

CONTROL STRATEGIES EMPLOYED BY THE LIVESTOCK FARMERS DURING THE OUTBREAK OF TRANSBOUNDARY DISEASE – FMD

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Abstract: The study was undertaken to find out the control strategies employed by the livestock farmers during the outbreak of disease. A Random sample of 70 Livestock farmers who purchased animals from the nearby livestock shandies in Erode District of Tamilnadu was selected for the study. The data were collected through personal interview method.

Keywords: Control strategies, livestock farmers and transboundary disease

Introduction

FMD is the most contagious transboundary animal disease affecting cloven footed animals. FMD has been ranked as the highest priority disease for control and eradication in India. The transboundary nature and high economic impact of FMD justify its inclusion in the OIE list of immediately notifiable diseases. This is also the reason for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the OIE deciding to launch a joint initiative for the global progressive control of FMD, under the umbrella of the FAO/OIE Global Framework for the Progressive Control of FMD and Other Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs). The global control of FMD is in accord with OIE objectives to achieve the most informed and least restrictive disease control measures for the safe trade of animals and animal products, in compliance with the World Trade Organization (WTO) Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) Agreement and OIE standards. As long as FMD persists in affected countries, all neighbouring countries remain at high risk for introduction of the disease. It is unrealistic to expect poor countries with FMD to bear the full cost of disease eradication because successful control will have high immediate costs but will generate both short- and long-term positive results (e.g. reduction of the risk of FMD) for neighbouring

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countries and the global community (Forman et al., 2009). India is endemic for FMD and it is very much indispensable for our country to control this disease to increase productivity of livestock sector.

Materials and Methods

The study was undertaken to find out the control strategies employed by the livestock farmers during the outbreak of disease. A Random sample of 70 Livestock farmers who purchased animals from the nearby livestock shandies in Erode District of Tamilnadu was selected for the study. The data were collected through personal interview method.

Results and Discussion

The Control Strategies employed by the Livestock Farmers during the outbreak of disease were presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Control Strategies employed by the Livestock Farmers during the outbreak of disease

S.No	Control Strategies	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Vaccination of animals	21	30.00
2.	Restriction of movement of animals	15	21.43
3.	Separation of young stock from adult	13	18.57
4.	Isolation of infected animals	11	15.71
5.	Disinfection of premises	7	10.00
6.	Avoid grazing of animals	3	4.29

The results of the study revealed that vaccination of animal against FMD is the most important control strategy employed by the livestock farmers (30.00%) during the disease outbreak followed by restriction of movement of animals (21.43%), separation of young stock from adult (18.57%), isolation of infected animals (15.71%), disinfection of premises (10.00%) and avoid grazing of animals (4.29%). Similar findings were reported by Forman et al., 2009, Singh (2011), Deepa et al., (2012) and Jitendra K Biswal et al., 2012. The findings of the study implies that strategies should be properly employed by the livestock farmers during outbreak of disease to establish a disease free zone and to improve the production performance of animals. It can be made possible only through implementation of veterinary extension education for livestock owners about economics of the diseases and by readily

availability of vaccination service (Deepa et al., 2012). The findings of the study also implies that FMD control should be based on the efficient epidemiological assessment of incidence and distributions of FMD disease.

Conclusion

Good delivery system and effective vaccination coverage along with active support from the farmers, Government decision makers, government research institutes, nongovernment agencies and manufacturers of vaccine would effectively control Foot and Mouth Disease in India (Singh 2011).

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