

OIE POLICY PAPER RELATED TO WILDLIFE DISEASES



CODA - CERVA

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Diseases (SCAD)

OIE Working Group on Wildlife Diseases

OIE *ad hoc* Group on Epidemiology

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Draft definition for wildlife for the purpose of the Terrestrial Code



OIE Working Group on Wildlife Diseases (1999)

OIE *ad hoc* Group on Epidemiology

		PHENOTYPE SELECTED BY HUMANS	
ANIMALS LIVE UNDER HUMAN SUPERVISION OR CONTROL		YES	NO
	YES	Domestic Animals (a)	Captive Wild Animals (c)
	NO	Feral Domestic Animals (b)	Wild Animals (d)

“Wildlife” = c & d (+ b)

Proposal by the Terrestrial Animal Health Code Commission for adoption by the Member Countries



Wild animal

means an animal that has a phenotype unaffected by human selection and lives independent of direct human supervision or control.

Captive wild animal

means an animal that has a phenotype not significantly affected by human selection but that is captive or otherwise lives under direct human supervision or control, including zoo animals and pets.

Feral animal

means an animal of a domesticated species that now lives without direct human supervision or control.

Approaches to wildlife in the Terrestrial Code



Two approaches followed in the current Terrestrial Code:

1. The status of infection in (captive) wild animals and feral animals does not affect the status of domestic species because:

- a. No control in these animals is possible and every country essentially shares the same risk e.g. avian influenza
- b. Control is feasible and an effective separation and reduction of transmission is achievable between wild and domestic populations

2. The status of infection in (captive) wild animals and feral animals affects the status of domestic species because:

- a. The disease is vector-borne and therefore an effective separation and reduction of transmission is difficult to implement
- b. The disease is highly infectious and spreads readily from wild to domestic animals

Application of zoning and compartmentalisation in relation to the wildlife/domestic animal interface

Zoning

applies to an animal subpopulation defined primarily on a geographical basis (using natural, artificial or legal boundaries)

Compartmentalisation

applies to an animal subpopulation defined primarily by management and husbandry practices related to biosecurity

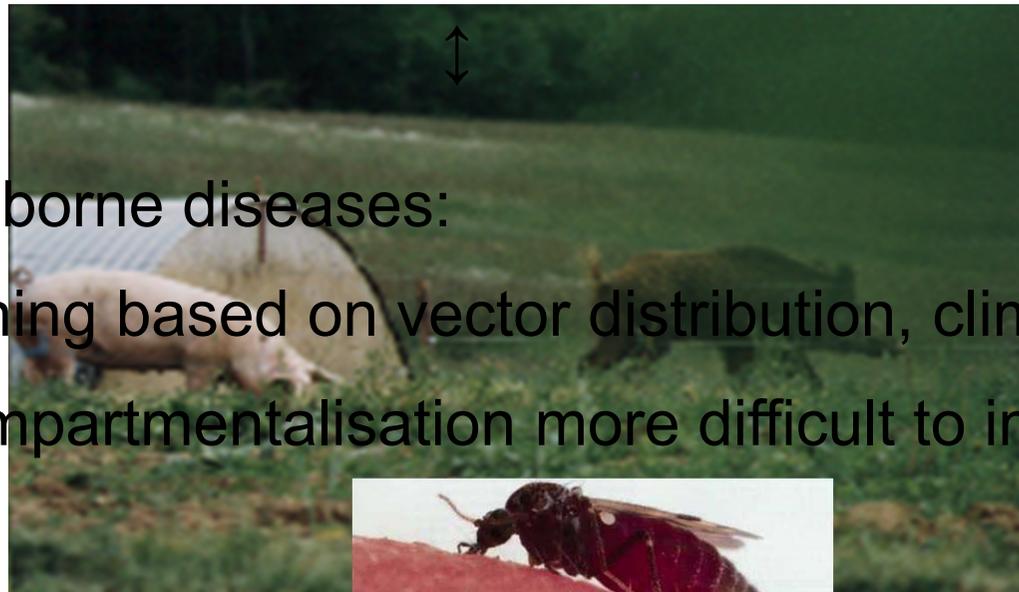
Application of zoning and compartmentalisation in relation to the wildlife/domestic animal interface

Diseases that have a wildlife component

- zoning applicable if the interface between domestic and wild populations can be defined on a geographical basis

- vector borne diseases:

- ° zoning based on vector distribution, climate, etc
- ° compartmentalisation more difficult to implement



Specific surveillance guidelines for diseases where wildlife is implicated

General Chapter on surveillance (Ch. 1.4)

The Terrestrial Code does not require specific surveillance for all diseases where feral or wild animals are implicated.

- Surveillance in wild animals is implied for freedom
'The target population for surveillance aimed at identifying disease and infection should cover all the susceptible species within the country or zone.' (rabies, FMD)
- Feral or wild animals are recommended to be considered as a risk factor in the design of some surveillance programs
- Detailed recommendations for surveillance in wild pigs:
CSF & ASF (wildlife as reservoir)
to monitor the impact of the control program
to target vaccination efforts

Reporting of disease occurrences in wildlife



WAHIS-WILD

Member Countries are strongly encouraged to report listed as well as non-listed diseases affecting feral and (captive) wild animals.

In practice

many countries hesitate to report the occurrence of listed diseases in wildlife due to the potential trade implications.

Important that MC understand when an infection in (captive) wild animals and feral animals affects the status of livestock.

Training of wildlife focal points.

Trade issues – trade in wild animals per se and commodities of wildlife species origin

Trade in wild live animals

- free from infection
 - problem of validation of diagnostic assays
- Biological Standards Commission

Trade in wild live animals and commodities

‘Commodity Based Trade’

For some diseases that have a wildlife component, specific guidance on how to trade live wild animals and commodities is needed.

A pathogen approach versus a host species approach



The criteria outlined above support a pathogen by pathogen approach based on risk.

Role of wildlife in the One-World-One-Health concept and implications on OIE standards

OWOH concept

includes health of humans, animals and the environment, including conservation.

Healthy environments are essential to healthy populations.

Wildlife health is considered a significant indicator of environmental health, reinforcing the need to monitor and report disease occurrence in feral and (captive) wild animals.

OWOH concept - OIE

important to include environmental health partners.



Acknowledgements



- Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (SCAD)
- Working Group on Wildlife Diseases
- *ad hoc* Group on Epidemiology
- Scientific and Technical Department
- Terrestrial Animal Health Code Commission
- International Trade Department

Thank you !



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