

China FETPV – Success with Third Module and Inaugural Annual Seminar

The 3rd module of the China Field Epidemiology Training Program for Veterinarians (FETPV) 2nd cohort and annual seminar of the China FETPV were successfully held in Qingdao from 19th to 29th November 2013. This training module mainly focused on the topics of applied data analysis, outbreak investigation and review of trainees' field studies. International trainers Prof Dirk Pfeiffer, Dr Julian Drewe and Dr Javier Guitian from the Royal Veterinary College (RVC), London and national trainers Dr Wang Youming, Dr Shen Chaojian and Dr Wei Xinjie from the China Animal Health and Epidemiology Center (CAHEC), Dr Wang Jingfei from Harbin Veterinary Research Institute, Dr Han Xue from China Animal Disease Control Center (CADC) delivered the training to 19 veterinary officers from the national, provincial and municipality veterinary authorities in China.



▲ China FETPV Annual Seminar



▲ FETPV 1st cohort trainee making a presentation during the Annual Seminar



▲ FETPV trainees were having a discussion with Dr Julian Drewe

The inaugural two-day Annual Seminar was held from 28th to 29th November and representatives from provincial Centers for Animal Disease Prevention and Control (ACDCs), CAHEC, RVC and FAO ECTAD China participated. The seminar was facilitated by Dr Wang Youming, Dr Kang Jingli, Dr Shen Chaojian and Dr Guo Fusheng. During the seminar, Dr Huang Baoxu from CAHEC, Prof John Edwards from FAO ECTAD China and three RVC trainers delivered thematic presentations. It was the first annual seminar since the launch of the China FETPV program in 2010. This created a good opportunity to bring the FETPV trainees from the 1st and 2nd cohorts together to share their experiences in their respective research domains and to have in-depth discussion over the veterinary epidemiology practices in China and key issues regarding animal diseases control with provincial professionals. The next training module will be held in June/July 2014.



▲ Group photo for China FETPV Annual Seminar

Animal Health Workshop on “Inspection and Quarantine – animal biosecurity on the frontlines”

Prof John Edwards was invited to attend and present at the Animal Health Workshop on “Inspection and Quarantine – animal biosecurity on the frontlines” in Hong Kong from 12th and 13th November. He delivered a presentation on the “role and work of FAO in China” at the workshop. There was particular interest and discussion about approaches to surveillance for influenza viruses. During the workshop, Prof Edwards also met with international experts and senior officers from the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) of China. This mission helped to establish the relationship between FAO and the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) of Hong Kong and its veterinary services and this will assist with the work that FAO is doing in mainland China.

Participation in meetings on Streptococcus in Guangxi and joint control of TADs in Inner Mongolia

The Streptococcus laboratory in the Animal Health College, Nanjing Agriculture University (NAU) is the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) reference laboratory. To help related countries to improve their Streptococcus suis diagnosis and control capacities, the NAU assisted by Guangxi Center for Animal Disease Prevention and Control (Guangxi ACDC) organized a training course for Southeast and South Asian countries in Nanning, Guangxi from 5th to 7th November 2013. Trainees came from Bangladesh, Maldives, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam to attend the training. Dr Guo Fusheng, National Technical Advisor of FAO Emergency Center for Transboundary Animal Disease (ECTAD) China attended the opening ceremony. Dr Guo explained why zoonotic diseases were re-emerging and that emerging infectious diseases (EIDs) were becoming more frequent in recent years. He also expressed his appreciation for the NAU's contribution to the region.

Dr Guo Fusheng joined the Asian Development Bank (ADB) mission to Inner Mongolia from 20th to 22nd November. The ADB funded Technical Assistance Project entitled "Joint Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs) in China and Mongolia" was officially launched in 28th - 29th November 2013. This project aims at helping the two countries formulate policy recommendations toward establishing a regional mechanism for the joint prevention and control of TADs and conduct priority capacity-building programs. Dr Guo together with the international expert Dr Nick Honhold and officials from the national and local Veterinary Bureau travelled to Xinlingol and visited border veterinary stations and herds to obtain information of cross border trade, animal disease prevention and control measures at the border area. Information obtained from this mission will be utilized for the preparation of project activities and a manual in community-level TADs prevention and control to guide animal health workers in the border communities of the two countries.



▲ Group photo for Streptococcus training in Guangxi

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Upcoming Activities:

1. Prof John Edwards and Dr Guo Fusheng will travel to Wuhan in early December to collaborate with Huazhong Agricultural University in an initiative to strengthen university level training in veterinary epidemiology training in China.
2. The OIE/FAO network of expertise on animal influenza (OFFLU) Vaccination Technical Meeting will be held in Beijing from 3rd to 6th December 2013.
3. The launching meeting of the EU China LinkTADs project will be held in Rome from 9th to 11th December 2013.
4. Prof John Edwards and Dr Guo Fusheng will attend the USAID Value Chain and Zoonoses Meeting in Bangkok from 16th to 18th December 2013.