

Strengthening Livelihoods through Poultry Production Arusha and West Kilimanjaro, Tanzania

Progress Report, June 2009

On 3rd – 5th March 2009, a 'trainers training course' was held on Newcastle Disease (ND) and Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) for 19 Livestock Field Officers. The object of the course was to impart technical knowledge on both diseases to local government veterinary field staff, and provide them with the capacity to train other staff in their respective districts. Guidelines were provided about surveillance and sampling.

At the end of training, participants in 10 different districts were able to:

- Recognize / distinguish ND & HPAI cases.
- To report cases quickly and accurately.
- Create awareness of both diseases.
- Carry out control and surveillance of both diseases.
- Acquire insights into control strategy.

In April 2009, another training course was held, training the vaccinators on community disease detection, prevention and reporting on Newcastle disease (NCD) and Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI).

The training was conducted in 6 districts and 160 Livestock field officers attended. The course was spearheaded by a group of 4 veterinary surgeons with specific knowledge of both diseases. The training focused on equipping livestock field officers to be able to detect, prevent and control diseases, taking proper bio-security measures.

The course included.

- Discussing the role and importance of poultry for the livelihood of the community.
- HPIA - reviewing participants existing knowledge then updating detection and reporting systems from the field to Ministry level.
- NCD - reviewing existing knowledge, giving updates where needed and advice on diagnosis, sample collection, reporting systems and control using I-2 vaccine.
- Training in collecting samples i.e. proper handling and transport.
- Training on vaccine handling, storage, record keeping and vaccination calendar.
- Encouraging the proper use of personal protective equipment when suspecting HPAI outbreaks.
- Giving practical advice and demonstrations on how to carry out a post mortem on infected chicken.
- Demonstrating how to carry out vaccination against Newcastle disease using I-2 vaccine.
- Ethics in veterinary services as per Veterinary Disease Act 2003

20,212 chickens were vaccinated against NCD using I-2 thermostable vaccines during the practical sessions in all districts.

1,500,000 doses of Newcastle vaccine have been purchased and distributed to the districts.

Vaccination equipment and protective kits (for HPAI) have been purchased and distributed to the districts.

Six refrigerators have been purchased and each district has received one to support cold chain and vaccine storage.