Potential Impact of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in California: The Role and Contribution of Animal Health Surveillance and Monitoring Services

By: Javier M. Ekboir

A 1999 UC Agricultural Issues Center report describes a potential economic nightmare for California’s livestock industry—the possible sudden appearance of foot-and-mouth disease. A detailed study of the industry and the results of economic modeling reported by Javier M. Ekboir in the 123-page volume emphasize the crucial importance of quick detection and immediate control of an outbreak of the disease. Ekboir’s results indicate that a few days could make a difference of billions of dollars in control costs, production losses, and quarantined markets.

Ekboir, now with CIMMYT in Mexico City, was formerly a post-doctoral fellow in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics and the Department of Medicine and Epidemiology in the School of Veterinary Medicine at UC Davis. He conducted his project in cooperation with the UC School of Veterinary Medicine and with the support of the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the California Office of Veterinary Services, USDA-APHIS.


Table of Contents

Acronyms
Acknowledgments
Chapter
1 Introduction
2 The Epidemiology of FMD
3 Control and Eradication of FMD
4 Role of the Livestock Industry
5 Trade Issues
6 The Action Plan and Related Issues
7 Modeling a FMD Outbreak in Tulare County
8 Estimation of the Outbreak Cost
9 Summary and Recommendations
References
Appendix
A: California’sLivestock Industries
B: Key Parameters of the Epidemiological Model
C: Key Parameters of the Economics Model
D: List of Contacts
E: Recent FMD Outbreaks in Taiwan and Italy
F: Literature Review

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