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Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
CENTRAL ZOO AUTHORITY

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30-09-2022

CIRCULAR

Sub: Precautions to be undertaken by zoos in the light of increasing number of cases of Lumpy Skin Disease – regarding.

The undersigned is directed to communicate this office advisory to zoos for precautions to be taken to prevent the ingress of Lumpy Skin Disease.

2. Lumpy skin disease (LSD) is an infectious viral disease of cattle and buffaloes caused by the Capripox virus of family Poxviridae. It is transmitted by arthropod vectors such as mosquitoes, biting flies and ticks. Originally found in Africa, it has also spread to countries in the Middle East, Asia, and eastern Europe. The disease is characterised by mild fever for 2-3 days followed by development of stiff, round cutaneous nodules (2- 5 cm in diameter) on the skin all over the body. These nodules are circumscribed, firm, round, raised and involves the skin, sub- cutaneous tissue and sometimes muscles. Symptoms may include lesions in mouth, pharynx and respiratory tract, emaciation, enlarged lymph nodes, oedema of limbs, reduction in milk production, abortion, infertility and sometimes, death.

3. Diagnosis is by histopathology, virus isolation, or PCR

4. As Lumpy Skin Disease is bovine viral disease, zoos are advised to remain alert and vigilant for any signs among captive animals and incidences, if any, in nearby areas. Any cases to be addressed immediately with due information to local government bodies and to the office of the Central Zoo Authority.

5. Further zoos must identify personnel working in the zoo with domestic cattle or those living in areas that have domestic cattle farms. Should there be an instance of the disease with the cattle the same must be reported to the

respective Animal Husbandry Department. Due precaution taken by the individual when entering the zoo premises.

6. Preparedness with specific reference to Bio-security needs may also be assessed and strengthened.

7. Information available at (<https://www.dahd.nic.in/division/advisory-lumpy-skin-disease>)

Broad measures for prevention and control are suggested below;

- Immediate isolation of sick/ infected animals from the healthy animals. Any animal suspected of febrile nodular skin disease should be immediately quarantined.
- Avoid common grazing and thereby direct contact.
- Efforts should be made to reduce the vector population in affected areas. Unaffected animal should be applied with non-toxic insect (ticks, flies, mosquitoes, fleas, midges) repellent to minimize mechanical transmission of Lumpy Skin Disease. Limiting vector breeding sites, like standing water, slurry and manure is a sustainable, affordable and environmentally friendly way to reduce blood-feeding insect populations.
- All biosecurity measures and strict sanitary measures for disposal of personal protective equipment (PPE) etc. used during sampling from affected animals should be followed.
- People residing in vicinities of cattle markets located within 10 km radius of the epicentre of infection should provide this information to the zoo and due precautions must be put in place.
- Thorough cleaning and disinfection of affected personnel, premises and contaminated environment including vehicles plying through slaughter houses, animal holdings should be carried out with appropriate chemicals/disinfectants [Ether (20%), chloroform, formalin (1%), phenol (2%/15 minutes), sodium hypochlorite (2-3%), iodine compounds (1:33 dilution), quaternary ammonium compounds (0.5%)].
- Restrict animal movement, transfers, releases.

Assistance may be sought from Centre for Animal Disease Research and Diagnostic (CADARD), ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh.

Sincerely,


30/09/2022
Dr Sanjay Kumar Shukla
(Member Secretary)

To
The Chief Wildlife Warden of all States / Union Territories,

Copy forwarded for information / necessary action to:

1. The Joint Secretary (Livestock Health), Dept of Animal Husbandry and Dairying
2. The Joint Director (Wildlife), MoEF&CC.
3. The Director, Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izzatnagar
4. The Member Secretary of the concerned State Zoo Authority.
5. The Officer in-charge of all recognised zoos.
6. DPA - CZA - to upload on website of the CZA.


Dr Sanjay Kumar Shukla
(Member Secretary)