**Report Summary**

**Name of sender of the report**
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**Position**
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**Date submitted to OIE**
07/12/2012

**Animal type**
Terrestrial

**Date of report**
07/12/2012

**Disease**
Bovine spongiform encephalopathy

**Causal Agent**
Prion responsible for bovine spongiform encephalopathy

**Country or zone**
the whole country

**Reason**
First occurrence of a listed disease

**Date of start of the event**
18/12/2010

**Reason**
First occurrence of a listed disease

**Reason**
Diagnostic Laboratory (advanced)

**Diagnosis**
Laboratory (advanced)

**Number of reported outbreaks**
submitted= 1, Draft= 0

**Outbreak details**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Number of outbreaks</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Sub-district</th>
<th>Unit Type</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Latitude</th>
<th>Longitude</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PARANÁ</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Farm</td>
<td>Sertanópolis</td>
<td>23.1619</td>
<td>-51.0879</td>
<td>18/12/2010</td>
<td>19/12/2010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Species**
Cattle

**Measuring units**
Animals

**Susceptible Cases**
148

**Deaths**
1

**Destroyed**
1

**Slaughtered**
0

**Affected Population**
A beef breeding cow almost 13 years old at the time of death

**Epidemiology**

**Epidemiological comments**
On 18 December 2010, the Official Veterinary Services (OVS) were informed by the owner of a holding in the municipality of Sertanópolis (State of Parana) on a recumbent bovine showing limb stiffness which was detected during routine inspection. Next day, when the OVS were going to visit the holding, they were informed by the stockman that the animal was dead. The OVS went to the holding to collect information and samples for the diagnosis of the cause of the death. As it is an area where rabies is present in herbivores, samples were taken for the diagnosis of this disease and for differential diagnosis, as recommended by the national protocol. The animal was properly buried on site. The animal was a beef breeding cow almost 13 years old at the time of death, according to information obtained during the epidemiological investigations.

According to regulations and routine procedures to be implemented in case of suspected neurological diseases, the sample was tested for rabies and it was negative. As it was an adult animal negative for rabies, the sample was sent for laboratory analysis within the surveillance system for bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE).

On 11 April 2011, a negative histopathological result for BSE was obtained in a laboratory accredited by the OVS. The sample was sent to the National Reference Laboratory, National Agricultural Laboratory (LANAGRO-PE), Recife, Pernambuco, for BSE diagnosis and it tested positive on 15 June 2012 by immunohistochemical test.

The delay between the two tests was caused by an incident occurred in one of the laboratories of the accredited network for the diagnosis of BSE. That led to overload the system and to prioritize the diagnosis of samples which met BSE-risk characteristics, as established by the OIE. The sample belonged to the group “fallen stock” and to the age group “over 9 years”, according to the Article 1.1.5.22 of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code. This classification led to consider the sample as showing a low diagnosis priority level, which resulted in a longer than expected delay from histopathological to immunohistochemical tests.

According to the procedure manual on response to the occurrence of a BSE event in Brazil and as it is the first occurrence in the country, the sample was sent for confirmatory diagnosis to the OIE Reference Laboratory for this disease, Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency (AHVLA), Weybridge, United Kingdom. The sample tested positive in immunohistochemical test on 6 December 2012.

The epidemiological investigation shows that the animal’s death was not caused by BSE and suggests that it may be an atypical case of the disease occurring in the oldest animals. Information collected during the epidemiological investigation shows also that the animal was reared in an extensive system on grazing.

Note by the OIE: Brazil is still recognized by the OIE as having a negligible BSE risk in accordance with Chapter 11.5. of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

**Source of the outbreak(s) or origin of infection**

• Unknown or inconclusive

**Measures applied**

**Animals treated**
Vaccination Prohibited

**Printed on:** Fri Dec 7 18:17:54 CET 2012
### Diagnostic test results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Laboratory Type</th>
<th>Name of Laboratory</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Test Type</th>
<th>Date Results Provided</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OIE’s Reference Laboratory</td>
<td>Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency (AHVLA)</td>
<td>Cattle</td>
<td>immunohistochemical test</td>
<td>06/12/2012</td>
<td>Positive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National laboratory</td>
<td>Animal Health Laboratory - IMA</td>
<td>Cattle</td>
<td>histological test</td>
<td>11/04/2011</td>
<td>Negative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National laboratory</td>
<td>National Agricultural Laboratory (LANAGRO-PE)</td>
<td>Cattle</td>
<td>immunohistochemical test</td>
<td>15/06/2012</td>
<td>Positive</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Future Reporting

The event is continuing. Weekly follow-up reports will be submitted.
