OIE Reference Laboratory Reports Activities

Activities in 2020

This report has been submitted : 2021-01-19 22:13:45

Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated OIE Reference Laboratory:	Infectious bovine rhinotracheitis/infectious pustular vulvovaginitis
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Name (including Title) of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official):	Prof. Chris Hadkiss, CEO
Name (including Title and Position) of OIE Reference Expert:	Dr. Akbar Dastjerdi, Head of Mammalian Virus Investigation Unit.
Which of the following defines your laboratory? Check all that apply:	Governmental

ToR 1: To use, promote and disseminate diagnostic methods validated according to OIE Standards

1. Did your laboratory perform diagnostic tests for the specified disease/topic for purposes such as disease diagnosis, screening of animals for export, surveillance, etc.? (Not for quality control, proficiency testing or staff training)

Yes

Diagnostic Test	Indicated in OIE Manual (Yes/No)	Total number of test performed last year	
Indirect diagnostic tests		Nationally	Internationally
SNT	Yes	226	0
iELISA	Yes	1790	0
gE ELISA	Yes	1061	0
ELISA (MILK)	Yes	141	0
cELISA	Yes	10015	0
Direct diagnostic tests		Nationally	Internationally
Triplex IBR/PI3/BRSV PCR	No	388	0
PCR	Yes	15	0

ToR 2: To develop reference material in accordance with OIE requirements, and implement and promote the application of OIE Standards.
To store and distribute to national laboratories biological reference products and any other reagents used in the diagnosis and control of the designated pathogens or disease.

2. Did your laboratory produce or supply imported standard reference reagents officially recognised by the OIE?

No

3. Did your laboratory supply standard reference reagents (non OIE-approved) and/or other diagnostic reagents to OIE Member Countries?

Yes

Type of reagent available	Related diagnostic test	Produced/ provide	Amount supplied nationally (ml, mg)	Amount supplied internationally (ml, mg)	No. of recipient OIE Member Countries	Region of recipients
BoHV-1 status known sera and milk samples	ELISA	Provide	0	200 samples, about 100ml in total	One	☐Africa ☒Americas ☐Asia and Pacific ☐Europe ☐Middle East

4. Did your laboratory produce vaccines?

No

5. Did your laboratory supply vaccines to OIE Member Countries?

No

ToR 3: To develop, standardise and validate, according to OIE Standards, new procedures for diagnosis and control of the designated pathogens or diseases

6. Did your laboratory develop new diagnostic methods validated according to OIE Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

7. Did your laboratory develop new vaccines according to OIE Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

ToR 4: To provide diagnostic testing facilities, and, where appropriate, scientific and technical advice on disease control measures to OIE Member Countries

8. Did your laboratory carry out diagnostic testing for other OIE Member Countries?

No

9. Did your laboratory provide expert advice in technical consultancies on the request of an OIE Member Country?

Yes

Name of the OIE Member Country receiving a technical consultancy	Purpose	How the advice was provided
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	To develop new ELISAs with the purpose to eliminate occasional cross reactivity with other bovine herpesviruses.	Video conference

ToR 5: To carry out and/or coordinate scientific and technical studies in collaboration with other laboratories, centres or organisations

10. Did your laboratory participate in international scientific studies in collaboration with OIE Member Countries other than the own?

No

ToR 6: To collect, process, analyse, publish and disseminate epizootiological data relevant to the designated pathogens or diseases

11. Did your Laboratory collect epizootiological data relevant to international disease control?

No

If the answer is no, please provide a brief explanation of the situation:
IBR has been eradicated from many of the European countries or those countries with significant dairy export, where IBR has been of most concern due to their international trade. Also, availability of several effective vaccines in other countries made collection of such data redundant.

12. Did your laboratory disseminate epizootiological data that had been processed and analysed?

No

If the answer is no, please provide a brief explanation of the situation:
As we do not collect such data due to the reason given above, we have no processed or analysed data to disseminate.

13. What method of dissemination of information is most often used by your laboratory? (Indicate in the appropriate box the number by category)

a) Articles published in peer-reviewed journals: 0

b) International conferences: 0

c) National conferences: 0

d) Other:
(Provide website address or link to appropriate information) 0

ToR 7: To provide scientific and technical training for personnel from OIE Member Countries
To recommend the prescribed and alternative tests or vaccines as OIE Standards

14. Did your laboratory provide scientific and technical training to laboratory personnel from other OIE Member Countries?

No

ToR 8: To maintain a system of quality assurance, biosafety and biosecurity relevant for the pathogen and the disease concerned

15. Does your laboratory have a Quality Management System?

Yes

Quality management system adopted	Certificate scan (PDF, JPG, PNG format)
ISO/IEC 17025:2005	UKAS 17025 certificate.pdf
ISO/IEC 9001	Animal and Plant Health Agency LRQ4001392 -Certificate Validity Letter.pdf

16. Is your quality management system accredited?

Yes

Test for which your laboratory is accredited	Accreditation body
iELISA, cELISA, SNT	United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS)

17. Does your laboratory maintain a “biorisk management system” for the pathogen and the disease concerned?

Yes

(See Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals, Chapter 1.1.4)

ToR 9: To organise and participate in scientific meetings on behalf of the OIE

18. Did your laboratory organise scientific meetings on behalf of the OIE?

No

19. Did your laboratory participate in scientific meetings on behalf of the OIE?

Yes

Title of event	Date (mm/yy)	Location	Role (speaker, presenting poster, short communications)	Title of the work presented
IBR and BVD Control and Eradication in the EU: Towards harmonisation of diagnostics in the context of EU recognition of control programmes	03/20	ANSES, Paris	Speaker	IBR diagnostics at the OIE ref. laboratory, APHA

ToR 10: To establish and maintain a network with other OIE Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen or disease and organise regular inter-laboratory proficiency testing to ensure comparability of results

20. Did your laboratory exchange information with other OIE Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen or disease?

Yes

21. Was your laboratory involved in maintaining a network with OIE Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen or disease by organising or participating in proficiency tests?

Yes

Purpose of the proficiency tests: [1]	Role of your Reference Laboratory (organiser/ participant)	No. participants	Participating OIE Ref. Labs/ organising OIE Ref. Lab.
To evaluate/harmonise performance of our diagnostic methods for BoHV-1.	Participant	Not applicable	Participating OIE Ref. labs.

[1] *validation of a diagnostic protocol: specify the test; quality control of vaccines: specify the vaccine type, etc.*

22. Did your laboratory collaborate with other OIE Reference Laboratories for the same disease on scientific research projects for the diagnosis or control of the pathogen of interest?

Yes

Title of the project or contract	Scope	Name(s) of relevant OIE Reference Laboratories
To establish and validate high throughput detection of BoHV-1 in bovine semen.	Diagnosis of BoHV-1 in bovine semen	The Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut (FLI), Germany. This project is at early stages with slow progress due to COVID-19 situation.

ToR 11: To organise inter-laboratory proficiency testing with laboratories other than OIE Reference Laboratories for the same pathogens and diseases to ensure equivalence of results

23. Did your laboratory organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with laboratories other than OIE Reference Laboratories for the same disease?

Yes

Note: See Interlaboratory test comparisons in: Laboratory Proficiency Testing at: http://www.oie.int/en/our-scientific-expertise/reference-laboratories/proficiency-testing see point 1.3

Purpose for inter-laboratory test comparisons[1]	No. participating laboratories	Region(s) of participating OIE Member Countries
Assessing performance of IBR ELISA for the detection of antibody to BoHV-1 in bulk milk.	22	☐Africa ☒Americas ☐Asia and Pacific ☒Europe ☐Middle East
Assessing performance of IBR ELISAs for the detection of antibody to BoHV-1 in serum samples.	41	☒Africa ☒Americas ☒Asia and Pacific ☒Europe ☐Middle East
Assessing performance of PCR for the detection of BoHV-1 in tissues.	11	☐Africa ☐Americas ☐Asia and Pacific ☒Europe ☐Middle East

ToR 12: To place expert consultants at the disposal of the OIE

24. Did your laboratory place expert consultants at the disposal of the OIE?

No

25. Additional comments regarding your report:

Other activities:

Occasional low positive animals in IBR serological assays in IBR free countries and herds (singleton reactors) has been a major challenge facing cattle industry. It is partly contributed to infection of animals with BoHV-4. We are investigating, as an OIE ref. lab., such a situation in an IBR-free certified herd in the UK. Our initial investigation indicates presence of another herpesvirus in these animals and not the rest. Whole genome sequencing is currently being applied to characterise this virus. Finding of this investigation is of interest to many OIE member countries and will be published in due course.