillance zones and the outbreak and perifocal buffer zones; vaccination and revaccination of all susceptible species present in the affected zone; epidemiological tracing measures; surveillance in cattle slaughtering plants, cattle collection centres, and farmland both within and outside the quarantine zone; and formation of epidemiological surveillance, disinfection, diagnosis and inspection brigades.
3. This outbreak was notified to the OIE on Wednesday 16 June, in conformity with the relevant international regulations, and was reported to the thirtieth meeting of the WTO Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures in June 2004.
4. Throughout these activities, an appropriate level of biosecurity was maintained, and professionals were assigned exclusively to each one of the zones established. Quarantine protection was reinforced with added human resources, infrastructure, equipment and logistical support, particularly along the northern border of Peru. Meanwhile, in the affected zone, work was done with sentinel animals from FMD-free zones without vaccination.
5. The state of health emergency lasted from epidemiological week 23 to week 29 of this year, and there were 15 outbreaks in June and 11 in July, bringing the total to 26 outbreaks affecting 132 bovines. Of the affected animals, eight were destroyed and incinerated, and 124 were slaughtered and deboned under official surveillance. The outbreak of the disease was duly brought under control and circumscribed to an area of a radius of eight kilometres.

6. Upon completion of the health assessment, including serological assessments of sentinel animals, which tested negative in ELISA 3ABC and EITB tests, the quarantine was lifted on 3 September 2004.

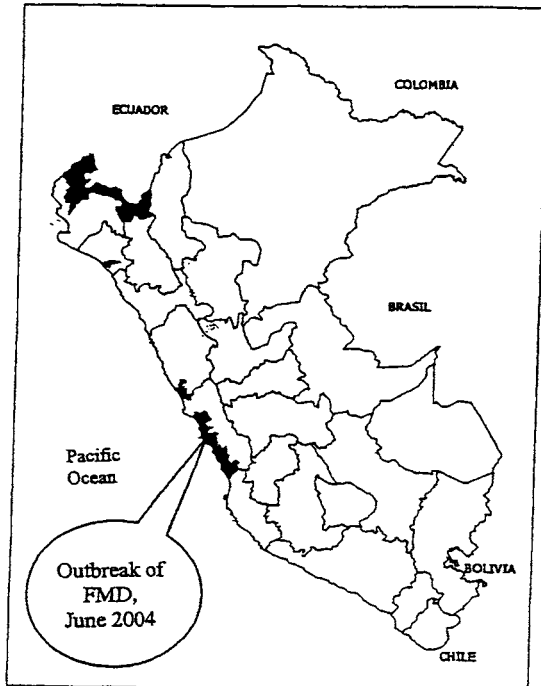
7. The sanitary status of Peru is currently as follows: 97 per cent of the national territory has been officially declared by SENASA to be FMD-free without vaccination; 2.8 per cent as free with vaccination; and 0.2 per cent is in the process of recovering its status of FMD-free with vaccination (district of Lurin in the province of Lima).

8. During the state of health emergency, PANAFTOSA and the Agricultural and Livestock Service of the Republic of Chile conducted emergency management assessment missions on behalf of the MERCOSUR Standing Veterinary Committee, and the results officially reported to SENASA were favourable.

EVOLUTION OF VACCINATION AGAINST FMD: 1998-2003



Zones with vaccination in 2004 and district in which the June 2004 outbreak took place



Project to obtain OIE recognition of the Southern Zone as FMD-free without vaccination 2004

