

Disease Diagnosis, Surveillance and Biological Production

The introduction of newer technologies particularly for crossbreeding and upgradation of indigenous breeds and with the liberalization of trade, the chances of ingress of exotic diseases in to the country and subsequently in the division have increased. The imports of livestock, poultry and its products and the long stretch of boundaries with the neighbouring country increases the possibilities of ingress of diseases.

The programme of Disease Diagnosis, Surveillance and Biological Productions in being implemented by the department and the Joint Director Institute of Animal Health and Biological products RS Pura monitors and coordinates the activities under this programme.

Biological Production

To cater to the needs of vaccines, the department has established a biological production centre at R.S.Pura which is engaged in production/procurement/distribution of different types of vaccines to be used for control of Various disease whose incidences are very high in the hilly and other regions of the area.

Disease Diagnosis

To provide prompt disease diagnostic facilities to the livestock population of the division, the department has established disease diagnostic laboratories one each in Jammu, Kathua, Udhampur, Doda, Poonch and Rajouri districts of the division. These laboratories are manned by the Disease Investigation officer who is assisted by Laboratory Officer and other supporting staff. Besides a divisional level referral lab has been established at TalabTillo Jammu.

Disease Surveillance

The main aim of this programme is to locate any foci of economically/zoonotically important diseases so that appropriate effective measures are taken before it flares up into an outbreak and cause losses. The job is carried out by:-

1. Referral Laboratory, TalabTillo, Jammu headed by Deputy Director, Research and Production. Samples collected routinely by various districts and migratory birds are tested at the laboratory or got tested from Regional Disease Diagnostic Laboratory Jalandhar, High Security Lab. Bhopal or some other institutions. The inferences are communicated to the concerned districts for appropriate remedial measures.
2. Epidemiological Unit, TalabTillo, Jammu headed by Epidemiologist. The unit is acting as a Co-ordinating unit for the state under Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) sponsored All India Co-ordinated project on Foot and Mouth Disease. The unit collects and gets sample tested for presence of Foot and Mouth Disease. The mandate of the unit under the project is:-

- I. Surveillance of F.M.D virus in Jammu & Kashmir State.*
- II. Typing of F.M.D virus samples received / collected from field outbreaks and to identify the virus strains prevalent in different areas of the State.*
- III. To apprise the authorities' of the Animal / Sheep Husbandry Departments, field Veterinarians and live stock owners concerning the disease situation along with prophylactic strategies for the control of disease.*
- IV. Estimation of economic loss due to FMD in the State.*

