

Investigation on animal's deaths in Monkoto, Tshuapa Province, April 2016

Enquête sur les causes de décès des animaux à Monkoto, Province de la Tshuapa, en avril 2016

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Summary

Introduction. Authorities from Ministries of Health and Agriculture had reported die-off events among domestic animals in the Monkoto territory since January 2016. These events had affected about 450 animals (pigs, small ruminants and poultry). Clinical symptoms reported were: high fever, bleeding nose, abundant salivation, bloody urine, swelling of belly and vulvas. Alerts received included also human populations, who were consuming the sick and dead animals.

Objective. To investigate the die-off events and to collect samples for laboratory analysis

Methods. An investigation team, including staffs from the Central Veterinary Laboratory of Kinshasa (LABOVET), PREDICT, and local staffs from Ministries of Agriculture, Environment, Health and the CDC Monkeypox project of Tshuapa, was sent to Monkoto, with support from PREDICT-2 | USAID and upon an official request from the Secretary General of Agriculture. The investigation was conducted in 5 villages in Monkoto territory: Mbuaniamia, Djumu Ampongo, Djumu, Isaka and Bololo. Data on animal deaths, clinical symptoms were obtained from the veterinary services and the owners of animals. Biological samples (whole blood, oral, nasal and rectal swabs, tissue samples during autopsies) were collected from sick and dead animals for analyses at the LABOVET and the PREDICT laboratory at INRB.

Results. The team visited the Health Centers where persons who had consumed meat from dead animals were hospitalized with diarrhea and vomiting. No hemorrhagic symptoms were reported. Here we present results obtained from the analysis of the so collected samples.

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