



Cornell University
College of Veterinary Medicine

Gulf Region Animal Health Overview

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Transboundary Animal Diseases and Their Effect on International Trade

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Gulf Cooperating Council (GCC) Countries



GCC Countries

- Kuwait
- Bahrain
- Qatar
- UAE
- Oman
- Saudi Arabia

+ Yemen



Workshop Participants (45)





Workshop Activities

- ▶ Lectures on several TADs, epidemiology, risk assessment & emergency management
- ▶ Development of domestic animal and veterinary workforce profiles
- ▶ Disease response - desktop exercise
- ▶ Evaluation of veterinary needs



Domestic Animal Estimates:

- ▶ Poultry: 89 M
- ▶ Small ruminants: 31.5 M
- ▶ Cattle: 1.6 M
- ▶ Camels: 870 K
- ▶ Horses: 46 K



Veterinary Workforce:

Country	Native	Expatriates	No. Colleges of Vet. Med.
Bahrain	16	15	0
Kuwait	10	110	0 (2 in development)
Oman	30	170	0
Qatar	4	126	0
Saudi Arabia	210	300	2
UAE	6	294	0
Yemen	150	50	1
	426	1065	
Total: 1,491			



Equine Profile

- ▶ High degree of importance & mobility
- ▶ Racing & breeding activities
- ▶ Main disease concerns:
 - African Horse Sickness
 - Dourine & Surra
 - Glanders
 - West Nile
 - Piroplasmiasis
 - Equine Viral Arteritis



Bovine Profile

- ▶ Mostly for dairy production
- ▶ Largest producers in Saudi Arabia and Oman
- ▶ Diseases of concern:
 - FMD
 - IBR
 - Tuberculosis
 - Brucellosis
 - Theileriosis
 - Old world screwworm (Saudi Arabia & Yemen)



Camel Profile

- ▶ World estimate: 20M (18M Dromedary)
- ▶ Wild camels: 400-600 Bactrian
- ▶ Milk, wool, skin, traction, dung for fuel, transport, riding, racing (UAE, Oman & Qatar)
- ▶ One large (800) camel dairy In Dubai
 - 5,000L milk per day, sold in supermarkets



Camel Profile (cont...)

- ▶ Diseases of concern:
 - Rabies
 - Camelpox
 - RVF – abortions only (?)
 - FMD – only in Bactrian camels
 - Tuberculosis
 - Brucellosis (B. abortus & B. melitensis)
 - Plague (Y. pestis) – bubonic & septicemia
 - Leptospirosis
 - Melioidosis



Sheep & Goat Profile

- ▶ Local production mostly for pleasure & prestige. Imported sheep for consumption
- ▶ Diseases of concern:
 - Sheep & Goat Pox
 - PPR
 - Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia (CCPP)
 - Brucellosis
 - FMD
 - RFV
 - New World Screwworm (Saudi Arabia & Yemen)





Avian Profile

- ▶ Commercial broilers & layers in many countries
- ▶ High number of valuable falcons
- ▶ Diseases of concern
 - HPAI (reported from Kuwait & Saudi Arabia)
 - Newcastle
 - Gumboro
 - Infectious bronchitis
 - Mycoplasma



Evaluation of Veterinary Needs

- ▶ Regional animal health research center
- ▶ Implementation of GIS technologies
- ▶ Creation of a GCC veterinary association
- ▶ Regional plans for disease control
- ▶ Biosecurity evaluation and certification of producers
- ▶ Increase the number of veterinary colleges
- ▶ Animal identification



The Animals of Gulf

