

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

The Animal Health Ordinance 1998 is the piece of Falkland Islands legislation dealing with “exotic” or “notifiable” diseases. It applies most of the conditions set out in the UK’s Animal Health Act 1981. If any of these diseases are suspected by anyone, anywhere, the Veterinary Department or the Police **MUST**, by law, be contacted straight away. The infected animal(s) should not be moved more than is necessary to examine them.

These diseases have serious implications for both human or animal health and/or animal production. They have been chosen either because of their international importance or because they do not exist in the Falklands. The Veterinary Officers are available to examine any suspect animals. If any of these diseases were to be found in the Falklands, it is **ESSENTIAL** that the authorities be notified as soon as possible.

Highly Infectious

Most internationally important, caused by viruses

Foot and Mouth Disease

- Cattle, Sheep, Goats and Pigs
- High fever, salivation and lameness
- Blisters in mouth and between hoofs

Vesicular Stomatitis

- Horses, Cattle and Pigs
- Similar to Foot and Mouth

Swine Vesicular Disease

- Pigs
- Clinically the same as Foot and Mouth

Rinderpest (Cattle plague)

- Cattle, but also sheep, goats and pigs
- Death
- High fever, diarrhoea, mouth lesions and eye discharge

Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR)

- Sheep and Goats
- Similar signs to Rinderpest

Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia

- Cattle
- Fever, coughing and chest pain

Lumpy Skin Disease

- Cattle

- Fever, possibly with nasal discharge, salivation, lameness and eye discharge
- Multiple nodules in skin appear about 1 week later

Rift Valley Fever

- Sheep and Cattle and Humans
- High fever, abortion and death

Sheep and Goat Pox

- Sheep and Goats
- Fever, eye and nose discharges, nodules on skin

African Swine Fever

- Pigs
- Fever, blue blotches on skin, loss of appetite, death

Classical Swine Fever

- High fever and death

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza

- Chickens
- Death

Newcastle Disease

- Chickens
- Death

Not Highly Infectious

MULTIPLE SPECIES

Anthrax

- Sudden death

Echinococcosis/hydatidosis (Hydatid)

- Cysts in the internal organs of sheep
- Sheep / Dog life cycle

Rabies

- “Madness”, salivation and paralysis

CATTLE DISEASES

Bovine Brucellosis

- Abortion in females, sterility in males

Enzootic Bovine Leucosis

- Enlargement of lymph nodes

Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (Mad Cow Disease)

- Apprehensive and antagonistic behavior

- Twitching and loss of balance

SHEEP AND GOAT DISEASES

Ovine epididymitis (*Brucella ovis*)

- Infertility in rams
- Abortion and/or lamb death

Caprine and Ovine Brucellosis (excluding *B. ovis*)

- Vague in animals – abortion
- Serious in human contacts

Scrapie

- Intense itching, muscle tremors, abnormal gait and emaciation

Psoroptic Mange/Sheep Scab

- Itchiness and shedding of fleece
- Oozing lumps in skin

EQUINE DISEASES

Contagious Equine Metritis

- Vaginal discharge leading to infertility

Equine Encephalomyelitis (Eastern and Western)

- Nervous signs including blindness, tremors, excitement or depression

Equine Infectious Anaemia

- Depression and weakens followed by jaundice and swellings

Glanders

- Fever, ulcers in nose, nodules in skin

CANINE DISEASES

Canine Distemper

- Nasal and Eye discharges followed by involuntary twitching

It is expected shortly to have legislation in place making the following diseases notifiable:

MOLLUSC DISEASES

Bonamiosis

Haplosporidosis (*H. nelsoni* or *H. costale*)

Perkinsosis

Marteilosis

Mikrocytosis (*Mikrocytos mackini*)

The Veterinary section has a number of videos on some of these diseases that are available for loan. Please contact the Veterinary Department if you would like more information on any of these diseases.