According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0579-0090, 0101, and 0212. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average .5 hours per response for 0579-0090, 1 hour per response for 0579-0101, and .333 hours per response for 0579-0212, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

OMB Approved 0579-0090, 0579-0101, and 0579-0212

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
NATIONAL VETERINARY SERVICES LABORATORIES
P.O. BOX 844, 1920 DAYTON AVENUE, AMES, IA 50010
(515) 337-7514

SPECIMEN SUBMISSION

INSTRUCTIONS: Use a separate form for each species and each owner/broker. See "Instructions for Completing VS Form 10-4" for definitions.

1. SUBMITTER NAME (*including Business Name*)	2. NVSL SUBMITTER ID	3. NAME OF OWNER ☐ Check if wildlife (*no owner*)
Marla Francis from WADDL	4603	(b) (6) [redacted]

EMAIL ADDRESS	OWNER CITY	STATE/COUNTRY
marla.francis@wsu.edu	Payson	UT/USA

PHONE NO. 5093359696 FAX NO. 5093357424

MAILING ADDRESS (*Street, City, State, ZIP Code*)
POB 647034 Pullman WA 99164-7034

4. LOCATION OF ANIMALS

PREMISES ID

COUNTY	STATE/COUNTRY
	UT/USA

5. PAYMENT METHOD

☐ USER FEE ACCOUNT NO. ☐ CHECK/MONEY ORDER (*Enclosed, payable to USDA in US dollars*) ☐ CREDIT CARD Number: Exp. Date:

6. HERD/FLOCK SIZE	9. EXAMINATIONS REQUESTED	10. COLLECTED BY
	SARS-CoV-2 confirmatory testing	Dr. Tom Baldwin
7. NO. IN HERD/FLOCK AFFECTED		11. DATE COLLECTED 08/10/2020
8. NO. IN HERD/FLOCK DEAD		12. AUTHORIZED BY

13. PURPOSE OF SUBMISSION (*See instructions for definitions*)
☐ Interstate Movement ☐ Import ☐ TB ☐ Reagent Evaluation
☐ Export ☐ FAD/EP Diagnostic ☒ General Diagnostic ☐ NVSL Intralab
☐ Pre-Import ☐ Surveillance ☐ Developmental Research

14. COUNTRY OF ORIGIN/DESTINATION: USA

15. REFERRAL NUMBER

16. PRESERVATION
☐ None ☒ Ice Pack ☐ Dry Ice ☐ Formalin ☐ Borax ☐ Alcohol ☐ Other (*Specify*)

17. SPECIMENS SUBMITTED (*"X" applicable item(s)*)
☐ Blood ☐ Feces ☐ Parasite ☐ Serum ☒ Tissue (*specify*) ☐ Whole Animal ☐ Other (*specify*)
☐ Culture ☐ Feed ☐ Plant ☐ Soil ☐ Urine ☐ Fetus
☐ Extract ☐ Milk ☐ Semen ☒ Swab (*specify*) ☐ Water ☐ DNA/RNA Nasopharyngeal, lung

18. TOTAL NUMBER OF SPECIMENS SUBMITTED: 10

19. SPECIES OR SOURCE (*"X" ONLY one*)
☐ Cattle ☐ Goat ☐ Chicken ☐ Bison ☐ Fish ☒ Other (*specify*)
☐ Swine ☐ Horse ☐ Turkey ☐ Deer (*specify*) ☐ Environment Mink
☐ Sheep ☐ Donkey ☐ Other bird (*specify*) ☐ Elk ☐ Reagent

20. NUMBER OF ANIMALS SAMPLED: 5

21. IDENTIFICATION (*See instructions* <250 samples per form)

Sample ID	Animal ID	Breed	Age	Sex	Sample ID	Animal ID	Breed	Age	Sex
20-L6112 1	20-10460.1 NP swab (Ct 29.23)	Mink			20-L61121	20-10460.6 Lung (Ct 26.8)	Mink		
20-L6112 2	20-10460.2 NP swab (Ct 26.89)	Mink			20-L61122	20-10460.7 Lung (Ct 31.4)	Mink		
20-L6112 3	20-10460.3 NP swab (Ct 27.05)	Mink			20-L61123	20-10460.8 Lung (Ct 31.1)	Mink		
20-L6112 4	20-10460.4 NP swab (Ct 26.64)	Mink			20-L61124	20-10460.9 Lung (Ct 26.1)	Mink		
20-L6112 5	20-10460.5 NP swab (Ct 25.98)	Mink			20-L61125	20-10460.10 Lung(Ct 30.8	Mink		

22. ADDITIONAL DATA (*History, clinical signs, post mortem findings, remarks, tentative diagnosis, special instructions. Use additional sheets if necessary*).

See attached: WADDL case and data sheets.

23. SIGNATURE OF SUBMITTER AND DATE
X (b) (6) [redacted] 8-13-20

NVSL USE ONLY

CONDITION	PRIORITY	DISTRIBUTION	RECEIVED BY

NVSL USE ONLY
20-022930
8/14/2020

VS FORM 10-4
AUG 2009

ACCESSION FORM FOR GENERAL DIAGNOSTICS

Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory

College of Veterinary Medicine, Washington State University
Web Site: http://waddl.vetmed.wsu.edu

US Postal Service mailing address:
PO Box 647034
Pullman, WA. 99164-7034

UPS, FedEx or Courier shipping address:
Bustad Hall, Rm.155-N
Pullman, WA. 99164-7034

Phone: (509) 335-9696
FAX: (509) 335 7424
E-Mail: waddl@vetmed.wsu.edu

2020 – 10460
Ref Vet: Baldwin, Tom
Owner: Fenn, Chad
Breed: Mink
Routed: md

08/11/20
time: 1 page

Please type or use black ink and print clearly.

Veterinarian or Case Coordinator: Last Name:	Baldwin
First Name:	Tom
Clinic:	Utah Vet Diag. Lab.
Street address:	950 E. 1400 N.
Mailing Address or PO Box:	P.O. Box 6358
City:	Logan
State:	UT
Zip:	84341
Phone:	(435) 797-1895
Fax:	(435) 797-3805
E-mail:	tom.baldwin@usu.edu
Owner: Last Name first:	(b) (6)
Guardian Name: (If owner is under 18)	
Farm Name:	(b) (6)
First Time Submitter?	☐ Yes ☒ No
Street address:	(b) (6)
Mailing Address or PO Box:	
City:	Payson
State:	UT
Zip:	(b) (6)
Phone:	
Fax:	
E-mail:	

Billing: ☐ Owner ☒ Clinic ☐ 3rd Party (preapproval required) Please note: WADDL policy is to bill the clinic if provided, unless prepaid.

Reporting Preference: ☐ Mail ☒ Fax ☐ Web access - register on web site at http://waddl.vetmed.wsu.edu

Please fill out completely as possible:

Specimen(s) Submitted: *(Please use WADDL Animal ID Sheet for multiple animals.)*
Nasopharyngeal swabs (5)
Lung lobes (5)

Date Collected: 8-10-20
Date Shipped: 8-10-20

Tests Requested:
☐ Necropsy/Histopathology ☑ Virology ☐ Bacteriology ☐ IHC ☐ Other:
☐ Surgical Biopsy Histopathology ☐ Serology ☐ Mycoplasma Culture ☐ PCR
☐ Field Necropsy Histopathology ☐ Fungal Culture ☐ Parasitology ☐ Toxicology

Note: WADDL reserves the right to modify the tests requested for more efficient case work-up and / or to send specimens to outside laboratories to perform testing not done at WADDL. Samples are discarded 30 days after receipt.

Animal ID (name/tag#)	Species	Breed	Age	Sex	Animal Weight
Nos. 1-5	Mink		Adult		

Location of Lesion	No. In group	No. Dead	No. Sick	No. on Premises	Duration of Problem
Lung	Lots	Lots	Lots		Acute

* Was animal euthanized? If so, what method?

Additional History: Vaccinations, signs, stress factors, treatments, post mortem findings, pertinent feed or feed additives, clinical lab results, previous WADDL Case Numbers. (Attach additional sheets as necessary.)

(b) (6)

Please check for SARS-CoV-2.

Thanks (b) (6)

WADDL is an official brucellosis testing laboratory. All serology for brucellosis, including abortion screens, requires identification of animals, date of sample collection, and signature of an accredited veterinarian attesting to the following statement:

"I certify that the specimens submitted with this form were collected by me from the animal(s) described on the date indicated."

Veterinarian's, Clinician's or Owner's Signature: (b) (6)

Condition(s) Suspected: SARS-CoV-2

FORM-QA-8A/2



After printing this label:
1. Use the 'Print' button on this page to print your label to your laser or inkjet printer.
2. Fold the printed page along the horizontal line.
3. Place label in shipping pouch and affix it to your shipment so that the barcode portion of the label can be read and scanned.

Warning: Use only the printed original label for shipping. Using a photocopy of this label for shipping purposes is fraudulent and could result in additional billing charges, along with the cancellation of your FedEx account number.
Use of this system constitutes your agreement to the service conditions in the current FedEx Service Guide, available on fedex.com.FedEx will not be responsible for any claim in excess of $100 per package, whether the result of loss, damage, delay, non-delivery,misdelivery,or misinformation, unless you declare a higher value, pay an additional charge, document your actual loss and file a timely claim.Limitations found in the current FedEx Service Guide apply. Your right to recover from FedEx for any loss, including intrinsic value of the package, loss of sales, income interest, profit, attorney's fees, costs, and other forms of damage whether direct, incidental,consequential, or special is limited to the greater of $100 or the authorized declared value. Recovery cannot exceed actual documented loss.Maximum for items of extraordinary value is $1,000, e.g. jewelry, precious metals, negotiable instruments and other items listed in our ServiceGuide. Written claims must be filed within strict time limits, see current FedEx Service Guide.

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PO Box 844
Ames, Iowa 50010
Phone: 515-337-7514 **Fax**: 515-337-7938
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The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

PARTIAL REPORT

Laboratory Test Report

Sensitive But Unclassified/Sensitive Security Information - Disseminate on a Need-To-Know Basis Only

Owner

Payson, UT

Animal Location
Utah County UT

Submitter - 3864
WA State University
College of Veterinary Medicine
PO Box 647034
Pullman, WA 99164
FAX #: 509-335-7424
Phone #: 509-335-9696

Accession Number: **20-022930**

Date Collected: 08/10/2020
Date Received: 08/14/2020
Date Completed:
Collected By: Dr. Tom Baldwin
Purpose: General Diagnostic
Referral Number:
Country Origin/Destination:

This is not a billable case.

NOTE: Condition of the sample(s) was adequate unless otherwise noted.

Sample: 20-L6112 1 **Specimen Type:** Swab, Nasal **Animal ID:** 20-10460.1 NP swab (Ct 29.23) **Species:** Mink

2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Detected (Ct 21.4)
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 21.8)

Sample: 20-L6112 2 **Specimen Type:** Swab, Nasal **Animal ID:** 20-10460.2 NP swab (Ct 26.89) **Species:** Mink

2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Detected (Ct 19.8)
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 19.9)

Sample: 20-L6112 3 **Specimen Type:** Swab, Nasal **Animal ID:** 20-10460.3 NP swab (Ct 27.05) **Species:** Mink

2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Detected (Ct 19.6)
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 19.4)

Sample: 20-L6112 4 **Specimen Type:** Swab, Nasal **Animal ID:** 20-10460.4 NP swab (Ct 26.64) **Species:** Mink

2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Detected (Ct 19.5)
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 19.6)

Sample: 20-L6112 5 **Specimen Type:** Swab, Nasal **Animal ID:** 20-10460.5 NP swab (Ct 25.98) **Species:** Mink

2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Detected (Ct 18.3)
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 18.6)

Date Generated: 8/17/2020

Sample: 20-L61121 **Specimen Type:** Lung **Animal ID:** 20-10460.6 Lung (Ct 26.8) **Species:** Mink

2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Detected (Ct 17.6)
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 17.3)

Sample: 20-L61122 **Specimen Type:** Lung **Animal ID:** 20-10460.7 Lung (Ct 31.4) **Species:** Mink

2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Detected (Ct 22.4)
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 22.1)

Sample: 20-L61123 **Specimen Type:** Lung **Animal ID:** 20-10460.8 Lung (Ct 31.1) **Species:** Mink

2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Detected (Ct 20.5)
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 19.7)

Sample: 20-L61124 **Specimen Type:** Lung **Animal ID:** 20-10460.9 Lung (Ct 26.1) **Species:** Mink

2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Detected (Ct 19.4)
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 18.3)

Sample: 20-L61125 **Specimen Type:** Lung **Animal ID:** 20-10460.10 Lung (Ct 30.8) **Species:** Mink

2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Detected (Ct 26.4)
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 26.1)

Summary: The samples were tested by a real-time RT PCR for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS -CoV-2) using 2019 nCoV_N1 and 2019 nCoV_N2 markers per CDC (a positive result is defined as detection of both markers); results in table above. Partial sequence was obtained for the spike, nucleocapsid, and RdRp gene(s) with > 99% identity to available SARS-CoV-2.

NOTE: Samples are from two locations; 1-2 are from one location; samples 3-5 are from another.

This is a Partial report. Some tests that were requested have not been completed . A Final report will be sent when all testing has been completed.

Results authorized by: Dr. Rachel M. Tell, Head, Bovine, Porcine, and Aquaculture Section, Diagnostic Virology Laboratory (515) 337-7551

Help Us Help You

(This new section will be updated periodically with tips for submitters.)

Try the new NCAH Portal for VS Form 10-4 submissions to NVSL! For more information, please click or visit: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/lab-info-services/portal

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control numbers for this information collection are 0579-0040, 0579-0090, 0579-0101, 0579-0146, and 0579-0189. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average .25 hours to 1 hour per response including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

OMB Approved 0579-0040, 0090, 0101, 0146, and 0189

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
NATIONAL VETERINARY SERVICES LABORATORIES
P.O. BOX 844, 1920 DAYTON AVENUE, AMES, IA 50010
515-337-7514

SPECIMEN SUBMISSION

PAGE ___ OF ___

INSTRUCTIONS: Use a separate form for each species and each owner/broker. See "Instructions for Completing VS Form 10-4" for definitions.

1. SUBMITTER NAME (Including Business Name)
Utah Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

2. NVSL SUBMITTER ID
3259 or 4301

3. NAME OF OWNER ☐ Check if wildlife (No owner)
(b) (6) [redacted]

EMAIL ADDRESS
uvdl@usu.edu

OWNER CITY
Payson

STATE/COUNTRY
Utah

PHONE NUMBER (435) 797-1695 FAX NUMBER (435) 797-2605

MAILING ADDRESS (Street, City, State, ZIP Code)
950 E 1400 N.
Logan, Utah 84341

4. LOCATION OF ANIMALS

PREMISES ID

COUNTY
Utah

STATE/COUNTRY
Utah

5. PAYMENT METHOD

☐ USER FEE ACCOUNT NO.

☐ CHECK/MONEY ORDER (Enclosed, payable to USDA in U.S. dollars)

☐ Credit Card Number
Expiration Date

6. HERD/FLOCK SIZE

7. NUMBER IN HERD/FLOCK AFFECTED
Unknown

8. NUMBER IN HERD/FLOCK DEAD
Unknown

9. EXAMINATIONS REQUESTED
SARS-CoV-2

10. COLLECTED BY
Gordon Hullinger/Mike Clayton

11. DATE COLLECTED
08/14/2020

12. AUTHORIZED BY
Robert DeCarolis

13. PURPOSE OF SUBMISSION (See instructions for definitions)
☐ Interstate Movement ☐ Import ☐ TB ☐ Reagent Evaluation
☐ Export ☐ FAD/EP Diagnostic ☒ General Diagnostic ☐ NVSL Intralab
☐ Pre-Import ☐ Surveillance ☐ Developmental Research

14. COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
USA

15. REFERRAL NUMBER

16. PRESERVATION
☐ None ☐ Ice Pack ☒ Dry Ice ☐ Formalin ☐ Borax ☐ Alcohol ☐ Other (Specify)

17. SPECIMENS SUBMITTED ("X" applicable item(s))
☐ Blood ☐ Feces ☐ Parasite ☐ Serum ☒ Tissue (Specify) ☐ Whole Animal ☐ Other (Specify)
☐ Culture ☐ Feed ☐ Plant ☐ Soil ☐ Urine ☐ Fetus lung
☐ Extract ☐ Milk ☐ Semen ☐ Swab (Specify) ☐ Water ☐ DNA/RNA

18. TOTAL NUMBER OF SPECIMENS SUBMITTED
7

19. SPECIES OR SOURCE ("X" ONLY one)
☐ Cattle ☐ Goat ☐ Chicken ☐ Bison ☐ Fish ☒ Other (Specify)
☐ Swine ☐ Horse ☐ Turkey ☐ Deer (Specify) ☐ Environment Skunk
☐ Sheep ☐ Donkey ☐ Other bird (Specify) ☐ Elk ☐ Reagent mink

20. NUMBER OF ANIMALS SAMPLED
7

21. IDENTIFICATION (See instructions <250 samples per form)

Sample ID	Animal ID	Breed	Age	Sex	Sample ID	Animal ID	Breed	Age	Sex
Holt	#1 Lung	Mustelid		F	Carson #2	#1 Lung	Mustelid		F
	#2 Lung	Mustelid		M		#2 Lung	Mustelid		M
Carson #1	#1 Lung	Mustelid		F	Holt skunk	Lung	Mephitis		
	#2 Lung	Mustelid		M					

22. ADDITIONAL DATA (History, clinical signs, post mortem findings, remarks, tentative diagnosis, special instructions. Use additional sheets, if necessary)
7 frozen lung samples are submitted for SARS-CoV-2 testing from 3 different farms. Two mink from each farm are sampled. The farms are Holt, Carson farm 1 (Mona Utah) and Carson farm 2 (Payson Utah). Lung was taken from each animal. The Holt farm also had a skunk in the mink building that was not acting normal and they wanted it also tested (lung collected). Swabs rectal and nasopharyngeal from each of the seven animals is also collected, but requires different shipping (ice pack) and is being sent separately. UVDL accession number is 20L6227

23. SIGNATURE OF SUBMITTER AND DATE
(b) (6) [redacted] 8/18/20

NVSL USE ONLY

CONDITION	PRIORITY	DISTRIBUTION	RECEIVED BY
D1	2	BPA	CF

20 – 023279
DVL – BPA
08/18/2020
3259

VS FORM 10-4
AUG 2009

SAMPLE NOT VERIFIED

National Veterinary Services Laboratories
PO Box 844
Ames, Iowa 50010
Phone: 515-337-7514 **Fax**: 515-337-7938
FEDERAL RELAY SERVICE (Voice/TTY/ASCII/Spanish) 1-800-877-8339
The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

PARTIAL REPORT

Laboratory Test Report

Sensitive But Unclassified/Sensitive Security Information - Disseminate on a Need-To-Know Basis Only

Owner

Payson, UT

Animal Location
Utah County UT

Submitter - 3259
UT State University
UT Veterinary Diagnostic Lab
950 E 1400 N
Logan, UT 84341
FAX #: 435-797-2805
Phone #: 435-797-1895

Accession Number: **20-023279**

Date Collected: 08/14/2020
Date Received: 08/18/2020
Date Completed:
Collected By: Gordon Hullinger / Mike
Purpose: General Diagnostic
Referral Number:
Country Origin/Destination: UNITED STATES /

This is not a billable case.

NOTE: Condition of the sample(s) was adequate unless otherwise noted.

Sample: Location B **Specimen Type:** Lung **Animal ID:** #1 Lung **Species:** Mink	
2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Detected (Ct 22.9)
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 22.7)
Sample: Location B **Specimen Type:** Lung **Animal ID:** #2 Lung **Species:** Mink	
2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Detected (Ct 29.8)
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 29.9)
Sample: Location C **Specimen Type:** Lung **Animal ID:** #1 Lung **Species:** Mink	
2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Detected (Ct 30.2)
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 30.5)
Sample: Location C **Specimen Type:** Lung **Animal ID:** #2 Lung **Species:** Mink	
2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Detected (Ct 25.1)
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 25.5)
Sample: Location D **Specimen Type:** Lung **Animal ID:** #1 Lung **Species:** Mink	
2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Not Detected
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 40.0)

Date Generated: 8/19/2020

Sample: Location D **Specimen Type:** Lung **Animal ID:** #2 Lung **Species:** Mink

2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Detected (Ct 33.3)
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 34.7)

Sample: Location B **Specimen Type:** Lung **Animal ID:** Lung **Species:** Skunk

2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Not Detected
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Not Detected

Summary: The lung samples were tested by a real-time RT PCR for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) using 2019 nCoV_N1 and 2019 nCoV_N2 markers per CDC (a positive result is defined as detection of both markers); results in table above. Partial sequence was obtained for the spike, nucleocapsid and RdRp genes with >99% identity to available SARS-CoV-2. Molecular testing complete on 8/19/2020.

This is a Partial report. Some tests that were requested have not been completed . A Final report will be sent when all testing has been completed.

Results authorized by: Dr. Rachel M. Tell, Head, Bovine, Porcine, and Aquaculture Section, Diagnostic Virology Laboratory (515) 337-7551

Help Us Help You

(This new section will be updated periodically with tips for submitters.)

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According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control numbers for this information collection are 0579-0040, 0579-0090, 0579-0101, 0579-0146, and 0579-0189. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average .25 hours to 1 hour per response including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

OMB Approved 0579-0040, 0090, 0101, 0146, and 0189

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
NATIONAL VETERINARY SERVICES LABORATORIES
P.O. BOX 844, 1920 DAYTON AVENUE, AMES, IA 50010
515-337-7514

SPECIMEN SUBMISSION

PAGE 1 OF 1

INSTRUCTIONS: Use a separate form for each species and each owner/broker. See "Instructions for Completing VS Form 10-4" for definitions.

1. *SUBMITTER NAME (Including Business Name)*: Utah Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

2. NVSL SUBMITTER ID:

3. NAME OF OWNER: (b) (6) [redacted] ☐ Check if wildlife (*No owner*)

EMAIL ADDRESS: tom.baldwin@usu.edu

OWNER CITY: Sandy

STATE/COUNTRY: UT

PHONE NUMBER:

FAX NUMBER:

MAILING ADDRESS (*Street, City, State, ZIP Code*):
UVDL
950 East 1400 North
P.O. Box 6338
Logan, UT 84341

PREMISES ID:

COUNTY:

STATE/COUNTRY:

☐ USER FEE ACCOUNT NO.

☐ CHECK/MONEY ORDER (*Enclosed, payable to USDA in U.S. dollars*)

☐ Credit Card Number:
Expiration Date:

6. HERD/FLOCK SIZE:

7. NUMBER IN HERD/FLOCK AFFECTED:

8. NUMBER IN HERD/FLOCK DEAD: Lots

9. EXAMINATIONS REQUESTED: SARS-CoV-2

10. COLLECTED BY: Tom Baldwin

11. DATE COLLECTED: 08/21/2020

12. AUTHORIZED BY: Robert DeCarolis

13. PURPOSE OF SUBMISSION (See instructions for definitions)
☐ Interstate Movement ☐ Import ☐ TB ☐ Reagent Evaluation
☐ Export ☐ FAD/EP Diagnostic ☒ General Diagnostic ☐ NVSL Intralab
☐ Pre-Import ☐ Surveillance ☐ Developmental Research

14. COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:

15. REFERRAL NUMBER:

16. PRESERVATION
☐ None ☒ Ice Pack ☒ Dry Ice ☐ Formalin ☐ Borax ☐ Alcohol ☐ Other (*Specify*)

17. SPECIMENS SUBMITTED (*"X" applicable item(s)*)
☐ Blood ☐ Feces ☐ Parasite ☐ Serum ☐ Tissue (Specify) ☐ Whole Animal ☐ Other (*Specify*)
☐ Culture ☐ Feed ☐ Plant ☐ Soil ☐ Urine ☐ Fetus
☐ Extract ☐ Milk ☐ Semen ☒ Swab (*Specify*) ☐ Water ☐ DNA/RNA

18. TOTAL NUMBER OF SPECIMENS SUBMITTED: 6 swabs

19. SPECIES OR SOURCE (*"X" ONLY one*)
☐ Cattle ☐ Goat ☐ Chicken ☐ Bison ☐ Fish ☒ Other (*Specify*)
☐ Swine ☐ Horse ☐ Turkey ☐ Deer (*Specify*) ☐ Environment
☐ Sheep ☐ Donkey ☐ Other bird (Specify) ☐ Elk ☐ Reagent

20. NUMBER OF ANIMALS SAMPLED:

Sample ID	Animal ID	Breed	Age	Sex	Sample ID	Animal ID	Breed	Age	Sex
Mink 1		Mink	Adult	F					
Mink 2		Mink	Adult	F					

22. ADDITIONAL DATA (*History, clinical signs, post mortem findings, remarks, tentative diagnosis, special instructions. Use additional sheets, if necessary*).
Rectal, oropharyngeal, and nasopharyngeal swabs from two mink for SARS-CoV-2 testing.

(b) (6) [redacted] 8-21-20

20 – 023894
DVL – BPA
08/24/2020
3261

CONDITION	PRIORITY	DISTRIBUTION	RECEIVED BY
IP	3	BPA	J

VS FORM 10-4
AUG 2009

SAMPLE NOT VERIFIED

National Veterinary Services Laboratories
PO Box 844
Ames, Iowa 50010
Phone: 515-337-7514 **Fax**: 515-337-7938
FEDERAL RELAY SERVICE (Voice/TTY/ASCII/Spanish) 1-800-877-8339
The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

PARTIAL REPORT

Laboratory Test Report

Sensitive But Unclassified/Sensitive Security Information - Disseminate on a Need-To-Know Basis Only

Owner

Sandy, UT

Animal Location
UT

Submitter - 3261
UT State University
UT Veterinary Diagnostic Lab
950 E 1400 N
Logan, UT 84341
FAX #: 435-797-2805
Phone #: 435-797-1895

Accession Number: **20-023894**

Date Collected: 08/21/2020
Date Received: 08/24/2020
Date Completed:
Collected By: Tom Baldwin
Purpose: General Diagnostic
Referral Number:
Country Origin/Destination:

This is not a billable case.

NOTE: Condition of the sample(s) was adequate unless otherwise noted.

Sample: Mink 1 **Specimen Type:** Rectal Swab **Animal ID:** rectal swab **Species:** Mink

2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Detected (Ct 35.4)
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 36.6)

Sample: Mink 1 **Specimen Type:** Swab, Oropharyngeal **Animal ID:** oropharyngeal swab **Species:** Mink

2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Detected (Ct 27.9)
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 28.0)

Sample: Mink 1 **Specimen Type:** Swab, Nasal **Animal ID:** nasopharyngeal swab **Species:** Mink

2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Detected (Ct 25.3)
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 25.3)

Sample: Mink 2 **Specimen Type:** Rectal Swab **Animal ID:** rectal swab **Species:** Mink

2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Detected (Ct 37.5)
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 37.7)

Sample: Mink 2 **Specimen Type:** Swab, Oropharyngeal **Animal ID:** oropharyngeal swab **Species:** Mink

2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Detected (Ct 25.0)
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 24.9)

Date Generated: 8/25/2020

Sample: Mink 2 **Specimen Type:** Swab, Nasal **Animal ID:** nasopharyngeal swab **Species:** Mink

2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Detected (Ct 20.8)
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 21.2)

Summary: The swab samples were tested by a real-time RT PCR for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) using 2019 nCoV_N1 and 2019 nCoV_N2 markers per CDC (a positive result is defined as detection of both markers); results in table above. Partial sequence was obtained for the spike, nucleoprotein, and RdRp genes with >99% identity to available SARS-CoV-2. Molecular testing complete on 8/25/2020.

NOTE: Please refer to NVSL accession number 20-023916 for additional testing.

This is a Partial report. Some tests that were requested have not been completed . A Final report will be sent when all testing has been completed.

Results authorized by: Dr. Rachel M. Tell, Head, Bovine, Porcine, and Aquaculture Section, Diagnostic Virology Laboratory (515) 337-7551

Help Us Help You

(This new section will be updated periodically with tips for submitters.)

Try the new NCAH Portal for VS Form 10-4 submissions to NVSL! For more information, please click or visit: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/lab-info-services/portal

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control numbers for this information collection are 0579-0040, 0579-0090, 0579-0101, 0579-0146, and 0579-0189. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average .25 hours to 1 hour per response including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

OMB Approved 0579-0040, 0090, 0101, 0146, and 0189

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
NATIONAL VETERINARY SERVICES LABORATORIES
P.O. BOX 844, 1920 DAYTON AVENUE, AMES, IA 50010
515-337-7514

SPECIMEN SUBMISSION

PAGE 1 OF 1

INSTRUCTIONS: Use a separate form for each species and each owner/broker. See "Instructions for Completing VS Form 10-4" for definitions.

1. SUBMITTER NAME (Including Business Name): Utah Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

2. NVSL SUBMITTER ID:

3. NAME OF OWNER: (b) (6) [redacted] ☐ Check if wildlife (No owner)

EMAIL ADDRESS: tom.baldwin@usu.edu

OWNER CITY: Sandy

STATE/COUNTRY: UT

PHONE NUMBER: FAX NUMBER:

MAILING ADDRESS (Street, City, State, ZIP Code):
UVDL
950 East 1400 North
P.O. Box 6338
Logan, UT 84341

4. LOCATION OF ANIMALS

PREMISES ID:

COUNTY:

STATE/COUNTRY:

5. PAYMENT METHOD

☐ USER FEE ACCOUNT NO.

☐ CHECK/MONEY ORDER (Enclosed, payable to USDA in U.S. dollars)

☐ Credit Card Number:
Expiration Date:

6. HERD/FLOCK SIZE:

7. NUMBER IN HERD/FLOCK AFFECTED:

8. NUMBER IN HERD/FLOCK DEAD: Lots

9. EXAMINATIONS REQUESTED: SARS-CoV-2

10. COLLECTED BY: Tom Baldwin

11. DATE COLLECTED: 08/21/2020

12. AUTHORIZED BY: Robert DeCarolis

13. PURPOSE OF SUBMISSION (See instructions for definitions)

☐ Interstate Movement ☐ Import ☐ TB ☐ Reagent Evaluation
☐ Export ☐ FAD/EP Diagnostic ☒ General Diagnostic ☐ NVSL Intralab
☐ Pre-Import ☐ Surveillance ☐ Developmental Research

14. COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:

15. REFERRAL NUMBER:

16. PRESERVATION

☐ None ☐ Ice Pack ☒ Dry Ice ☐ Formalin ☐ Borax ☐ Alcohol ☐ Other (Specify)

17. SPECIMENS SUBMITTED ("X" applicable item(s))

☐ Blood ☐ Feces ☐ Parasite ☐ Serum ☒ Tissue (Specify) ☐ Whole Animal ☐ Other (Specify)
☐ Culture ☐ Feed ☐ Plant ☐ Soil ☐ Urine ☐ Fetus
☐ Extract ☐ Milk ☐ Semen ☐ Swab (Specify) ☐ Water ☐ DNA/RNA

18. TOTAL NUMBER OF SPECIMENS SUBMITTED: Lung lobes

19. SPECIES OR SOURCE ("X" ONLY one)

☐ Cattle ☐ Goat ☐ Chicken ☐ Bison ☐ Fish ☒ Other (Specify)
☐ Swine ☐ Horse ☐ Turkey ☐ Deer (Specify) ☐ Environment
☐ Sheep ☐ Donkey ☐ Other bird (Specify) ☐ Elk ☐ Reagent

20. NUMBER OF ANIMALS SAMPLED:

21. IDENTIFICATION (See instructions <250 samples per form)

Sample ID	Animal ID	Breed	Age	Sex	Sample ID	Animal ID	Breed	Age	Sex
Mink 1		Mink	Adult	F					
Mink 2		Mink	Adult	F					

22. ADDITIONAL DATA (History, clinical signs, post mortem findings, remarks, tentative diagnosis, special instructions. Use additional sheets, if necessary)
Lung lobes from two mink for SARS-CoV-2 testing.

(b) (6) [redacted] 8-21-20

NVSL USE ONLY

CONDITION	PRIORITY	DISTRIBUTION	RECEIVED BY
DI	3	BPA	G

20 – 023916
DVL – BPA
08/24/2020
3259

VS FORM 10-4
AUG 2009

8.24.20

SAMPLE NOT VERIFIED

National Veterinary Services Laboratories
PO Box 844
Ames, Iowa 50010
Phone: 515-337-7514 **Fax**: 515-337-7938
FEDERAL RELAY SERVICE (Voice/TTY/ASCII/Spanish) 1-800-877-8339
The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

PARTIAL REPORT

Laboratory Test Report

Sensitive But Unclassified/Sensitive Security Information - Disseminate on a Need-To-Know Basis Only

Owner

Sandy, UT

Animal Location
UT

Submitter - 3259
UT State University
UT Veterinary Diagnostic Lab
950 E 1400 N
Logan, UT 84341
FAX #: 435-797-2805
Phone #: 435-797-1895

Accession Number: **20-023916**

Date Collected: 08/21/2020
Date Received: 08/24/2020
Date Completed:
Collected By: Tom Baldwin
Purpose: General Diagnostic
Referral Number:
Country Origin/Destination:

This is not a billable case.

NOTE: Condition of the sample(s) was adequate unless otherwise noted.

Sample: Mink 1 **Specimen Type:** Lung **Animal ID:** lung tissue **Species:** Mink

2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Detected (Ct 30.2)
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 30.3)

Sample: Mink 2 **Specimen Type:** Lung **Animal ID:** lung tissue **Species:** Mink

2019 nCoV_N1 PCR	Detected (Ct 29.1)
2019 nCoV_N2 PCR	Detected (Ct 30.0)

Summary: The swab samples were tested by a real-time RT PCR for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) using 2019 nCoV_N1 and 2019 nCoV_N2 markers per CDC (a positive result is defined as detection of both markers); results in table above. Molecular testing complete on 8/25/2020.

NOTE: Please refer to NVSL accession number 20-023894 for additional testing.

This is a Partial report. Some tests that were requested have not been completed . A Final report will be sent when all testing has been completed.

Results authorized by: Dr. Rachel M. Tell, Head, Bovine, Porcine, and Aquaculture Section, Diagnostic Virology Laboratory (515) 337-7551

Date Generated: 8/25/2020

Help Us Help You

(This new section will be updated periodically with tips for submitters.)

Try the new NCAH Portal for VS Form 10-4 submissions to NVSL! For more information, please click or visit: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/lab-info-services/portal

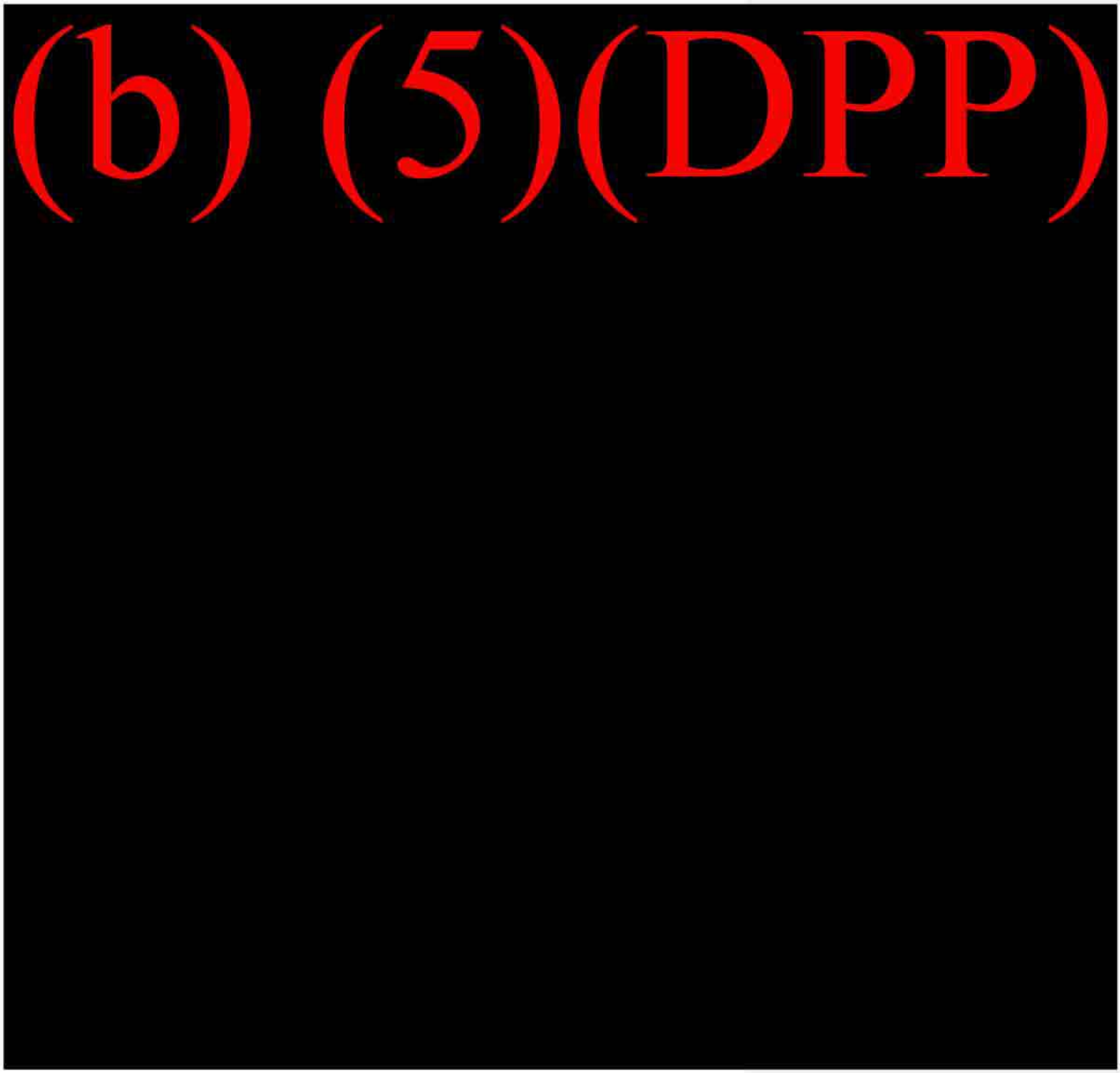
From:	Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To:	Barton Behravesh, Casey (CDC/OID/NCEZID)
Subject:	DRAFT FAQ on farmed mink/mustelids
Date:	Monday, April 27, 2020 2:39:00 PM
Attachments:	Below is information on Mink Farming in the US and some other information that might be useful in putting together information and guidance for SAHOs.docx
Importance:	High

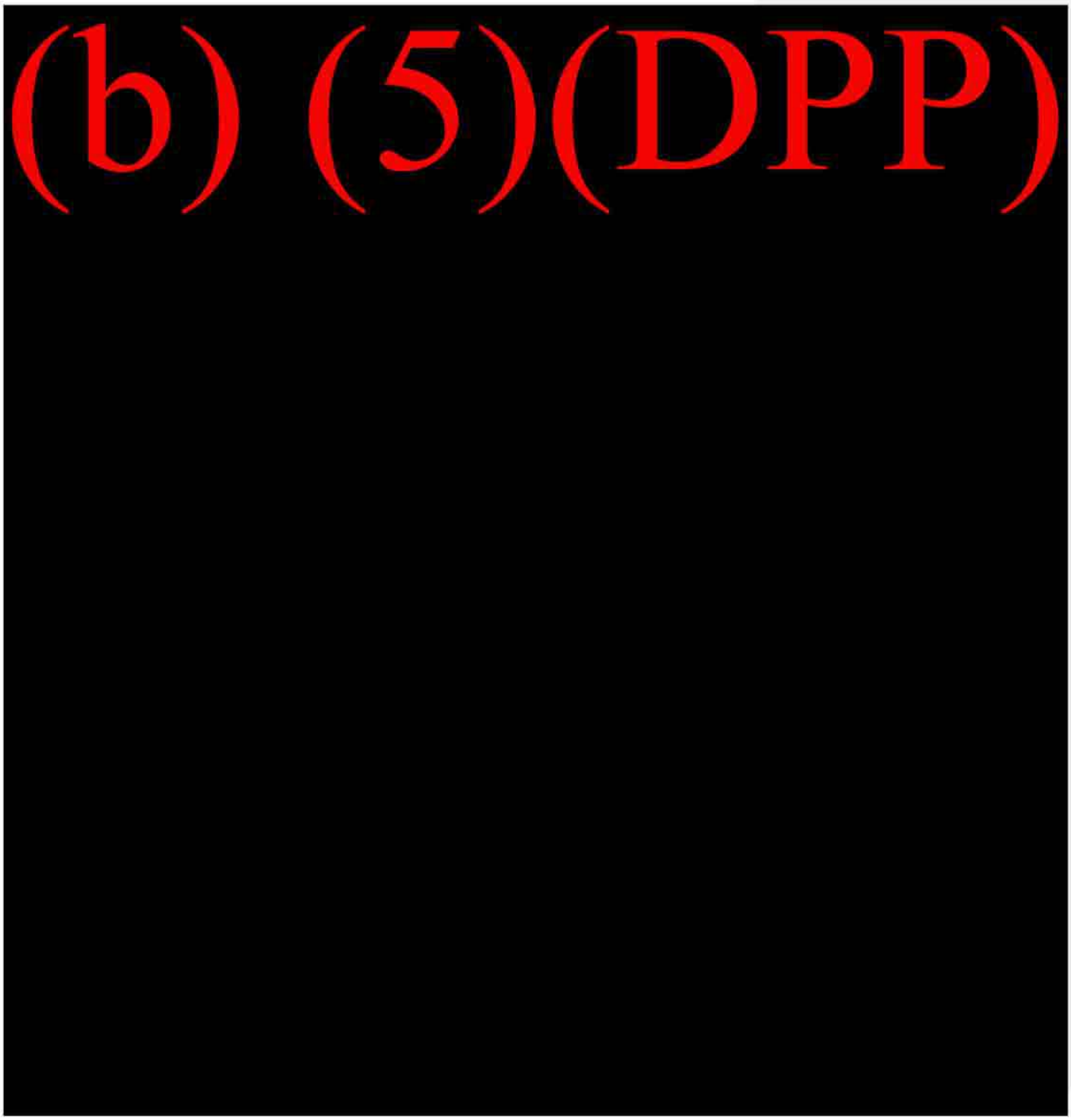
As mentioned on phone, this is not official so only sending to you. Still has background info in the document as well and has not been blessed in any way at USDA.

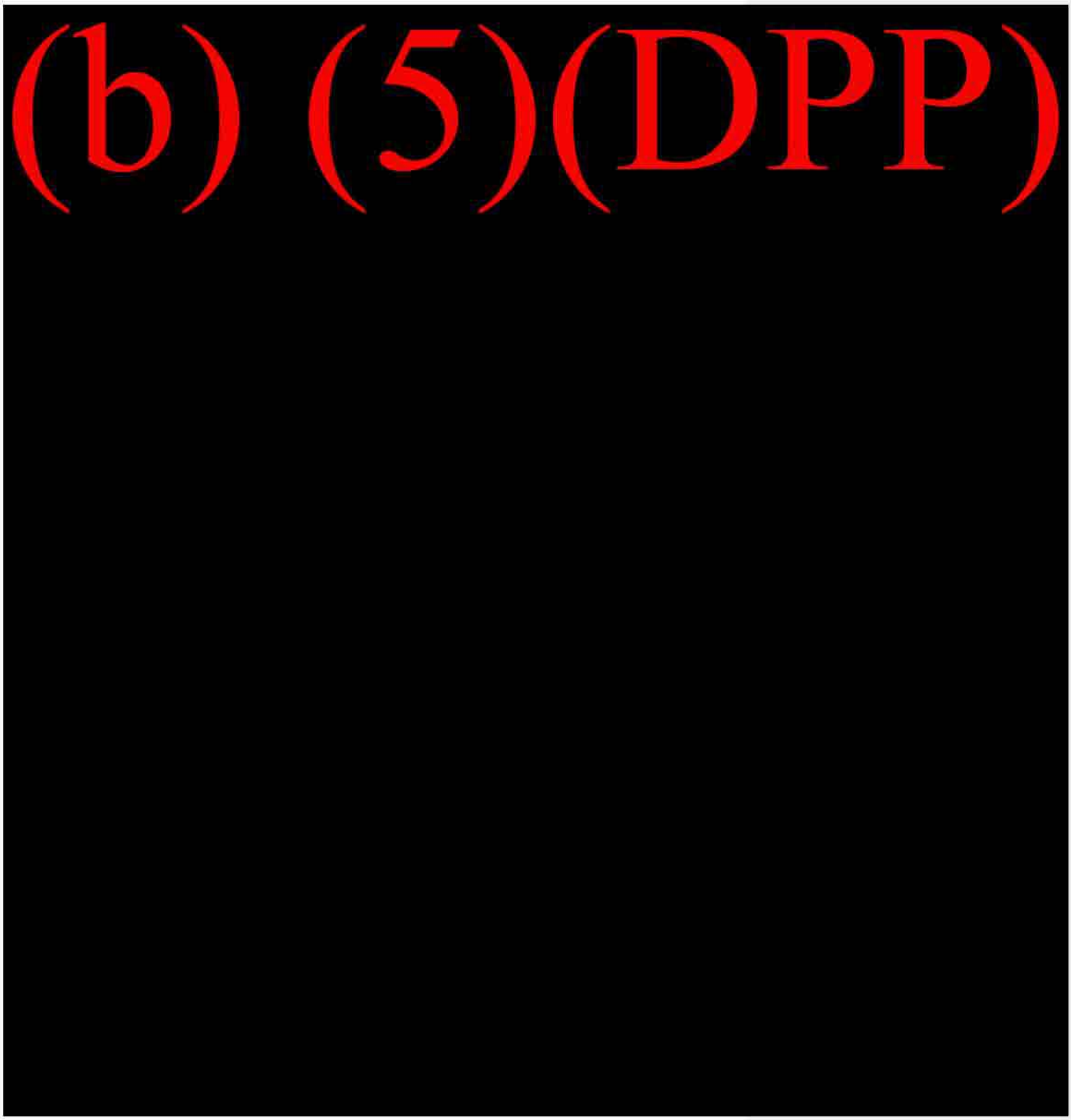
Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: (b) (6) [redacted]
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov


(b) (5)(DPP)


(b) (5)(DPP)


(b) (5)(DPP)


(b) (5)(DPP)

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: Hannaway, Nancy L - APHIS
Subject: FW: Asking for your thoughts RE: draft MINK_30april2020_cdc_to USDA
Date: Thursday, April 30, 2020 12:16:00 PM

FYI

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: (b) (6)
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 11:46 AM
To: Barton Behravesh, Casey (CDC/OID/NCEZID) <dlx9@cdc.gov>
Subject: Asking for your thoughts RE: draft MINK_30april2020_cdc_to USDA

Hi Casey,

I haven't had a chance to review all edits yet but I am wondering with the CDC Proposed Guidance for Farmworkers document whether we make the mink FAQ less complicated by referencing the new document for the worker H&S points. What are your thoughts on that idea?

Thanks,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination

Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: (b) (5)(DPP)
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 10:05 AM
To: Barton Behravesh, Casey (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <dlx9@cdc.gov>; Hannaway, Nancy L - APHIS <nancy.l.hannaway@usda.gov>; Fabregas, Eilyn N - APHIS <eilyn.n.fabregas@usda.gov>
Cc: Cossaboom, Caitlin (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) <nrm9@cdc.gov>; Rushmore, Julie (CDC/DDID/NCHHSTP/DHPSE) <pgx4@cdc.gov>; Carpenter, Ann (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <pzy4@cdc.gov>; One Health (CDC) <onehealth@cdc.gov>; Torchetti, Mia Kim - APHIS <mia.kim.torchetti@usda.gov>; Loiacono, Christina M - APHIS <christina.m.loiacono@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: draft MINK_30april2020_cdc_to USDA
Importance: High

We also received extensive comments from our APHIS Health and Safety group this morning (attached #1; CDC attachment #2 – so APHIS SMEs have that). If possible I would like to arrange a call tomorrow afternoon to discuss (so I have all input from our side to share).

Please let me know CDC SME availability between noon and 5:30pm ET on Friday May 1.

Thanks,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: (b) (6)
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Barton Behravesh, Casey (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) [mailto:dlx9@cdc.gov]
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 9:53 AM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Cc: Cossaboom, Caitlin (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) <nrm9@cdc.gov>; Rushmore, Julie (CDC/DDID/NCHHSTP/DHPSE) <pgx4@cdc.gov>; Carpenter, Ann (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <pzy4@cdc.gov>; One Health (CDC) <onehealth@cdc.gov>
Subject: draft MINK_30april2020_cdc_to USDA

Jane
Here are updated mink FAQs that include comments from NIOSH and CDC Worker Safety. These are important to incorporate in the USDA FAQs. Caitlin Cossaboom will be your POC for any questions on this (and all of CDC Team Mink is copied here). Just let us know what your plan is and whether you need anything further from us.

Casey

From: Curlett, Ed C - APHIS
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS; Cole, Lyndsay M - APHIS; Hayden, Joelle R - APHIS; Stepien, Mike W - APHIS
Subject: RE: 2 Dutch Mink Farms with SARS-CoV-2 positive symptomatic animals
Date: Sunday, April 26, 2020 12:08:05 PM

Yep, saw that. Adding Mike.

USDA
ED CURLETT
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS, ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office: (301) 851-4052
CELL: (240) 401-7294

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2020 1:10 PM
To: Curlett, Ed C - APHIS <ed.c.curlett@usda.gov>; Cole, Lyndsay M - APHIS <lyndsay.m.cole@usda.gov>; Hayden, Joelle R - APHIS <joelle.r.hayden@usda.gov>
Subject: Fwd: 2 Dutch Mink Farms with SARS-CoV-2 positive symptomatic animals

Just wanted to ensure you all are aware of these findings.

Best,
Jane
Jane A. Rooney, DVM
Director, One Health Coordination
Strategy and Policy
Veterinary Services

From: Barton Behravesh, Casey (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <dlx9@cdc.gov>
Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2020 9:27:19 AM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>; Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>; Burrell, Sierra D - APHIS <sierra.d.burrell@usda.gov>; Torchetti, Mia Kim - APHIS <mia.kim.torchetti@usda.gov>; Loiacono, Christina M - APHIS <christina.m.loiacono@usda.gov>
Cc: One Health (CDC) <onehealth@cdc.gov>; Wallace, Ryan (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) <euk5@cdc.gov>
Subject: 2 Dutch Mink Farms with SARS-CoV-2 positive symptomatic animals

See below on two Dutch mink farms with SARS-COV-2 positive symptomatic animals.

https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2020/04/26/covid-19-geconstateerd-op-twee-nertsenbedrijven

COVID-19 detected on two mink farms

News item | 04/26/2020 | 11:17

Two mink farms in Gemert-Bakel and Laarbeek have detected contaminations of COVID-19 in different minks. The minks showed various symptoms including respiratory problems. Investigations have been launched to determine the source of the infections. Because some employees had symptoms of the coronavirus at both companies, it is assumed that people are infected with animals. Previous research shows that ferrets, and therefore also minks, are susceptible to COVID-19 contamination. There are currently no indications that farm animals or pets play a role in the spread of COVID-19.

Minister Schouten of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality has immediately announced measures. As of today, a reporting obligation has been introduced for mink farmers, veterinarians and persons in research institutions. If there are respiratory problems and increased mortality in minks, this must be reported to the NVWA. To prevent possible spread of the virus to other farms, both animals and manure must not leave an infected farm. Since other animals in livestock farming do not appear to be susceptible to the virus, a notification requirement is now only imposed for minks.

Contamination from person to person

It is important to know how the disease develops on the infected farms. This knowledge can be used to better understand the disease and its course in animals and humans. Therefore, samples are collected from sick and healthy animals. These will be used for further investigation. Although the virus is not expected to spread over longer distances, air and dust samples are also taken in the vicinity of the company as a precaution. These are being examined to see whether virus can be detected in this. The Lower House will be informed as soon as more information is available about the outcome of this investigation.

According to RIVM, based on current knowledge about COVID-19, the mink companies do not pose a risk of further spread to humans. Human to animal contamination is possible, but the impact of this mink contamination on human health is currently negligible. Human to human contamination is the driving force behind the current corona pandemic.

Precaution

There is currently no reason to believe that the virus spreads in these mink farms in any other way than it does between humans. As a precautionary measure, RIVM advises against cycling or walking within a radius of approximately 400 meters around the infected mink farm until the results of the research on the air and dust samples are known. It was decided to close the public road in this radius around the company for pedestrians and cyclists until the results of the research are known. The mayors of both municipalities will soon take this measure.

Casey

Casey Barton Behravesh MS, DVM, DrPH, DACVPM
Captain, U.S. Public Health Service
Director, One Health Office
CDC COVID-19 One Health Working Group Lead
National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
e-mail: CBartonBehravesh@cdc.gov
www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/animals.html
www.cdc.gov/onehealth
Cell: 404 729 4107



From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: Barton Behravesh, Casey (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD)
Subject: RE: Mink-ology :):)
Date: Monday, April 27, 2020 3:06:00 PM

☺

JRnE

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA APHIS Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7357
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Barton Behravesh, Casey (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) [mailto:dlx9@cdc.gov]
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 3:06 PM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: Mink-ology

27-Mar-20	Susceptible Hosts	Published	Chinese journal of Virology	The nucleic acid of SARS-COV-2 was found negative in 775 fur animal samples [Chinese, PDF]	Bai et al.	Minks, foxes, raccoon dogs (all farmed)	NA	SARS-CoV-2 was studied in samples (625 tissue, 150 fecal) from animals in various regions in China collected from 2016-2019. The virus was not found in any of the samples.
2-Feb-20	Susceptible Hosts	Preprint	bioRxiv	Host and infectivity prediction of Wuhan 2019 novel coronavirus using deep learning algorithm	Guo et al.	Mink	NA	Mink viruses show a closer infectivity pattern to 2019-nCoV using virus host prediction method based on deep learning.

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: Styles, Darrel K - APHIS
Subject: RE: Mink-ology
Date: Monday, April 27, 2020 3:39:00 PM

Thanks ☺

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA APHIS Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Styles, Darrel K - APHIS
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 3:38 PM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Mink-ology

Just in my head and will modify as new information becomes available. Whatever you need, I'm there to help provide it.

Darrel K. Styles, DVM, PhD
Senior Staff Veterinarian
USDA APHIS Veterinary Services
Diagnostics and Biologics Unit
4700 River Road, Unit 41
Riverdale, MD 20737
Office: (301) 851-3482
Cell: (240) 581-3958
Location: 5D03.22 (Riverdale)

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 5:37 PM
To: Styles, Darrel K - APHIS <darrel.k.styles@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Mink-ology

I liked that too!

BTW – are you keeping a running document with your research evaluation on animal studies…the synopsis you provided me the other day was amazing and I am using it regularly.

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA APHIS Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Styles, Darrel K - APHIS
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 3:33 PM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Mink-ology

Lol… I like the mink-ology. Yes, remember that the Chinese were also the ones that couldn't find the reservoir for LPAI/HPAI H7N9. Strangely, they never would do surveillance on the quail farms and that's where David said they should be looking.

Computational studies…you'll see I reviewed two of them in this week's COVID sitrep. They are well intended, but lack sufficient parameterization and other data to really make accurate guesses…..though some do come close.

Darrel K. Styles, DVM, PhD
Senior Staff Veterinarian
USDA APHIS Veterinary Services
Diagnostics and Biologics Unit
4700 River Road, Unit 41
Riverdale, MD 20737
Office: (301) 851-3482
Cell: (240) 581-3958
Location: 5D03.22 (Riverdale)

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 5:08 PM
To: Styles, Darrel K - APHIS <darrel.k.styles@usda.gov>
Subject: FW: Mink-ology

From CDC partners

From: Barton Behravesh, Casey (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) [mailto:dog9@cdc.gov]
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 3:06 PM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: Mink-ology

27-Mar-20	Susceptible Hosts	Published	Chinese Journal of Virology	The nucleic acid of SARS-COV-2 was found negative in 775 fur animal samples [Chinese, PDF]	Bai et al.	Minks, foxes, raccoon dogs (all farmed)	NA	SARS-CoV-2 was studied in samples (625 tissue, 150 fecal) from animals in various regions in China collected from 2016-2019. The virus was not found in any of the samples.
2-Feb-20	Susceptible Hosts	Preprint	bioRxiv	Host and infectivity prediction of Wuhan 2019 novel coronavirus using deep learning algorithm	Guo et al.	Mink	NA	Mink viruses show a closer infectivity pattern to 2019-nCoV using virus host prediction method based on deep learning.

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: Sanders, John
Subject: RE: One Health Federal COVID-19 Companion Animal Subgroup Meeting
Date: Monday, April 27, 2020 11:47:00 AM
Attachments: image001.png

Much appreciated. Thanks,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Sanders, John [mailto:john.sanders@HQ.DHS.GOV]
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 11:30 AM
To: One Health (CDC) <onehealth@cdc.gov>; Mauldin, Matthew R. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) <yik5@cdc.gov>; nwn2@cdc.gov; dlx9@cdc.gov; Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>; Wilson-Egbe, Wanda (OS/ASPR/EMMO) <Wanda.Wilson-egbe@hhs.gov>; McElroy, Kristina M CIV DHA J-3 (USA) <kristina.m.mcelroy2.civ@mail.mil>; Dennison, Kevin M - APHIS <kevin.m.dennison@usda.gov>; david.rotstein@fda.hhs.gov; Reimschuessel, Renate (FDA/CVM) <Renate.Reimschuessel@fda.hhs.gov>; Forfa, Tracey (FDA/CVM) <Tracey.Forfa@fda.hhs.gov>; Flynn, William T (FDA/CVM) <William.Flynn@fda.hhs.gov>; Hart, Ellen (FDA/CVM) <Ellen.Hart@fda.hhs.gov>; Carpenter, Ann (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <pzy4@cdc.gov>; Loiacono, Christina M - APHIS <christina.m.loiacono@usda.gov>; Torchetti, Mia Kim - APHIS <mia.kim.torchetti@usda.gov>; Wallace, Ryan (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) <euk5@cdc.gov>; Rushmore, Julie (CDC/DDID/NCHHSTP/DHPSE) <pgx4@cdc.gov>
Cc: Murrell, Laura (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <wjl9@cdc.gov>; Cossaboom, Caitlin (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) <nrm9@cdc.gov>; DeLancey, Siobhan (FDA/CVM) <Siobhan.Delancey@fda.hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: One Health Federal COVID-19 Companion Animal Subgroup Meeting

Taxonomy

Both mink and ferrets belong to the family Mustlidae, a group that also includes weasels, badgers,

wolverines, stoats and otters. This is pretty much where the relationship ends. Ferrets are most probably a domesticated form of the European polecat (Mustela putorius), in the way that dogs are a domesticated form of the gray wolf. The American mink (Neovison vison) is not at all closely related to ferrets, although the critically endangered European mink (Mustela luteola), a completely different animal, is related closely enough to the polecat to hybridize on occasion.

Classification/taxonomy

Here is the classification of minks, according to theIntegrated Taxonomic Information System (ITIS):

Kingdom: Animalia **Subkingdom**: Bilateria **Infrakingdom**: Deuterostomia **Phylum**: Chordata **Subphylum**: Vertebrata **Infraphylum**: Gnathostomata **Superclass**: Tetrapoda **Class**: Mammalia **Subclass**: Theria **Infraclass**: Eutheria **Order**: Carnivora **Suborder**: Caniformia **Family**: Mustelidae **Subfamily**: Mustelinae **Genera**: *Mustela, Neovison* **Species**:

- *Mustela lutreola* (European mink)
- *Neovison vison* (American mink)

Respectfully submitted
Dr. John P. Sanders, Jr. DVM DACVPM
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-----Original Appointment-----
From: One Health (CDC) <onehealth@cdc.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 9, 2020 4:03 PM
To: One Health (CDC); Mauldin, Matthew R. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP); Varela, Kate (CDC/NIOSH/RHD/FSB); Barton Behravesh, Casey (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD); Rooney, Jane A - APHIS; Wilson-Egbe, Wanda (OS/ASPR/EMMO); McElroy, Kristina M CIV DHA J-3 (USA); Dennison, Kevin M - APHIS; Rotstein, David (FDA/CVM); Reimschuessel, Renate (FDA/CVM); Forfa, Tracey (FDA/CVM); Flynn, William T (FDA/CVM); Hart, Ellen (FDA/CVM); Sanders, John; Carpenter, Ann

(CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD); Loiacono, Christina M - APHIS; Torchetti, Mia Kim - APHIS; Wallace, Ryan (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP); Rushmore, Julie (CDC/DDID/NCHHSTP/DHPSE)
Cc: Murrell, Laura (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD); Cossaboom, Caitlin (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP); DeLancey, Siobhan (FDA/CVM)
Subject: One Health Federal COVID-19 Companion Animal Subgroup Meeting
When: Monday, April 27, 2020 1:00 PM-1:50 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).
Where: 866-702-9554,,54389441#

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of DHS. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact your component SOC with questions or concerns.

Hello Companion Animal Subgroup Colleagues,

Please hold this recurring meeting time to discuss COVID-19 updates and new developments as they relate to companion animals.

Please find the agenda for our subgroup meeting below.

1. Updates on new issues for companion animals and COVID-19
2. Updates on companion animal testing availability
3. Updates from discussions with federal partners on companion animals and COVID-19
4. Communications and guidance needs around companion animals and COVID-19
5. Mass care subcommittee updates
6. Any new business to discuss

Please use the below call-in line:

(b) (5)(DPP)

Thank you for your continued collaboration!

Kindest Regards,

The One Health Working Group

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: Styles, Darrel K - APHIS
Subject: RE: Question on potential susceptibility of US mink to SARS-CoV-2 virus
Date: Monday, April 27, 2020 1:30:00 PM
Attachments: image001.png

Thanks for that ☺

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Styles, Darrel K - APHIS
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 1:29 PM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Question on potential susceptibility of US mink to SARS-CoV-2 virus

Hmmm….both American and European minks are mustelids as are ferrets. I don't know why he says they aren't closely related because the American mink used to be classified as Mustela vision but has been reclassified. Moreover, I believe most (if not all) mustelids can be crossed with each other and hybrids do exist (e.g. ferret x polecat and polecat x European mink….though there are no native polecats in Ireland! Guess St. Patrick's magic was for both snakes and polecats

Just because the affected mink are in the Netherlands doesn't mean they are European mink but are likely American mink. In fact, the American mink is the most widely farmed species globally because it produces a higher quality of denser fur compared to the European mink. Also, American mink have been introduced to Europe where they are considered invasive. There are many color morphs of both species and a white morph of European mink is farmed in Canada.

So it seems the mink population is widely distributed, and farmed animals are mostly American. Immunologically, I doubt there is much significant difference and in fact, all mustelids are susceptible to Aleutian mink disease which is a parvovirus. So what affects one mustelid I suspect affects them all…..but that's just my speculation.

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 3:02 PM
To: Styles, Darrel K - APHIS <darrel.k.styles@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Question on potential susceptibility of US mink to SARS-CoV-2 virus

See highlight at bottom of string on difference in taxonomy; the reason for my question.

Thanks,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
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Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Styles, Darrel K - APHIS
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 12:56 PM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Question on potential susceptibility of US mink to SARS-CoV-2 virus

As far as I am aware (and I'm no expert), there is no significant difference between the mink reared in Europe and those in the United States. For this virus, we always suspected that all mustelids would be susceptible. USFWS is very concerned about endangered native black-footed ferret populations in the west.

Like ferrets, mink are susceptible to influenzas… human, swine, and avian strains have been reported globally. Hence, mustelids for whatever reason, make good lab animals for virus using respiratory transmission. Regarding SARS CoV-2 in mink farms, we've either been just lucky or it hasn't been reported. Canada has a much bigger mink industry I think.

Did someone indicate there was a difference?

Darrel K Styles, DVM, PhD
Senior Staff Veterinarian
USDA APHIS Veterinary Services

Diagnostics and Biologics Unit
4700 River Road, Unit 41
Riverdale MD 20737
Office: (301) 851-3482
Cell: (240) 581-3958
Location: 5D03.22 (Riverdale)

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 2:44 PM
To: Styles, Darrel K - APHIS <darrel.k.styles@usda.gov>
Subject: Question on potential susceptibility of US mink to SARS-CoV-2 virus

Hi Darrel

Could you help me understand if there is a significant difference between the European and US mink species that would potentially make our mink farms less susceptible to SARS-CoV-2 virus?

Thanks,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
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Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 11:30 AM
To: One Health (CDC) <onehealth@cdc.gov>; Mauldin, Matthew R. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) <yik5@cdc.gov>; nwn2@cdc.gov; dlx9@cdc.gov; Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>; Wilson-Egbe, Wanda (OS/ASPR/EMMO) <Wanda.Wilson-egbe@hhs.gov>; McElroy, Kristina M CIV DHA J-3 (USA) <kristina.m.mcelroy2.civ@mail.mil>; Dennison, Kevin M - APHIS <kevin.m.dennison@usda.gov>; david.rotstein@fda.hhs.gov; Reimschuessel, Renate (FDA/CVM) <Renate.Reimschuessel@fda.hhs.gov>; Forfa, Tracey (FDA/CVM) <Tracey.Forfa@fda.hhs.gov>;

Flynn, William T (FDA/CVM) <William.Flynn@fda.hhs.gov>; Hart, Ellen (FDA/CVM) <Ellen.Hart@fda.hhs.gov>; Carpenter, Ann (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <pzy4@cdc.gov>; Loiacono, Christina M - APHIS <christina.m.loiacono@usda.gov>; Torchetti, Mia Kim - APHIS <mia.kim.torchetti@usda.gov>; Wallace, Ryan (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) <euk5@cdc.gov>; Rushmore, Julie (CDC/DDID/NCHHSTP/DHPSE) <pgx4@cdc.gov>
Cc: Murrell, Laura (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <wjl9@cdc.gov>; Cossaboom, Caitlin (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) <nrm9@cdc.gov>; DeLancey, Siobhan (FDA/CVM) <Siobhan.Delancey@fda.hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: One Health Federal COVID-19 Companion Animal Subgroup Meeting

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- *Mustela lutreola* (European mink)
- *Neovison vison* (American mink)

Respectfully submitted
Dr. John P. Sanders, Jr. DVM DACVPM
e-mail john.sanders@hq.dhs.gov
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From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: Tomlinson, Sarah M - APHIS; Huddleston, Alan R - APHIS; Hannaway, Nancy L - APHIS
Cc: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS
Subject: RE: two Dutch mink farms with SARS-COV-2 positive symptomatic animals
Date: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 10:22:00 AM

Hi Sarah,

Thanks, (b) (5)(DPP) [redacted].

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
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USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
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From: Tomlinson, Sarah M - APHIS
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 10:14 AM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>; Huddleston, Alan R - APHIS <alan.r.huddleston@usda.gov>; Hannaway, Nancy L - APHIS <nancy.l.hannaway@usda.gov>
Cc: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: two Dutch mink farms with SARS-COV-2 positive symptomatic animals



(b) (5)(DPP)

Thanks, Sarah

Sarah M. Tomlinson, DVM
Associate Deputy Administrator, Strategy and Policy
VS, APHIS, USDA
2150 Centre Ave, Bldg B.
Fort Collins, CO 80526
Office: 970.494.7152
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Email: Sarah.M.Tomlinson@aphis.usda.gov

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 2:55 PM
To: Tomlinson, Sarah M - APHIS <sarah.m.tomlinson@usda.gov>; Huddleston, Alan R - APHIS <alan.r.huddleston@usda.gov>; Hannaway, Nancy L - APHIS <nancy.l.hannaway@usda.gov>
Cc: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: two Dutch mink farms with SARS-COV-2 positive symptomatic animals

Here is the updated Draft FAQ so far. (b) (5)(DPP) [redacted].

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
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USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
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Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Tomlinson, Sarah M - APHIS
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 2:49 PM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>

Cc: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>; Huddleston, Alan R - APHIS <alan.r.huddleston@usda.gov>; Hannaway, Nancy L - APHIS <nancy.l.hannaway@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: two Dutch mink farms with SARS-COV-2 positive symptomatic animals

Yes, please work with our folks to develop appropriate points and suggest utilizing your livestock group to review and/or ID one of their colleagues to appoint as expert.

Thanks! Sarah

Sarah M. Tomlinson, DVM
Associate Deputy Administrator, Strategy and Policy
VS, APHIS, USDA
2150 Centre Ave, Bldg B.
Fort Collins, CO 80526
Office: 970.494.7152
Cell: 970.217.7433
Email: Sarah.M.Tomlinson@aphis.usda.gov

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 1:01 PM
To: Tomlinson, Sarah M - APHIS <sarah.m.tomlinson@usda.gov>
Cc: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>; Huddleston, Alan R - APHIS <alan.r.huddleston@usda.gov>; Hannaway, Nancy L - APHIS <nancy.l.hannaway@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: two Dutch mink farms with SARS-COV-2 positive symptomatic animals

Sorry - also, to answer your question – yes the idea is to provide information on the Dutch farms and a few Q&As around what to do if mink show clinical signs and how to protect animals and human health using proper biosecurity (e.gs., on the attached; which also contains some background information I gathered from the internet).

The USG OH COVID-19 companion animal (ferrets/mustelids as pets and produced for the pet market), diagnostics and research and wildlife subgroups are also developing/updating their Q&As and guidance on mustelids. So our livestock (farmed species) subgroup (that I lead) would be coordinating with the other subgroups.

Best,
Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.

Director, One Health Coordination
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Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
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Subject: RE: two Dutch mink farms with SARS-COV-2 positive symptomatic animals

Thanks Sarah,

I also just received information that may or may not make our a difference to our mink industry, see below. I am asking Darrel for his input – as he may know more about the virus science and whether this the taxonomy makes a difference.

Taxonomy

Both mink and ferrets belong to the family Mustlidae, a group that also includes weasels, badgers, wolverines, stoats and otters. This is pretty much where the relationship ends. Ferrets are most probably a domesticated form of the European polecat (Mustela putorius), in the way that dogs are a domesticated form of the gray wolf. The American mink (Neovison vison) is not at all closely related to ferrets, although the critically endangered European mink (Mustela luteola), a completely different animal, is related closely enough to the polecat to hybridize on occasion.

Jane

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Subject: RE: two Dutch mink farms with SARS-COV-2 positive symptomatic animals



Thanks, Sarah

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From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2020 2:06 PM
To: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>; Tomlinson, Sarah M - APHIS

<sarah.m.tomlinson@usda.gov>
Cc: Curlett, Ed C - APHIS <ed.c.curlett@usda.gov>; Cole, Lyndsay M - APHIS <lyndsay.m.cole@usda.gov>; Hayden, Joelle R - APHIS <joelle.r.hayden@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: two Dutch mink farms with SARS-COV-2 positive symptomatic animals

(b) (5)(DPP)

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
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From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2020 1:28 PM
To: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>; Tomlinson, Sarah M - APHIS <sarah.m.tomlinson@usda.gov>
Cc: Curlett, Ed C - APHIS <ed.c.curlett@usda.gov>; Cole, Lyndsay M - APHIS <lyndsay.m.cole@usda.gov>; Hayden, Joelle R - APHIS <joelle.r.hayden@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: two Dutch mink farms with SARS-COV-2 positive symptomatic animals

Correct.

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
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Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2020 1:22 PM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>; Tomlinson, Sarah M - APHIS <sarah.m.tomlinson@usda.gov>
Cc: Curlett, Ed C - APHIS <ed.c.curlett@usda.gov>; Cole, Lyndsay M - APHIS <lyndsay.m.cole@usda.gov>; Hayden, Joelle R - APHIS <joelle.r.hayden@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: two Dutch mink farms with SARS-COV-2 positive symptomatic animals

Thanks Jane- This want change the animal testing guidance we put out, correct?

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2020 3:02 PM
To: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>; Tomlinson, Sarah M - APHIS <sarah.m.tomlinson@usda.gov>
Cc: Curlett, Ed C - APHIS <ed.c.curlett@usda.gov>; Cole, Lyndsay M - APHIS <lyndsay.m.cole@usda.gov>; Hayden, Joelle R - APHIS <joelle.r.hayden@usda.gov>
Subject: FW: two Dutch mink farms with SARS-COV-2 positive symptomatic animals
Importance: High

Hi Jerry and Sarah,

CDC OH colleagues would like to co-develop guidance/messages on this topic to share with NASAHO and NASPHV. I have put together quick/brief background information on mink farming in the US (from the internet), and think we could also use some of the Dutch announcement language also.



Please let me know your thoughts on how we should proceed.

Thanks,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
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From: Barton Behravesh, Casey (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) [mailto:dlx9@cdc.gov]
Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2020 9:33 AM
To: Carpenter, Ann (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <pzy4@cdc.gov>; Ghai, Ria (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <ofu9@cdc.gov>; Murrell, Laura (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <wjl9@cdc.gov>; nwn2@cdc.gov; lie0@cdc.gov; Straily, Anne (CDC/DDPHSIS/CGH/DPDM) <yzv2@cdc.gov>; One Health (CDC) <onehealth@cdc.gov>; GGG0@cdc.gov; Wilson-Egbe, Wanda (OS/ASPR/EMMO) <Wanda.Wilson-egbe@hhs.gov>; mark.tinsman@dhs.gov; John Sanders – <john.sanders@hq.dhs.gov>; Burke, Micheal <micheal.burke@hq.dhs.gov>; Egan, Sarah <sarah.egan@fema.dhs.gov>; Joseph, Debbie <Debbie.Joseph@hq.dhs.gov>; McElroy, Kristina M CIV DHA J-3 (USA) <kristina.m.mcelroy2.civ@mail.mil>; Alves, Derron A COL USARMY MEDCOM APHC (USA) <derron.a.alves.mil@mail.mil>; Parker, Jacquelyn S (Jacque) LTC USARMY MEDCOM DCS-PH (USA) <jacquelyn.s.parker2.mil@mail.mil>; Venn, Emilee C LTC USARMY MEDCOM APHC (USA) <emilee.c.venn.mil@mail.mil>; mchopkins@usgs.gov; jsleeman@usgs.gov; Gibbs, Samantha <samantha_gibbs@fws.gov>; Taylor, Sharon K <sktaylor@usgs.gov>; Powers, Jenny <Jenny_Powers@nps.gov>; Payer, David C <David_Payer@nps.gov>; david.rotstein@fda.hhs.gov; Forfa, Tracey (FDA/CVM) <Tracey.Forfa@fda.hhs.gov>; DeLancey, Siobhan (FDA/CVM) <Siobhan.Delancey@fda.hhs.gov>; Norris, Anne (FDA/CVM) <Anne.Norris@fda.hhs.gov>; Reimschuessel, Renate (FDA/CVM) <Renate.Reimschuessel@fda.hhs.gov>; Hart, Ellen (FDA/CVM) <Ellen.Hart@fda.hhs.gov>; Ceric, Olgica (FDA/CVM) <Olgica.Ceric@fda.hhs.gov>; Flynn, William T (FDA/CVM) <William.Flynn@fda.hhs.gov>; 'Ricardo Echalar (rechalar@usaid.gov)' <rechalar@usaid.gov>; pbright@usaid.gov; cchrisman@usaid.gov; pshetty@usaid.gov; Cote, Andrea - FSIS <andrea.cote@usda.gov>; Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>; Lautner, Elizabeth A - APHIS <elizabeth.a.lautner@usda.gov>; Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>; Kreindel, Silvia M - APHIS <silvia.kreindel@usda.gov>; Dennison, Kevin M - APHIS <kevin.m.dennison@usda.gov>; Days-Austin, Rosalynn C - APHIS <rosalynn.days-austin@usda.gov>; Klein, Patrice - FS <patrice.n.klein@usda.gov>; Levings, Randall L - APHIS <randall.l.levings@usda.gov>; Torchetti, Mia Kim - APHIS <mia.kim.torchetti@usda.gov>; Burrell, Sierra Denys (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <ysd0@cdc.gov>; Dodd, Kimberly A - APHIS

<kimberly.a.dodd@usda.gov>; Faburay, Bonto - APHIS <Bonto.Faburay@usda.gov>; Styles, Darrel K - APHIS <darrel.k.styles@usda.gov>; Gay, Cyril <cyril.gay@usda.gov>; Loiacono, Christina M - APHIS <christina.m.loiacono@usda.gov>; Lin, Jeanie - APHIS <jean.lin@usda.gov>; Hale, Kis Robertson - FSIS <Kis.Robertson1@usda.gov>; Iverson, Sally Ann - FSIS <SallyAnn.Iverson@usda.gov>; Deliberto, Thomas J - APHIS <thomas.j.deliberto@usda.gov>; hhamilton@usgs.gov; ssoileau@usgs.gov; Hayden, Joelle R - APHIS <joelle.r.hayden@usda.gov>; Curlett, Ed C - APHIS <ed.c.curlett@usda.gov>; Suarez, David <david.suarez@usda.gov>; Lager, Kelly - ARS <kelly.lager@usda.gov>; Stauffer, Kendra E. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DGMQ) <hgp7@cdc.gov>; Pieracci, Emily (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DGMQ) <ydi7@cdc.gov>; Cole, Lyndsay M - APHIS <lyndsay.m.cole@usda.gov>; Rushmore, Julie (CDC/DDID/NCHHSTP/DHPSE) <pgx4@cdc.gov>; Wallace, Ryan (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) <euk5@cdc.gov>; Elgethun, Kai (ATSDR/DCHI/WB) <irz6@cdc.gov>; Towner, Jonathan (Jon) (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) <jit8@cdc.gov>; McGarry, Sherri (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DFWED) <nmc6@cdc.gov>; McGarry, Sherri A (FDA/CFSAN) <Sherri.McGarry@fda.hhs.gov>; Nichols, Megin C. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DFWED) <gpg6@cdc.gov>; janet.whaley@noaa.gov; teri.rowles@noaa.gov; deborah.fauquier@noaa.gov
Cc: Cossaboom, Caitlin (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) <nrm9@cdc.gov>; Chevalier, Nicole A COL USARMY DHA PUB HLTH (USA) <nicole.a.chevalier.mil@mail.mil>; Campbell, Stefanie M. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <ybe0@cdc.gov>; Glover, Mark (FDA/CVM) <Mark.Glover@fda.hhs.gov>; Jackson, LeeAnne (FDA/CFSAN) <LeeAnne.Jackson@fda.hhs.gov>; Murphy, Jeanette (FDA/CVM) <Jenny.Murphy@fda.hhs.gov>; Mauldin, Matthew R. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) <yik5@cdc.gov>; Shaw, Sheryl - FSIS <sheryl.shaw@usda.gov>; Wittig, Julianna (FDA/CVM) <Julianna.Wittig@fda.hhs.gov>
Subject: two Dutch mink farms with SARS-COV-2 positive symptomatic animals

Dear USG Colleagues,

We wanted to make sure you saw this news about **two Dutch mink farms with SARS-COV-2 positive symptomatic animals.** A few months ago, CDC discussed with the pet industry that it was important for ferret breeding facilities and pet stores that sell ferrets to have plans in place to protect both animal and human health.

https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2020/04/26/covid-19-geconstateerd-op-twee-nertsenbedrijven

COVID-19 detected on two mink farms
News item | 04/26/2020 | 11:17

Two mink farms in Gemert-Bakel and Laarbeek have detected contaminations of COVID-19 in different minks. The minks showed various symptoms including respiratory problems. Investigations have been launched to determine the source of the infections. Because some employees had symptoms of the coronavirus at both companies, it is assumed that people are infected with animals. Previous research shows that ferrets, and therefore also minks, are susceptible to COVID-19 contamination. There are currently no indications that farm animals or pets play a role in the spread of COVID-19.

Minister Schouten of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality has immediately announced measures. As of today, a reporting obligation has been introduced for mink farmers, veterinarians and persons in research institutions. If there are respiratory problems and increased mortality in minks, this must be reported to the NVWA. To prevent possible spread of the virus to other farms, both animals and manure must not leave an infected farm. Since other animals in livestock farming do not appear to be susceptible to the virus, a notification requirement is now only imposed for minks.

Contamination from person to person
It is important to know how the disease develops on the infected farms. This knowledge can be used to better understand the disease and its course in animals and humans. Therefore, samples are collected from sick and healthy animals. These will be used for further investigation. Although the virus is not expected to spread over longer distances, air and dust samples are also taken in the vicinity of the company as a precaution. These are being examined to see whether virus can be detected in this. The Lower House will be informed as soon as more information is available about the outcome of this investigation.

According to RIVM, based on current knowledge about COVID-19, the mink companies do not pose a risk of further spread to humans. Human to animal contamination is possible, but the impact of this mink contamination on human health is currently negligible. Human to human contamination is the driving force behind the current corona pandemic.

Precaution
There is currently no reason to believe that the virus spreads in these mink farms in any other way than it does between humans. As a precautionary measure, RIVM advises against cycling or walking within a radius of approximately 400 meters around the infected mink farm until the results of the research on the air and dust samples are known. It was decided to close the public road in this radius around the company for pedestrians and cyclists until the results of the research are known. The mayors of both municipalities will soon take this measure.

Casey

Casey Barton Behravesh MS, DVM, DrPH, DACVPM
Captain, U.S. Public Health Service
Director, One Health Office
CDC COVID-19 One Health Working Group Lead
National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
e-mail: CBartonBehravesh@cdc.gov
www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/animals.html
www.cdc.gov/onehealth
Cell: 404 729 4107


ONE
HEALTH

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: Days-Austin, Rosalynn C - APHIS
Subject: RE: USDA ESF #11 (Agriculture and Natural Resources) Response & USDA Recovery Support COVID-19 Coordination Call
Date: Monday, April 27, 2020 8:33:00 AM

Hi Rosalynn,

Here are the links to the 3 topics I provided updates on.

- USDA APHIS Establishing Coordination Center to Assist Producers Affected by Meat Processing Plant Closures
https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAAPHIS/bulletins/288579e

- Dutch Mink Farms reporting SARS-CoV-2 positives

  https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2020/04/26/covid-19-geconstateerd-op-twee-nertsenbedrijven

  COVID-19 detected on two mink farms

  News item | 04/26/2020 | 11:17

  Two mink farms in Gemert-Bakel and Laarbeek have detected contaminations of COVID-19 in different minks. The minks showed various symptoms including respiratory problems. Investigations have been launched to determine the source of the infections. Because some employees had symptoms of the coronavirus at both companies, it is assumed that people are infected with animals. Previous research shows that ferrets, and therefore also minks, are susceptible to COVID-19 contamination. There are currently no indications that farm animals or pets play a role in the spread of COVID-19.

  Minister Schouten of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality has immediately announced measures. As of today, a reporting obligation has been introduced for mink farmers, veterinarians and persons in research institutions. If there are respiratory problems and increased mortality in minks, this must be reported to the NVWA. To prevent possible spread of the virus to other farms, both animals and manure must not leave an infected farm. Since other animals in livestock farming do not appear to be susceptible to the virus, a notification requirement is now only imposed for minks.

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  It is important to know how the disease develops on the infected farms. This

knowledge can be used to better understand the disease and its course in animals and humans. Therefore, samples are collected from sick and healthy animals. These will be used for further investigation. Although the virus is not expected to spread over longer distances, air and dust samples are also taken in the vicinity of the company as a precaution. These are being examined to see whether virus can be detected in this. The Lower House will be informed as soon as more information is available about the outcome of this investigation.

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Precaution

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- CDC Guidance for meat/poultry processing facilities: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/meat-poultry-processing-workers-employers.html

Best,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.

Director, One Health Coordination

Office of Interagency Coordination

Strategy and Policy

USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services

2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13

Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397

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Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

-----Original Appointment-----
From: Days-Austin, Rosalynn C - APHIS
Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2020 2:01 PM
To: Days-Austin, Rosalynn C - APHIS; Colby, Michelle - OHS, Washington, DC; Wortham, Jimmy W - APHIS; Mccoy, Todd - OHS, Washington, DC; Kohler, Dennis - APHIS; Chmil, Holly - APHIS; Hortin, Steve - FNS; Mullaney, Roxanne C - APHIS; Aucott, John - OHS, Washington, DC; John_Nelson@ios.doi.gov; Rooney, Jane A - APHIS; OpsCenter - OHS, Washington, DC; Sullivan, Christine - APHIS; Serach, Michael J - APHIS; Sindall, Johanna; Fantinato, Jessica - OHS, Washington, DC; Dinsmore, Ben - FSIS; Burrell, Sierra D - APHIS; Densel, Brock - AMS; Azama, Wesley - FPAC-BC, Washington, DC; Webster, Steven - FPAC-BC, Washington, DC; Zack, Jonathan T - APHIS; Miller, Lori P - APHIS; Hill, Deborah - OHS, Washington, DC; Kidd, Stephen - APHIS; Mouw, Traci - FNS; Carter, Scott - FNS; Timmons, David - OHS, Washington, DC; Willis, Samuel - OHS, Washington, DC; Pulz, Jessica - OHS, Washington, DC; Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS; Lott, James - FSIS; Stiefel, David - OHS, Washington, DC; Sheaffer, Geoffrey - OHS, Washington, DC; Linsky, Scott - FPAC-BC, Washington, DC; Walton, Ronald - RD, Washington, DC; Barrett, Todd -OHS, Washington, DC; Dennison, Kevin M - APHIS
Cc: Hall, Ann - FNS; Ray, Jon - FPAC-FBC, Washington, DC; mchopkins@usgs.gov; Byrd, Anita - FPAC-BC, Washington, DC
Subject: USDA ESF #11 (Agriculture and Natural Resources) Response & USDA Recovery Support COVID-19 Coordination Call
When: Monday, April 27, 2020 9:10 AM-10:10 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).
Where: CALL NUMBER (888) 844-9904;4363514 #

USDA ESF #11 (Agriculture and Natural Resources) Response & USDA Recovery Support

COVID-19 Coordination Call

Time: 10:10am-11:10am EDT (M,W,F)
Call in #: (b) (5)(DPP)

Pin#: (b) (5)(DPP)

Audience: USDA & DOI

Purpose: Response to and recovery from COVID-19 (2019 Novel Coronavirus) requires a significant unity of effort across the interagency. On March 13, 2020, the **President declared a nationwide emergency for the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic for all states, tribes, territories, and the District of Columbia under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.** FEMA assumed Incident Coordination as HHS remains the health and medical lead for COVID-19 federal response to ensure unity of effort by utilizing the ESF structure. **USDA ESF #11 is activated** to support FEMA NRCC and FEMA Regions I, III, IV, V, VI, VII, IX and X. ESF#11 continues to provide daily situational updates, incident coordination, planning support and document development to FEMA and HHS. With the passage of over $2T in supplemental funding for COVID-19 response and recovery, the Recovery Support Function Leadership Group (RSFLG) is leaning forward on the recovery and has convened a COVID-19 Interagency Recovery Coordination effort. This coordination call is conducted to aid ESF #11 and NSD in providing requested support to FEMA/HHS and enhance situational awareness across USDA/DOI for COVID-19 response and recovery.

There will not be a roll call, use the following information elements in red font below to brief for your group/program/agency area. Feel free to call on other members of your group to brief at your discretion.

- Your group/program/agency response/recovery activities that this group needs to know.
- What challenges to you foresee impacting your group/program/agency area within the next 2-3 days?
- Any critical issues your group/program/agency is facing that this group can help solve.

USDA ESF #11 Primary Functional Elements:

- Provide nutrition assistance.
- Respond to animal and agriculture health issues.
- Providing technical expertise in support of animal and agricultural emergency management.
- Ensure the safety and defense of the Nation's supply of meat, poultry and processed egg products.
- Protecting Natural, Cultural, and Historical (NCH) resources.

USDA Recovery Support Elements:

- Economic Recovery (Primary)
- Health and Social Services (Primary)
- Housing (Primary)
- Community Planning and Capacity Building (Supporting)
- Infrastructure Systems (Supporting)
- Natural and Cultural Resources (Supporting)

Agenda:

- USDA ESF #11 National Coordination Team update - Rosalynn Days-Austin (Team Leader & Acting-Branch Chief)
    - FEMA Headquarters Level Task Force update
        - Supply Chain Task Force , FEMA Recovery Support Function Leadership Group (RSFLG) ESF #6-Food Security Working Group, Food Supply Chain Task Force
    - ESF #11 National Coordination Team support - Mike Serach
    - ESF #11 National Coordination Team support - Holly Chmil
- USDA Office of Homeland Security (OHS) - Jessica Fantinato or alternate
    - Emergency Programs Division -Todd Barrett or alternate
        - Operations
- USDA National Security Division (NSD) Recovery Update – Michelle Colby (NSD Chief) or alternate
- USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) programs update
    - Veterinary Services (VS) – Gerald Rushin or alternate
        - One Health – Jane Rooney or alternate
        - Depopulation & Carcass Disposal IMT
    - Wildlife Services (WS) - Dennis Kohler or alternate
    - Animal Care (AC) - Steven Kidd, Kevin Dennison
- USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)
- USDA Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) – Steve Hortin or alternate
- USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) - Ben Dinsmore or alternate
- USDA Rural Development (RD) – Ron Walton
- USDA Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC) programs update
    - Risk Management Agency (RMA)
    - Farm Services Agency (FSA)
    - Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

- U.S. Department of Interior (DOI)
- Others
- Wrap-up and action items

Rosalynn Days-Austin

Acting Chief, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Branch (ESF #11)

USDA/APHIS/EMSSD

Email: rosalynn.days-austin@usda.gov

BB: 970-631-3380

Emergency Support Function #11 (ESF #11) - **Agriculture and Natural Resources** works during actual and potential incidents to provide nutrition assistance; respond to animal and agricultural health issues; provide technical expertise, coordination and support of animal and agricultural emergency management; ensure the safety and defense of the Nation's supply of meat, poultry, and processed egg products; and ensure the protection of natural and cultural resources and historic properties.

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: Gober, Pete; Gibbs, Samantha; Garelle, Della M
Subject: RE: USDA, COVID-19, and mustelids
Date: Monday, April 27, 2020 11:45:00 AM

Thanks for the great information. We are also in close contact with CDC and USGS OH partners.

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Gober, Pete [mailto:pete_gober@fws.gov]
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 11:23 AM
To: Gibbs, Samantha <samantha_gibbs@fws.gov>; Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>; Garelle, Della M <della_garelle@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: USDA, COVID-19, and mustelids

Sam and Jane

Thanks. We are working from a protocol that we put together early this month, although we have a revision in progress to address a few items and generally clean it up per basic edits. In general, we expanded on our existing BFF Managed Care Operations Manual that we share with five other AZA BFF facilities that assist the recovery program, e.g. enhanced disinfectant use, increased PPE, contact limitations for specific staff groups, reduced numbers of animals per individual room spaces, etc.
Tonie Rocke from the USGS National Wildlife Health Center has assisted us constantly in this situation. She has involved virologist Hon Il and Center Director Jonathan Sleeman. Jonathan has coordinated with CDC and others.

Regards, Pete

From: Gibbs, Samantha <samantha_gibbs@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 11:08 AM
To: Jane.A.Rooney@aphis.usda.gov <Jane.A.Rooney@aphis.usda.gov>; Gober, Pete <pete_gober@fws.gov>; Garelle, Della M <della_garelle@fws.gov>
Subject: USDA, COVID-19, and mustelids

Hi Della and Pete,

I hope you and the ferrets are well.

The USDA is responding to concerns raised by the recent COVID-19 virus cases in mink farms and were interested in learning more about the protocol the ferret center has put together for working safely with the ferrets. This email is to connect you to Jane Rooney, veterinarian and director of One Health Coordination (information below) so that you can communicate directly.

If I can be of any assistance, please don't hesitate to let me know.

Kind regards,
Sam

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
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Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
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Samantha E. J. Gibbs, DVM PhD
Wildlife Veterinarian
Wildlife Health office
Natural Resource Program Center
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samantha_gibbs@fws.gov

571-216-5776

From:	One Health (CDC)
To:	nwn2@cdc.gov; dlx9@cdc.gov; Rooney, Jane A - APHIS; Wilson-Egbe, Wanda (OS/ASPR/EMMO); McElroy, Kristina M CIV DHA J-3 (USA); Dennison, Kevin M - APHIS; david.rotstein@fda.hhs.gov; Reimschuessel, Renate (FDA/CVM); Forfa, Tracey (FDA/CVM); Flynn, William T (FDA/CVM); Hart, Ellen (FDA/CVM); john.sanders@HQ.DHS.GOV; Carpenter, Ann (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD); Loiacono, Christina M - APHIS; Torchetti, Mia Kim - APHIS; Mauldin, Matthew R. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP); Wallace, Ryan (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP); Rushmore, Julie (CDC/DDID/NCHHSTP/DHPSE)
Cc:	Murrell, Laura (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD); Cossaboom, Caitlin (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP); DeLancey, Siobhan (FDA/CVM); Moore, Andrea (CDC/DDID/NCHHSTP/DHPIRS)
Subject:	Companion Animals Subgroup Updates: Additional Positive Mink Farms
Date:	Monday, May 11, 2020 9:42:33 AM

Hello Companion Animals Subgroup Colleagues,

Please see the below ProMed Mail post discussing additional mink farms in the Netherlands positive for SARS-CoV-2.

At the end of April [2020], 2 mink farms were diagnosed with the coronavirus. Subsequently, research was conducted to gain more insight into the virus, the spread of the virus and its spread in the environment. The 1st results show that no virus was found in the air samples outside the house. However, the virus has been found in the immediate vicinity of mink on dust particles within the house. It is still unknown whether people can become infected with COVID-19 through these dust particles. It is therefore important that employees of infected mink farms continue to follow the advice of the GGD [municipal health organisation for preventive healthcare] for personal protection. This is stated in the letter that Minister Schouten of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality (LNV) sent today [8 May 2020] to the House of Representatives.

New infections

On 7 May 2020, 2 [additional] mink farms were found to have coronavirus infections among mink. It concerns a farm in De Mortel (municipality of Gemert-Bakel) and a farm in Deurne (municipality of Deurne). The farm in De Mortel is the 3rd location of the holder of the previously infected mink farm in Milheeze. In these farms too, contamination from humans to animals seems to be the cause. The same measures apply as for previously infected farms. On the basis of advice from RIVM [Netherlands National Institute for Public Health and the Environment], the mayors of Gemert-Bakel and Deurne will also close off the public road in the 400 meter (about 1300 ft) zone around the contaminated locations for pedestrians and (moped) cyclists.

Precautions remain in effect

Minister Schouten has previously instituted a notification obligation for mink farmers, veterinarians and persons from research institutions. In the event of respiratory problems and increased mortality in minks, this must be reported to the NVWA [Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority]. As a precaution and to prevent any possible spread of the virus to other farms, the animals and manure must not leave an infected farm. According to the RIVM, based on current knowledge about COVID-19, the mink farms do not pose a risk for further distribution to humans. RIVM advises further monitoring of the situation on the farms and further research.

https://promedmail.org/

The press release can be found here: https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/ministeries/ministerie-van-landbouw-natuur-en-voedselkwaliteit/nieuws/2020/05/08/eerste-resultaten-onderzoek-naar-covid-19-op-nertsenbedrijven-binnen

We are also aware of several media articles circulating that discuss a cat in Spain that reportedly tested positive for SARS-CoV-2.

Thank you for your ongoing collaboration.

Sincerely,

Ann

From:	Carpenter, Ann (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD)
To:	One Health (CDC); dlx9@cdc.gov; Rooney, Jane A - APHIS; Wilson-Egbe, Wanda (OS/ASPR/EMMO); McElroy, Kristina M CIV DHA J-3 (USA); Dennison, Kevin M - APHIS; david.rotstein@fda.hhs.gov; Reimschuessel, Renate (FDA/CVM); Forfa, Tracey (FDA/CVM); Flynn, William T (FDA/CVM); Hart, Ellen (FDA/CVM); john.sanders@HQ.DHS.GOV; Loiacono, Christina M - APHIS; Torchetti, Mia Kim - APHIS; Wallace, Ryan (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP)
Cc:	Murrell, Laura (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD); Cossaboom, Caitlin (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP); DeLancey, Siobhan (FDA/CVM); Medley, Alexandra (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DGMQ)
Subject:	For Discussion Today: Letter to the Dutch President on Positive Mink Farms
Date:	Tuesday, May 26, 2020 7:48:54 AM
Attachments:	English kamerbrief-over-stand-van-zaken-onderzoek-covid-19-op-nertsenbedrijven.pdf

Good morning Companion Animal Subgroup Colleagues,

Please see the attached letter to the Dutch president with information on positive mink farms. This will be discussed on the Companion Animal Subgroup call this afternoon.

Thank you to John Sanders for sharing this with us!

Sincerely,

Ann Carpenter

> Return address PO Box 20350 2500 EJ The Hague

The President of the House of Representatives
of the States General
Box 20018
2500 EA THE HAGUE

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Parnassusplein 5
2511 VX The Hague
T 070 340 79 11
F 070 340 78 34
Box 20350
2500 EJ The Hague
www.rijksoverheid.nl

Characteristic
1694486-205571-PG

Correspondence only address to the return address indicating the date and the characteristic of this letter.

Date	May 25, 2020
Regarding	State of affairs investigation COVID-19 op mink companies

Dear President,

In our letter dated May 19, we informed you about the state of investigation matters on mink farms infected with SARS-CoV-2 and a first plausible animal-human infection of the COVID-19 virus Partly with in view of the technical briefing that we have presented to your Chamber and that on May 25, 2020 will take place, we inform you about the most recent developments and research results

A second case has recently become known, in which one of the infected mink farms are most likely to be SARS-CoV-2 (CoV-2) passed from mink to human This case is similar to the previous one In this In this case, the virus was detected in three people on the infected farm The genetic code of these viruses shows great similarity to the genetic codes as found in the company's minks Under the Available information is most likely to be at least one of the three

infected persons has been infected by a mink It is not from the data
possible to determine whether more than one of these three persons is from the mink
is infected

In this company, too, the infection probably did not yet occur
It was known that mink were infected on this farm and that there were no personal ones yet
protective equipment was used RIVM has indicated that this is correct
and consistent use of personal protective equipment in a stable
infected mink farm infection RIVM also assesses that it
risk of human exposure to the virus outside the barn
is negligible and has not changed due to this new research result

Genetic family tree

In our previous letter, we reported that researchers have the 'genetic
pedigree 'of infected people from the environment of the infected
mink farm with the first plausible mink-human contamination even further
mapping, in order to obtain the most complete picture possible

Page 2

That has since happened No viruses were found with in that environment
a genetic coding that fits within that of the infected mink farm This
supports the conclusion that it is plausible that there is a
mink contamination on humans
This has also been compared to viruses from infected people in the environment
occurred at the above mentioned second company with a
probable mink-human infection Also the three genetic codes found at
the people on this farm do not match the known genetic codes of the
viruses from Covid-19 patients in the environment and in the Netherlands Among people,
therefore, no circulating virus is known from which it is present in the region of the company either
three genetic codes may have arisen

Farm Cats and COVID-19

In our letter of May 19, we reported that there are three farm cats on it
an infected mink farm tested positive for serological testing On this
further investigation has taken place In total, seven of the 24
sampled farm cats tested positive at a serological site
research That is, these positive cats have antibodies
created against the virus One of the positive cats was under investigation
virus detected, however the amount of virus detected is probably too
little to unravel the genetic code The other six cats could
no virus can be detected That means these last six cats have a CoV
2 have gone through infection and no longer shed virus Because cats
being infected with CoV-2 has been previously known to infected mink farms
advised to ensure that their cats cannot enter the company premises

leave

Screening and measures for mink companies

As announced in the letter of May 19 last, a start is being made this week
with the sampling for the mandatory screening of all mink farms in
The Netherlands Screening at surrounding companies is already taking place around the contaminated locations
started earlier As long as the results of the screening are not yet known, they will be
week - in addition to the measures already in force for the infected mink farms -
As a precaution, veterinary measures will also apply to all mink companies
in the Netherlands, such as a visitor ban in the stable These measures are now
your House will be informed about this further this week

Veterinary epidemiological research on infected farms

Finally, at the end of this week, the results of the veterinary epidemiological
research known to be conducted in the three locations of the first two
infected mink farms Based on the results, veterinary experts can
give an estimate of whether CoV-2 will be available on the mink farms in the foreseeable future
extinguish or not Based on this estimate, experts in the field of
human health, complemented by veterinary expertise, assess what it
is a risk to public health from the infected mink farms

On the basis of this advice we will determine the measures that are necessary to
avert this risk All conceivable measures will be taken
considered We will inform your Chamber about this as soon as possible

Yours sincerely,

the Minister of Health
Well-being and Sport,

the Minister of Agriculture,
Nature and Food Quality,

From:	Sanders, John
To:	Carpenter, Ann (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD); Ghai, Ria (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD); dlx9@cdc.gov; Murrell, Laura (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD); lie0@cdc.gov; One Health (CDC); GGG0@cdc.gov; Wilson-Egbe, Wanda (OS/ASPR/EMMO); mark.tinsman@dhs.gov; Burke, Micheal; Egan, Sarah; Joseph, Debbie; McElroy, Kristina M CIV DHA J-3 (USA); Alves, Derron A COL USARMY MEDCOM APHC (USA); Parker, Jacquelyn S (Jacque) LTC USARMY MEDCOM DCS-PH (USA); Venn, Emilee C LTC USARMY MEDCOM APHC (USA); jsleeman@usgs.gov; Gibbs, Samantha; Taylor, Sharon K; Powers, Jenny; Payer, David C; david.rotstein@fda.hhs.gov; Forfa, Tracey (FDA/CVM); DeLancey, Siobhan (FDA/CVM); Norris, Anne (FDA/CVM); Reimschuessel, Renate (FDA/CVM); Hart, Ellen (FDA/CVM); Ceric, Olgica (FDA/CVM); Flynn, William T (FDA/CVM); "Ricardo Echalar (rechalar@usaid.gov)"; pbright@usaid.gov; cchrisman@usaid.gov; pshetty@usaid.gov; Cote, Andrea - FSIS; Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS; Lautner, Elizabeth A - APHIS; Rooney, Jane A - APHIS; Kreindel, Silvia M - APHIS; Dennison, Kevin M - APHIS; Days-Austin, Rosalynn C - APHIS; Klein, Patrice - FS; Torchetti, Mia Kim - APHIS; Burrell, Sierra Denys (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD); Dodd, Kimberly A - APHIS; Faburay, Bonto - APHIS; Styles, Darrel K - APHIS; Gay, Cyril; Loiacono, Christina M - APHIS; Lin, Jeanie - APHIS; Hale, Kis Robertson - FSIS; Iverson, Sally Ann - FSIS; Deliberto, Thomas J - APHIS; hhamilton@usgs.gov; ssoileau@usgs.gov; Hayden, Joelle R - APHIS; Curlett, Ed C - APHIS; Suarez, David; Lager, Kelly - ARS; hgp7.cdc.gov; Pieracci, Emily (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DGMQ); Cole, Lyndsay M - APHIS; Wallace, Ryan (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP); Elgethun, Kai (ATSDR/DCHI/WB); Towner, Jonathan (Jon) (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP); McGarry, Sherri (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DFWED); McGarry, Sherri A (FDA/CFSAN); janet.whaley@noaa.gov; deborah.fauquier@noaa.gov; parkerti@niaid.NIH.gov; Kiersten Johnson-FAS Contact-USAID; Natalie.Bailey-FASContact; atobiason@usaid.gov; Doty, Jeffrey B. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP); Basler, Colin A. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DFWED); Kukielka, Esther (CDC/DDNID/NCEH/OD); Medley, Alexandra (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DGMQ); teri.rowles@noaa.gov; Levings, Randall L - APHIS; sarah.wilkin@noaa.gov; Elizabeth Daut; Miller, Jessica O. (CDC/DDNID/NCIPC/OD); mchopkins@usgs.gov; Cossaboom, Caitlin (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP); Chevalier, Nicole A COL USARMY DHA PUB HLTH (USA); Glover, Mark (FDA/CVM); LeeAnne Jackson; Murphy, Jeanette (FDA/CVM); Mauldin, Matthew R. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP); Shaw, Sheryl - FSIS; Wittig, Julianna (FDA/CVM); Goldman, David (FDA/OC); Moore, Andrea (CDC/DDID/NCHHSTP/DHPIRS); Mccoy, Todd - OHS, Washington, DC
Subject:	FW: (U) Dutch Researchers Believe Minks May Have Infected Humans, Authorities Instituting Mandatory Testing At All Mink Farms; Sweden Suffers Highest Per Capita Death Rate In Europe-MMC Update 1290 [COVID-19 - U.S.] NOC 0051-20
Date:	Wednesday, May 20, 2020 10:57:50 AM

In case, bad news doesn't hit your inbox fast enough. The newest proposed animal to human spread FYSA

From: NOC Media Monitoring <mmc@techopsolutions.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 10:38 AM
To: NOC.MMC <NOC.MMC@hq.dhs.gov>
Subject: (U) Dutch Researchers Believe Minks May Have Infected Humans, Authorities Instituting Mandatory Testing At All Mink Farms; Sweden Suffers Highest Per Capita Death Rate In Europe-MMC Update 1290 [COVID-19 - U.S.] NOC 0051-20

Unclassified

Location(s): Netherlands and Sweden
Dutch authorities believe that a mink may have infected a human with COVID-19, and are instituting mandatory testing at all mink farms in the Netherlands, according to media Wednesday.

"On the basis of new research results from the ongoing research into COVID-19 infections at mink farms, it is plausible that an infection took place from mink to human," the Dutch government said in a statement late Tuesday night. "It also appears from this research that minks can have COVID-19 without displaying symptoms," the statement added.

The government said that antibody testing of minks will be expanded to "all mink farms in the Netherlands and will become mandatory."

The government also said it believes that cats may be playing a role in the spread of the virus

between farms. "Ongoing research shows the viruses at two of the infected farms are very similar," the statement said. COVID-19 was found in three of 11 cats at one mink farm, it said.

"In the course of this investigation, it is advised that infected mink farms ensure that cats cannot enter or leave the farm premises," the government added.

Separately, Sweden had the highest number of coronavirus deaths per capita in the last seven days out of every European country, according to a report published Tuesday.

Sweden, which has remained more open than other nations amid the coronavirus pandemic and taken a "herd immunity" approach, had 6.25 deaths per million inhabitants per day in a rolling seven-day average between May 12 and May 19, media reported, citing data from ourworldindata.org.

The United Kingdom had the second highest, averaging 5.75 coronavirus deaths per million people in the same time period.

Sweden has reported a total of 30,799 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 3,743 deaths, according to data compiled by Johns Hopkins University.

Traditional Media Sources (some page content may change or not be available over time):
- CNN
-- http://tinyurl.com/y9qhzcex
- The Hill
-- http://tinyurl.com/yacwnxqp

The above information summarizes emerging open source reporting that has not been corroborated by official government sources. It is provided to rapidly enhance situational awareness on items of interest to the homeland security enterprise.

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: david. smith (david.smith@agriculture.ny.gov)
Subject: FW: [CAUTION: Suspicious Link]FW: Recent COVID-19 info from Europe
Date: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 8:56:00 AM
Attachments: Covid19-disease-guidelines-for-mink-farmers-1.pdf

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Inadvertently sent to Dave Smith in ARS.

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 8:42 AM
To: Smith, David - ARS <david.j.smith@usda.gov>
Cc: Porter-Spalding, Barbara A - APHIS <barbara.a.porter-spalding@usda.gov>; Baldwin - CDA, Maggie <maggie.baldwin@state.co.us>; Garvey, Ann (CDC idph.iowa.gov) <Ann.Garvey@idph.iowa.gov>; Loiacono, Christina M - APHIS <christina.m.loiacono@usda.gov>; Barton Behravesh, Casey (CDC/OID/NCEZID) <dlx9@cdc.gov>; Goryoka, Grace (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) (CTR) <lie0@cdc.gov>; Carpenter, Ann (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <pzy4@cdc.gov>
Subject: FW: [CAUTION: Suspicious Link]FW: Recent COVID-19 info from Europe

Hi Dave,

The attached may be useful in drafting the mink response plan; along with the other reports from the Netherlands shared earlier by CDC.

Hope you had a good w/end.

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
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Ph: 970-494-7397
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Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Keith Poulsen [mailto:(b) (6) @WVDL.wisc.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 8:22 AM
To: Klos, Rachel F - DHS <Rachel.Klos@dhs.wisconsin.gov>; Olander, Doris - APHIS <doris.olander@usda.gov>; darlene.konkle@wisconsin.gov; Kunde, Paul W - APHIS

<paul.w.kunde@usda.gov>; Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>;
elisabeth.patton@wisconsin.gov
Subject: [CAUTION: Suspicious Link]FW: Recent COVID-19 info from Europe

PROCEED WITH CAUTION: This message triggered warnings of **potentially** malicious web content. Evaluate this email by considering whether you are expecting the message, along with inspection for suspicious links.

Questions or Suspicious email submissions: Spam.Abuse@usda.gov

From Fur Europe.
keith

From: john easley (b) (6) @hotmail.com>
Date: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at 7:52 AM
To: Keith Poulsen (b) (6) @WVDL.wisc.edu>
Subject: Recent COVID-19 info from Europe

He Keith,

Fur Europe just sent out this update, I thought you might be interested. So far, there hasn't been any documented cases of COVID-19 in US mink farms that I know of.

John

Updated Covid-19 Disease Guidelines for Mink Farmers

ur Europe has updated the **Covid19 disease guidelines for mink farmers** to also include restricted ccess for non-essential visitors and cats on all mink farms. Essential visitors include employees, eterinarians, welfare assessors and other professionals. News

esearch in The Netherlands show SARS CoV-2 is transmissible from human to mink, and likely transmissible ack to humans again. At the same time news reports from Spain say 7 out of 14 employees on a mink farm in the ragon region are infected with covid-19. While the animals in Spain have not yet proven infected by covid-19, ne contagious nature of virus (as experienced in The Netherlands) suggests individual mink will turn out infected n Spain as well. This has led Fur Europe to strengthen the guidelines further, and make a call for fur associations cross the world to do their utmost to make sure the guidelines are implemented.

The eyes of the whole world will be on the global fur industry now. We must demonstrate we are capable of eeping covid-19 disease out of fur farms. Our biosecurity measures work, they must be efficiently implemented verywhere now," Fur Europe CEO Mette Lykke Nielsen said.

ccording to the research undertaken by Dutch experts, farm cats are believed to have played a role in the ansmission of virus between the four Dutch farms in quarantine. All the farms are located in the same area. onsequently, we advise that cats are kept away from all mink farms to the extent possible.

Ve cannot with certainty say farmed foxes, finnraccoon and chinchillas are not susceptible to SARS CoV-2, and

ur Europe recommends extended bio security measures for all fur farmed species.

COVID-19 DISEASE GUIDELINES TO MINK FARMERS

Farmed mink have proved to be susceptible to SARS CoV-2, the virus causing covid-19 disease. Research from The Netherlands also indicates virus is transmissible from mink to human, and that farm cats have played a role in the transmission of virus between the four farms in quarantine at present. In extension the fur sector advice all fur farmers to be extra vigilant and careful to protect animals and humans against covid-19. We also advise farmer associations to have a dialogue with the competent national authorities.

On all mink farms we recommend:

- General covid-19 hygiene measures should be followed strictly (washing hands, keeping 1,5 meters between each other, sneezing and cough in your elbow, use tissue paper).
- People with symptoms of covid-19 (sore throat, colds, cough, fever) should not take care of mink.
- Cats should be kept out of mink farms to the extent possible.
- Only essential visitors should have access to the farm.

We recommend for mink farmers to take the following actions in case you experience increased mortality or animals with respiratory problems on the farm:

- Notify your local veterinarian if you detect any sign of contamination with SARS CoV-2 (respiratory problems or increased mortality).
- Immediately notify veterinarians, staff or other people who have been in contact with the mink.
- Discus with your veterinarian how you can prevent the potential spread of virus within the farm in the best way possible.

If you have animals infected with covid-19 disease on the farm we advise mink farmers to follow these rules:

- Use a surgical mask covering nose and mouth (minimal requirement advised is the type IIR)
- Use of protection in front of the eyes, for example visor glasses.
- Use of protective gloves.
- The protective equipment should also be used when cleaning up manure.
- No use of pressure washers.
- Take off work clothes before leaving the farm.
- Work clothes should be washed at the farm on a daily basis.
- Staff should take showers before leaving the farm.

These guidelines are based on the ongoing SARS CoV-2 research on four mink farms in The Netherlands. The guidelines were first issued 26 April 2020. The latest update of the guidelines took place 26 May 2020.

From:	Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To:	Curlett, Ed C - APHIS; Cole, Lyndsay M - APHIS; Hayden, Joelle R - APHIS
Subject:	FW: Additional Mink Report from the Netherlands
Date:	Wednesday, May 20, 2020 10:48:00 AM
Attachments:	Additional Control Measures for Dutch Mink Industry In Response to COVID - Submitted to FAS on May 20.docx May 19 Letter to House of Represenatives from Ministry of Agriulture, Nature and Food Quality (in Dutch).pdf Final Interim SARS-CoV-2 Guidance and Recommendations for Farmed Mink and Other Mustelids 5-19-20 - for clearance.docx
Importance:	High

Additional information from Netherlands that might be useful.

Also wanted to give you a heads-up, I sent the "Interim SARS-CoV-2 Guidance and Recommendations for Farmed Mink and Other Mustelids" document (included here) to Jerry to clear through S&P ADA and VSDA; then route to you all for clearance so that it can be posted to the APHIS COVID-19 OH website and distributed. CDC is also sending this through their clearance process simultaneously. We would like to co-brand if possible.

CDC also developed SARS-CoV-2 Guidance for Facilities with Small Mammal Pets that is going through final SME review and should come to LPA from Laura Murrell. There are a couple of the same Q&A related to testing and response on that document as those on the farmed mink document.

Let me know if you would like a call to discuss any of this; and if we should include CDC partners.

Best,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
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Strategy and Policy
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Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064

Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Wainwright, Sherrilyn H - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 8:25 AM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>; Torchetti, Mia Kim - APHIS <mia.kim.torchetti@usda.gov>
Cc: APHIS-COVID-19 Working Group <COVID.19.Working.Group@usda.gov>
Subject: FW: Additional Mink Report from the Netherlands

Dear Jane,

Sharing in case you have not received these yet.

The attachments are the latest from the Netherlands on the mink…
The first is a GAIN document that translated the Dutch announcement I had google translated earlier – this version is by official translators, shared from our APHIS IS – Brussels office.
The second I have again translated through google translation – which works pretty well, for your added information.

Sherri

1) From the "Additional Control Measures for Dutch Mink Industry in Response to COVID – submitted to FAS on May 20, 2020, translated by official translators.

Summary of the GAIN report

"Based on research conducted by the Dutch government, it is now believed that mink which were infected with the coronavirus (COVID-19) may have transmitted the virus to a farm employee. The relevant study also shows that mink can have the virus without showing any disease symptoms. Based on these developments, the Minister of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality and the Minister of Health, Welfare, and Sport will implement a number of control measures. Herein is an unofficial summary/translation of the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality's announcement."

2) Below is a google translation of the May 19, 2020 Letter to the House of Representatives [in the Netherlands] from the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality pdf:

Ministry of Agriculture,

Nature and Food Quality
The President of the House of Representatives of the States-General
Binnenhof 4
2513 AA THE HAGUE

Date: May 19, 2020
Concerns: State of affairs research COVID-19 into mink farms

Dear President,

In this letter I inform your House, also on behalf of the Minister of Health, Welfare and Sport, about the latest state of affairs in the current investigation into the three mink companies infected with COVID-19. RIVM discussed and assessed the latest results of this study together with veterinary experts and the researchers involved. RIVM, together with the veterinary experts and the researchers, came to the following conclusions:
1. It is plausible that an employee of one of the infected mink companies infected with SARS-CoV-2 has been infected by the mink (this employee has now recovered);
2. minks can also experience COVID-19 subclinically (without symptoms) and
3. it is important to further investigate the role of cats in potential virus transmission between companies.

This leads to additional measures being taken, also in the interest of public health. In this letter I indicate how I adjust my policy accordingly.

RIVM assesses that the risk of human exposure to the virus outside the house is still negligible and has not changed due to these new research results. RIVM previously carried out this risk assessment on the basis that the investigation showed that all air and dust samples outside the house did not contain any virus on repeated measurements. I refer to my earlier letter dated May 15th.

In view of the above conclusions, I have decided to identify an infection with SARS-CoV-2 in mink on mink farms as an infectious animal disease according to Article 15 of the Animal Health and Welfare Act. This designation makes it possible to take further measures for mink farms.

I realize that these new research results are impacting mink farms and the community. That is why I have close and frequent contact about this with the companies, the sector organizations and the local and regional government, so that they are always informed in a timely manner and that their questions are answered as well as possible.

Infected employee and subclinical infections
The genetic coding of CoV-2 of many human COVID-19 patients and infected animals has been identified. This is comparable to human DNA research. The virus that causes COVID-19 mutates relatively quickly. These changes in the genetic code can be monitored. By comparing the genetic codes of virus isolates from different animals and people, a family tree can be created and an image can be obtained of how people and animals have been infected in time and place.

This type of research has also been done on infected minks and human patients. One of the employees has been shown a virus that shows similarities with the virus found from mink in the same company. Based on the mutual comparison and the position of the virus isolates in the pedigree, the conclusion from this study is that it is plausible that one employee of an infected mink company is infected by mink. To further clarify this, the researchers are currently further mapping the 'genetic family tree' of infected people from the environment of the infected mink farm in order to obtain the most complete picture possible.

Until now, it was believed that animals got the infection from humans. The observation that it is plausible that a mink has infected a human is new, but not unexpected. RIVM previously advised that employees of infected mink companies should use personal protective equipment. This contaminated employee worked with the mink during the period when it was not yet known that the mink was infected on the farm and that no advice had yet been given to use personal protective equipment.

As indicated above, RIVM considers that the risk of human exposure to the virus outside the house is still negligible and has not changed due to these new research results.

Additional research has also shown that minks can experience COVID-19 subclinically. This means that the animals are infected with CoV-2, but do not show any symptoms. The current reporting obligation only applies to companies where symptoms are seen (increased mortality and / or breathing problems). Subclinically infected companies could therefore remain under the radar, which is undesirable given the potential risks to public and animal health.

In view of the above-mentioned RIVM conclusions, I will take the following measures as of 20 May. As with all measures, the importance of public health is paramount.

- The screening of mink farms (for mink antibodies) is extended to all mink farms in the Netherlands and is made compulsory. In order to gain an idea of the status of mink farms in the vicinity of the infected farms, these farms are currently being investigated on a voluntary basis for the presence of CoV-2. In view of the above conclusions and in the interest of employee health on mink farms, it is important to maintain CoV-2 status of all mink companies. That is why I am changing the voluntary nature of participation in the screening investigation into a statutory mandatory participation. The scope of the screening will also be extended to all mink companies present in the Netherlands. The NVWA coordinates this screening.
- The progress of the infections on the mink farms is monitored very closely by various research groups to determine whether these infections are extinguishing or whether they remain dormant on the farms. This research is necessary to gain more insight into whether the virus remains on the farms. It is important to prevent the latter as much as possible.
- I will include more details about the specific mink symptoms that must be reported to the NVWA in the relevant ministerial regulation. The purpose of this is to have companies where minks with symptoms reported earlier.
- The existing rules for the infected companies are extended with a visitor ban in the stable and rules on which hygiene measures visitors should observe. It is still possible to visit the house in the yard.
- On infected farms, employees are advised to use personal protective equipment in the stables in accordance with the advice of RIVM and GGD. In this way, employees can continue to carry out their work at these companies with sufficient protection.
- The advice to infected mink farms is to ensure that cats cannot enter or leave the company premises. In consultation with the mink farmers, we are currently examining how this advice can be implemented effectively and practically.

Farm Cats and COVID-19

Current research shows that viruses on two of the infected mink farms are very similar. There can be several reasons for this. Because antibodies against the virus have been demonstrated in three out of eleven farm cats on one of the infected farms, it is important to further investigate the role of farm cats in potential virus transmission between farms. Farm cats are cats that live in the yard and are not socialized (not used to humans).

In the course of this investigation, it is advised that infected mink farms ensure that cats cannot enter or leave the premises. In consultation with the mink farmers, we are currently examining how this advice can be implemented effectively and practically.

Pets

RIVM assesses that the chance that a cat with COVID-19 can infect a human is very small. Contamination takes place mainly through human-human contamination. The existing advice from RIVM on COVID-19 and the handling of animals remains unchanged. Keep your animal indoors if there are people in the household with complaints that are appropriate for COVID-19 and the animal is also sick. If in doubt or serious complaints, always consult your vet. For the full RIVM advice, see https://www.rivm.nl/coronavirus-covid-19/huisdier.
In addition, it is important to further investigate the role of cats in potential virus transmission. In this context, research into, among other things, (virus) transmission in cats is carried out by a partnership with research groups united in the Netherlands Center for One Health (Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Wageningen Bioveterinary Research, Erasmus University Rotterdam and research centers in human health care).

Decision-making structure

In view of the developments described above, it has been decided to put the zoonosis structure into effect. VWS coordinates policy and decision-making in close cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, RIVM, local administrators and GGDs. The zoonosis structure advises the ministers of VWS and LNV. The two ministers decide in good mutual consultation, retaining their own policy responsibility, in which in all cases public health comes first.

Technical briefing

Given the complexity of these issues, I offer your Chamber to organize a technical briefing in the near future, in which both human and veterinary experts will be present.

Carola Schouten
Minister of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality

USDA United States Department of Agriculture
Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Global Agricultural Information Network

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution **Date:** May 19, 2020

Report Number: NL2020-0019

Report Name: Additional Control Measures for Dutch Mink Industry In Response to COVID-19

Country: Netherlands

Post: The Hague

Report Category: Agricultural Situation, Agriculture in the News

Prepared By: FAS/The Hague Staff

Approved By: Christopher Riker

Report Highlights:

Based on research conducted by the Dutch government, it is now believed that mink which were infected with the coronavirus (COVID-19) may have transmitted the virus to a farm employee. The relevant study also shows that mink can have the virus without showing any disease symptoms. Based on these developments, the Minister of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality and the Minister of Health, Welfare, and Sport will implement a number of control measures. Herein is an unofficial summary/translation of the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality's announcement.

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY

General Information

In late April and early May, four Dutch fur farms were found to have mink that were positive for the coronavirus (COVID-19). For additional information, see NL2020-0016 - COVID-19 Found on Dutch Mink Farms.

Based on the results from the ongoing investigation, the Dutch government has determined that it is plausible that mink transmitted the virus to a farm employee.[1] The study also indicates mink may carry the disease without showing any disease symptoms. Based on these findings, Carola Schouten, the Minister of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, and Hugo de Jonge, the Minister of Health, Welfare and Sport, have instructed their respective Ministries to take a number of measures.[2]

As background, the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature, and Food Quality (MANFQ) notes the virus that causes COVID-19 mutates relatively quickly, but that these changes in the genetic code can be monitored. By comparing the genetic code of the virus of different animals and people with each other, a "family tree" can be created, and an image can be obtained of how people and animals have been infected in time and place. This type of research has also been done on infected mink and humans. Through this research the Dutch government has learned that one infected employee at an infected mink farm has been shown to have similarities with the virus found in mink on the same farm. Based on the comparison and the position of the virus in the family tree, it is concluded from this investigation that it is plausible that mink may have infected this employee.

To clarify this further, researchers are currently further mapping the 'genetic pedigree' of infected people from the environment of the infected mink farm in order to obtain the most complete picture possible. Despite this finding, the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) has reiterated that the risk of exposure to the virus outside of the mink house remains negligible.

Control Measures

Based on these new findings, the Cabinet is taking a number of measures in addition to those that have already been introduced. For additional information on previously introduced measures, see NL2020-0016 - COVID-19 Found on Dutch Mink Farms.

The screening of mink farms (for antibodies) is expanded to include all mink farms in the Netherlands (and will be mandatory). In the interest of the health of employees at the farms, MANFQ comments that it is important to get an overview of the situation for all mink farms. The Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (NVWA) will coordinate this screening.

If an infection is detected on a farm, the same measures will be applied as at other infected enterprises. There will also be a ban on visitors in the stables of the infected companies, and additional hygiene

[1] https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2020/05/19/nieuwe-onderzoeksresultaten-covid-19-bij-nertsenbedrijven
[2] By identifying COVID-19 in mink on mink farms as an infectious animal disease according to Article 15 of the Dutch Animal Health and Welfare Act, the government may require additional control measures for the industry.

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY

requirements imposed. Additionally, employees are advised to use protective equipment during their work.

Minister Schouten previously instituted a notification obligation for mink farmers, veterinarians, and persons from research institutions, but these reporting obligations have now been extended to include all symptoms that may indicate a COVID-19 infection in mink. To prevent the possible spread of the virus to other farms, the requirement that animals and manure not leave an infected farm will remain in place.

Farm Cats

MANFQ reports that current research indicates the virus on two of the infected mink farms is very similar. Because antibodies against the virus have been demonstrated in three out of eleven farm cats on one of the infected farms, MANFQ reports it is important to investigate the role farm cats may play in potential virus transmission between farms (which will include participation from the Netherlands Centre for One Health).[3] MANFQ advises that infected mink farms ensure that cats cannot enter or leave the premises.

Pets

MANFQ comments that COVID-19 was previously known to occur in pets, but the risk of people becoming infected by their pets remains small. The existing advice from RIVM on COVID-19 and the handling of animals remains unchanged: keep your animal indoors if there are people in the household with complaints that are pertinent for COVID-19 and/or if the animal is also sick.

Attachments:

May 19 Letter to House of Represenatives from Ministry of Agriulture, Nature and Food Quality (in Dutch).pdf

[3] MANFQ defines farm cats as cats that live in the yard and are not socialized.

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Datum 19 mei 2020
Betreft Stand van zaken onderzoek COVID-19 naar nertsenbedrijven

Ons kenmerk
BPZ / 20148868

Geachte Voorzitter,

In deze brief informeer ik uw Kamer, mede namens de minister van VWS, over de laatste stand van zaken in het lopende onderzoek op de drie met COVID-19 besmette nertsenbedrijven. Het RIVM heeft samen met veterinaire deskundigen en de betrokken onderzoekers de laatste resultaten van dit onderzoek besproken en beoordeeld. Het RIVM kwam samen met de veterinaire deskundigen en de onderzoekers tot de volgende conclusies: 1. het is aannemelijk dat een met SARS-CoV-2 besmette medewerker van één van de besmette nertsenbedrijven door de nertsen is besmet (deze medewerker is inmiddels hersteld); 2. nertsen kunnen COVID-19 ook subklinisch (zonder ziekteverschijnselen) doormaken en 3. het is belangrijk de rol van katten bij potentiele virusoverdracht tussen bedrijven verder te onderzoeken. Hierdoor is er reden tot extra maatregelen te komen, ook in het belang van de volksgezondheid. Ik geef in deze brief aan op welke manier ik mijn beleid hierop aanpas.

Het RIVM beoordeelt dat het risico op blootstelling van mensen aan het virus buiten de stal nog steeds verwaarloosbaar is en door deze nieuwe onderzoeksresultaten niet is veranderd. Deze risicobeoordeling deed het RIVM eerder op basis van het feit dat uit het onderzoek bleek dat alle lucht- en stofmonsters buiten de stal bij herhaalde metingen geen virus bevatten. Ik verwijs hiervoor naar mijn eerdere brief van d.d. 15 mei jl.

Gezien de bovengenoemde conclusies heb ik besloten een infectie met SARS-CoV-2 bij nertsen op nertsenbedrijven aan te wijzen als besmettelijke dierziekte volgens artikel 15 van de Gezondheids- en welzijnswet voor dieren. Deze aanwijzing maakt het mogelijk om verdergaande maatregelen te nemen voor nertsenbedrijven.

Ik realiseer me dat deze nieuwe onderzoeksresultaten impact hebben op de nertsenbedrijven en de gemeenschap. Ik heb daarom nauw en frequent contact hierover met de bedrijven, de sectororganisaties en het lokale en regionale

bestuur zodat zij steeds tijdig en zorgvuldig zijn geïnformeerd en hun vragen zo goed mogelijk beantwoord worden.

Besmette medewerker en subklinische infecties
De genetische codering van CoV-2 van veel humane COVID-19 patiënten en -besmette dieren is in kaart gebracht. Dit is vergelijkbaar met DNA onderzoek bij mensen. Het virus dat COVID-19 veroorzaakt muteert relatief snel. Deze veranderingen in de genetische code kunnen worden gevolgd. Door de genetische codes van virusisolaten van verschillende dieren en mensen met elkaar te vergelijken kan een stamboom worden gemaakt en kan een beeld worden gekregen over de manier waarop mensen en dieren in tijd en plaats zijn besmet.

Dit type onderzoek is ook gedaan bij besmette nertsen en humane patiënten. Bij een van de medewerkers is virus aangetoond dat overeenkomsten vertoont met het virus dat van nertsen op datzelfde bedrijf werd gevonden. Op basis van de onderlinge vergelijking en de plaats van de virusisolaten in de stamboom, is de conclusie op grond van dit onderzoek dat het aannemelijk is dat één medewerker van een besmet nertsenbedrijf door nertsen is besmet. Om dit nader te kunnen duiden brengen de onderzoekers momenteel de 'genetische stamboom' van besmette mensen uit de omgeving van het betreffende besmette nertsenbedrijf nog verder in kaart om op deze wijze een zo compleet mogelijk beeld te verkrijgen.

Tot nu toe werd aangenomen dat dieren de infectie van mensen kregen. De waarneming dat het aannemelijk is dat een nerts een mens heeft besmet is nieuw, maar niet onverwacht. Het RIVM heeft eerder geadviseerd dat medewerkers van besmette nertsenbedrijven persoonlijke beschermingsmiddelen moeten gebruiken. Deze besmette medewerker heeft met de nertsen gewerkt in de periode dat nog niet bekend was dat de nertsen op het bedrijf besmet waren en dat er nog geen advies was gegeven om persoonlijke beschermingsmiddelen te gebruiken.

Zoals hierboven al is aangegeven oordeelt het RIVM dat het risico op blootstelling van mensen aan het virus buiten de stal nog steeds verwaarloosbaar is en door deze nieuwe onderzoeksresultaten niet is veranderd.

Ook heeft aanvullend onderzoek aangetoond dat nertsen COVID-19 subklinisch kunnen doormaken. Dit betekent dat de dieren wel geïnfecteerd zijn met CoV-2, maar geen ziekteverschijnselen vertonen. De huidige meldplicht geldt alleen voor bedrijven waar verschijnselen worden gezien (verhoogde mortaliteit en/of problemen met de ademhaling). Subklinisch besmette bedrijven zouden dus onder de radar kunnen blijven, wat onwenselijk is gezien de potentiële risico's voor de volks- en diergezondheid.

Gezien de bovengenoemde conclusies van het RIVM neem ik per 20 mei a.s. de volgende maatregelen. Hierbij staat, zoals bij alle maatregelen, het belang van de volksgezondheid voorop.

- De screening van nertsenbedrijven (op antistoffen bij de nertsen) wordt uitgebreid naar alle nertsenbedrijven in Nederland en wordt verplicht. Om een beeld te krijgen van de status van nertsenbedrijven in de omgeving

van de besmette bedrijven, worden deze bedrijven momenteel op vrijwillige basis onderzocht op de aanwezigheid van CoV-2. Gezien de bovenstaande conclusies en in het belang van de gezondheid van de medewerkers op nertsen bedrijven is het is belangrijk om de CoV-2 status van alle nertsenbedrijven in beeld te krijgen. Daarom wijzig ik het vrijwillige karakter van de deelname aan het screeningsonderzoek in een wettelijke verplichte deelname. En ook wordt de reikwijdte van de screening uitgebreid naar alle in Nederland aanwezige nertsenbedrijven. De NVWA coördineert deze screening.

- Het verloop van de infecties op de nertsenbedrijven wordt door verschillende onderzoeksgroepen zeer intensief gevolgd om na te gaan of deze infecties uitdoven of dat deze op de bedrijven blijven sluimeren. Dit onderzoek is nodig om meer inzicht te krijgen of het virus op de bedrijven aanwezig blijft. Het is van belang om dit laatste zoveel mogelijk te voorkomen.
- Ik zal in de betreffende ministeriële regeling meer details opnemen over de specifieke symptomen bij nertsen, die gemeld moeten worden bij de NVWA. Het doel hiervan is om bedrijven waar nertsen met symptomen zijn eerder te laten melden.
- De bestaande regels voor de besmette bedrijven worden uitgebreid met een bezoekersverbod in de stal en regels over welke hygiënemaatregelen bezoekers in acht moeten nemen. Bezoek aan de woning op het erf blijft hierbij mogelijk.
- Op besmette bedrijven blijft het advies aan medewerkers om in de stallen persoonlijke beschermingsmiddelen te gebruiken conform het advies van RIVM en GGD. Op deze wijze kunnen medewerkers voldoende beschermd hun werk op deze bedrijven blijven uitvoeren.
- Het advies aan besmette nertsenbedrijven is om ervoor te zorgen dat katten het bedrijfsterrein niet kunnen binnenkomen of verlaten. In overleg met de nertsenhouders wordt op dit moment bekeken hoe dit advies effectief en uitvoerbaar ingevuld kan worden.

Boerderijkatten en COVID-19
Uit het lopende onderzoek blijkt dat virussen op twee van de besmette nertsenbedrijven veel op elkaar lijken. Hier kunnen meerdere oorzaken voor zijn. Omdat op een van de besmette bedrijven bij drie van de elf boerderijkatten antistoffen tegen het virus is aangetoond, is het van belang om ook de rol van boerderijkatten bij potentiële virusoverdracht tussen bedrijven verder te onderzoeken. Boerderijkatten zijn katten die leven op het erf en niet gesocialiseerd zijn (niet gewend zijn aan mensen).

Lopende dit onderzoek is het advies aan besmette nertsenbedrijven ervoor te zorgen dat katten het bedrijfsterrein niet kunnen binnenkomen of verlaten. In overleg met de nertsenhouders wordt op dit moment bekeken hoe dit advies effectief en uitvoerbaar ingevuld kan worden.

Huisdieren
Het RIVM beoordeelt dat de kans dat een kat met COVID-19 een mens kan besmetten heel klein is. Besmetting vindt vooral plaats via mens-mens besmetting. De bestaande adviezen van het RIVM over COVID-19 en de omgang

met dieren blijven ongewijzigd. Houdt uw dier binnen als er mensen in het huishouden zijn met klachten passend bij COVID-19 en het dier ook ziek is. Raadpleeg bij twijfel of ernstige klachten altijd uw dierenarts. Voor het volledige RIVM advies zie https://www.rivm.nl/coronavirus-covid-19/huisdieren.
Daarnaast is het belangrijk om de rol van katten bij potentiele virusoverdracht verder te onderzoeken. In dit kader wordt onderzoek naar onder andere (virus)transmissie bij katten uitgevoerd door een samenwerkingsverband met onderzoeksgroepen verenigd in het Netherlands Centre for One Health (Faculteit Diergeneeskunde, Wageningen Bioveterinary Research, Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam en onderzoekscentra in de humane gezondheidszorg).

Besluitvormingsstructuur
Gezien de hiervoor beschreven ontwikkelingen is besloten de zoönosenstructuur in werking te laten treden. Hierbij coördineert VWS in nauwe samenwerking met het ministerie van LNV, het RIVM, lokale bestuurders en GGD'en de beleids- en besluitvorming. De zoönosenstructuur adviseert de ministers van VWS en LNV. De beide ministers besluiten in goed onderling overleg en behouden daarbij hun eigen beleidsverantwoordelijkheid, waarbij in alle gevallen de volksgezondheid voorop staat.

Technische briefing
Gezien de complexiteit van deze vraagstukken bied ik uw Kamer aan op korte termijn een technische briefing te organiseren waarbij zowel humane als veterinaire deskundigen aanwezig zullen zijn.

Carola Schouten
Minister van Landbouw, Natuur en Voedselkwaliteit

Interim SARS-CoV-2 Guidance and Recommendations for Farmed Mink and Other Mustelids[1]:

This guidance was developed collaboratively by USDA, CDC, state animal and public health partners using a One Health approach.

Q: What is a mink?

A: The mink belongs to the taxonomic order Carnivora, which means it is carnivorous – a meat-eater. The order Carnivora also includes other meat-eaters such as lions, tigers, hyenas, coyotes, and wolves. Within the order Carnivora, the mink belongs to the family Mustelid, commonly known as the weasel family. This family also includes ferrets, skunks, otters, fishers, martens and wolverines.

Q: What do we currently know about mink and COVID-19?

A: SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, was recently discovered in mink on multiple farms in the Netherlands. The mink showed various respiratory and gastrointestinal signs; the farms also experienced increased death loss[2]. Investigations have been launched to determine the source of the infections. Because some employees had symptoms of COVID-19 at both companies, it is assumed that the farm workers were also infected and likely the source of the mink infections.

Recent research shows that ferrets (which are closely related to mink) can be experimentally infected with SARS-CoV-2 and can spread the virus to other animals of the same species in laboratory settings. The study did not investigate whether animals can spread infection to people.

Q: What are the clinical signs of SARS-CoV-2 infection in mink or other mustelids?

A: Dutch officials reported respiratory and gastrointestinal signs in the affected mink. Recent research also showed that in a laboratory setting, ferrets that were experimentally infected with SARS-CoV-2 exhibited fever, mild respiratory, and gastrointestinal signs.

Q: What should I do if I suspect mink or other mustelids on my farm are infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus?

A: Any producer or veterinarian who suspects mink or mustelids (or other animals residing on the premises) to be infected with SARS-CoV-2 virus[3] should contact their State Animal Health Official (SAHO) immediately. The SAHO will engage the APHIS Area Veterinarian in Charge (AVIC), State Public Health Veterinarian (SPHV), and/or national animal health and public health officials, to decide whether testing is warranted.

Q. How will animal samples be collected and tested?

A. The SAHO and USDA AVIC will initiate investigation, specimen collection and testing. State animal health laboratories can conduct animal testing, but any positive samples would need to be confirmed through additional testing by USDA's National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL).

[1]Note: Additional guidance on ferrets and other small non-traditional companion animals is forthcoming
[2]Increased death loss means losses above those expected during production
[3]Other common causes of respiratory and/or gastrointestinal disease and increased death loss should be ruled out first

Q: What will happen if mink or mustelids test positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus?

A: The SAHO and USDA AVIC will initiate animal disease response activities. State and federal animal health officials will also coordinate with state and federal public health officials in support of concurrent human health investigations. **Q: Can people get COVID-19 from mink or other mustelids?**

A: There is currently no evidence that mink or other mustelids can spread SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, to humans. The primary route of transmission of SARS-CoV-2 is from person to person: between people who are in close contact with one another (within six feet) or through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. Airborne transmission over long distances is unlikely. It may also be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a contaminated surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or eyes. This is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads, but we are still learning more about this virus. People can also spread the virus to other people, as well as animals, while pre-symptomatic or asymptomatic.

At this time, there is no evidence that animals play a significant role in spreading the virus that causes COVID-19 to people. Based on the limited information available to date, the risk of animals spreading SARS-CoV-2 to people is considered to be low. Further studies are needed to understand if and how different animals could be affected by the virus that causes COVID-19 and the role animals may play in the spread of the virus.

Q: How can I protect people and animals on my farm from becoming infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus?

A: To ensure the health and safety of animals and people on your farm, follow state and industry biosecurity and safety guidance.

Biosecurity is a series of management practices designed to reduce the risk of disease agents being introduced and spread on the farm. In broad terms, it refers to anything designed to prevent the transfer of disease-causing pathogens. Biosecurity is crucial in controlling and containing a disease such as COVID-19, as well as in the daily management practices protecting the health of farm workers and animals. To be effective, implemented biosecurity measures need to be disease-specific, as well as site-specific.

Steps you can take to reduce the risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission include:

- **Restricted access to the premises and buildings where production animals are kept**.
    - Limit access to essential personnel only.
    - Limit non-production animal access, and implement measures to exclude domestic pets, rodents, birds, and other wildlife from buildings.
- **All employees should stay home if they are sick.** Encouraging farm workers and supervisors not to come to work if they are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and to take steps to help prevent the spread of the virus. Employees should not return to work until the criteria to discontinue home isolation are met, after talking with their doctor.
    - Implement sick leave policies that are flexible, nonpunitive, and consistent with public health guidance, allowing employees to stay home if they have symptoms of respiratory infection.

- **Increase distance between workers**. Whenever possible, mink farm workers should maintain 6 feet of distance between each other. Attention should be paid to allow for social distancing and avoid high densities of workers when clocking in or out, during breaks, or in locker/changing rooms.
- Mink farm employers should institute engineering controls (e.g., physical partitions or barriers between workers within 6 feet of each other) and administrative controls (e.g., stagger workers' arrival and departure times to avoid congregations of workers in parking areas, locker rooms, and near time clocks) to separate and distance employees as a top priority and main way to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- **Use cloth face coverings**, especially where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain. Wearing a cloth face covering does NOT replace the need to practice social distancing.
    - Cloth face coverings may prevent people, including those who don't know they have the virus, from spreading it to others, but they may not protect the wearer from exposure to the virus. Cloth face coverings do not function the same way as personal protective equipment (PPE) such as a respirator.
    - Workers can wear a cloth face covering when their employer has determined in their hazard assessment that a respirator or disposable medical facemask (such as a surgical mask) worn to protect the worker is not required.
    - If cloth face coverings are worn in these facilities, employers should provide readily available clean cloth face coverings (or disposable facemask options) for workers to use when the coverings become wet, soiled, or otherwise visibly contaminated.
- **Limit duration of contact among coworkers**. Continued close contact with potentially infectious individuals increases the risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission.
- **Practice proper hand hygiene.** This is an important infection control measure. Wash your hands regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. An alcohol-based hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol can be used, but not as a substitute for cleaning hands with soap and water.
- **Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces** such as tools, workstations, and shared spaces such as break room tables, locker rooms, and entrances/exits to the facility on a routine basis. Implement practical biosecurity practices on the farm including having dedicated boot disinfecting stations between farm areas. To disinfect, use products that meet EPA's criteria for use against SARS-CoV-2, diluted household bleach solutions prepared according to the manufacturer's label for disinfection, or alcohol solutions with at least 60% alcohol, and are appropriate for the surface. Follow manufacturer's directions for use.
- Additional recommendations are described in the U.S. Department of Labor and U.S. Department of Health and Human Service's booklet Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19, as well as CDC's Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

Q: Should I screen workers on my farm?

A: Workplaces, particularly in areas where community transmission of COVID-19 is ongoing, can consider developing and implementing a comprehensive screening and monitoring strategy aimed at preventing the introduction of COVID-19 into the worksite. Consider a strategy that includes:

1) **Conducting daily health checks** (e.g., symptom and/or temperature screening) of employees before they enter the facility, in accordance with state and local public health authorities and your occupational health services.
    - If implementing health checks, conduct them safely and respectfully (employers may use the "Should we be screening employees for COVID-19 symptoms " section of General Business Frequently Asked Questions as a guide).
    - Complete the health checks in a way that avoids employees congregating in large crowds, such as providing multiple screening entries into the building.
    - To prevent stigma and discrimination in the workplace, do not make determinations of risk based on race or country of origin and be sure to maintain confidentiality of people with confirmed COVID-19.
2) **Criteria for return to work of exposed and recovered** persons, for those who have had signs or symptoms of COVID-19 but have recovered.
3) **Criteria for exclusion of sick workers.**

The Meat and Poultry Processing Workers and Employers Guidance provides detailed recommendations for each of these three points and can be adapted for your mink farm setting. Refer specifically to the following subsections: "*Screening of workers for COVID-19*," "*Managing sick workers*," and "*Addressing return to work.*"

Q: How can I educate and train workers and supervisors about ways that they can reduce the spread of COVID-19?

A: Supplement workers' normal and required job training (e.g., training required under OSHA standards) with additional training and information about COVID-19, recognizing signs and symptoms of infection, and ways to prevent exposure to the virus. Training should include information about how to implement the various infection prevention and control measures recommended here and included in any infection prevention and control or COVID-19 response plan that an employer develops. OSHA provides additional information about training on its COVID-19 webpage.

All communication and training should be easy to understand and should (1) be provided in languages appropriate to the preferred languages spoken or read by the workers, if possible; (2) be at the appropriate literacy level; and (3) include accurate and timely information about:

- Signs and symptoms of COVID-19, how it spreads, risks for workplace exposures, and how workers can protect themselves;
- Proper handwashing practices and use of hand sanitizer stations;
- Cough and sneeze etiquette;
- Other routine infection control precautions (e.g., safe practices for how to put on (don) and take off (doff) PPE, cloth face coverings, and social distancing).

Employers should place simple posters in appropriate languages for their employees that encourage staying home when sick, cough and sneeze etiquette, and proper hand hygiene practices. They should place these posters at the entrance to the workplace and in break areas, locker rooms, and other workplace areas where they are likely to be seen.

The Meat and Poultry Processing Workers and Employers Guidance provides additional details for recommendations applicable for mink farm workers in the subsection "*Educate and train workers and supervisors about how they can reduce the spread of COVID-19.*"

Q: What precautions should mink farm workers take around sick animals?

A: At this time, there is no evidence that animals play a significant role in spreading the virus that causes COVID-19. Based on the limited information available to date, the risk of animals spreading SARS-CoV-2 to people is considered to be low. However, given current limitations in knowledge regarding COVID-19 and animals, these personal protective equipment (PPE) guidelines use a cautious approach. Recommendations may change over time, as new information becomes available.

- Minimize contact with sick or dead animals. If animals appear to be sick, wear gloves, face mask, and goggles or face shield when working near sick animals.
- Always immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds after:
    - You have direct contact with animals, their food, or supplies, waste/feces.
    - Cleaning up after animals, including any body fluids or waste.
    - Leaving areas where animals are housed, even if you did not touch an animal.
    - Removing PPE or cloth face covering.
- Use face shield or a surgical mask and protective eyewear (e.g., goggles) whenever splashes, or sprays are likely to occur. PPE may be needed when cleaning or disinfecting a potentially SARS-CoV-2 contaminated area; follow the cleaning or disinfectant product manufacturer's instructions for use. Consider using protective outerwear (e.g. gloves, face mask, goggles or face shield) whenever splashes or sprays are likely to occur. Follow recommendations for safe practices for how to put on (don) and take off (doff) PPE.
- **If there is a breach in PPE or other inadvertent direct contact with a sick animal or its urine, feces, blood, saliva, or vomit on exposed skin or mucous membranes (e.g. eyes or mouth)**, a supervisor should be immediately notified and the exposed area should be immediately washed with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds (or in the case of eyes or mouth, only warm water). If soap and water are not immediately available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol content) on skin.
- **If you receive a bite, scratch or, abrasion** from an animal, animal product, or an object contaminated by an animal: wash the exposed area of skin immediately with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds, immediately alert your supervisor, and contact your health care provider. You may need to self-monitor for temperature or other symptoms for a period of 14 days post-incident. See CDC Coronavirus Self-Checker for additional guidance on symptom monitoring.

Q: What precautions should mink farm workers take around healthy animals?

A: When interacting with healthy mink, use the same precautions as you would when interacting with other people: maintain social distance (6 feet, or 2 meters) when possible, minimize duration of close contact, and wear cloth face coverings when feasible.

Q: Where can I get more information on carcass disposal?

A: Carcasses from COVID-19 positive, suspect, or exposed animals should be disposed of in compliance with all Federal, State, and local regulations. Additional information about State requirements for carcass disposal is available on the Veterinary Compliance Assistance Web site. APHIS, upon request, can provide technical support and guidance to assist in identifying and implementing a local disposal plan.

- Carcasses must be carefully transported to the approved disposal site to prevent contaminated material from escaping the transport vehicles. All vehicles should be cleaned and disinfected after each use.
- Onsite composting, onsite burial, Incineration, landfill, and rendering, or a combination of these methods, are generally the most suitable options.
- For more information, visit the APHIS Carcass Management Dashboard at https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/emergency-management/carcass-management/carcass

Q: What precautions should I take around animal carcasses or pelts?

A: Because mink processing procedures have the potential to spread other zoonotic diseases to the worker, the following precautions should always be taken when handling carcasses or during pelting:

- Use face shield or a facemask and goggles whenever splashes or sprays are likely to occur.
- If participating in aerosol-generating procedures (e.g. welping, pelting, rendering), consider wearing a face shield or goggles, gloves, protective outerwear, and respiratory protection that is at least as protective as a fit tested NIOSH-certified disposable N-95 filtering facepiece respirator.
    - If an N95 respirator is not available, use a combination of a surgical mask and a full face shield.
    - Respirator use should be in the context of a complete respiratory protection program in accordance with OSHA Respiratory Protection standard (29 CFR 1910.134), which includes medical evaluations, training, and fit testing.
- Wear gloves to avoid bare-skinned contact with animal carcasses, organs, bodily fluids, and pelts.
- Always immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds after:
    - You have inadvertent direct contact with animal carcasses, organs, and pelts.
    - Cleaning up after animals, including any body fluids or waste.
    - Removing PPE or cloth face covering.
- Clean tools with reusable gloves and appropriate disinfectant. To disinfect, use products that meet EPA's criteria for use against SARS-CoV-2, diluted household bleach solutions prepared according to the manufacturer's label for disinfection, or alcohol solutions with at least 60% alcohol, and are appropriate for the surface. Follow manufacturer's directions for use.

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: APHIS-COVID-19 Working Group
Subject: FW: BioRxiv: SARS-CoV2 infection in farmed mink, Netherlands, April 2020
Date: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 6:48:00 AM

From CDC

Please see the below link to a pre-print paper on BioRxiv: "SARS-CoV2 infection in farmed mink, Netherlands, April 2020":

https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.05.18.101493v1

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Carpenter, Ann (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) [mailto:pzy4@cdc.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 6:38 AM
To: teri.rowles@noaa.gov; Levings, Randall L - APHIS <randall.l.levings@usda.gov>; Miller, Jessica O. (CDC/DDNID/NCIPC/OD) <VNR8@cdc.gov>; Ghai, Ria (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <ofu9@cdc.gov>; dlx9@cdc.gov; Murrell, Laura (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <wjl9@cdc.gov>; lie0@cdc.gov; One Health (CDC) <onehealth@cdc.gov>; GGG0@cdc.gov; Wilson-Egbe, Wanda (OS/ASPR/EMMO) <Wanda.Wilson-egbe@hhs.gov>; mark.tinsman@dhs.gov; John Sanders – <john.sanders@hq.dhs.gov>; Burke, Micheal <micheal.burke@hq.dhs.gov>; Egan, Sarah <sarah.egan@fema.dhs.gov>; Joseph, Debbie <Debbie.Joseph@hq.dhs.gov>; McElroy, Kristina M CIV DHA J-3 (USA) <kristina.m.mcelroy2.civ@mail.mil>; Alves, Derron A COL USARMY MEDCOM APHC (USA) <derron.a.alves.mil@mail.mil>; Parker, Jacquelyn S (Jacque) LTC USARMY MEDCOM DCS-PH (USA) <jacquelyn.s.parker2.mil@mail.mil>; Venn, Emilee C LTC USARMY MEDCOM APHC (USA) <emilee.c.venn.mil@mail.mil>; mchopkins@usgs.gov; jsleeman@usgs.gov; Gibbs, Samantha <samantha_gibbs@fws.gov>; Taylor, Sharon K <sktaylor@usgs.gov>; Powers, Jenny <Jenny_Powers@nps.gov>; Payer, David C <David_Payer@nps.gov>; david.rotstein@fda.hhs.gov; Forfa, Tracey (FDA/CVM) <Tracey.Forfa@fda.hhs.gov>; DeLancey, Siobhan (FDA/CVM) <Siobhan.Delancey@fda.hhs.gov>; Norris, Anne (FDA/CVM) <Anne.Norris@fda.hhs.gov>;

Reimschuessel, Renate (FDA/CVM) <Renate.Reimschuessel@fda.hhs.gov>; Hart, Ellen (FDA/CVM) <Ellen.Hart@fda.hhs.gov>; Ceric, Olgica (FDA/CVM) <Olgica.Ceric@fda.hhs.gov>; Flynn, William T (FDA/CVM) <William.Flynn@fda.hhs.gov>; 'Ricardo Echalar (rechalar@usaid.gov)' <rechalar@usaid.gov>; pbright@usaid.gov; cchrisman@usaid.gov; pshetty@usaid.gov; Cote, Andrea - FSIS <andrea.cote@usda.gov>; Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>; Lautner, Elizabeth A - APHIS <elizabeth.a.lautner@usda.gov>; Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>; Kreindel, Silvia M - APHIS <silvia.kreindel@usda.gov>; Dennison, Kevin M - APHIS <kevin.m.dennison@usda.gov>; Days-Austin, Rosalynn C - APHIS <rosalynn.days-austin@usda.gov>; Klein, Patrice - FS <patrice.n.klein@usda.gov>; Torchetti, Mia Kim - APHIS <mia.kim.torchetti@usda.gov>; Burrell, Sierra Denys (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <ysd0@cdc.gov>; Dodd, Kimberly A - APHIS <kimberly.a.dodd@usda.gov>; Faburay, Bonto - APHIS <Bonto.Faburay@usda.gov>; Styles, Darrel K - APHIS <darrel.k.styles@usda.gov>; Gay, Cyril <cyril.gay@usda.gov>; Loiacono, Christina M - APHIS <christina.m.loiacono@usda.gov>; Lin, Jeanie - APHIS <jean.lin@usda.gov>; Hale, Kis Robertson - FSIS <Kis.Robertson1@usda.gov>; Iverson, Sally Ann - FSIS <SallyAnn.Iverson@usda.gov>; Deliberto, Thomas J - APHIS <thomas.j.deliberto@usda.gov>; hhamilton@usgs.gov; ssoileau@usgs.gov; Hayden, Joelle R - APHIS <joelle.r.hayden@usda.gov>; Curlett, Ed C - APHIS <ed.c.curlett@usda.gov>; Suarez, David <david.suarez@usda.gov>; Lager, Kelly - ARS <kelly.lager@usda.gov>; Stauffer, Kendra E. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DGMQ) <hgp7@cdc.gov>; Pieracci, Emily (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DGMQ) <ydi7@cdc.gov>; Cole, Lyndsay M - APHIS <lyndsay.m.cole@usda.gov>; Wallace, Ryan (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) <euk5@cdc.gov>; Elgethun, Kai (ATSDR/OAD/OCHHA) <irz6@cdc.gov>; Towner, Jonathan (Jon) (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) <jit8@cdc.gov>; McGarry, Sherri (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DFWED) <nmc6@cdc.gov>; McGarry, Sherri A (FDA/CFSAN) <Sherri.McGarry@fda.hhs.gov>; janet.whaley@noaa.gov; deborah.fauquier@noaa.gov; sarah.wilkin@noaa.gov; parkerti@niaid.NIH.gov; Kiersten Johnson-FAS Contact-USAID <kiejohnson@usaid.gov>; Natalie.Bailey-FASContact <nbailey@usaid.gov>; Elizabeth Daut <edaut@usaid.gov>; atobiason@usaid.gov; Doty, Jeffrey B. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) <uwb7@cdc.gov>; Basler, Colin A. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DFWED) <wjq3@cdc.gov>; Kukielka, Esther (CDC/DDNID/NCEH/OD) <pgz9@cdc.gov>; Medley, Alexandra (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DGMQ) <muv3@cdc.gov>
Cc: Cossaboom, Caitlin (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) <nrm9@cdc.gov>; Chevalier, Nicole A COL USARMY DHA PUB HLTH (USA) <nicole.a.chevalier.mil@mail.mil>; Glover, Mark (FDA/CVM) <Mark.Glover@fda.hhs.gov>; Jackson, LeeAnne (FDA/CFSAN) <LeeAnne.Jackson@fda.hhs.gov>; Murphy, Jeanette (FDA/CVM) <Jenny.Murphy@fda.hhs.gov>; Mauldin, Matthew R. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) <yik5@cdc.gov>; Shaw, Sheryl - FSIS <sheryl.shaw@usda.gov>; Wittig, Julianna (FDA/CVM) <Julianna.Wittig@fda.hhs.gov>; Goldman, David (FDA/OC) <David.Goldman@fda.hhs.gov>; Moore, Andrea (CDC/DDID/NCHHSTP/DHPIRS) <dii7@cdc.gov>; Mccoy, Todd - OHS, Washington, DC <todd.mccoy@usda.gov>
Subject: FYI: BioRxiv: SARS-CoV2 infection in farmed mink, Netherlands, April 2020

Good morning colleagues,

Please see the below link to a pre-print paper on BioRxiv: “SARS-CoV2 infection in farmed mink, Netherlands, April 2020”:

https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.05.18.101493v1

Sincerely,

Ann Carpenter, DVM, MPH
ORISE Fellow
One Health Office
National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
pzy4@cdc.gov
404-718-5200

From: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Subject: FW: Mink document (expedited)
Date: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 1:58:53 PM

From: Neese, Donald R - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 3:14 PM
To: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Mink document (expedited)

Yep its automated so I got a notification as soon as you sent it. And you can go in and see my notes and status. I am in the process of getting it to Sarah and VSDA now.

Donald R. Neese, MPA
Chief of Staff
Strategy and Policy Unit (S&P)
USDA, APHIS, VS
(240) 234-0791
donald.neese@usda.gov

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTE: The preceding email message contains information that may be confidential, proprietary, or legally privileged, and may constitute non-public information. This message is intended to be conveyed only to the intended named recipient(s). If you are not an intended recipient of this message, do not read it; instead, please advise the sender by reply email, and delete this message and any attachments. Unauthorized individuals or entities are not permitted access to this information. Any disclosure, copying, distribution or taking any action in reliance on the contents of this information, except its delivery to the sender, is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful.

From: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 2:56 PM
To: Neese, Donald R - APHIS <Donald.Neese@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Mink document (expedited)

Done. Do you see it?

From: Neese, Donald R - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 2:47 PM
To: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Mink document (expedited)

Thanks Jerry, the link is provide below.

https://usdagcc.sharepoint.com/sites/aphis-vs-nies/ADAO/tracker

Don

Donald R. Neese, MPA
Chief of Staff
Strategy and Policy Unit (S&P)
USDA, APHIS, VS
(240) 234-0791
donald.neese@usda.gov

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From: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 2:39 PM
To: Neese, Donald R - APHIS <Donald.Neese@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Mink document (expedited)

Thanks Don. Can you please send me the link to the SharePoint site? So I can upload the document with the answer to your questions.

From: Neese, Donald R - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 2:16 PM
To: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Mink document (expedited)

Jerry,

(b) (5)(DPP)

(b) (5)(DPP)

Hope this helps!

Don

Donald R. Neese, MPA
Chief of Staff
Strategy and Policy Unit (S&P)
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donald.neese@usda.gov

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From: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 1:57 PM
To: Neese, Donald R - APHIS <Donald.Neese@usda.gov>
Subject: Mink document (expedited)
Importance: High

Hello Don,

Need a favor. ☺ The attached COVID-19 document needs to be expedited to Sarah/VSDA and LPA/the department for clearance (the news released today that the Netherlands believes a mink has infected a human with COVID-19 and mandatory testing for all mink farms in the Netherlands). This document will help with the questions. The document is also being cleared by CDC. What is the best expedited way to proceed?

Thanks,

Jerry

From:	Hart, Ellen
To:	Loiacono, Christina M - APHIS; Rooney, Jane A - APHIS; dlx9@cdc.gov
Cc:	Reimschuessel, Renate; david.rotstein@fda.hhs.gov
Subject:	FW: On bbc
Date:	Wednesday, May 20, 2020 5:27:15 AM

From: Montgomery, Alfred <Alfred.Montgomery@fda.hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 7:02 AM
To: Reimschuessel, Renate <Renate.Reimschuessel@fda.hhs.gov>; Rotstein, David <David.Rotstein@fda.hhs.gov>
Cc: Hart, Ellen <Ellen.Hart@fda.hhs.gov>; CVM IMG ERCS <CVMIMGERCS@fda.hhs.gov>
Subject: FW: On bbc

From: Momcilovic, Dragan <Dragan.Momcilovic@fda.hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 6:39 AM
To: Murphy, Jeanette <Jenny.Murphy@fda.hhs.gov>; Hart, Ellen <Ellen.Hart@fda.hhs.gov>; Montgomery, Alfred <Alfred.Montgomery@fda.hhs.gov>
Subject: On bbc

https://www.bbc.com/news/live/world-52733676

5:02

Dutch worker may be first confirmed animal to human transmission



Anna Holligan
BBC News Hague correspondent

The Dutch government says it is "plausible" that an employee at a mink farm contracted Covid-19 from one of the animals.

The details were shared in a report uploaded to the government website late on Tuesday night. Further research is being conducted.

If the "likely" scenario proves conclusive it would appear to be the first confirmed case of animal to human infection in the world. Experts suspect - but have not confirmed - that Covid-19 originated by crossing from an animal to a human in China.

Measures are being put in place at mink farms across the Netherlands to try to prevent any spread.

"These new research results have a major impact on the owners, families and employees of mink companies as well as on local communities. I am therefore in close contact with all these parties involved," said agriculture minister Carola Schouten.

F om
To
Cc Wang, Qi (Ka...ge) [...] Hill
Subject RE: ProMED-mail Digest Vol 94 Issue 66
Date Thu, May 21, 2020 7:56:00 AM

Mink coverage on ProMED. I be leve we have everything covered in our guidance document related to prevention (so will be great when we have that cleared and posted ☺), and w ll use the additional information on response activities in discussion with the COVID-19 Livestock Working group as we develop response guidance for SAHOs and SPHVs.

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA-APHIS-Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mob le: 01-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

-----Original Message-----
From: promed-ahead-bounces@promedmail.org [mailto:promed-ahead-bounces@promedmail.org] On Behalf Of promed-ahead-request@promedmail.org
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 9:40 PM
To: promed-ahead@promedmail.org
Subject: ProMED-ahead Digest, Vol 94, Issue 66

Today's Topics:

1. PRO/AH/EDR> COVID-19 update (198): Netherlands (NB) farmed
mink animal-to-human infect ssup (promed-ahead@promedmail.org)

Message: 1
Date: Thu, 21 May 2020 03:28:20 -0000
From: promed-ahead@promedmail.org
Subject: PRO/AH/EDR> COVID-19 update (198): Netherlands (NB) farmed
mink animal-to-human infect ssup
To: promed-post@promedmail.org, promed-edr-post@promedmail.org
promed-ahead-post@promedmail.org
Message-ID:
<01000172354652f1-fde4eaac-5ca2-4604-ac4a-a2c19897e4c2-000000@email.amazonses.com>

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=UTF-8

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 UPDATE (198): NETHERLANDS (NORTH BRABANT)
FARMED MINK, ANIMAL-TO-HUMAN INFECTION SUSPECTED
****

A ProMED-mail post
<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.promedmail.org%2F&data=02%7C01%7Cfa...>
ProMED-mail is a program of the
International Society for Infectious Diseases
<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.isid.org%2F&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cface701fd8...>

Date: Tue 19 May 2020
Source: A letter from the Minister of Agriculture to the Dutch House
of Representatives [in Dutch, trans. Med.AS, abridged, edited]
<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.rijksoverheid.nl%2Fdocumenten%2Fkamerstukken%2F2020%2F05%2F19%2F...>

In this letter I inform (the House of Representatives) also on behalf
of the Minister of Health, Welfare and Sport (VWS), about the latest
state of affairs in the current study in 3 COVID-19 infected mink
farms. RIVM (National Institute for Public Health and the
Environment), the veterinary experts, and the investigators concluded
that:

1. it is plausible that an employee of one of the infected mink
companies was infected with SARS-CoV-2 by the minks (this employee has
since recovered);
2. Minks can undergo COVID-19 also subclinically (without symptoms);
and,
3. it is important to further investigate the role of cats in
potential virus transmission between companies."

As a result, there is reason to take additional measures, including
for the sake of public health. In this letter I indicate how my policy
is to be adapted.

In view of the above conclusions, I have decided to identify an
"infection with SARS-CoV-2 in mink on mink farms" as an infectious
animal disease, according to Article 1.1 of the Animal Health and
Welfare Act. This designation makes it possible to take further
measures on mink farms.

Infected employees and subclinical infections

The genetic coding of SARS-CoV-2 in many human COVID-19 patients and
in infected animals have been mapped. This is comparable to DNA
testing in people. The virus that causes COVID-19 mutates relatively
quickly. These changes in the genetic code can be monitored.
Comparisons between the genetic codes of virus isolates from various
animals and from humans can contribute to the establishment of a
family tree demonstrating the points in time and locations along the
road, where man and animal got infected.

This type of research has also been applied in the current event
addressing infected minks and human patients. The virus recorded in
one of the employees has shown similarity with the mink virus found on
the same farm. Based on mutual comparison and the position of the
virus isolates in the family tree, it became plausible that one
employee of an infected mink farm has been infected by mink. To be
able to further demonstrate the said conclusion, the researchers
presently add family trees of other human patients from the region to
the map in order to get as complete a picture as possible.

Until now, it was believed that animals got infected with SARS-CoV-2
from humans. The perception that it is plausible that a mink has
infected a human is new, but not unexpected. RIVM advised previously
that employees of infected mink farms should use personal protective
equipment. This infected employee has worked with the minks during the
period when it was not yet known that the minks on the farm were
infected; at that point in time, the advice of using personal
protective equipment on mink farms was not yet issued.

Additional research has also shown that COVID-19 in minks can have a
subclinical course. This means that the animals can be infected with
SARS-CoV-2 but do not show any symptoms. The current reporting
obligation only applies to farms where symptoms are seen (increased
mortality and/or challenged respiration). Subclinically infected
farms would therefore remain under the radar, which is undesirable
given the potential risks to the public and animal health.

In view of the above-mentioned RIVM conclusions, I will take the
following measures. As with all measures, public health comes 1st.

- Screening of mink farms (for antibodies): this will be extended to
all mink farms in the Netherlands and is mandatory. This means that
voluntary screening becomes legally required. The NVWA coordinates

this screening:
- The continuing infections on mink farms are to be intensively followed by various research groups to determine whether these loss of infection die out or that the infection stumbles. The latter meaning the virus continues its presence on the farm is to be prevented as far as possible.
- I will include more details about the spectrum of symptoms of COVID-19 in minks in the relevant ministerial regulations, which should be reported to the RIVM. The purpose of this is to help farms with symptomatic minks to report the earliest.
- The existing rules for the infected farms are to be extended by a visitor's ban in the stable and rules about which hygiene measures visitors should observe. This is it allow visits to the house in the yard continued.
- At infected farms, the ear an advice of RIVM and GGD [Municipal Public Health Service] to employees addressing their personal protection means when in the animal facilities remains unchanged.
- In relation to the advice to infected mink farms ensuring that cats do not enter or leave the farm premises consultations with mink farmers examining operational ways to apply the advice effectively and practicably are being undertaken.

Farm cats and COVID-19

Current research showed that the virus strains on 2 of the infected mink farms are very similar. There can be several reasons for this.

Because on one of the infected farms antibodies against the virus have been demonstrated in 3 of the 11 farm cats it is important to investigate the possible potential role of farm cats to transfer the virus between farms. Farm cats are cats that we in the yard but are not socialised (are not used to people); in the course of this ongoing investigation. farmers of infected mink farms have been advised to ensure that cats cannot enter or leave the farm's premises. In consultation with the mink farmers we are currently examining how this advice is to be applied effectively and practicably.

Pets

According to the current RIVM assessment the probability that a cat with COVID-19 can infect humans is very small. Infection mainly occurs between humans. The full RIVM's existing advice on COVID-19 and animals is available at
<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.rivm.nl%2Fcoronavirus-covid-19%2Fhuisdieren&data=02%7C01%7C%7Caacy701bf8bfd5c72dab08d7fd39124e%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0..cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637256291..880756372&sdata=yFTa07Ur%2F..&reserved=0> (in Dutch).

In addition it is important to consider and further investigate the role of cats in potential virus transmission. In this context research is being carried out by a partnership composed of research groups united in the Netherlands Center for One Health (Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in the Utrecht University Wageningen Bioveterinary Research Erasmus University Rotterdam and research centers in human healthcare).

Decision-making structure

In view of the developments described above it has been decided to enter the zoonosis structure effect. VWS coordinates in close cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture Nature and Food Quality RIVM local administrators and GGDs the policy and the decision management. The zoonosis structure advises the ministers of VWS and LNV. Both ministers decide by mutual agreement keeping their own primary responsibility in which in all cases public health comes 1st.

Technical briefing

In view of the complexity of these issues I suggest to the House to organize soon a technical briefing in which both human health and veterinary experts will be present.

Carola Schouten
Minister of Agriculture Nature and Food Quality

--
Communicated by
Mary Marshall
<mjm2020@googlemail.com>

[The above update letter to the House of Representatives refers to 3 COVID-19-infected mink farms in North Brabant. Initially 4 farms were referred to.

A concise version of the issue is available on the English pages of the Dutch Ministry's website at
<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.government.nl%2Flatest%2Fnews%2F2020%2F05%2F19%2Fnew-results-from-research-into-covid-19-up-in-mink-farms&data=02%7C01%7C%7Caacy701bf8bfd5c72dab08d7fd39124e%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0%3a0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637256298075637..&sdata=mvOdYlXdxFr7rIA6IxCHA5wsHmI5vU9wXuIaI%3D&reserved=0>.

Further results of the Dutch COVID-19 research projects addressing minks cats and other animals (incorporating 5 universities and 2 ministries within an exemplary One Health effort) are anticipated with great interest. / Mod.AS

HealthMap/ProMED-mail map:
North Brabant Netherlands <https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fhealthmap.org%2Fpromed%2F2125%&data=02%7C01%7C%7Caacy701bf8bf..5c7..itpb0Bd7fd39124e%7Ced5b..8e70..ee4ebc867ee0%3a0d4697%7C0%7C1%7C637..5629388075637..&sdata=ZT8SfMq4udWCrqp0717Xu2vpk7cECIx9E7QbCJF7k4%3D&reserved=0>

(See Also:
COVID-19 update (189): Netherlands (NB) animal farmed mink research cat dog https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200617.7344274&data=02%7C01%7C%7Caacy701bf86f45c72dab08d7fd39124e%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0..cfa0d4697%7C0%7C1%7C637256291..880756372&sdata=FsLeKsc77DrYBUdd2kpo3Ykoq1Uc5YHOdVsALuHBWT0%3D&reserved=0)
COVID-19 update (188): Japan/USA animals research cat experimental infection https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200614.7337185&data=02%7C01%7C%7Caacy701bf86f45c72dab08d7fd39124e%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0..cfa0d4697%7C0%7C1%7C637256291..880756372&sdata=hmVc1%2Bu0s4ygm1cVyWJ1eo2tnoir%2B9yZdc2BoGyaC%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (181): Germany (BY) France (AC) cat OIE animal case definition https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200513.7322908&data=02%7C01%7C%7Caacy701bf86f45c72dab08d7fd39124e%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0..cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637256291..880756372&sdata=5RkEW9inX EkwL%2Fd4TWB07t1LA5RVRKMGM0P-Jt4%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (174): Netherlands (NB) animal farmed mink comment https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200511.7323645&data=02%7C01%7C%7Caacy701bf86f45c72dab08d7fd39124e%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0..cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637..5629..880756372&sdata=BiZPQ..b3gtpp%2Bt1o6AcqKf%2Bx7qofSe1tgSeSU..M0%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (169): Netherlands (NB) animal farmed mink spread rabbit virus https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200509.7318646&data=02%7C01%7C%7Caacy701bf86f45c72dab08d7fd39124e%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0..cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637256291..880756372&sdata=d05aW0Yvnk0A1uWP9PU09zCbxUMBIMH0Yq6m0c%..0&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (154): Netherlands (NB) animal farmed mink research https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200503.7294846&data=02%7C01%7C%7Caacy701bf86f45c72dab08d7fd39124e%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0..cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637256291..880756372&sdata=t12k9UtcckRpnuU7ailt7C&4Rr1CTbWuaYW1c%..0&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (146): Netherlands (NB) animal farmed mink epidemiology https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200501.7286119&data=02%7C01%7C%7Caacy701bf86f45c72dab08d7fd39124e%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0..cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637256291..880756372&sdata=D%2FnTKnaws78cmDiwg1B2bN61seHv5u0P96OccLm9UcU%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (135): Netherlands (NB) animal farmed mink https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200427.7272288&data=02%7C01%7C%7Caacy701bf86f45c72dab08d7fd39124e%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0..cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637256291..880756372&sdata=aF3TDK6LODzaCBF0vXVpCAv/Fp%2FIaoY%2FsMo%2Bc9Ck1%10&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (146): Netherlands (NB) animal farmed mink epidemiology https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200501.7 86113&data=02%7C01%7C%7Caacy701bf86f45c72dab08d7fd39124e%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0..cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637..5629..880756372&sdata=D%2FnTKnaws78cmDiwg1B2bN61seHv5u0P96OccLm9UcU%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (142): USA (NY) animal zoo tiger lion tests https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200430.7284183&data=02%7C01%7C%7Caacy701bf86f45c72dab08d7fd39124e%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0..cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637256291..880756367&sdata=GMhMc%2F7O%2FAaZ%2BUlKgS2ibIqIMhEx63UZebNdmV2w%..0&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (141): India animal wild tiger zoo clarification ##) https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200430.7281768&data=02%7C01%7C%7Caacy701bf86f45c72dab08d7fd39124e%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0..cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637256291..880756367&sdata=EZFX0ufh7gtt5k2KxduIyMCaDTb3YBuyfrYuuzMS4Tv..kZq%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (1..8): India animal wild tiger fatal https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200428.7275769&data=02%7C01%7C%7Caacy701bf86f45c72dab08d7fd39124e%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0..cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637256291..880756367&sdata=7DFmFtHYtCucHuuQu8TFpRMf49%6Qe8..RxHO%3Dmq%..0&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (135): Netherlands (NB) animal farmed mink https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200427.7272288&data=02%7C01%7C%7Caacy701bf86f45c72dab08d7fd39124e%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0..cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637..5629..880756367&sdata=UUzl..hxc1Bq0z%2FYrEtx%2BT82Fl%2BZ4pPB..Bqzuas2Ra4uEVA%..0&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (1..0): USA (NY) animal zoo tiger lion new cases https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?

url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200425.7266556&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cace701fd86f45c72dab0867fd39124e8%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0 cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637259629 880766367&sdata=n62BUpeTe9uYZ8bwtvT%2F9nO0vwZVACn7ffP%2B8tU40UM% D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (124): USA (NY) animal cat lion OIE
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200423.7258119&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cace701fd86f45c72dab0867fd39124e8%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0 cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637259629 880766367&sdata=J4c%2FYuTTB6jknCeh3VZYYa/sq%2EQjB8cFTI2SVII%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (123): USA (NY) animal cat coof
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200422.7256222&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cace701fd86f45c72dab0867fd39124e8%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0 cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637259629 880766367&sdata=Xu58WGafBbIwd95PvtO467tMXhfGoHoOY%2F6O6KZKx%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (118): USA (NY) cat animal susp RFI
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org% Fpost%2F20200418.7248811&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cace701fd86f45c72dab0867fd39124e8%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0 cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637 5629 880766367&sdata=6zXcUbxe7aBr0%2F3CbcY%2B6h4BaOOM3c0%2FH3cyY CUWY%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (88): Germany animal research pig chicken bat
ferret https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org% Fpost%2F20200407.7 4606&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cace701fd86f45c72dab0867fd39124e8%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0 cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637 5629 880766367&sdata=6gmgc7AGUnDUgTT7qpZ0aUkkU%2BQYAf6RE3LRZn4EM%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (85): USA (NY) animal tiger OIE
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200406.7191480&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cace701fd86f45c72dab0867fd39124e8%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0 cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637259629 880766367&sdata=Kya1uSjnK0uBDG9RrGVn32rt4vK79WTpAV68fbRNnAc%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (8): USA animal tiger
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200406.7191352&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cace701fd86f45c72dab0867fd39124e8%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0 cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637259629 880766367&sdata=8dE9fV2RTAPf%2BgBTdnEBzK%2BzRRFn8WY1UHvWKaaDI%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (76): China (HU) animal cat owned stray
seropositive https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200403.7179046&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cace701fd86f45c72dab0867fd39124e8%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0 cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637259629 880766367&sdata=7eadKs2FNT1LaYJaMTJKuLaaUOCWOHMO IBSa2bLrBc%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (75): China (Hong Kong) animal cat O E
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org% Fpost%2F20200403.7179045&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cace701fd86f45c72dab0867fd39124e8%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0 cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637 5629 880766367&sdata=N2UwJ8eZfsSDWpdWacGrBoDPn4dpvEwlqSm YUb% P% Fs%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (70): China (Hong Kong) animal cat pets & stock
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200402.7173186&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cace701fd86f45c72dab0867fd39124e8%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0 cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637259629 880766367&sdata=bPQp0YMvexpdKox1s4nRPLFhcQSVy46b5aQaaQDi80%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (58): Belgium animal cat clinical case RH
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200327.7151215&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cace701fd86f45c72dab0867fd39124e8%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0 cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637259629 880776358&sdata=hpeHEY4F1RTKrnPWm0zA0RMaGwluFlnjnc%2Byl1c%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (56): China (Hong Kong) animal dog final serology
positive https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200326.7148438&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cace701fd86f45c72dab0867fd39124e8%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0 cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637259629 880776358&sdata=rrSoaHJuFuB4Bl3xoK qC%2FBIaIDr2L0I0VC4rSnaNE M%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (50): China (Hong Kong) animal dog 2nd case PCR
positive OIE https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200325.7129951&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cace701fd86f45c72dab0867fd39124e8%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0 cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637259629 880776358&sdata=N9t2FWHUdF6CVjvAuIUkWCSuxdu7dI01L0T1dTGdMHy3D0%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (45): China (Hong Kong) animal dog 2nd case PCR
positive https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org% Fpost%2F20200319.7112693&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cace701fd86f45c72dab0867fd39124e8%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0 cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637 5629 880776358&sdata=KYDRbTD70akE5rrwM4RKKsKJW4 P%2BUsuUzcCY24Cou%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (17): China (Hong Kong) animal dog prelim serology
negative https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200312.7081842&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cace701fd86f45c72dab0867fd39124e8%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0 cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637259629 880776358&sdata=HPURjDen8%2F8AV%2FmVMQpQNrOb4UQaWRF2v DNo2WAwZO%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (30): China (Hong Kong) animal dog susp serology
pending https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200 06.7057959&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cace701fd86f45c72dab0867fd39124e8%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0 cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637259629 880776358&sdata=mIA3jRE95aXqqSjA6UpIngI3NaGUPLTSUTIIqFI%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (26): China (Hong Kong) animal dog susp OIE
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200 02.7040373&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cace701fd86f45c72dab0867fd39124e8%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0 cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637259629 880776358&sdata=2oWbWHrKUUN9I7o1n4ULUnYF2Lo%2FYrQ77wvLZx1Ic8%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (22): companion animals dog susp RH
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org% Fpost%2F20200229.7036661&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cace701fd86f45c72dab0867fd39124e8%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0 cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637 5629 880776358&sdata=Rmuu08kcfN9KWHWSApsGAUWuuTBym2vxhfg%2B%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (17): China animal reservoir w ldlife trade &
consumption https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org% Fpost%2F20200225.7024245&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cace701fd86f45c72dab0867fd39124e8%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0 cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637 5629 880776358&sdata=WC07VnHSnQZ4pZk5h7W1CfDsuu7QICMY% bxK5RA% D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (1): animal reservoir intermediate hosts pangolin
susp https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200220.7009213&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cace701fd86f45c72dab0867fd39124e8%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0 cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637259629 880776358&sdata=NyCeCBuIhhgRH UA%2F2zsU4%2Bna2PUwA%2BoDPR0MI% D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (08): companion animals RFI
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200218.7002276&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cace701fd86f45c72dab0867fd39124e8%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0 cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637259629 880776358&sdata=vIoTir3r7%2FaWSDnFxfFwfeLcXRrXWORgvK1FJhM%3D&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (06): animal reservoir intermediate hosts
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200217.6997%2E&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cace701fd86f45c72dab0867fd39124e8%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee0 cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637259629 880776358&sdata=FgaKlfeywJsJv%2FRGKjCnKCvSMKReb1ZfSwfnTbef83D&reserved=0
.....ars%w)h

Message: 2
Date: Thu, 21 May 2020 03:34:26 -0000
From: promed-ahead@promedmail.org
Subject: PRO/AH/EDR> Texas cattle fever tick - USA: (TX) cattle
To: promed-post@promedmail.org, promed-edr-post@promedmail.org
    promed-ahead-post@promedmail.org
Message-ID:
    <01000172210d0e7e4-77b67ac3c-140e-4fa5-8bd9-ac6214420ba4-000000@email.amazonses.com>

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=UTF-8

From: Bransy, Jane A - APHIS
To: Garsey, Ann (CDC, dgh, ewd.gov); Ke gaun - (De, Maggie; kawa, smith (daw) pnh@kaon.gtfurg.ny.gov); Porter-Spalding, Barbara A - APHIS; Lo gacno, Chr ss ne H - APHIS; Smaly, Arwn (CDC/DDPHSS/CGH/OD/OD) (Gavagai, Grace (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DOD/EDB) (CTR); ike ron Ken, Jacob (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DD)
Subject: FW: ProMED-ahead Digest: Vol 94 Issue 86
Date: Thursday, May 28, 2020 8:36:00 AM

Hi Dr. c

Below information may be useful for our mink response planning. I ha y asked our APHIS OIE liaison to keep a look out for any information she sees on what the Netherlands are doing response wise.

Thanks
Jane

Jane

2. PRO/AH/EDR> COVID-19 upda e (215): Netherlands (NB) animal
mink> o-human epidemi.. control (promed-ahead@promedmail.org)

Message: 2
Date: Thu, 28 May 2020 02:58:31 -0600
From: promed-ahead@promedmail.org
Subject: PRO/AH/EDR> COVID-19 update (215): Netherlands (NB) animal
mink-to-human epidemi.. control
To: promed-post@promedmail.org, promed-edit-post@promedmail.org
promed-ahead-post@promedmail.org
Message-ID:
<0100017259378f37-ef5b070e- in2- 737-80b8-ee3e6f8dced7-000000@email.amazonses.com>

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=UTF-8

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 UPDATE (215): NETHERLANDS (NORTH BRABANT) ANIMAL: MINK-TO-HUMAN EPIDEMIOLOGY, CONTROL
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A ProMED-mail post
<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.promedmail.org%2F&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086719018&sdata=g9Mz1paABNLz5O9 ciXd0UjC2uNt2IbtSEY5KmFHI2Q%3D&reser ed=0>
ProMED-mail is a program of Isc
International Society for Infectious Diseases <https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.isid.org%2F&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086719018&sdata=qEH0c3h%2BtAxRfk91uJBEFw5XW%2Fy1C5KTwE8TIK5Wgis%3D&reser ed=0>

Date: Wed, 27 May 2020
Source: Boerderij (subscriptions) [in Dutch, trans. Mod.AS, abridged, edited] <https://gcc02.safel sks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=https%3A%2F%2Fmyurl.com%2Fyb ec5h&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086719018&sdata=TmKoskqApafhUT5MhS ODtUXOC%2FCw7DfkK5RDW8oWo%3D&reser ed=0>

The transmission of the mink corona irus o 2 people rings alarm bells. Researchers consider the risk of spreading small. Still, there are major concerns.

The call to clean up the mink farms infected with the corona irus is increasing. Veterinarians and an affected li estock farmer are also calling on the go ernment to take more measures on the infected farms.
You ought to ha e the required knowledge to make decisions about this, says agriculture minister Carola Schouten.

On the infected mink farms, the irus now seems to be ext nguished.
The number of illnesses is declining, and mortality is again at a normal le el. At the yearly cycle of mink, the puppy's throwing time is from m d-April to mid-May. Control in the research is whether the irus flares up again in the pups. If that is the case, the farms may encounter the threat of a irus that circulates for a long time.

Arjan Stegeman of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (Utrecht
Uni ersity) calls this an undesirable situation for public health.
Further measures are needed. Minister Schou en will make a decision on this on Friday [29 May 2020], when the 1st results of he in estigation become known. Schouten says that public health is paramount, and that there are no taboos. Clearing the mink holdings seems to be a serious option. Isolating the farms and getting the li estock out can be an alternati e.

The corona irus also appears to get into the manure of the mink samples were taken at which this was demonstrated. Research should show how long the irus sta s in the manure. For the time being, the manure must not be remo ed from the farms. In March and April [2020], before the infection came to light, the companies' manure was still dri en out on their own land. Howe er, according to Jurg en Drissel of the RIVM, this had no impact on public health. Scientists are less afraid of spreading the irus through the manure.

The irus that was identified in corona patients in the vicinity of the mink was not identical with the strain detected in the mink. If you had found the same type of corona in the area, it would ha e been very different. That has not been found, says Van Dissel. Also, the amount of irus found in manure is many times less than, for example, samples from the throat. Van D ssel also points out that a irus is different from, for example, a microorganism such as Q fe er, which remains in the manure for a long time due to spore forma ion [see comment].

How the infection got into the 3rd company is still unclear. Stray cats may ha e played their role. The irus has been found in se eral [unowned] cats that come to the farms. From this it is concluded that the irus of mink has also been transmitted to cats. The role of his species in the irus distribution is being in estigated. The role is probably not very significant, gi en the de elopments worldwide.

How er, Stegeman ad ises corona patients to keep their cat inside.
"Ob iously, we ha e a lot of experience with as mal disease control in production animals, but not in pets," said Stegeman.

An extensi e research on corona irus in cats is being set up. In addition, rabbit farms are also screened on corona. None of the rabbit farms ha e at present symptoms of COVID-19. The risk of spread through rats and mice is small. These species ha e very different receptors than the receptors to which corona viruses attach.

The Netherlands is the 1st country where the corona virus has been detected in production animals [minks], and where the transmission of the virus from animals to humans has been demonstrated. The question of whether the problem is restricted to the Netherlands cannot be answered by scientists. There was limited tes ing capacity for humans, so no animals ha e been tested. Stegeman explains.

At the mink company in Denme the infection has been found to be more se ere than at the other 2 affected companies. The cause is not clear.
According to Stegeman, the moment of introduction of the irus and the phase of the minks' pregnancy could play a role. The irus at this company was not found to be more pathogenic than the irus in the other companies.

The way in which the irus entered the farm is also unclear. It's possible that stray cats ha e played a role here. The veterinarians are also concerned because no air measurements ha e been made around the company for the irus. Stegeman acknowledges this. According to h m, the in estigations at the other companies, which are many times larger and ha e many more infected animals, make it sufficiently clear that no further research into the air in the area is necessary.

After the 1st results of the study become known, expected Fri 29 May [2020], the Outbreak Management Team Zoonoses is due to prepare an opinion. The go ernment will decide next week on any suggested additional measures.

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Communicated by:
Sabine Zenns
Cécile iew English Longhorns
Gus Lauch, Nidderau, Germany
<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.e longhorns.de%2F&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086719018&sdata=2z9e1 JrtNngZjVbQoOuh7OOCBDSbqK6cnsRWfizyQ%3D&reser ed=0>
<CVLonghorns@aol.com>

[Comparing the manure contamination by SARS-CoV-2 to manure contamination by Q fe er is not accidental. North Brabant's popula ion underwent a serious Q fe er epidemic during the years 2006-2009, regarded the largest e er anywhere in the world. Dur ng the epidemic, which was related to manure from infected goat farms, thousands of people were infected, many of them hospitalized, including mortalities and long-term complications (see https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20190930.65 6&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086719018&sdata=YZsKjIMFrEBjPc2FwoK%2BMqHVnkc%2Bf023XrO6aFQTZ2PHP%2B8%3D&reser ed=0).

Researchers of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in the Utrecht Uni ersity has a recently undertaken an in estigation addressing the infection rate among cats owned by COVID-19 health workers in the pro incie of Utrecht. Results are anticipated wi hi interest.

An additional case in a cat has recently been report ed from Spain (Ref 1). Russia's 1st case in a cat has been reported by Russia to the OIE (https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200526.7570578&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086719018&sdata=p5jG IbnYDyEtaHHYGG7my3aO57ouQVHjswpn8QemY%3D&reser ed=0). - Mod.AS

HealthMap/ProMED-mail map
North Brabant, Netherlands: <https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fhealthmap.org%2Fpromed%2Fp%2F1250&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086719018&sdata=3DqZ0NqoIADl722nDKsVwDWZAWqzFevtwgF9hlEPkJIZk%3D&reser ed=0>

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1. Ignacio Ruiz-Arrondo, Aranzazu Portillo, Ana M. Palomar, Sonia Santibanez, Paula Santibanez, Cristina Cer ero, Jose A. Oteo.
Detection of SARS-CoV-2 in pets li ing with COVID-19 owners diagnosed during the COVID-19 lockdown in Spain: A case of an asymptomatic cat wi h SARS-CoV-2 in Europe. Preprint, medRxi, 2020.05.1 .20101 , doi:
<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=https%3A%2F%2Fdoi.org%2F10.1101%2F2020.05.1 .20101 &data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086719018&sdata=xkH8780L36I bmiXWH5%2FLow9%2BKg%2FqL15sdHgmsZs0Q%3D&reser ed=0>.]

[See Also:
COVID-19 update (212): Russia (Mosk) animal, cor OIE
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200526.7570578&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086719018&sdata=p5jG IbnYDyEtaHHYGG7my3aO57ouQVHjswpn8QemY%3D&reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (209): Netherlands (NB) farmed mink, animal-to-human, cat, updat https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200525.7375359&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086719018&sdata=UmpAnpH0OTpTtiLg2KH9OdRn8epRemMcH5WHpBs1%2F%2BFE%3D&reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (198): Netherlands (NB) farmed mink, animal-to-human infect susp https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200520.7159976&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086728972&sdata=lZqYV%2B3g0jhjQgDtEx9z0%2BnkTacpJ55ujIuG33fdz%3D&reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (189): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink, research, cat, dog h ttps://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200517.73 27,&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086728972&sdata=p86OMnt1p%2FILXjg0MnQkqcVQgGc Zc1%2FOTQ%2BHqA 28%3D&reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (182): Japan/USA: an mals, research, cor, experimental, infection https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200503.7337185&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086728972&sdata=kN9AsdSA5jFqUKfV 1XQxX%2F0%2F2Q5%2Cne kuu%2BqcM%3D&reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (181): Germany (BY), France (AC), cat, OIE animal case definition https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200503.7332909&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086728972&sdata=GSh5VVOxBTSYOuQTU0F%2BY9xkRb6taSWiA08B6%2FWLa%3D&reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (177): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink, Spain
(CT) cat susp https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200512.7372858&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086728972&sdata=aThUFs2GhJMdBI%2FOG bSRVEGJrLl8nDrGw0OxSyf0Q%3D&reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (17): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink, comment
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200511.73238 5&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086728972&sdata=%2Bc VSp6AWE tDOfu9 3u XqgT9Ra32ANAU97OLAcTzk%3D&reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (169): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink, spread, rabbit, susp https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200509.73169 6&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086728972&sdata=u8tn66Wi2TroRJ%2BubWYqwjCR2nw6ozzmd8M gU7awwVE%3D&reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (15): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink, research
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200503.729 6 6&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086728972&sdata=odJayDnaP1q7LpAvqsdOLuRAvupIYzAkZJIGB3Y3%2FMwQ%3D&reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (1): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink, epidemiology https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200501.7286113&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086728972&sdata=DmH8YXonuL5bVLfCKio CTTAtMLgHuaN%2FpIGKD682mE%3D&reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (155): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200 27.7272258&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086728972&sdata=pCn110cfAKjCVhpkP dlcIMRnb6lyxnkvV3dNlwECw6%3D&reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (1 6): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink, epidemiology https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200501.7286113&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086728972&sdata=DmH8YXonuL5bVLfCKio CTTAtMLgHuaN%2FpIGKD682mE%3D&reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (1 3): USA (NV) animal, zoo, iger, t on, testi
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200 30.728 183&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086728972&sdata=TYmHOIVITbq7XTRnkHuIZZ5IN1%2F CV5Iwg 6nX6 %3D&reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (1 3): India, animal, wild tiger, susp, clarification, RFI https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200 30.7281768&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086728972&sdata=NCcHpKQEobn1VKJoN%2BM%2Fv89Pw3wRjXkVBr jTkwYQE%3D&reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (138): India, animal, wild tiger, fatal
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200 28.7275765&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086728972&sdata=in2dzwO37nkBhuxyXqaq8%UC3QDQeI%2Bfg YKiR%2Bmw%3D&reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (135): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200 27.7272258&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ce25785adc0c7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Ced5b36e701ee ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086728972&sdata=pCn110cfAKjCVhpkP dlcIMRnb6lyxnkvV3dNlwECw6%3D&reser ed=0

COVID-19 update (130) USA (NY) animal zoo tiger 1 ox new cases
https //gcc02.safelinks.pro ec ion.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200 25.7266556&amp data=02%7C01%7C%7Cc25785adcfc7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Cad5b36e701ec ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086728972&amp sdata= OPAkyXle%2BtrAWvj61QJdUqiqoEs dUrkEP9Z5yX88%3D&amp reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (12) USA (NY) animal cat 1 on OIE
https //gcc02.safelinks.pro ec ion.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200 23.7259119&amp data=02%7C01%7C%7Cc25785adcfc7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Cad5b36e701ec ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086728972&amp sdata=AUqiQjtqdlj%2FH 3dP i J 8NG9TGL0g6AlmkJDsAyJk%3D&amp reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (123) USA (NY) animal cat conf
https //gcc02.safelinks.pro ec ion.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200 22.7256272&amp data=02%7C01%7C%7Cc25785adcfc7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Cad5b36e701ec ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086728972&amp sdata=3ll6Glk5%2BVYnUJVUBtx61aLRT5Xnm0OaoBg%2BujVAV0%3D&amp reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (113) USA (NY) cat animal susp RFI
https //gcc02.safelinks.pro ec ion.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200 18.72 0811&amp data=02%7C01%7C%7Cc25785adcfc7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Cad5b36e701ec ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086753892 &amp sdata=XPRI0MYTxQOM %2BSbc55R t2WZWB95Yg%2Bqbtngz6k %3D&amp reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (86) Germany animal research pig chicken bat ferret h tps //gcc02 safelinks protection outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200 07.7196506&amp data=02%7C01%7C%7Cc25785adcfc7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Cad5b36e701ec ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086753892 &amp sdata=tfiAPm nt%2FEHKVbk 8RZ x32moJLMECQbw2d10b Y%3D&amp reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (88) USA (NY) animal tiger OIE
https //gcc02.safelinks.pro ec ion.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200 06.7191 80&amp data=02%7C01%7C%7Cc25785adcfc7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Cad5b36e701ec ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086753892 &amp sdata= NWCsudfkmiy 7%2BSty2SIS7XCPNf6rS2FTsH52e%2FZ0%3D&amp reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (8) USA animal tiger
https //gcc02.safelinks.pro ec ion.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200 06.7191553&amp data=02%7C01%7C%7Cc25785adcfc7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Cad5b36e701ec ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086753892 &amp sdata=NdugXMFC1EOi2q%2bVfUNBwtBgO9BgpoFrhZ86wXQww%3D&amp reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (76) China (HU) animal cat owned straw streptotli e https //gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200 03.71799 8&amp data=02%7C01%7C%7Cc25785adcfc7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Cad5b36e701ec ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086753892 &amp sdata=d nfVJMqspaJP%2BHTVrsX7yWvWIAMSBbT rhNAMRV8%3D&amp reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (75) China (Hong Kong) animal cat OIE
https //gcc02.safelinks.pro ec ion.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200 05.71799 5&amp data=02%7C01%7C%7Cc25785adcfc7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Cad5b36e701ec ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086753892 &amp sdata=y2wt 6YAuzkW1%2bVGiZB3o p8KpuBJNL7qD BtaQuD3X%3D&amp reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (70) China (Hong Kong) animal cat pets & stock
https //gcc02.safelinks.pro ec ion.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200 02.7173286&amp data=02%7C01%7C%7Cc25785adcfc7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Cad5b36e701ec ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086753892 &amp sdata=bVH1mxRMyS8Wqi1N5fKnN OE7qrieK6VTZf87X zA%3D&amp reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (58) Belgium animal cat clinical case RFI
https //gcc02.safelinks.pro ec ion.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200327.7151235&amp data=02%7C01%7C%7Cc25785adcfc7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Cad5b36e701ec ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086753892 &amp sdata=V4r0u2l1KyX%2BRt%2F9NuET g5p fN%2BUYoO%2FoiLAzEgDQw%3D&amp reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (56) China (Hong Kong) animal dog fatal serology positi e https //gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200326 71 6 36&amp data=02%7C01%7C%7Cc25785adcfc7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Cad5b36e701ec ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086753892 &amp sdata=AfTiig2mRcFr Z1MtPtP%2BkLcp D2CIZ8DJLYJHBZV06%3D&amp reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (50) China (Hong Kong) animal dog 2nd case PCR pos ti e OIE https //gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200323.7129951&amp data=02%7C01%7C%7Cc25785adcfc7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Cad5b36e701ec ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086753892 &amp sdata=zhtj Ww1LBLg%2ByFfkf%2Bc2LSSu%2BlOfQHxTBc2n3MqLY%3D&amp reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (5) China (Hong Kong) animal dog 2nd case PCR pos ti e https //gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200319.7112693&amp data=02%7C01%7C%7Cc25785adcfc7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Cad5b36e701ec ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086753892 &amp sdata=nt3V%2Bo8TzfaPI5Obja08r%2B5PE tDj7tk%2FjgCU%2BcoZc%3D&amp reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (37) China (Hong Kong) animal dog prelim. serology tuga l e https //gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200312.70818 2&amp data=02%7C01%7C%7Cc25785adcfc7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Cad5b36e701ec ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086753892 &amp sdata=V%2F7o516 u2heF8QSt E7tSnjqp6e0tU %2Bq yut96g8%3D&amp reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (30) China (Hong Kong) animal dog susp serology pending https //gcc02 safelinks protection outlook.com/?
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COVID-19 update (25) China (Hong Kong) animal dog susp OIE
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COVID-19 update (22) comparison an imals dog susp RFI
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COVID-19 update (17) China animal reser oir wildlife trade & consumption hi ps //gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200225.702 2 5&amp data=02%7C01%7C%7Cc25785adcfc7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Cad5b36e701ec ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086753892 &amp sdata=7YxGhxdfnhqi0MKLVcDtqlUF5RN TfLP8%2FnhCBya58M%3D&amp reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (11) animal reser oir intermediate hosts pangolin susp https //gcc02 safelinks pro ect ion.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200228.7009213&amp data=02%7C01%7C%7Cc25785adcfc7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Cad5b36e701ec ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086753892 &amp sdata=7gQkWpaQP3eV1 iHs5ukHreUboy9OPJ5MA/mQbUfSQ%3D&amp reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (08) comparison an imals RFI
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url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200218.7002276&amp data=02%7C01%7C%7Cc25785adcfc7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Cad5b36e701ec ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086753892 &amp sdata=3czhrIQBtxGIZzy%2Boy6wiXtlYQYSPzQAJkxo3xc2ea0%2FU%3D&amp reser ed=0
COVID-19 update (06) animal reser oir intermediate hosts
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Q fe er - Netherlands (11) (NB) re ransomw report https //gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?
url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20190930.65 6&amp data=02%7C01%7C%7Cc25785adcfc7 ef7c27b06d802b3759df%7Cad5b36e701ec ebc867ee03cfa0d 697%7C0%7C0%7C637262317086753892 &amp sdata=31GESWhrvqF E9l67mgwDtjfUTf6rtKUQ9nrn fSX%2FF8%3D&amp reser ed=0]
_____ ____ _____ _____ ____ ____

From:	Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To:	Garvey, Ann (CDC idph.iowa.gov); Baldwin - CDA, Maggie; david. smith (david.smith@agriculture.ny.gov); Porter-Spalding, Barbara A - APHIS; Loiacono, Christina M - APHIS; Straily, Anne (CDC/DDPHSIS/CGH/DPDM); lie0@cdc.gov; dlx9@cdc.gov
Subject:	FYI - for use within the COVID19 Livestock WG: Additional Mink Report from the Netherlands
Date:	Wednesday, May 20, 2020 3:24:00 PM
Attachments:	Additional Control Measures for Dutch Mink Industry In Response to COVID - Submitted to FAS on May 20.docx

I wanted to share the attached information, provided by our FAS colleagues in the Hague, with the COVID-19 Livestock Working Group; it contains some further details on the Dutch response activities.

The Interim Mink Guidance document we developed is in clearance at USDA and CDC. I will let everyone know when it is available to share and provide the APHIS weblink.

Look forward to speaking with you all on our Friday call.

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
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Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

USDA United States Department of Agriculture
Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Global Agricultural Information Network

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution **Date:** May 19, 2020

Report Number: NL2020-0019

Report Name: Additional Control Measures for Dutch Mink Industry In Response to COVID-19

Country: Netherlands

Post: The Hague

Report Category: Agricultural Situation, Agriculture in the News

Prepared By: FAS/The Hague Staff

Approved By: Christopher Riker

Report Highlights:

Based on research conducted by the Dutch government, it is now believed that mink which were infected with the coronavirus (COVID-19) may have transmitted the virus to a farm employee. The relevant study also shows that mink can have the virus without showing any disease symptoms. Based on these developments, the Minister of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality and the Minister of Health, Welfare, and Sport will implement a number of control measures. Herein is an unofficial summary/translation of the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality's announcement.

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY

General Information

In late April and early May, four Dutch fur farms were found to have mink that were positive for the coronavirus (COVID-19). For additional information, see NL2020-0016 - COVID-19 Found on Dutch Mink Farms.

Based on the results from the ongoing investigation, the Dutch government has determined that it is plausible that mink transmitted the virus to a farm employee.[1] The study also indicates mink may carry the disease without showing any disease symptoms. Based on these findings, Carola Schouten, the Minister of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, and Hugo de Jonge, the Minister of Health, Welfare and Sport, have instructed their respective Ministries to take a number of measures.[2]

As background, the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature, and Food Quality (MANFQ) notes the virus that causes COVID-19 mutates relatively quickly, but that these changes in the genetic code can be monitored. By comparing the genetic code of the virus of different animals and people with each other, a "family tree" can be created, and an image can be obtained of how people and animals have been infected in time and place. This type of research has also been done on infected mink and humans. Through this research the Dutch government has learned that one infected employee at an infected mink farm has been shown to have similarities with the virus found in mink on the same farm. Based on the comparison and the position of the virus in the family tree, it is concluded from this investigation that it is plausible that mink may have infected this employee.

To clarify this further, researchers are currently further mapping the 'genetic pedigree' of infected people from the environment of the infected mink farm in order to obtain the most complete picture possible. Despite this finding, the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) has reiterated that the risk of exposure to the virus outside of the mink house remains negligible.

Control Measures

Based on these new findings, the Cabinet is taking a number of measures in addition to those that have already been introduced. For additional information on previously introduced measures, see NL2020-0016 - COVID-19 Found on Dutch Mink Farms.

The screening of mink farms (for antibodies) is expanded to include all mink farms in the Netherlands (and will be mandatory). In the interest of the health of employees at the farms, MANFQ comments that it is important to get an overview of the situation for all mink farms. The Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (NVWA) will coordinate this screening.

If an infection is detected on a farm, the same measures will be applied as at other infected enterprises. There will also be a ban on visitors in the stables of the infected companies, and additional hygiene

[1] https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2020/05/19/nieuwe-onderzoeksresultaten-covid-19-bij-nertsenbedrijven
[2] By identifying COVID-19 in mink on mink farms as an infectious animal disease according to Article 15 of the Dutch Animal Health and Welfare Act, the government may require additional control measures for the industry.

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY

requirements imposed. Additionally, employees are advised to use protective equipment during their work.

Minister Schouten previously instituted a notification obligation for mink farmers, veterinarians, and persons from research institutions, but these reporting obligations have now been extended to include all symptoms that may indicate a COVID-19 infection in mink. To prevent the possible spread of the virus to other farms, the requirement that animals and manure not leave an infected farm will remain in place.

Farm Cats

MANFQ reports that current research indicates the virus on two of the infected mink farms is very similar. Because antibodies against the virus have been demonstrated in three out of eleven farm cats on one of the infected farms, MANFQ reports it is important to investigate the role farm cats may play in potential virus transmission between farms (which will include participation from the Netherlands Centre for One Health).[3] MANFQ advises that infected mink farms ensure that cats cannot enter or leave the premises.

Pets

MANFQ comments that COVID-19 was previously known to occur in pets, but the risk of people becoming infected by their pets remains small. The existing advice from RIVM on COVID-19 and the handling of animals remains unchanged: keep your animal indoors if there are people in the household with complaints that are pertinent for COVID-19 and/or if the animal is also sick.

Attachments:

May 19 Letter to House of Represenatives from Ministry of Agriulture, Nature and Food Quality (in Dutch).pdf

[3] MANFQ defines farm cats as cats that live in the yard and are not socialized.

From: Cossaboom, Caitlin (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP)
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS; dlx9@cdc.gov
Cc: One Health (CDC)
Subject: RE: ACTION: Need input by noon ET today
Date: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 10:19:10 AM

Received, thank you! I will share with Laura to start in CDC clearance.

Best,
Caitlin

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 12:14 PM
To: Barton Behravesh, Casey (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <dlx9@cdc.gov>; Cossaboom, Caitlin (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) <nrm9@cdc.gov>
Cc: One Health (CDC) <onehealth@cdc.gov>
Subject: FW: ACTION: Need input by noon ET today
Importance: High

Updated title.

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
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Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 8:31 AM
To: 'Garvey, Ann (CDC idph.iowa.gov)' <Ann.Garvey@idph.iowa.gov>; Baldwin - CDA, Maggie <maggie.baldwin@state.co.us>; david. smith (david.smith@agriculture.ny.gov) <david.smith@agriculture.ny.gov>; Porter-Spalding, Barbara A - APHIS <barbara.a.porter-spalding@usda.gov>; Loiacono, Christina M - APHIS <christina.m.loiacono@usda.gov>; 'Straily, Anne (CDC/DDPHSIS/CGH/DPDM)' <yzv2@cdc.gov>; lie0@cdc.gov; dlx9@cdc.gov
Subject: ACTION: Need input by noon ET today

With the latest information from the Netherlands that a human may have been infected from mink (see translated information below signature)

Please take a look at the document, in particular the Biosecurity section and let me know, by noon ET, if you have any edits to the final document or concerns with me sending mink guidance document forward for expedited clearance and posting.

(b) (5)(DPP) [redacted]

Thanks,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
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USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
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Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

New Covid-19 research results at mink farms
News item | 05/19/2020 | 23:14
https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2020/05/19/nieuwe-onderzoeksresultaten-covid-19-bij-nertsenbedrijven

Based on new research results from the ongoing investigation into Covid-19 contaminations on mink farms, it is likely that an infection of mink on humans has occurred. The relevant study also shows that minks can have Covid-19 without showing any disease symptoms. Based on these latest insights, Minister Schouten of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality and Minister De Jonge of Health, Welfare and Sport will take a number of measures.

Minister Schouten: "These new research results have a major impact on the owners, families and employees of mink companies as well as on local communities. I am therefore in close contact with all these parties involved. "

The virus that causes COVID-19 mutates relatively quickly. These changes in the genetic code can be monitored. By comparing the genetic codes of the virus of different animals and people with each other, a family tree can be created and an image can be obtained of how people and animals have been infected in time and place. This type of research has also been done on infected minks and humans. One of the employees has been shown to have similarities with the virus found from mink on the same farm. Based on the comparison and the position of the virus in the family tree, it is concluded from this investigation that it is plausible that one employee of an infected mink farm has been infected by mink.

To further clarify this, the researchers are currently further mapping the 'genetic family tree' of infected people from the environment of the infected mink farm in order to obtain the most complete picture possible.

RIVM has indicated that the risk of exposure of people to the virus outside the house is still negligible. RIVM previously carried out this risk assessment on the basis that the investigation showed that all air and dust samples outside the house did not contain any virus on repeated measurements.

Measures

Based on these new insights, the Cabinet is taking a number of measures in addition to those that have already been introduced. The screening of mink farms (for mink antibodies) is extended to all mink farms in the Netherlands and is mandatory. In the interest of the health of employees at mink farms, it is important to get an overview of the situation of all mink farms. The NVWA coordinates this screening.

If an infection is detected at a company, the same measures apply as at other infected companies and employees are advised to use protective equipment during their work. There is also a visitor ban in stables of the infected companies. Minister Schouten has previously instituted a notification obligation for mink farmers, veterinarians and persons from research institutions. This duty to report is extended. This means that all symptoms that may indicate a Covid-19 infection in mink must be reported to the NVWA. To prevent possible spread of the virus to other farms, the measure has previously been taken that the animals and manure must not leave an infected farm.

.Farm cats

Current research shows that viruses on two of the infected mink farms are very similar. There can be several reasons for this. Because antibodies against the virus have been demonstrated in three out of eleven farm cats on one of the infected farms, it is important to further investigate the role of farm

cats in potential virus transmission between farms. Farm cats are cats that live in the yard and are not socialized. In the course of this investigation, it is advised that infected mink farms ensure that cats cannot enter or leave the farm premises.

Pets

Covid-19 was previously known to occur in pets. The risk of people getting infected by their pets remains small. The existing advice from RIVM on COVID-19 and the handling of animals remains unchanged. The advice is: keep your animal indoors if there are people in the household with complaints that are appropriate for COVID-19 and the animal is also sick. If in doubt or serious complaints, always consult your vet.

For the full RIVM advice, pets and COVID-19, see https://www.rivm.nl/coronavirus-covid-19/huisdier.

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From: Miller, Lori P - APHIS
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Subject: RE: Carcass disposal
Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 1:35:31 PM
Attachments: Combined comments on - Final Draft Interim SARS-CoV-2 Guidance and Recommendations for Farmed Mink and Other Mustelids - 5-11-20_cc-do-mlb-lpm.docx

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Hi, Jane.

I've made some edits, attached, that I hope clarify the last section. Thanks!

Lori

Lori P. Miller, PE
Senior Staff Officer/Environmental Engineer

United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Veterinary Services
Strategy and Policy

4700 River Road, Unit 41, Room 5D-03.2
Riverdale, MD 20737

Phone: 301 851 3512
FAX: 301 734 7817
E-mail: lori.p.miller@usda.gov

<image002.jpg><https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAAPHIS/subscriber/topics?qsp=USDAAPHIS_1>Click here to subscribe to the VS Animal Health Stakeholder Registry<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAAPHIS/subscriber/topics?qsp=USDAAPHIS_1>

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 1:58 PM
To: Miller, Lori P - APHIS <lori.p.miller@usda.gov>
Subject: FW: Carcass disposal
Importance: High

Hi Lori,

Could you look at the comment Doris Olander made on the last page of the attached document related to information in our FAQ for mink producers and veterinarians on disposal (Nancy provided what had been developed for RHV)

and provide any edits that are needed?

Thanks in advance,

Jane

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Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 2:30 PM
To: Hannaway, Nancy L - APHIS <nancy.l.hannaway@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Carcass disposal

Hi Nancy,

Could you take a look at Doris' comment on disposal and let me know what you think. I am still waiting for other responses but have combined several received into this document – most for CDC follow up.

Thanks,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
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Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

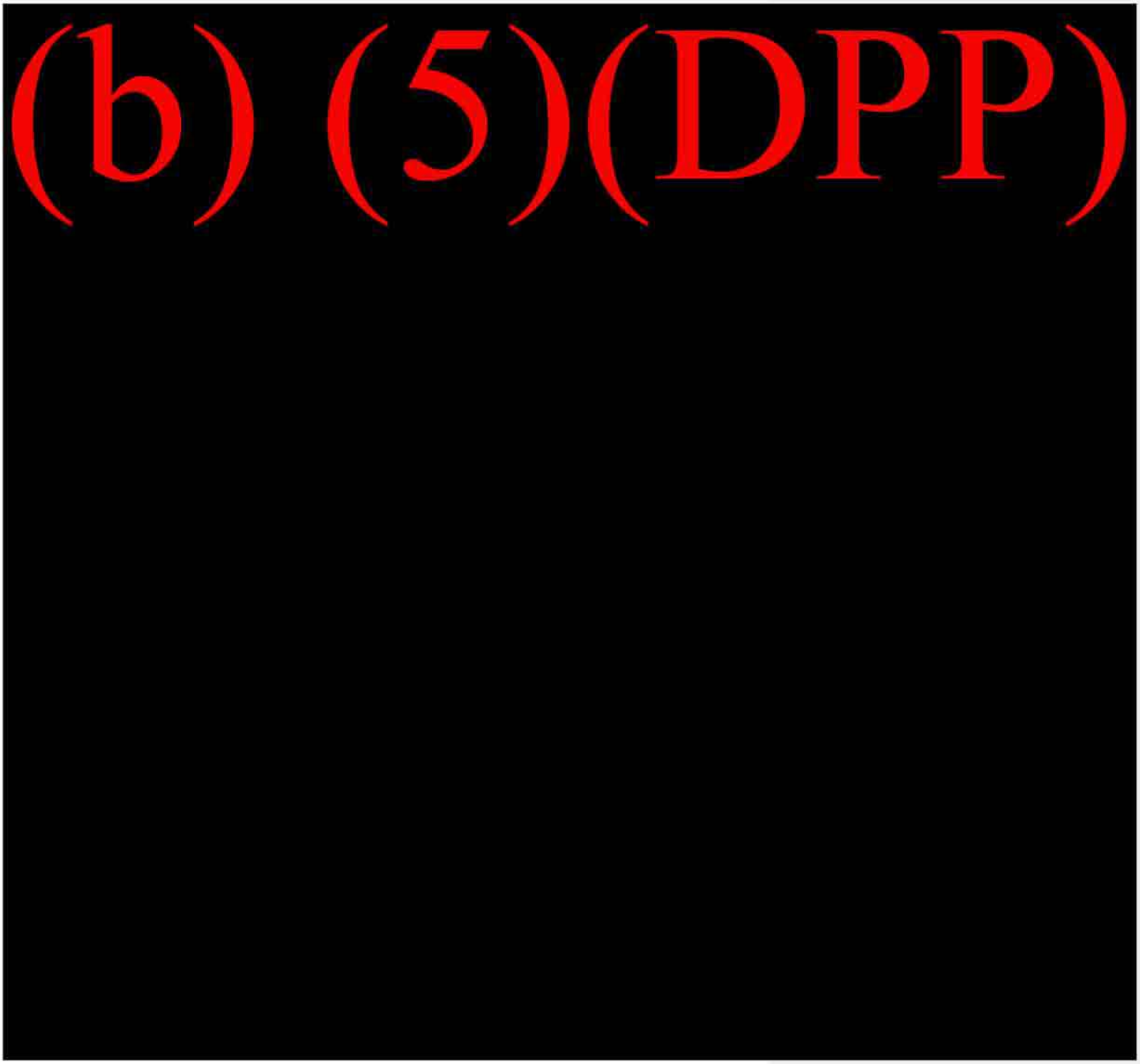
From: Hannaway, Nancy L - APHIS
Sent: Tuesday, May 5, 2020 1:57 PM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: Carcass disposal

Jane,

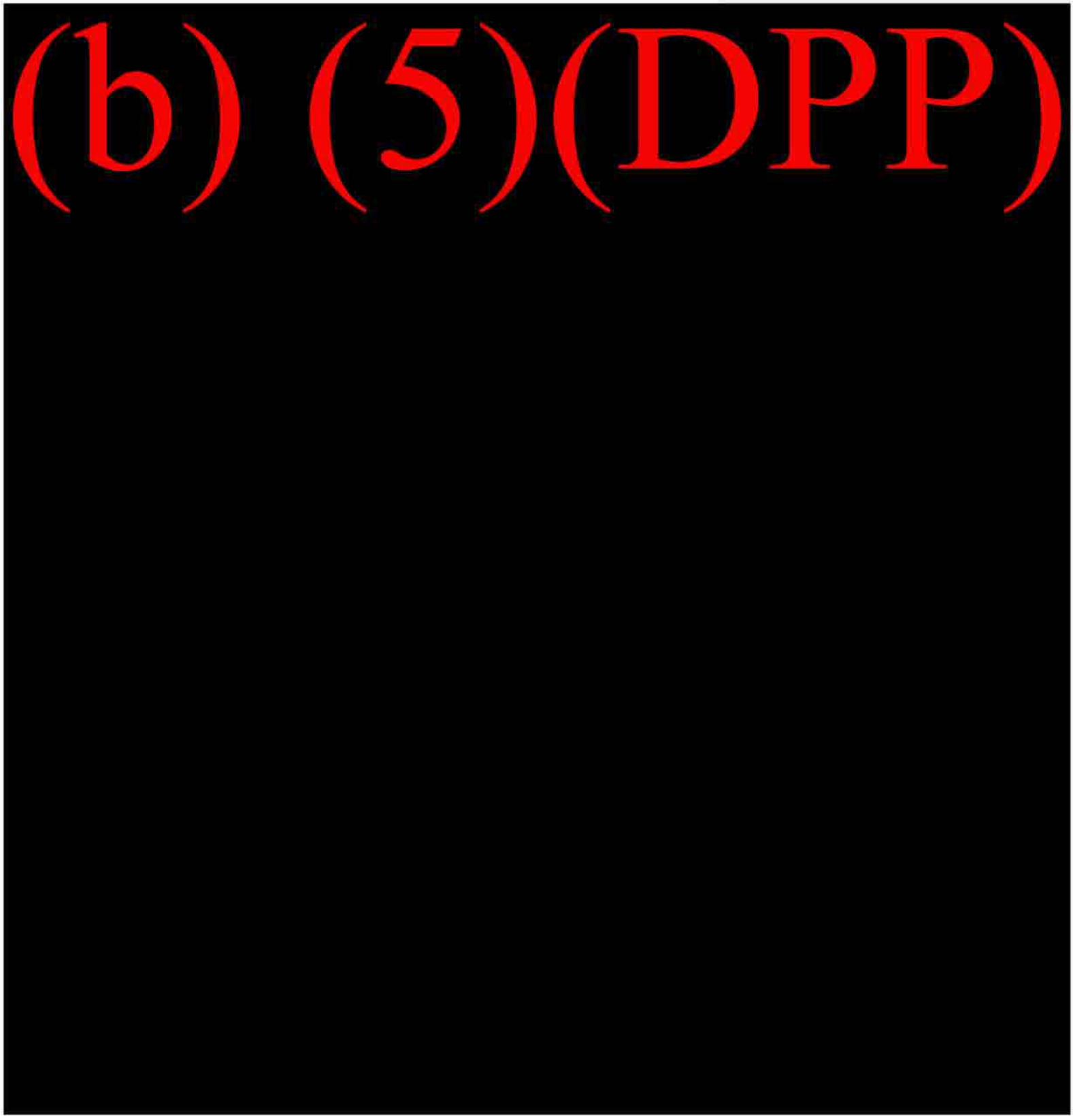
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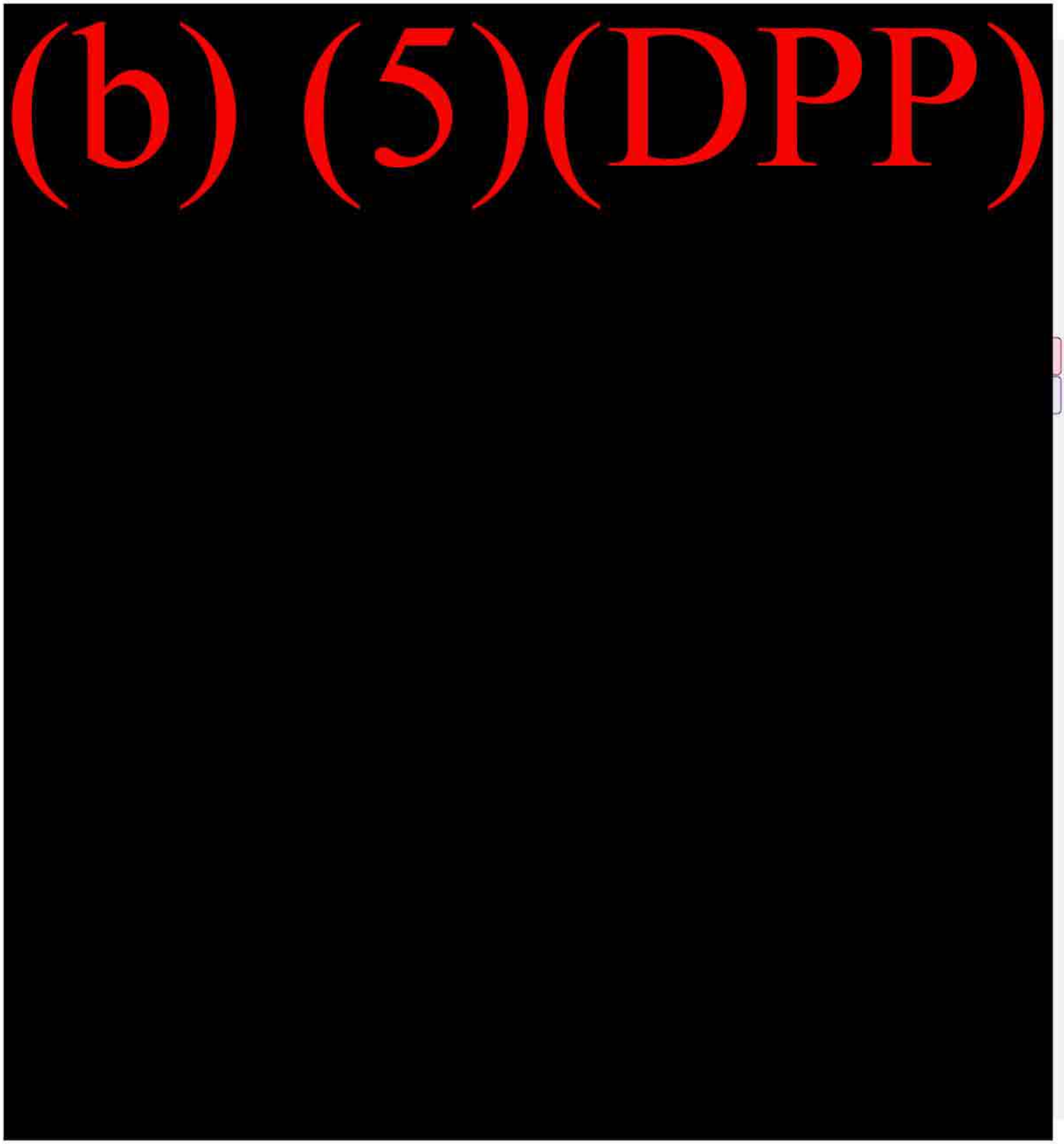


Nancy L. Hannaway D.V.M.
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Cell Phone: 970-217-6236
NEW: Nancy.L.Hannaway@usda.gov

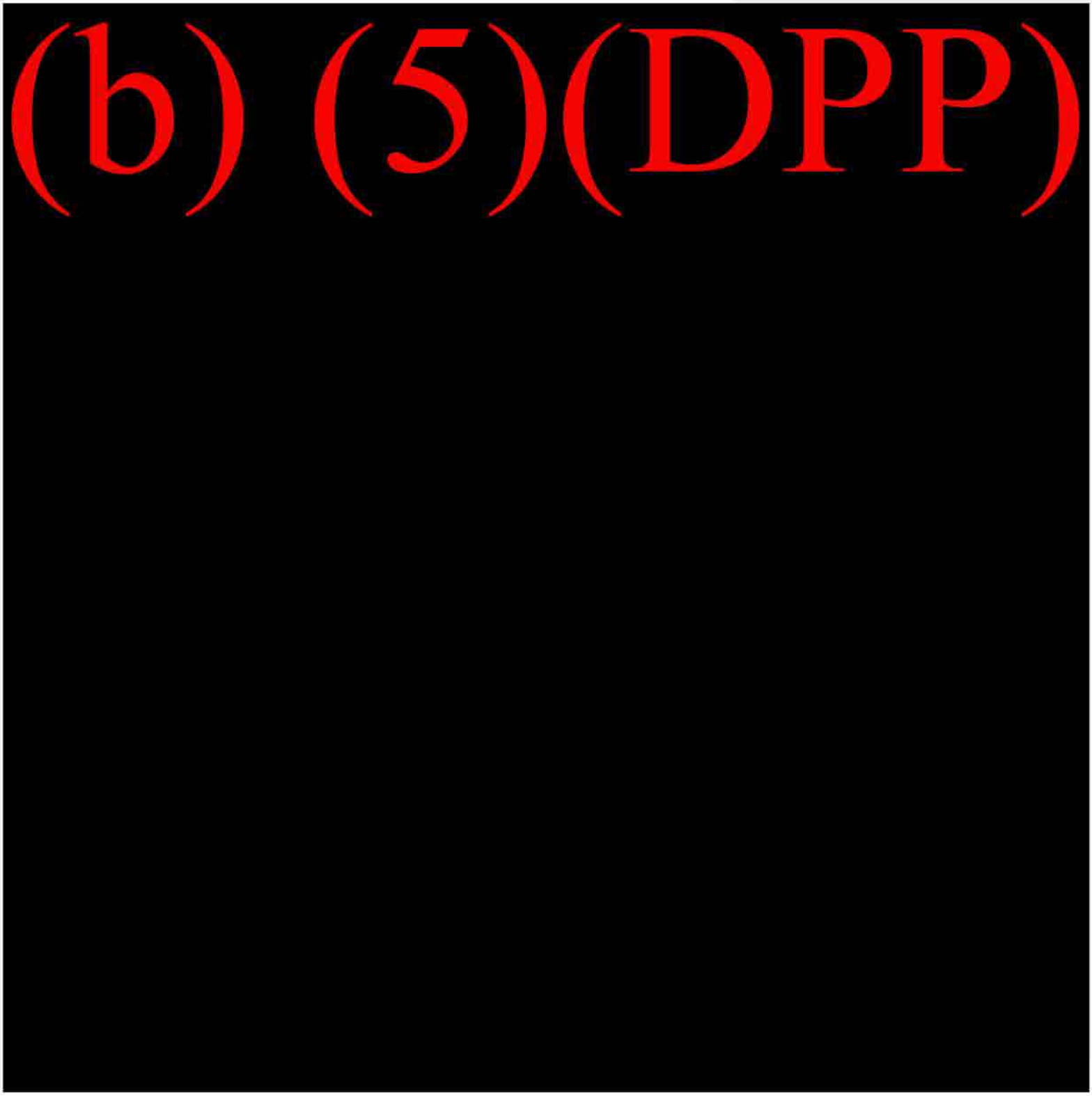

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From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: Baldwin - CDA, Maggie
Subject: RE: COVID-19 Livestock discussion group
Date: Thursday, May 14, 2020 7:26:00 AM

Hi Maggie,

I am trying to work on the best way to address your comment on the answer to the question:



Thanks as always for all your help.

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
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Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Baldwin - CDA, Maggie [mailto:maggie.baldwin@state.co.us]
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 12:22 PM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: Re: COVID-19 Livestock discussion group

Hi Jane,

Attached is the document with my comments. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Maggie

- -- - -- - -- - -- - -- - --
Maggie Baldwin, DVM
Assistant State Veterinarian
State Veterinarian's Office

P 303.869.9132 | C 720.668.2050 | F 303.466.8515
305 Interlocken Parkway, Broomfield, CO 80021
maggie.baldwin@state.co.us | www.colorado.gov/aganimals

Many CDA employees are working remotely at this time to help limit the spread of COVID-19. Thank you for your understanding and patience as we continue service while temporarily modifying business operations. For information about the COVID-19 virus, visit CDPHE and CDC.

On Fri, May 8, 2020 at 8:35 AM Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov> wrote:

> Updating with the guidance document developed for mink producers and other mustelids

(b) (5)(DPP)



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From: Barton Behravesh, Casey (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD)
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Subject: RE: COVID-19 Livestock working group draft documents for mink farm response
Date: Friday, May 29, 2020 10:47:28 AM

Ok ;)

Casey
CDC COVID-19 One Health Working Group Lead
Cell: (b) (6)

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2020 12:09 PM
To: Barton Behravesh, Casey (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <dlx9@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: COVID-19 Livestock working group draft documents for mink farm response

I did???(b) (5)(DPP)
[redacted]
.

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Barton Behravesh, Casey (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) [mailto:dlx9@cdc.gov]
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2020 10:03 AM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: COVID-19 Livestock working group draft documents for mink farm response

Yesterday you mentioned a foreign animal disease plan for mink….would this include the One Health aspects and human/worker safety piece? Can we collaborate on this?

Casey

CDC COVID-19 One Health Working Group Lead
Cell (b) (6)

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2020 11:39 AM
To: Barton Behravesh, Casey (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <dlx9@cdc.gov>; Carpenter, Ann (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <pzy4@cdc.gov>; Goryoka, Grace (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <lie0@cdc.gov>
Subject: FW: COVID-19 Livestock working group draft documents for mink farm response

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Smith, David (AGRICULTURE) [mailto:David.Smith@agriculture.ny.gov]
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2020 6:57 PM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>; Garvey, Ann (CDC idph.iowa.gov) <Ann.Garvey@idph.iowa.gov>
Cc: ann.garvey@idph.iowa.gov; maggie.baldwin@state.co.us; Porter-Spalding, Barbara A - APHIS <barbara.a.porter-spalding@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: COVID-19 Livestock working group draft documents for mink farm response

Dr. Darlene Konkle of the Wisconsin Dept. of Agric. Trade & Consumer Protection very kindly shared her state's AI response plan, (b) (5)(DPP)

[redacted]

David Smith, DVM
Director, Divison of Animal Industry
NYS Dept of Agriculture and Markets

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From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: Tomlinson, Sarah M - APHIS; Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS
Cc: Bowling-Heyward, Joyce W - APHIS; Neese, Donald R - APHIS
Subject: RE: FAQ mink/COVID-19
Date: Friday, May 22, 2020 1:25:00 PM

Much appreciated. (b) (5)(DPP) [redacted]

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Tomlinson, Sarah M - APHIS
Sent: Friday, May 22, 2020 1:21 PM
To: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>; Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Cc: Bowling-Heyward, Joyce W - APHIS <joyce.w.bowling-heyward@usda.gov>; Neese, Donald R - APHIS <Donald.Neese@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: FAQ mink/COVID-19

We asked VSDA about this today and requested/reminded we need ASAP clearance. So- hopefully we will see movement on this soon.

Sarah M. Tomlinson, DVM
Associate Deputy Administrator, Strategy and Policy
VS, APHIS, USDA
2150 Centre Ave, Bldg B.
Fort Collins, CO 80526

Office: 970.494.7152
Cell: 970.217.7433
Email: Sarah.M.Tomlinson@aphis.usda.gov

From: Neese, Donald R - APHIS
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2020 1:30 PM
To: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>; Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Cc: Tomlinson, Sarah M - APHIS <sarah.m.tomlinson@usda.gov>; Bowling-Heyward, Joyce W - APHIS <joyce.w.bowling-heyward@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: FAQ mink/COVID-19

Jerry,
Nothing yet. But we know that they have it (it was submitted to them yesterday via SharePoint and email, at approx. 3:30pm EST), and they know that we believe there is a sense of urgency behind it. With that said, sometimes VSDA will prioritize things differently than we do, based on their work load, political sensitivities etc.

I am copying Sarah & Joyce on this (and including the attachment and my email correspondence with VSDA), so it stays on their radar. They has a weekly meeting with the DA on Fridays, depending on how tight the agenda is, they may choose to bring this up in that meeting, which may prompt a faster return. Other than that, there is not much else we can do, but wait for it to return.

Thanks,
Don

Donald R. Neese, MPA
Chief of Staff
Strategy and Policy Unit (S&P)
USDA, APHIS, VS
(240) 234-0791
donald.neese@usda.gov

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From: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2020 3:09 PM
To: Neese, Donald R - APHIS <Donald.Neese@usda.gov>; Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>

Subject: FAQ mink/COVID-19

Hello Don,

How is it going? Have you anything from VSDA or LPA concerning the FAQ for mink/COVID-19?

Take care,

Jerry

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS
Subject: RE: Follow up (submitted 5/20/20): RUSH Clearance Requested on Mink document (COVID19 related)
Date: Thursday, May 28, 2020 12:44:00 PM

The sooner I can see what Burkes comments are the sooner we can send this back ☹

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2020 11:46 AM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Follow up (submitted 5/20/20): RUSH Clearance Requested on Mink document (COVID19 related)

Nothing is ever easy as it should be.

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2020 1:43 PM
To: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Follow up (submitted 5/20/20): RUSH Clearance Requested on Mink document (COVID19 related)

VERY BAD WORDS

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination

Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2020 11:35 AM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: FW: Follow up (submitted 5/20/20): RUSH Clearance Requested on Mink document (COVID19 related)

FYI – I am very interested to see what their edits are…

From: Neese, Donald R - APHIS
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2020 1:14 PM
To: Tomlinson, Sarah M - APHIS <sarah.m.tomlinson@usda.gov>; Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>
Subject: FW: Follow up (submitted 5/20/20): RUSH Clearance Requested on Mink document (COVID19 related)

Sarah / Jerry,
I followed up on this again today. It sounds like we will receive it back at some point today, with edits, and they will want to review it again, after the edits are made.

Thanks,
Don

Donald R. Neese, MPA
Chief of Staff
Strategy and Policy Unit (S&P)
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(240) 234-0791
donald.neese@usda.gov

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access to this information. Any disclosure, copying, distribution or taking any action in reliance on the contents of this information, except its delivery to the sender, is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful.

From: Duong, Nhu-Phuong - APHIS
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2020 1:10 PM
To: Neese, Donald R - APHIS <Donald.Neese@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Follow up (submitted 5/20/20): RUSH Clearance Requested on Mink document (COVID19 related)

I'll want to take a quick glance once it is revised. I also have to send to LPA to move so it'll help to have it routed up here so that we can make sure LPA moves on it to OA and OC.

Nhu-Phuong Duong
Management Analyst, USDA-APHIS-VS-ODA
1400 Independence Ave., SW, Whitten 318E
Washington D.C. 20250
w: 202-799-7143
m: 240-397-1508
phuongnhu.duong@usda.gov

From: Neese, Donald R - APHIS
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2020 1:08 PM
To: Duong, Nhu-Phuong - APHIS <phuongnhu.duong@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Follow up (submitted 5/20/20): RUSH Clearance Requested on Mink document (COVID19 related)

Ok thanks! Will you want to see the document again, before clearing, or will it be cleared after we make the required changes?

Thanks,
Don

Donald R. Neese, MPA
Chief of Staff
Strategy and Policy Unit (S&P)
USDA, APHIS, VS
(240) 234-0791
donald.neese@usda.gov

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access to this information. Any disclosure, copying, distribution or taking any action in reliance on the contents of this information, except its delivery to the sender, is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful.

From: Duong, Nhu-Phuong - APHIS
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2020 1:06 PM
To: Neese, Donald R - APHIS <Donald.Neese@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Follow up (submitted 5/20/20): RUSH Clearance Requested on Mink document (COVID19 related)

(b) (5)(DPP)

Nhu-Phuong Duong
Management Analyst, USDA-APHIS-VS-ODA
1400 Independence Ave., SW, Whitten 318E
Washington D.C. 20250
w: 202-799-7143
m: 240-397-1508
phuongnhu.duong@usda.gov

From: Neese, Donald R - APHIS
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2020 1:00 PM
To: Duong, Nhu-Phuong - APHIS <phuongnhu.duong@usda.gov>
Subject: Follow up (submitted 5/20/20): RUSH Clearance Requested on Mink document (COVID19 related)

Hi Nhu,
Just wanted to check in on the status of this, and see if there has been any movement?

Thanks,
Don

Donald R. Neese, MPA
Chief of Staff
Strategy and Policy Unit (S&P)
USDA, APHIS, VS
(240) 234-0791
donald.neese@usda.gov

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access to this information. Any disclosure, copying, distribution or taking any action in reliance on the contents of this information, except its delivery to the sender, is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful.

From: Neese, Donald R - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 4:26 PM
To: Duong, Nhu-Phuong - APHIS <phuongnhu.duong@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: RUSH Clearance Requested: Mink document (COVID19 related)

Thank you!

Don

Donald R. Neese, MPA
Chief of Staff
Strategy and Policy Unit (S&P)
USDA, APHIS, VS
(240) 234-0791
donald.neese@usda.gov

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From: Duong, Nhu-Phuong - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 4:14 PM
To: Neese, Donald R - APHIS <Donald.Neese@usda.gov>
Cc: Levesque, Ashley - APHIS <ashley.levesque@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: RUSH Clearance Requested: Mink document (COVID19 related)

Thank you so much, Don. We will start the review on this one and try to move it rather quickly.

Nhu-Phuong Duong
Management Analyst, USDA-APHIS-VS-ODA
1400 Independence Ave., SW, Whitten 318E
Washington D.C. 20250
w: 202-799-7143
m: 240-397-1508
phuongnhu.duong@usda.gov

From: Neese, Donald R - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 3:28 PM
To: Duong, Nhu-Phuong - APHIS <phuongnhu.duong@usda.gov>
Cc: Levesque, Ashley - APHIS <ashley.levesque@usda.gov>
Subject: RUSH Clearance Requested: Mink document (COVID19 related)
Importance: High

Nhu,
I just sent a unit request on the attached. But wanted to send in email also. Apologies for the double send, but we are trying to get it through quick, so it can get out, due to the political sensitivity.

Amplifying Information:
1. The purpose of the submission is for VSDA clearance, because the Department requested to review all COVID-19 documents.
2. The intent is to have this document released electronically to stakeholders and have it published on our website.
3. Request this document cleared by VSDA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE because there is a lot of press around minks and the possibility of them transmitting COVID-19 to people.

Thanks,
Don

Donald R. Neese, MPA
Chief of Staff
Strategy and Policy Unit (S&P)
USDA, APHIS, VS
(240) 234-0791
donald.neese@usda.gov

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From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: john easley
Subject: RE: Mink Farm Discussion
Date: Saturday, May 30, 2020 10:42:00 AM

Hi John,

That is excellent news. Thank you. I will send an invitation will call in number shortly.

Best,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: john easley [mailto:[redacted]@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2020 8:06 PM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: Re: Mink Farm Discussion

Hello Jane,

I would be glad to help out on your call. At this point, June 5th is open for me.

John

John Easley DVM
Director of Research,
Farm Services Veterinarian
Fur Commission USA
+1 920 980 9660
[redacted]@hotmail.com

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2020 5:09 PM
To: [redacted]@hotmail.com; [redacted]@hotmail.com>
Cc: KEITH P POULSEN <keith.poulsen@wisc.edu>
Subject: RE: Mink Farm Discussion

Dear Dr. Easley,

As you are aware, through your discussion with Dr. Poulsen, the USDA is working with one health partners to develop SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 animal and public health guidance (in Department clearance process) to share with farmed mink/mustelid stakeholders. The cross sector government livestock working group, that I lead, is also working to develop a sector specific response plan for SARS-CoV-2. We have a weekly call on Fridays at 11am ET (10am CT, 9am MT) and were hoping to invite a subject matter expert from Fur Commission USA to one of our calls – potentially as soon as next Friday June 5 - to provide an overview of the US mink industry, production processes and other relevant information, to better informed us as we develop the response plan.

Please let me know if you, or another colleague, might be interested and available to speak with the working group and I will work to find the best date.

Thanks in advance for your consideration of this request.

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: KEITH P POULSEN [mailto:keith.poulsen@wisc.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 7:36 AM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Cc: dlx9@cdc.gov; Olander, Doris - APHIS <doris.olander@usda.gov>; Klos, Rachel F - DHS <Rachel.Klos@dhs.wisconsin.gov>; darlene.konkle@wisconsin.gov; elisabeth.patton@wisconsin.gov; Yvonne.Bellay@wisconsin.gov; Gibbons-Burgener, Suzanne N - DHS <Suzanne.GibbonsBurgener@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Mink Farm Discussion

Here is from John Easley this morning.
Keith

Hi Keith,

Thank you for contacting us with your Mink Farm Discussion proposal. It very complete and should be quite useful to the mink farm community. I have been in contact with the veterinarians that are directly involved in the infected farms. There are now 5 farms in the Netherlands, all in the same basic area, that have test positive mink. Each farm has had at least one test positive individual that worked one farm within the past 6 to 8 weeks. I have attached some information that was published Dutch.

We, the Fur Commission USA, can assist in the distributing your information, if needed.

https://www.wur.nl/en/Research-Results/Research-Institutes/Bioveterinary-Research/show-bvr/Questions-and-

answers-regarding-infection-with-COVID-19-in-mink.htm



[Questions and answers regarding infection with COVID-19 in mink - WUR]

On 26 April, it emerged that mink on two mink farms in the province of Brabant had contracted the disease COVID-19. Wageningen Bioveterinary Research (WBVR) tested the animals and found that they were positive for coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2). Other animals, such as cats, may also be susceptible to this virus.
www.wur.nl

Best Regards,

John

John Easley DVM

Director of Research,
Farm Services Veterinarian
Fur Commission USA
+1 920 980 9660
(b) (6) @hotmail.com

Keith Poulsen, DVM PhD, DACVIM
Clinical Associate Professor, Large Animal Internal Medicine
Director, Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

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From: "Rooney, Jane A - APHIS" <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Date: Monday, May 11, 2020 at 11:30 AM
To: KEITH P POULSEN <keith.poulsen@wisc.edu>
Cc: "dlx9@cdc.gov" <dlx9@cdc.gov>, "Olander, Doris - APHIS" <doris.olander@usda.gov>, "Klos, Rachel F - DHS" <Rachel.Klos@dhs.wisconsin.gov>, "darlene.konkle@wisconsin.gov" <darlene.konkle@wisconsin.gov>, "elisabeth.patton@wisconsin.gov" <elisabeth.patton@wisconsin.gov>, "Yvonne.Bellay@wisconsin.gov" <Yvonne.Bellay@wisconsin.gov>, "Gibbons-Burgener, Suzanne N - DHS" <Suzanne.GibbonsBurgener@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Mink Farm Discussion

Hi Keith,

(b) (5)(DPP)

Thanks,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: KEITH P POULSEN [mailto:keith.poulsen@wisc.edu]
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 7:34 AM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Cc: dlx9@cdc.gov; Olander, Doris - APHIS <doris.olander@usda.gov>; Klos, Rachel F - DHS <Rachel.Klos@dhs.wisconsin.gov>; darlene konkle@wisconsin.gov; elisabeth.patton@wisconsin.gov; Yvonne.Bellay@wisconsin.gov; Gibbons-Burgener, Suzanne N - DHS <Suzanne.GibbonsBurgener@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Mink Farm Discussion

Morning,

(b) (5)(DPP)



Keith Poulsen, DVM PhD, DACVIM
Clinical Associate Professor, Large Animal Internal Medicine
Director, Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

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From: "Rooney, Jane A - APHIS" <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Date: Friday, May 8, 2020 at 4:35 PM
To: KEITH P POULSEN <keith.poulsen@wisc.edu>
Cc: "dlx9@cdc.gov" <dlx9@cdc.gov>, "Olander, Doris - APHIS" <doris.olander@usda.gov>, "Klos, Rachel F - DHS" <Rachel.Klos@dhs.wisconsin.gov>, "darlene.konkle@wisconsin.gov" <darlene.konkle@wisconsin.gov>, "elisabeth.patton@wisconsin.gov" <elisabeth.patton@wisconsin.gov>, "Yvonne.Bellay@wisconsin.gov" <Yvonne.Bellay@wisconsin.gov>, "Gibbons-Burgener, Suzanne N - DHS" <Suzanne.GibbonsBurgener@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Mink Farm Discussion

Hi Keith,

I think that could be quite helpful, especially for practicality of the guidance and a technical terminology check. Do you think you would be able to get that done by early next week?

Thanks,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: KEITH P POULSEN [mailto:keith.poulsen@wisc.edu]
Sent: Friday, May 8, 2020 3:21 PM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>; Klos, Rachel F - DHS <Rachel.Klos@dhs.wisconsin.gov>; darlene.konkle@wisconsin.gov; elisabeth.patton@wisconsin.gov; Yvonne.Bellay@wisconsin.gov; Gibbons-Burgener, Suzanne N - DHS <Suzanne.GibbonsBurgener@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Cc: dlx9@cdc.gov; Olander, Doris - APHIS <doris.olander@usda.gov>
Subject: Re: Mink Farm Discussion

Is it ok to get an opinion from mink veterinarians in the field? For WI, I think that would be “both of them.” Tom

and Hugh.
Keith

Keith Poulsen, DVM PhD, DACVIM
Clinical Associate Professor, Large Animal Internal Medicine
Director, Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

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From: "Rooney, Jane A - APHIS" <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Date: Friday, May 8, 2020 at 12:45 PM
To: "Klos, Rachel F - DHS" <Rachel.Klos@dhs.wisconsin.gov>, "darlene konkle@wisconsin.gov" <darlene konkle@wisconsin.gov>, "elisabeth.patton@wisconsin.gov" <elisabeth.patton@wisconsin.gov>, "Yvonne.Bellay@wisconsin.gov" <Yvonne.Bellay@wisconsin.gov>, "Gibbons-Burgener, Suzanne N - DHS" <Suzanne.GibbonsBurgener@dhs.wisconsin.gov>, KEITH P POULSEN <keith.poulsen@wisc.edu>
Cc: "dlx9@cdc.gov" <dlx9@cdc.gov>, "Olander, Doris - APHIS" <doris.olander@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Mink Farm Discussion

In response to the discussion we had on mink industry guidance for SARS-CoV-2; APHIS and CDC put together the attached draft guidance and are asking for your review to ensure that it covers all aspects necessary, if there is anything missing or other comments/edits needed from the state perspective.

Your responses would be appreciate by COB Monday May 11.
Best,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
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-----Original Appointment-----
From: Klos, Rachel F - DHS [mailto:Rachel.Klos@dhs.wisconsin.gov]
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 5:34 PM
To: Klos, Rachel F - DHS; darlene konkle@wisconsin.gov; elisabeth.patton@wisconsin.gov; Yvonne.Bellay@wisconsin.gov; Gibbons-Burgener, Suzanne N - DHS; dlx9@cdc.gov; Olander, Doris - APHIS; Rooney, Jane A - APHIS; KEITH P POULSEN
Subject: Mink Farm Discussion
When: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 1:00 PM-2:00 PM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada).

Where: https://dhswi.zoom.us/j/95100167159

Hello,
Given the recent information about the mink farm outbreak in the Netherlands and the fact that we have a large mink industry in Wisconsin, we thought it would be a good time to have some discussions about guidance for this industry and think about the public health/animal health response if we had illnesses in employees of a mink farm.

Doris Olander with USDA provided the links below and additional information, so I'm sharing with the group for some background

- Promotional video on mink farming: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WwPsStvktks .

- The video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0V-rrRgbqrc is longer but gives a broader look at the industry all the way to product.

- The mink industry is globally close knit and there is sales of breeding mink from WI overseas. The industry makes good use of veterinarians so the global industry is already aware of this.

If you are available, please join the zoom call

Date: Tue 4/28/20
Time: 1:00 central / 2:00 eastern

Join Zoom Meeting
(b) (5)(DPP)

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(US East)

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From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: Wainwright, Sherrilyn H - APHIS
Cc: Rigney, Columb P - APHIS
Subject: RE: Netherlands and inquiry regarding the Mink farm and SARS-CoV-2 virus detections
Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2020 6:07:00 AM

Thanks, much appreciated. (b) (5)(DPP) [redacted]

Again, thanks for your help,

Jane

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Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Wainwright, Sherrilyn H - APHIS
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 10:04 PM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Cc: Rigney, Columb P - APHIS <columb.p.rigney@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Netherlands and inquiry regarding the Mink farm and SARS-CoV-2 virus detections

Dear Jane,

I searched on the Wageningen University and Research (WUR) of the Netherlands' website and found two official links which cover just a bit more than the GAINS report.

And I have also added a translated media article from the Netherlands media.

Sherri

1) COVID-19 detected on four mink farms (WUR NL, 5/15/2020)
https://www.wur.nl/en/Research-Results/Research-Institutes/Bioveterinary-Research/show-bvr/COVID-19-detected-on-two-mink-farms.htm

Reporting obligation for mink

Minister Schouten of the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality (LNV) has immediately announced measures. As of 26 April, a reporting obligation has been installed for mink farmers, veterinarians and persons in research institutions. Cases of respiratory problems and increased mortality in mink, must be reported to the Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (NVWA). To prevent possible spread of the virus to other farms, both animals and manure may not transported from infected farms. Since other animals in livestock farming do not appear to be susceptible to the virus, a notification requirement is now only imposed for mink.

…

No virus found in outside air samples

The first results show that no virus was found in the air samples outside the farms. However, virus has been found in the immediate vicinity of mink on dust particles within the farms. It is not unknown if people can become infected with COVID-19 through these dust particles.

Precautionary measures in the area withdrawn

In the second sampling series, the virus was no longer found in dust particles in the air inside or outside the farms. The previous advice not to walk or cycle in a 400 meter radius around an infected mink farm has therefore been withdrawn.

…

WBVR tested the animals

Wageningen Bioveterinary Research (WBVR) has performed confirmation tests on samples from the mink. In addition, further research is being started in collaboration with GD Animal Health, Utrecht University (UU) and Erasmus MC."

==========

2) Questions and answers regarding infection with COVID-19 in mink

(Wageningen University & Research, May 8, 2020)
https://www.wur.nl/en/Research-Results/Research-Institutes/Bioveterinary-Research/show-bvr/Questions-and-answers-regarding-infection-with-COVID-19-in-mink.htm

"…

What are the consequences for mink farms?

Mink farmers are now obliged to report symptoms of COVID-19 (respiratory problems and increased mortality) to the national animal disease reporting centre of the Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (NVWA).

The Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality has also decided that mink are no longer allowed to be transported. The manure from these farms may no longer be removed either. The risks presented by the manure seem small but will be investigated further.

Additional protection recommendations have been drawn up for mink farms where contamination

with SARS-CoV-2 has been established.

3) **Coronavirus was seen in mink fur, farms were quarantined (Turksomroep Netherlands, 4/29/2020)** https://www.turksomroep.nl/coronavirus-werd-gezien-in-bont-voor-nertsen-boerderijen-werden-in-quarantaine-geplaatst/

In the Netherlands, two mink farms were quarantined after the coronavirus was discovered in the animals. About 20,000 minks are bred for their fur on both farms. Coronavirus was found in five minks at two large farms. The danger to humans seems small, but it is being investigated...This weekend it became known that infected animals were found at two mink farms in North Brabant (Noord-Brabant). It concerns a company in Milheeze with 13,000 mink and a company with 7,500 mink in Bee ken Donk. With a genetic test, the coronavirus in Milheeze was detected in three minks, in Beek en Donk, in five. On both farms, there were animals with breathing difficulties and intestinal problems. Mortality was also higher than normal. The contamination came to light after veterinarians found that some animal caregivers had health complaints that closely resembled corona symptoms. These people have not been tested, but they probably infected the mink without knowing it.

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 11:09 AM
To: Wainwright, Sherrilyn H - APHIS <sherrilyn.h.wainwright@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Netherlands and inquiry regarding the Mink farm and SARS-CoV-2 virus detections

Thanks a bunch.

Jane

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From: Wainwright, Sherrilyn H - APHIS

Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 11:08 AM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Netherlands and inquiry regarding the Mink farm and SARS-CoV-2 virus detections

I will try.

Sherri

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 10:59 AM
To: Wainwright, Sherrilyn H - APHIS <sherrilyn.h.wainwright@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Netherlands and inquiry regarding the Mink farm and SARS-CoV-2 virus detections

Can we get any more specific information on the response measures implemented with regard to the mink themselves e.g., quarantine measures (and if so how it will be released), testing, any depopulation measure (I don't think so but would be good to know)?

Jane

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From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 10:54 AM
To: Wainwright, Sherrilyn H - APHIS <sherrilyn.h.wainwright@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Netherlands and inquiry regarding the Mink farm and SARS-CoV-2 virus detections

Hi Sherri,

I had asked Gary and Ed last week how to get information from the Netherlands…so this is much appreciated.

Jane

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From: Wainwright, Sherrilyn H - APHIS
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 10:42 AM
To: APHIS-COVID-19 Working Group <COVID.19.Working.Group@usda.gov>; APHIS-VS DA Executive Team <APHIS-VSExecutiveTeam@usda.gov>; APHIS-VS FiOps Directors and VICs <VS.FiOps.Directors.and.AVICs@usda.gov>
Cc: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>; Torchetti, Mia Kim - APHIS <mia.kim.torchetti@usda.gov>
Subject: Netherlands and inquiry regarding the Mink farm and SARS-CoV-2 virus detections

Greetings,

Please find the USDA Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS) report from The Hague on the Dutch government's messaging on COVID-19 and mink in the Netherlands [link below], shared through our USDA APHIS International Services colleagues.

Sherri

USDA FAS Global Agricultural Information Network (GAIN) Voluntary Report – May 18, 2020
Report Name: COVID-19 Found on Dutch Mink Farms
https://apps.fas.usda.gov/newgainapi/api/Report/DownloadReportByFileName?fileName=COVID-19%20Found%20on%20Dutch%20Mink%20Farms_The%20Hague_Netherlands_05-17-2020

Report Highlights: Four fur farms in the Netherlands detected coronavirus (COVID-19) in mink, as well as in some cats residing at these farms. The mink showed various symptoms, including respiratory and gastrointestinal problems.

Additional studies in progress:
"The RIVM reiterated that human-to-human transmission is the main driver for the spread of COVID-19. However, the Netherlands' National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (known by its Dutch acronym of RIVM) is investigating if: (1) mink can be a transmitter while not having COVID-19 symptoms, (2) if the virus can spread by dust particles (over a long distance) or (3) via manure, and (4) if there is transmission possible between mink and cats. These results are expected by the end of May."

"Two Dutch mink farms, located in Gemert-Bakel/Milheeze (home to 13,000 mink) and Laarbeek (home to 7,500 mink) in North Brabant province, detected coronavirus (COVID-19) in mink in late April.…some employees had COVID-19 symptoms at both farms, it is currently assumed that people

infected the animals. The initial testing results indicated that no virus was found in the air samples outside the mink house, but the virus was found in dust particle samples taken in the immediate vicinity of mink in the house… Specifically, the Netherlands Food and Consumer Products Safety Authority (known by its Dutch acronym of NVWA) must be informed if respiratory problems or increased mortality are identified in mink. Moreover, in an effort to prevent the possible spread of the virus to other farms, neither animals nor their manure may leave an infected farm… In early May, two additional mink farms, located in Deuren (home to 1,500 mink) and De Mortel (home to 10,000 mink) in North Brabant province, were found to have COVID-19 infections. In response, the same mitigation protocols were implemented1 and investigations were initiated.2 The Ministry reported that human-to-animal transmission does not seem to have been the only cause of the virus at these farms– noting the virus characteristics indicate transmission between mink as well.3 Accordingly, nearby mink farms have begun the process of screening animals through blood tests to see if any additional animals in the region have been infected."

"NOTE: Since 2013, there has been a ban on opening new mink farms or expanding existing operations (in Dutch) in the Netherlands, and mink farming will be completely phased-out as of January 1, 2024."

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: Wainwright, Sherrilyn H - APHIS
Subject: RE: Possible Second Instance of COVID-19 Transmission Mink To Human on Mink Farm in the Netherlands
Date: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 9:23:00 AM

Yes – thanks….CDC has been sending out the information as it comes in.

Jane

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From: Wainwright, Sherrilyn H - APHIS
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 9:21 AM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Cc: APHIS-COVID-19 Working Group <COVID.19.Working.Group@usda.gov>; Torchetti, Mia Kim - APHIS <mia.kim.torchetti@usda.gov>
Subject: Possible Second Instance of COVID-19 Transmission Mink To Human on Mink Farm in the Netherlands

Dear Jane,

You have likely seen this article. Sharing, just in case, as well as with our WG, shared at our NBIC morning briefing. I brought to their attention that it will be key to watch as more details emerge to see if the transmission was more likely mink to human or human to human or human to mink.

Here is the link to the new (second) possible transmission of COVID-19 from a mink to a human on a mink farm in the Netherlands.

Mink infected two humans with coronavirus: Dutch government. Reuters, 5/25/2020.
https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-netherlands-mink/mink-infected-two-humans-with-coronavirus-dutch-government-idUSKBN23112K

Best wishes,

Sherri

From: [redacted]
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: [redacted]
Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 10:39 AM

Link to more information (provided to us by the US mink industry reps we are working with).

https://www.wur.nl/en/Research-Results/Research-Institutes/Bioveterinary-Research/Knowledge/Questions-and-answers-regarding-infection-with-COVID-19-in-mink.htm



Questions and answers regarding infection with COVID-19 in mink - WUR

On 26 April, it emerged that mink on two mink farms in the province of Brabant had contracted the disease COVID-19. Wageningen Bioveterinary Research (WBVR) tested the animals and found that they were positive for coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2). Other animals such as cats may also be susceptible to this virus.

www.wur.nl

[redacted]

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From: Porter-Spalding, Barbara A - APHIS
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 7:33 AM
To: Korslund, John A - APHIS <john.a.korslund@usda.gov>
Cc: Styles, Darrel E - APHIS <darrel.k.styles@usda.gov>; Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: FW: PRO/AH/EDR> COVID-19 update (174): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink, comment

WI 2019 data

Mink Females Bred and Pelts Produced – Wisconsin and United States: 2015-2019

Year	Females Bred		Pelts Produced	
	WI	US	WI	US
2015	320,000	795,500	1,520,000	3,800,000
2016	304,000	747,100	1,520,000	3,800,000
2017	288,800	713,600	1,520,000	3,800,000
2018	289,000	715,000	1,530,000	3,750,000
2019	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

This is outdated but the only information I could find on a national scale:

Mink, Pelts Produced by Color Class and Number of Farms, United States, 2008 Season and Previous 5 Years

State	Black	Demi-Buff	Pastel	Sapphire	Blue Iris	Multicolor	
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	
WI	64,200			37,000	22,000	15,200	
IL	62,300						
IA	60,500			12,200	8,500	13,400	
MI							
MN	83,700	46,000	1,200	4,500	10,000	11,000	
OR	56,200			10,200	10,000	16,000	
UT	51,400			23,000	12,100		
PA	41,000			11,000	14,200		
OH							
CO	34,000			9,000	10,000	12,000	
NE	47,000	12,000			15,000		
KS	44,000	11,000	10,200	11,000	14,000	17,000	
MB (a)	12,400	10,000	10,000	9,400	12,000	14,700	
US	580,200	80,000	12,100	142,200	141,800	194,200	

State	Total	Equivalent	Values	Whites	Silver & Champagne	Total Pastel	Number of Farms
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)
WI						229,900	79
IL						72,200	7
IA						111,000	18
MI						57,000	3
MN						219,000	41
OR						97,200	4
UT						218,200	13
PA						75,600	9
OH						76,700	4
CO		6,000				179,000	44
KS						170,000	13
NE				22,000		89,200	10
MB (a)	68,000	2,000	11,000	20,000	8,000	90,000	10
US	68,000	8,000	11,000	72,200	8,700	2,007,200	331

[illegible]

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 UPDATE (174): NETHERLANDS (NORTH BRABANT) ANIMAL, FARMED MINK, COMMENT
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A ProMED-mail post
<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.promedmail.org%2F&data=02%7C01%7C%7C768fd0e4e9b24cd8bd6108d7f6783f7e%7Ced5b...&sdata=...&reserved=0>
ProMED-mail is a program of the
International Society for Infectious Diseases <https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.isid.org%2F&data=02%7C01%7C%7C768fd0e4e9b24cd8bd6108d7f6783f7e%7Ced5b...&sdata=...&reserved=0>

Date: Sat 9 May 2020
From: Soren Alexandersen <soren.alexandersen@deakin.edu.au> [edited]

Re: COVID-19 update (169): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink, spread, rabbit susp, https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200509.7316646&data=02%7C01%7C%7C768fd0e4e9b24cd8bd6108d7f6783f7e%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637248686825829611&sdata=...&reserved=0

This is indeed a very worrying development with now 4 large mink farms affected in the Netherlands. It would in my opinion be very surprising if other mink farms in large mink producing countries, such as northern Europe, North America and China, are not also affected.
People should be informed that mink are kept at large farms and that transmission of such infections takes place very efficiently from cage to cage. Furthermore, the ProMED mail post mentions that the infection mainly affects/causes disease in pregnant mink; however, it deserves explaining that minks breed only once a year, young mink kits being born in late Apr/early May, i.e. right around now. Consequently, commercial mink farms will have a very large number of mink on their farms as each female will now have around 5 mink kits.

Also, considering that the mink was likely initially infected by people, followed, likely, by significant mink to mink spread, one would believe that the risk of transmitting back to people would be high.

Finally, no details are given about the air sampling performed outside the farms; without details, it is not possible to assess the risk of airborne spread at any distance. Nevertheless, having worked with mink on other infections, I find this to be very troubling information and potentially serious risk.

--
Soren Alexandersen
Director, Geelong Centre for Emerging Infectious Diseases (GCE ID), Faculty of Health, School of Medicine, Deakin University, Australia <soren.alexandersen@deakin.edu.au>

[Thanks to Dr. Alexandersen for his insightful comment. As mentioned by Mod.AS in his comment in ProMED post https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200509.7316646&data=02%7C01%7C%7C768fd0e4e9b24cd8bd6108d7f6783f7e%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637248686825829611&sdata=...&reserved=0, China leads the world production of mink. Interestingly, mink is one of the many mammal species sold in the wet market of Wuhan, where the pandemic is assumed to have begun.

Regarding the comment on the susceptibility of pregnant minks, the seasonality pointed out by Dr. Alexandersen is highly relevant. As the days get longer in the 1st half of March in the Northern Hemisphere, it is breeding season for the mink. High densities of a species that has proven to be permissive to SARS-CoV-2 replication are indeed a serious risk scenario. - Mod.PMB

HealthMap/ProMED map available at:
North Brabant, Netherlands: <https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fhealthmap.org%2Fpromed%2Fp%2F1250&data=02%7C01%7C%7C768fd0e4e9b24cd8bd6108d7f6783f7e%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637248686825829611&sdata=...&reserved=0>]

[See Also:
COVID-19 update (169): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink, spread, rabbit susp, https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200509.7316646&data=02%7C01%7C%7C768fd0e4e9b24cd8bd6108d7f6783f7e%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637248686825829611&sdata=...&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (154): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink, research
https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200503.7294846&data=02%7C01%7C%7C768fd0e4e9b24cd8bd6108d7f6783f7e%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637248686825829611&sdata=...&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (146): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink, epidemiology https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200501.7286113&data=02%7C01%7C%7C768fd0e4e9b24cd8bd6108d7f6783f7e%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637248686825829611&sdata=...&reserved=0
COVID-19 update (135): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fpromedmail.org%2Fpost%2F20200427.7272289&data=02%7C01%7C%7C768fd0e4e9b24cd8bd6108d7f6783f7e%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637248686825829611&sdata=...&reserved=0]

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For assistance from a human being send mail to:
<postmaster@promedmail.org>.
##
##

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subscribe%_F&data=02%7C01%7C%7C6858d0e4e9b24cd8bd6108d7f6783f7e%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637248868625829611&sdata=TNSo4Oc8wLv_m8/CsiPos52wFSoPCNWOcv4q_9GA%3D&reserved=0

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS
Subject: RE: Quick edit
Date: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 11:23:00 AM

All good – thanks!

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 11:22 AM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: Quick edit

Hey Jane – Please see the edit I made to the document it was not a material change. I just moved the question down **Q: Can people get COVID-19 from mink or other mustelids?.** Are you "ok" with that? Thanks

From: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Subject: RE: RUSH Clearance Requested: Mink document (COVID19 related)
Date: Thursday, May 21, 2020 1:06:26 PM

No, but checking…

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2020 3:05 PM
To: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: RUSH Clearance Requested: Mink document (COVID19 related)

Any further info? On COVID call and will be asked! Thanks,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 2:42 PM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: FW: RUSH Clearance Requested: Mink document (COVID19 related)

FYI

From: Neese, Donald R - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 4:27 PM
To: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>
Subject: FW: RUSH Clearance Requested: Mink document (COVID19 related)

Jerry,
Joyce cleared for S&P and as you can see, VSDA has it for action. I will follow up with you once I hear more from them.

Don

Donald R. Neese, MPA
Chief of Staff
Strategy and Policy Unit (S&P)
USDA, APHIS, VS
(240) 234-0791
donald.neese@usda.gov

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From: Duong, Nhu-Phuong - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 4:14 PM
To: Neese, Donald R - APHIS <Donald.Neese@usda.gov>
Cc: Levesque, Ashley - APHIS <ashley.levesque@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: RUSH Clearance Requested: Mink document (COVID19 related)

Thank you so much, Don. We will start the review on this one and try to move it rather quickly.

Nhu-Phuong Duong
Management Analyst, USDA-APHIS-VS-ODA
1400 Independence Ave., SW, Whitten 318E
Washington D.C. 20250
w: 202-799-7143
m: 240-397-1508
phuongnhu.duong@usda.gov

From: Neese, Donald R - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 3:28 PM
To: Duong, Nhu-Phuong - APHIS <phuongnhu.duong@usda.gov>
Cc: Levesque, Ashley - APHIS <ashley.levesque@usda.gov>
Subject: RUSH Clearance Requested: Mink document (COVID19 related)
Importance: High

Nhu,
I just sent a unit request on the attached. But wanted to send in email also. Apologies for the double send, but we are trying to get it through quick, so it can get out, due to the political sensitivity.

Amplifying Information:

1. The purpose of the submission is for VSDA clearance, because the Department requested to review all COVID-19 documents.
2. The intent is to have this document released electronically to stakeholders and have it published on our website.
3. Request this document cleared by VSDA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE because there is a lot of press around minks and the possibility of them transmitting COVID-19 to people.

Thanks,
Don

Donald R. Neese, MPA
Chief of Staff
Strategy and Policy Unit (S&P)
USDA, APHIS, VS
(240) 234-0791
donald.neese@usda.gov

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From: Konkle, Darlene M - DATCP
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Cc: Klos, Rachel F - DHS; elisabeth.patton@wisconsin.gov; KEITH P POULSEN; Kunde, Paul W - APHIS
Subject: RE: SARS CoV - 2 in mink
Date: Friday, May 22, 2020 2:50:13 PM

Hi Jane
Thanks for your quick response – good to hear that the guidance should be available soon. I scanned the document you sent, and agree the human health and safety measures outlined should cover zoonotic transmission.
We're also looking forward to the livestock group's draft response plan. The National Assembly representative on that group are reaching back to other SAHOs for information, and they are providing updates.
Thank again, and have a good weekend.
Darlene

Darlene M. Konkle, DVM, MS, DACVIM
State Veterinarian
Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection
Office Phone (608) 224-4884
Cell Phone (608) 516-9121
darlene.konkle@wisconsin.gov

Please complete this brief survey to help us improve our customer service. Thank you for your feedback!

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 22, 2020 2:28 PM
To: Konkle, Darlene M - DATCP <Darlene.Konkle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Klos, Rachel F - DHS <Rachel.Klos@dhs.wisconsin.gov>; Patton, Elisabeth A - DATCP <Elisabeth.Patton@wisconsin.gov>; KEITH P POULSEN <keith.poulsen@wisc.edu>; Kunde, Paul - USDA <paul.w.kunde@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: SARS CoV - 2 in mink
Importance: High

Hi Darlene,

We did update the guidance to include a couple of bullets under biosecurity – limiting access to essential personnel and excluding non-production animals, especially in production buildings. However, the human health and safety

measures were not updated as they should cover prevention of zoonotic transmission in either direction – please let me know if you feel differently.

Clearance is still at the Agency level and will be sent for Department clearance afterwards. I have asked for expedited clearance, and am hoping for (early) next week. We will let all the SAHOs and SPHVs know as soon as it is cleared.

The USG OH COVID-19 Livestock group also met this morning and are working on a draft response plan; our state animal health representatives are leading that charge and looking at basing it on the LPAI response plan.

Please don't hesitate to let me know if you would like to have another group call or you can call me directly anytime.

Thanks,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Konkle, Darlene M - DATCP [mailto:Darlene.Konkle@wisconsin.gov]
Sent: Friday, May 22, 2020 12:53 PM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Cc: Klos, Rachel F - DHS <Rachel.Klos@dhs.wisconsin.gov>; elisabeth.patton@wisconsin.gov; KEITH P POULSEN <keith.poulsen@wisc.edu>; Kunde, Paul W - APHIS <paul.w.kunde@usda.gov>
Subject: SARS CoV - 2 in mink

Hello Dr. Rooney
I'm wondering if you can tell us where the SARS – CoV – 2 guidance for farmed mink is in the APHIS

approval process. I believe the National Assembly One Health livestock group has passed along their recommendations. I know the approval process takes time, and I was also wondering if APHIS One Health group was planning on modifying the document, given the recent report that a human mink farm worker in the Netherlands was possibly infected via contact with the animals. I believe that information was also presented on the One Health coordination call yesterday, but please clarify if I'm mistaken.
Thanks for your help with this effort; we're trying to be as prepared as we can for any reports or requests from the mink industry.

Darlene

Darlene M. Konkle, DVM, MS, DACVIM
State Veterinarian
Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection
Office Phone (608) 224-4884
Cell Phone (608) 516-9121
darlene.konkle@wisconsin.gov

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From: Wainwright, Sherrilyn H - APHIS
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Subject: RE: spain - mink
Date: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 11:41:33 AM

Thanks ! Not really a surprise. Should be correlated with countries with a mink industry.

Much appreciated, Jane.

Sherri

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 11:33 AM
To: Wainwright, Sherrilyn H - APHIS <sherrilyn.h.wainwright@usda.gov>
Subject: FW: spain - mink

FYI

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Barton Behravesh, Casey (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) [mailto:dlx9@cdc.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 11:07 AM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: spain

https://www.heraldo.es/noticias/aragon/teruel/2020/05/22/siete-de-14-empleados-de-una-granja-de-visones-dan-positivo-1376214.html

Casey

Casey Barton Behravesh MS, DVM, DrPH, DACVPM
Captain, U.S. Public Health Service
Director, One Health Office
CDC COVID-19 One Health Working Group Lead
National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
e-mail: CBartonBehravesh@cdc.gov
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/animals/pets-other-animals.html
www.cdc.gov/onehealth
Cell: 404 729 4107



From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: Miles, Laura A - APHIS; Arza, Edgardo - APHIS
Cc: Torchetti, Mia Kim - APHIS
Subject: RE: Translated: May 19, 2020 Report Mink and COVID-19 in the Netherlands
Date: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 8:07:00 AM

Thanks Laura. This is circulating through multiple different channels. I have looped LPA in and am hoping we can have talking points/messages and our Mink Farm guidance cleared as soon as possible.

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Miles, Laura A - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 7:32 AM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>; Arza, Edgardo - APHIS <edgardo.arza@usda.gov>
Cc: Torchetti, Mia Kim - APHIS <mia.kim.torchetti@usda.gov>
Subject: FW: Translated: May 19, 2020 Report Mink and COVID-19 in the Netherlands

Hello All,

Passing along per our past discussions of the Netherlands mink farm OIE reporting.

Laura A. Miles, DVM
Veterinary Medical Officer (Epidemiology)
Surveillance, Design & Analysis Section
Center for Epidemiology & Animal Health, VS/APHIS/USDA
2150 Centre Ave, Bldg B, Mailstop 2E6
Fort Collins, CO 80526
Laura.A.Miles@usda.gov
Phone 970.494.7246 Fax: 970.494.7174

Greetings,

Below please find the google translation of the May 19, 2020 official Government of the Netherlands (Rijksoverheid) "COVID-19 in Mink" report shared from our USDA APHIS International Services colleagues in the APHIS- Brussels, Belgium office.

The second link Mark shared is the recent May 18, 2020 USDA FAS GAINS report from The Hague, Netherlands on "COVID-19 Found on Dutch Mink Farms."

Sherri

New Covid-19 research results at mink farms

News item | 05/19/2020 | 23:14

https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2020/05/19/nieuwe-onderzoeksresultaten-covid-19-bij-nertsenbedrijven

Based on new research results from the ongoing investigation into Covid-19 contaminations on mink farms, it is likely that an infection of mink on humans has occurred. The relevant study also shows that minks can have Covid-19 without showing any disease symptoms. Based on these latest insights, Minister Schouten of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality and Minister De Jonge of Health, Welfare and Sport will take a number of measures.

Minister Schouten: "These new research results have a major impact on the owners, families and employees of mink companies as well as on local communities. I am therefore in close contact with all these parties involved. "

The virus that causes COVID-19 mutates relatively quickly. These changes in the genetic code can be monitored. By comparing the genetic codes of the virus of different animals and people with each other, a family tree can be created and an image can be obtained of how people and animals have been infected in time and place. This type of research has also been done on infected minks and humans. One of the employees has been shown to have similarities with the virus found from mink on the same farm. Based on the comparison and the position of the virus in the family tree, it is concluded from this investigation that it is plausible that one employee of an infected mink farm has been infected by mink.

To further clarify this, the researchers are currently further mapping the 'genetic family tree' of infected people from the environment of the infected mink farm in order to obtain the most complete picture possible.

RIVM has indicated that the risk of exposure of people to the virus outside the house is still

negligible. RIVM previously carried out this risk assessment on the basis that the investigation showed that all air and dust samples outside the house did not contain any virus on repeated measurements.

Measures

Based on these new insights, the Cabinet is taking a number of measures in addition to those that have already been introduced. The screening of mink farms (for mink antibodies) is extended to all mink farms in the Netherlands and is mandatory. In the interest of the health of employees at mink farms, it is important to get an overview of the situation of all mink farms. The NVWA coordinates this screening.

If an infection is detected at a company, the same measures apply as at other infected companies and employees are advised to use protective equipment during their work. There is also a visitor ban in stables of the infected companies. Minister Schouten has previously instituted a notification obligation for mink farmers, veterinarians and persons from research institutions. This duty to report is extended. This means that all symptoms that may indicate a Covid-19 infection in mink must be reported to the NVWA. To prevent possible spread of the virus to other farms, the measure has previously been taken that the animals and manure must not leave an infected farm.

.Farm cats

Current research shows that viruses on two of the infected mink farms are very similar. There can be several reasons for this. Because antibodies against the virus have been demonstrated in three out of eleven farm cats on one of the infected farms, it is important to further investigate the role of farm cats in potential virus transmission between farms. Farm cats are cats that live in the yard and are not socialized. In the course of this investigation, it is advised that infected mink farms ensure that cats cannot enter or leave the farm premises.

Pets

Covid-19 was previously known to occur in pets. The risk of people getting infected by their pets remains small. The existing advice from RIVM on COVID-19 and the handling of animals remains unchanged. The advice is: keep your animal indoors if there are people in the household with complaints that are appropriate for COVID-19 and the animal is also sick. If in doubt or serious complaints, always consult your vet.

For the full RIVM advice, pets and COVID-19, see https://www.rivm.nl/coronavirus-covid-19/huisdier.

From: Prescott, Mark C. - APHIS <mark.c.prescott@usda.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 1:07 AM

To: Hull, Langston D - APHIS
Cc: Wainwright, Sherrilyn H - APHIS
Subject: Mink and COVID-19 in the Netherlands

Good morning Langston,

I thought you might find this interesting…

https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2020/05/19/nieuwe-onderzoeksresultaten-covid-19-bij-nertsenbedrijven

My Dutch isn't great, but Google translate does a pretty good job with it.

There is also this from my FAS colleague in the Netherlands:
https://apps.fas.usda.gov/newgainapi/api/Report/DownloadReportByFileName?fileName=COVID-19%20Found%20on%20Dutch%20Mink%20Farms_The%20Hague_Netherlands_05-17-2020

I cc'd Sherry as she has asked me for any information that pops up on this in the past. Have a good week- Mark

Mark C. Prescott, DVM
APHIS Attaché
USDA APHIS International Services
United States Mission to the European Union, Brussels Belgium
+32 2 811 5452 (office)
+32 475 70 18 30 (mobile)

From: Styles, Darrel K - APHIS
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Subject: RE: Translated: Mink and COVID-19 in the Netherlands
Date: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 8:10:30 AM

I agree….at this point there is not enough information to determine who/what infected whom. It's a chicken and egg argument.

Darrel K Styles, DVM, PhD
Senior Staff Veterinarian
USDA APHIS Veterinary Services
Diagnostics and Biologics Unit
4700 River Road, Unit 41
Riverdale MD 20737
Office: (301) 851-3482
Cell: (240) 581-3958
Location: 5D03.22 (Riverdale)

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 10:01 AM
To: Wainwright, Sherrilyn H - APHIS <sherrilyn.h.wainwright@usda.gov>; Hull, Langston D - APHIS <langston.d.hull@usda.gov>; Torchetti, Mia Kim - APHIS <mia.kim.torchetti@usda.gov>; Curlett, Ed C - APHIS <ed.c.curlett@usda.gov>; Cole, Lyndsay M - APHIS <lyndsay.m.cole@usda.gov>
Cc: Rigney, Columb P - APHIS <columb.p.rigney@usda.gov>; APHIS-COVID-19 Working Group <COVID.19.Working.Group@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Translated: Mink and COVID-19 in the Netherlands

Please do not go crazy with this report – there is still much to learn and not enough information from the Netherlands at this time.

Ed and Lyndsay,

CDC (and others) also sent this to me. I think we need to have some talking points as soon as possible and I will need the Mink Farm guidance document the livestock working group have drafted cleared as soon as we can to get up on our website.

Thanks,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination

Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Wainwright, Sherrilyn H - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 2:36 AM
To: Hull, Langston D - APHIS <langston.d.hull@usda.gov>; Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>; Torchetti, Mia Kim - APHIS <mia.kim.torchetti@usda.gov>
Cc: Rigney, Columb P - APHIS <columb.p.rigney@usda.gov>; APHIS-COVID-19 Working Group <COVID.19.Working.Group@usda.gov>
Subject: Translated: Mink and COVID-19 in the Netherlands

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Sherri

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News item | 05/19/2020 | 23:14
https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2020/05/19/nieuwe-onderzoeksresultaten-covid-19-bij-nertsenbedrijven

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From: Prescott, Mark C. - APHIS <mark.c.prescott@usda.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 1:07 AM
To: Hull, Langston D - APHIS
Cc: Wainwright, Sherrilyn H - APHIS
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There is also this from my FAS colleague in the Netherlands:
https://apps.fas.usda.gov/newgainapi/api/Report/DownloadReportByFileName?fileName=COVID-19%20Found%20on%20Dutch%20Mink%20Farms_The%20Hague_Netherlands_05-17-2020

I cc'd Sherry as she has asked me for any information that pops up on this in the past. Have a good week- Mark

Mark C. Prescott, DVM
APHIS Attaché
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+32 475 70 18 30 (mobile)

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: Cossaboom, Caitlin (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP)
Subject: RE: Updated mink guidance document
Date: Wednesday, May 6, 2020 3:18:00 PM

Much appreciated. Will work on final draft tomorrow.

Best,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Cossaboom, Caitlin (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) [mailto:nrm9@cdc.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2020 2:51 PM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Cc: dlx9@cdc.gov; Rushmore, Julie (CDC/DDID/NCHHSTP/DHPSE) <pgx4@cdc.gov>; Carpenter, Ann (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <pzy4@cdc.gov>
Subject: Updated mink guidance document

Hi Jane,

Please find attached the updated mink guidance document that incorporates all of the feedback that we received on yesterday's call and from Eilyn by e-mail. As we discussed on our call I cleaned the public health related sections and left the animal health sections for you and USDA to finalize.

Thank you and let us know if you need anything else from us for this.
Best regards,

Caitlin

Caitlin Cossaboom, DVM, PhD, MPH
LT, U.S. Public Health Service

Veterinary Epidemiologist
Viral Special Pathogens Branch
US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
1600 Clifton Road NE, MS H24-12, Atlanta, GA 30333
Work: (404)718-6813 | Fax: (404)471-2580
E-mail: nrm9@cdc.gov

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS
Subject: RE: URGENT: Final Interim SARS-CoV-2 Guidance document for Farmed Mink attached for clearance
Date: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 10:56:00 AM

It is possible but unlikely as all the CDC related info has been cleared in other documents…we need to push this through our end ASAP!

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
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Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
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Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 10:50 AM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: URGENT: Final Interim SARS-CoV-2 Guidance document for Farmed Mink attached for clearance

Thanks Jane. I am on it. I do have a question about CDC clearing the document. I doubt it will happen, but if there are edits either/both USDA and/or CDC how does that work? My underlying question - Will we have to run this up again to incorporate CDC's edits?

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 12:28 PM
To: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>
Subject: URGENT: Final Interim SARS-CoV-2 Guidance document for Farmed Mink attached for clearance
Importance: High

Hi Jerry,

As discussed this morning, I have attached the SARS-CoV-2 Farmed Mink

guidance for clearance and posting on the APHIS OH COVID-19 website. Once S&P ADA/VSDA has seen it we can send it through LPA for APHIS and Department clearance. CDC is also clearing the document, as it is co-written.

Please let me know if you need anything more from me. Thanks for your help with this.

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
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Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: Barton Behravesh, Casey (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD); Cossaboom, Caitlin (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP)
Cc: Carpenter, Ann (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD); One Health (CDC)
Subject: RE: Worms and Germs: Mink to Human Transmission
Date: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 7:52:00 AM

Only from you and another colleague this am…

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
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USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
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Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Barton Behravesh, Casey (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) [mailto:dlx9@cdc.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 7:15 AM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>; Cossaboom, Caitlin (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) <nrm9@cdc.gov>
Cc: Carpenter, Ann (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <pzy4@cdc.gov>; One Health (CDC) <onehealth@cdc.gov>
Subject: FW: Worms and Germs: Mink to Human Transmission

Jane and Caitlin- see below which was shared by Ann Carpenter.

This was posted on the Worms and Germs blog this morning:

"a Reuters article reports that Dutch Agricultural Minister Carola Schouten issued a letter to parliament indicating that a farm worker was infected BY the mink"

https://www.wormsandgermsblog.com/2020/05/articles/animals/other-animals/suspected-mink-to-human-transmission-of-sars-cov-2/

Jane, have you heard anything on this?

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: Arza, Edgardo - APHIS; Egrie, Paul G - APHIS
Subject: What is the process to ask for information from the Netherlands on their response process/activities for SARS-CoV-2 on the 4 mink farms?
Date: Friday, May 15, 2020 1:26:00 PM

Hi Ed and Gary,

The USG OH COVID-19 Livestock working group, that I lead, would like to reach out to the Netherlands to ask for details on their response process/activities for SARS-CoV-2 on their 4 mink farms?



We would be very interested to see if the Netherlands LNV would be willing to share further details/plans with us.

Thanks,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
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Office of Interagency Coordination
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USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397

Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From:	Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To:	Garvey, Ann (CDC idph.iowa.gov); Baldwin - CDA, Maggie; david. smith (david.smith@agriculture.ny.gov); Porter-Spalding, Barbara A - APHIS; Loiacono, Christina M - APHIS; Goryoka, Grace (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) (CTR); Barton Behravesh, Casey (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD); Cossaboom, Caitlin (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP); Carpenter, Ann (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD)
Subject:	FW: For discussion on COVID Livestock wg call this week.: Rough Drafts of SARS-CoV-2 response plan
Date:	Friday, June 26, 2020 9:32:00 AM
Attachments:	First_Draft_Mink_Controlled_Marketing_Checklist (john easley) bps dcs.docx Initial Response and Containment Plan mink (john easley) bps dcs.docx

---

FYI

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Smith, David (AGRICULTURE) [mailto:David.Smith@agriculture.ny.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 26, 2020 9:30 AM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>; Porter-Spalding, Barbara A - APHIS <barbara.a.porter-spalding@usda.gov>
Cc: maggie.baldwin@state.co.us
Subject: RE: For discussion on COVID Livestock wg call this week.: Rough Drafts of SARS-CoV-2 response plan

Comments in attached.

David Smith, DVM
Director, Division of Animal Industry
NYS Dept of Agriculture and Markets
518-457-7886

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 25, 2020 2:32 PM
To: Porter-Spalding, Barbara A - APHIS <barbara.a.porter-spalding@usda.gov>
Cc: Smith, David (AGRICULTURE) <David.Smith@agriculture.ny.gov>; maggie.baldwin@state.co.us

Subject: FW: For discussion on COVID Livestock wg call this week.: Rough Drafts of SARS-CoV-2 response plan

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Hi Barb,

Really appreciate your taking the time and providing such great input. I am including Dave and Maggie so they can see your comments before tomorrow also.



Hope you will be able to join us tomorrow morning; if not I will make sure we cover your concerns.

Best,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
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2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064

Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Porter-Spalding, Barbara A - APHIS
Sent: Thursday, June 25, 2020 11:40 AM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: For discussion on COVID Livestock wg call this week.: Rough Drafts of SARS-CoV-2 response plan

(b) (5)(DPP)

But thanks for asking. See attached.
B

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 4:43 PM
To: Garvey, Ann (CDC idph.iowa.gov) <Ann.Garvey@idph.iowa.gov>; maggie.baldwin@state.co.us; david.smith@agriculture.ny.gov; Porter-Spalding, Barbara A - APHIS <barbara.a.porter-spalding@usda.gov>; Loiacono, Christina M - APHIS <christina.m.loiacono@usda.gov>; lie0@cdc.gov; dlx9@cdc.gov; Cossaboom, Caitlin (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) <nrm9@cdc.gov>; Carpenter, Ann (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <pzy4@cdc.gov>
Subject: For discussion on COVID Livestock wg call this week.: Rough Drafts of SARS-CoV-2 response plan
Importance: High

Please see the documents attached with John Easley's comments/question. I would like to discuss these on our next Friday Livestock working group call so we can get back to John with follow-up.

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
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Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064

Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: john easley [mailto:johneasleydvm@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 8:32 AM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Cc: maggie.baldwin@state.co.us; david.smith@agriculture.ny.gov; john easley <johneasleydvm@hotmail.com>
Subject: Re: Rough Drafts of SARS-CoV-2 response plan

Hi Jane,

I have added some comments/questions. Please get back with me for a further discussion.

Thanks, John

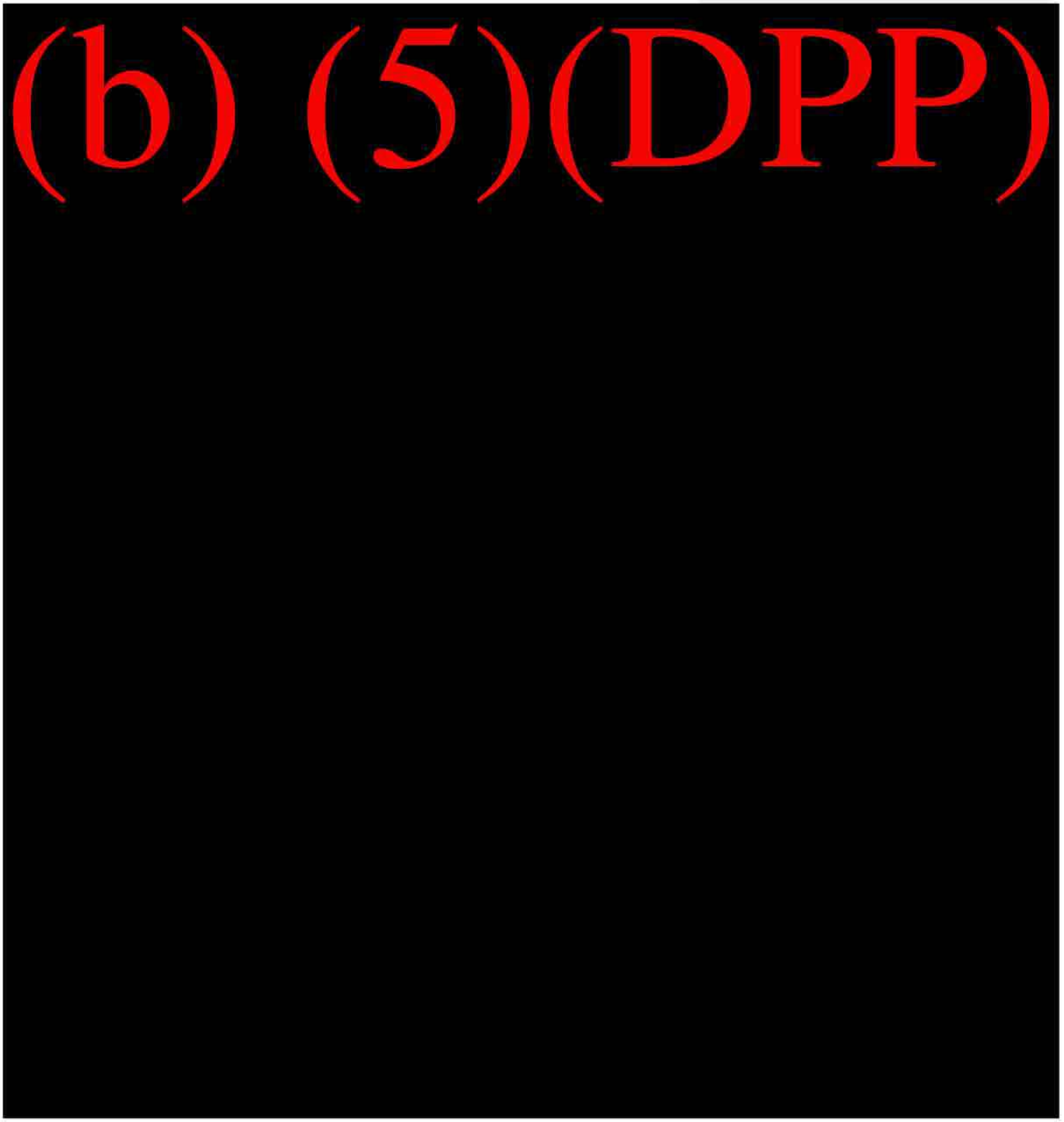
From: Smith, David (AGRICULTURE) <David.Smith@agriculture.ny.gov>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 7:38 PM
To: johneasleydvm@hotmail.com <johneasleydvm@hotmail.com>
Cc: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>; maggie.baldwin@state.co.us <maggie.baldwin@state.co.us>
Subject: Rough Drafts of SARS-CoV-2 response plan

Dr. Easley

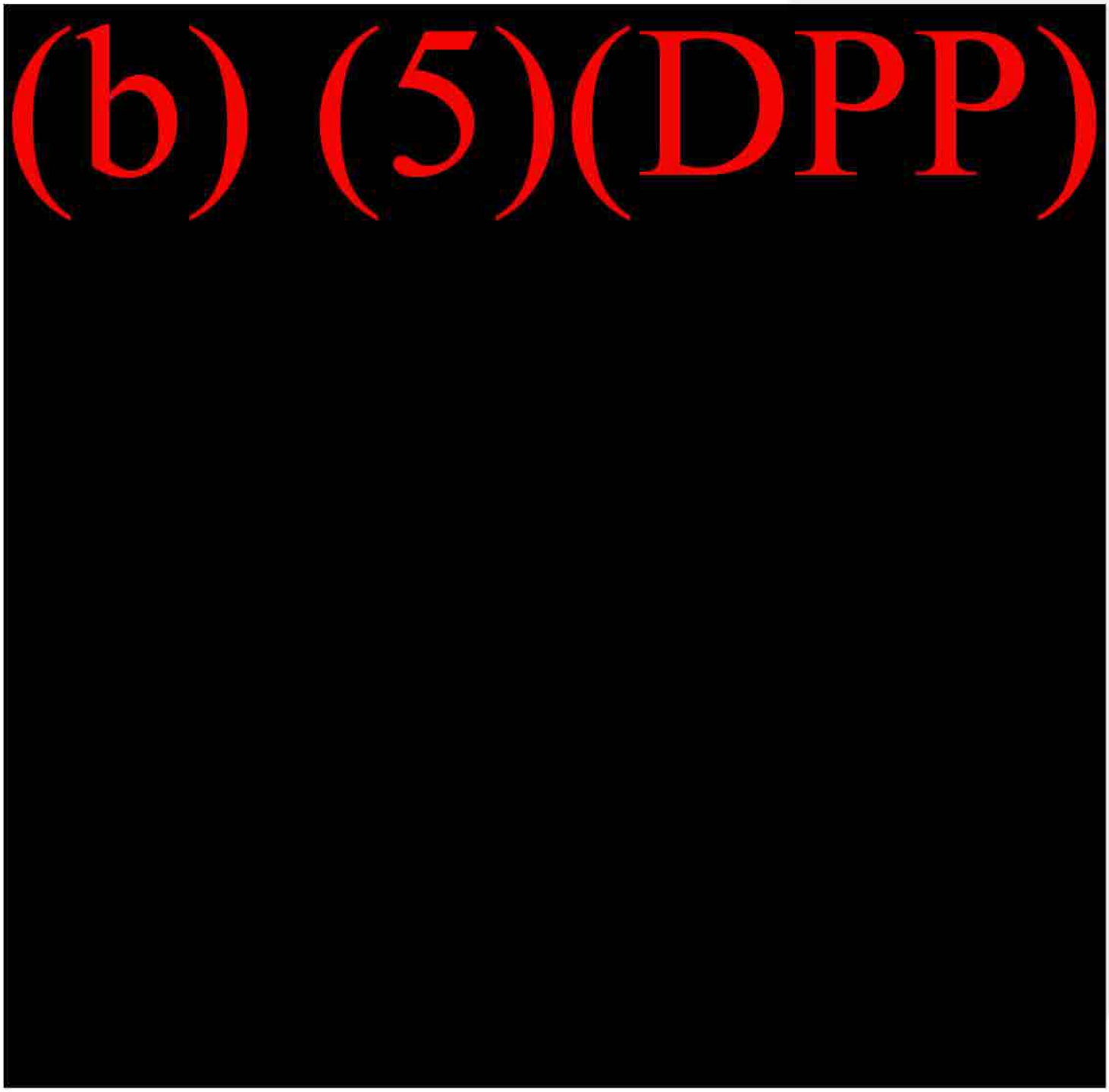
Please find attached rough drafts of a response plan for mink. We would appreciate your thoughts on improving it so that it is workable for the mink industry.

David Smith, DVM
Director, Division of Animal Industry
NYS Dept of Agriculture and Markets
518-457-7886

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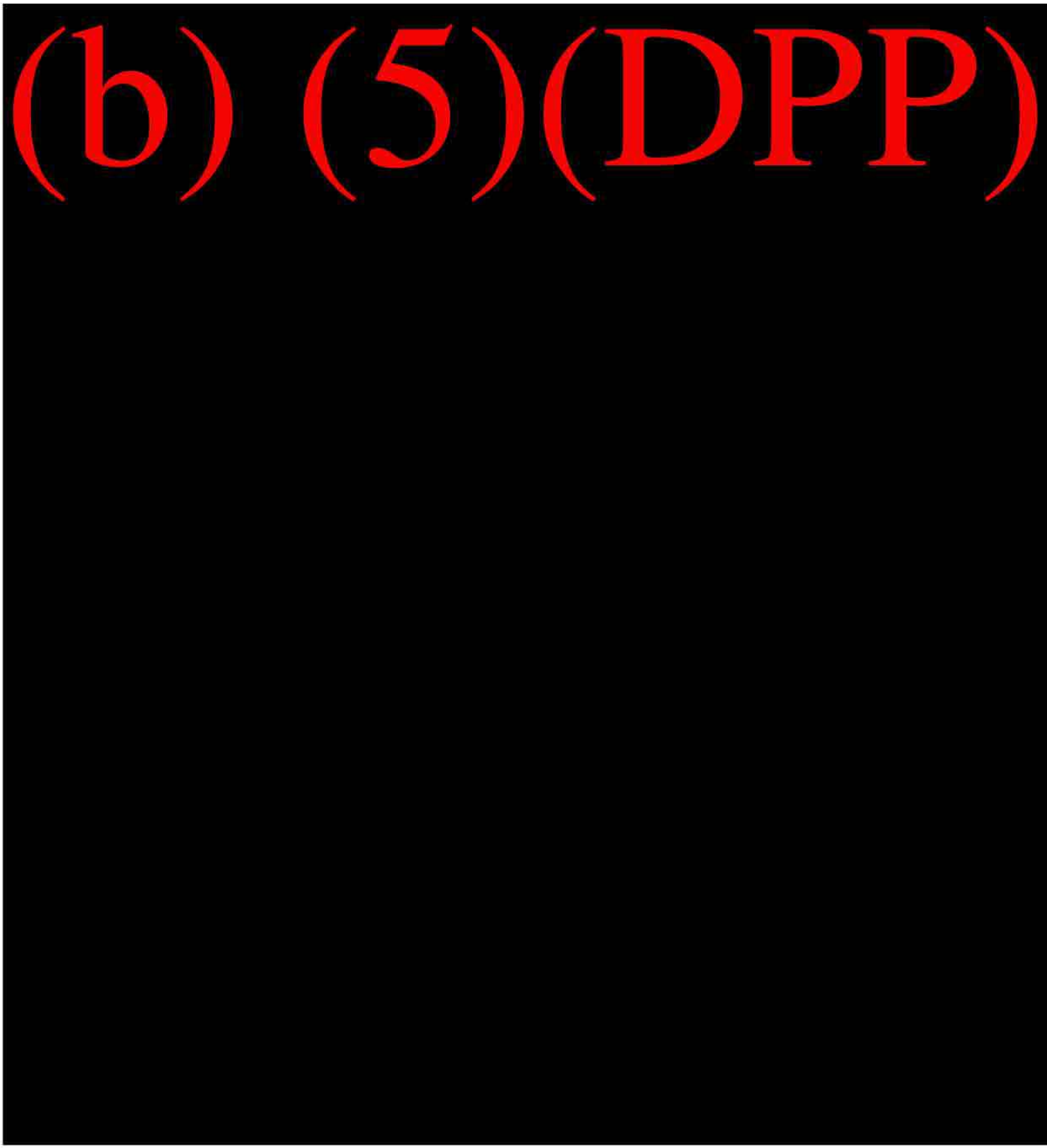

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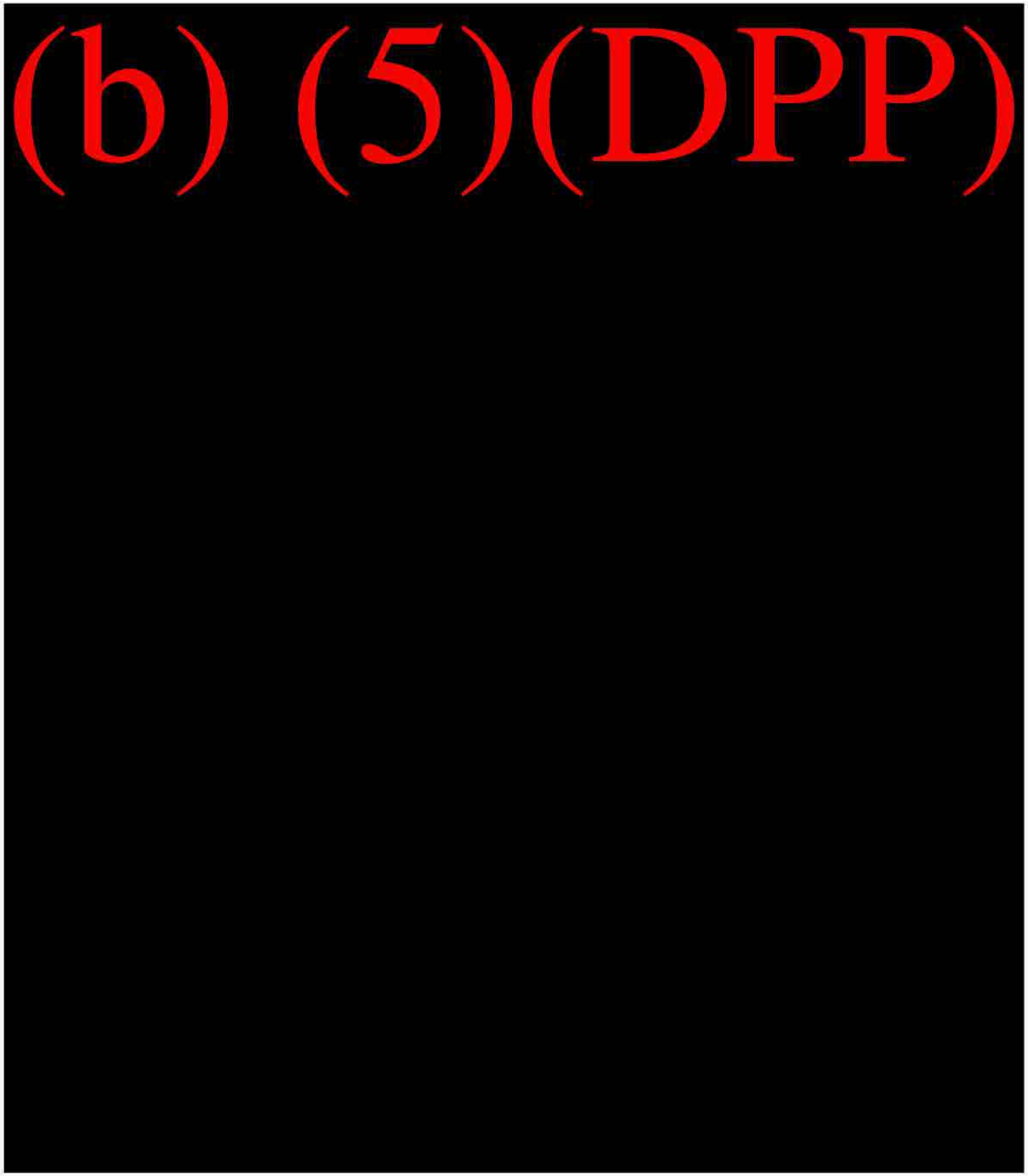

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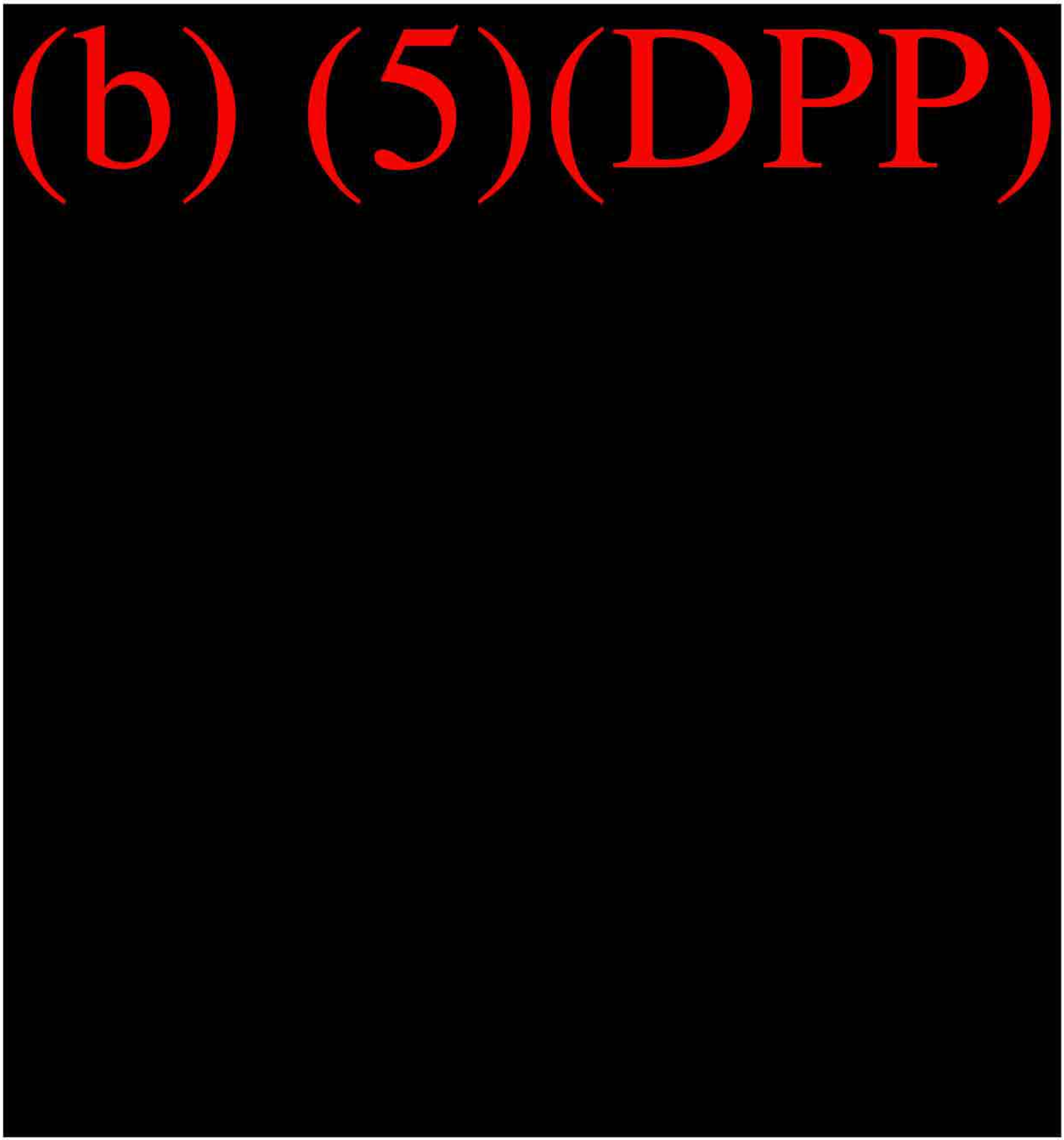

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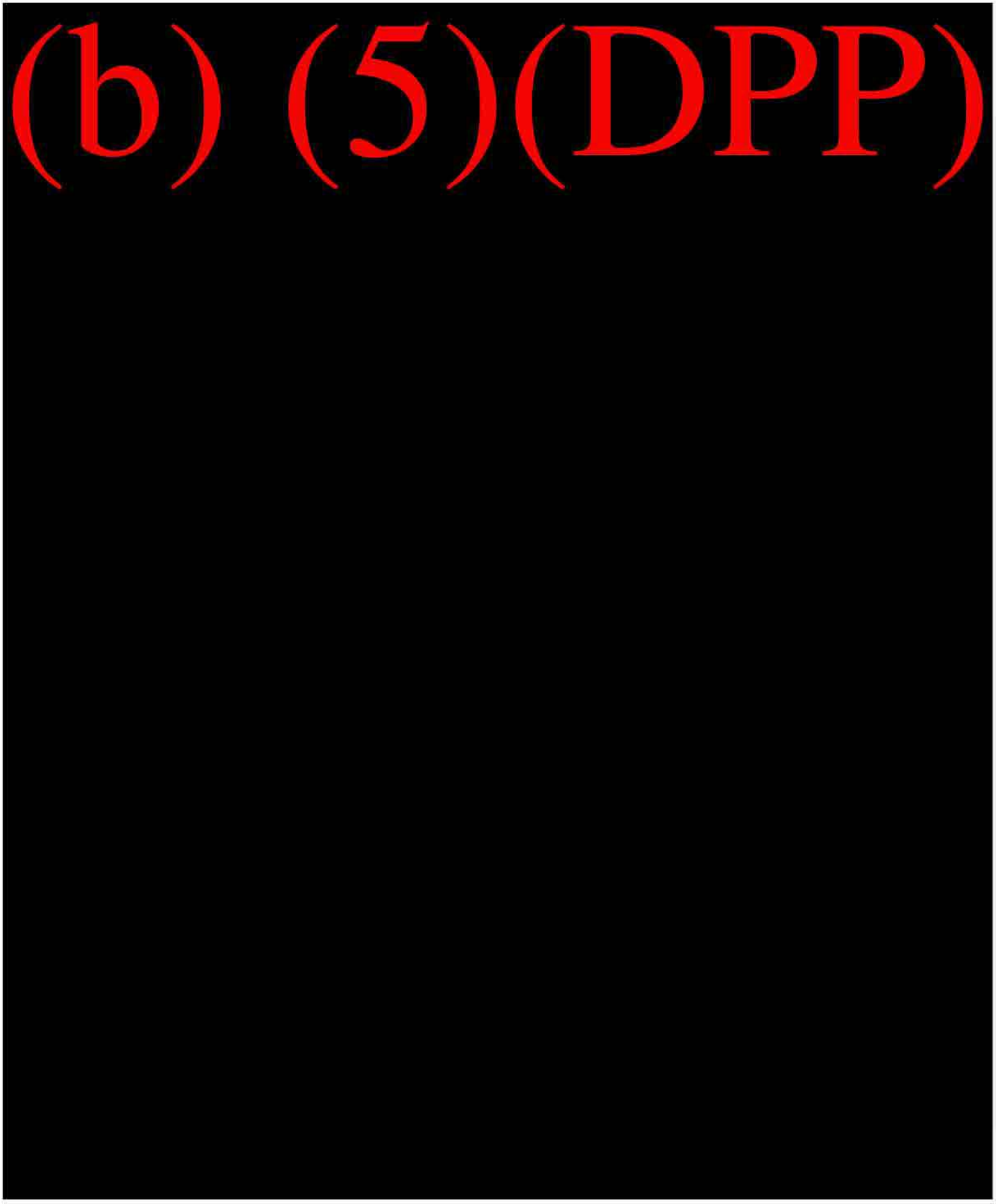

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From: Gillespie, Alison L - APHIS
To: Zimmers, Hallie - APHIS; Rooney, Jane A - APHIS; Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS
Subject: FW: new version of the letter
Date: Monday, June 15, 2020 2:00:55 PM
Attachments: CAG8785 REVISED - JAR.docx

The attached draft contains two different letters, and this is the one we would like to send out. (I wanted to makes sure everyone scrolled down all the way to see both letters.)

Sorry for the confusion.

So if I am reading your email correctly, these two letters, attached, would work for you?

Alison

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 3:55 PM
To: Gillespie, Alison L - APHIS <Alison.Gillespie@usda.gov>; Zimmers, Hallie - APHIS <hallie.zimmers@usda.gov>; Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: new version of the letter

Hi Alison,

I was able to open the second time, thanks. Just so I am clear – (b) (5)(DPP) [redacted]

[redacted] (b) (5)(DPP) [redacted].

Thanks,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13

Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
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Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Gillespie, Alison L - APHIS
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 1:41 PM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>; Zimmers, Hallie - APHIS <hallie.zimmers@usda.gov>; Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: new version of the letter

Oh, I and I should also say sorry about the earlier version. There were hiccups in saving it to the drive and hopefully the updated version you'll see it better.

Note, we have two, one to each of the original authors.

Alison

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 3:38 PM
To: Gillespie, Alison L - APHIS <Alison.Gillespie@usda.gov>; Zimmers, Hallie - APHIS <hallie.zimmers@usda.gov>; Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: new version of the letter

I can't open the latest attachment.(b) (5)(DPP) [redacted]

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
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Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064

Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

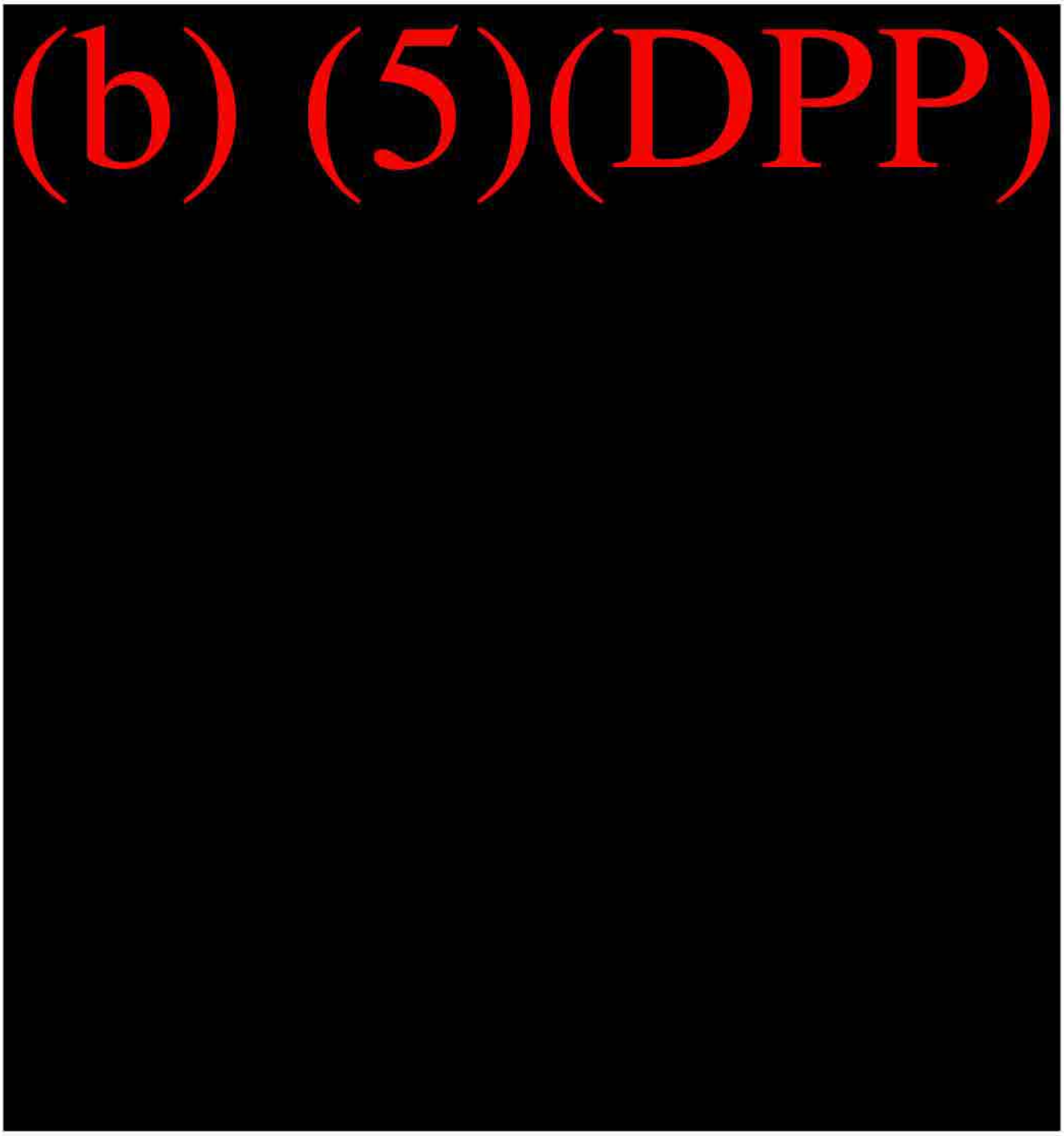
From: Gillespie, Alison L - APHIS
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 1:34 PM
To: Zimmers, Hallie - APHIS <hallie.zimmers@usda.gov>; Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>; Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>
Subject: new version of the letter

I've discussed your suggestions with my supervisor, Kim Taylor.

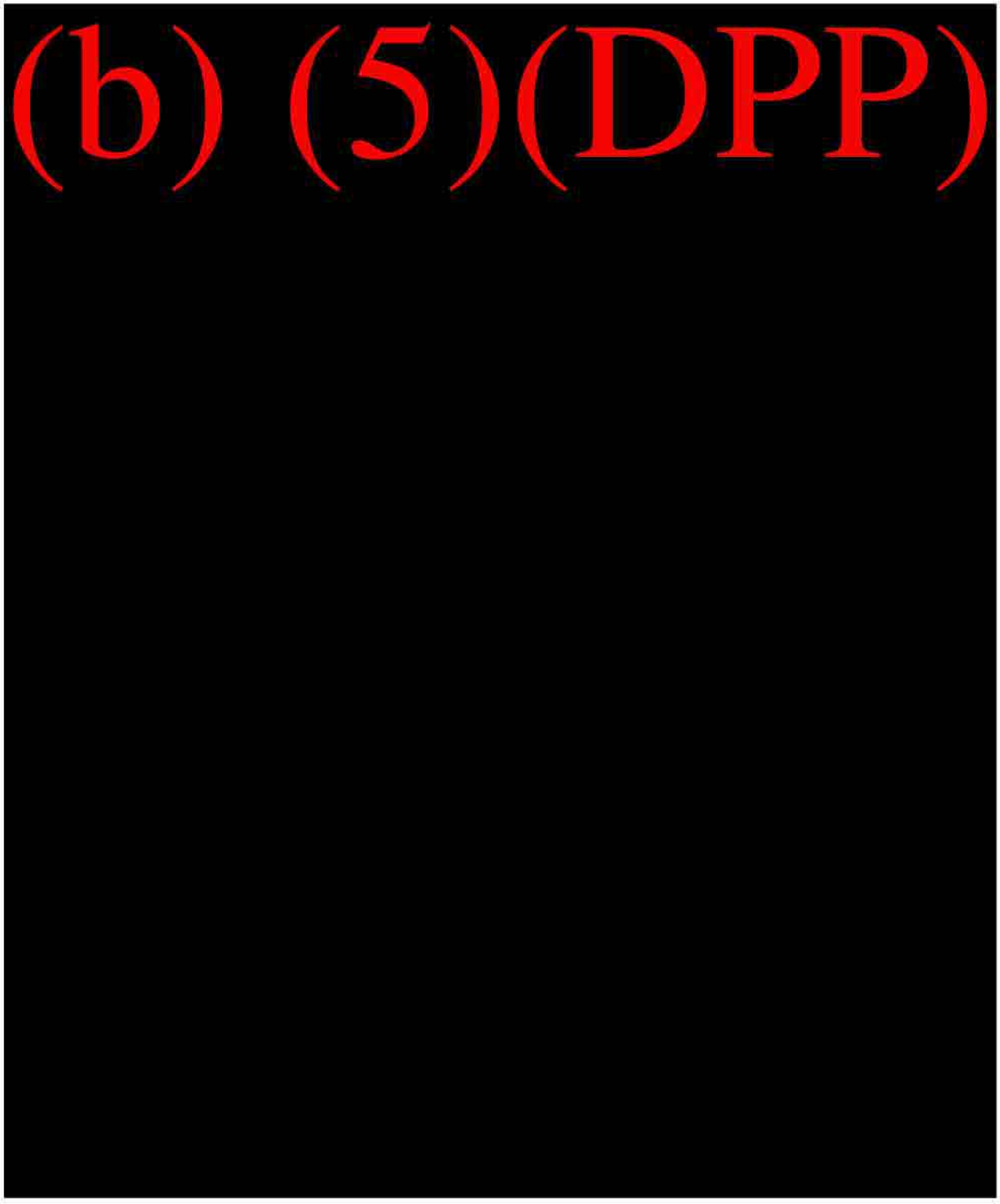
Please see the attached revisions.

(b) (5)(DPP) [redacted].

Alison Gillespie
Writer/Editor
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Alison.Gillespie@usda.gov
301-851-4039


(b) (5)(DPP)


(b) (5)(DPP)


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(b) (5)(DPP)


(b) (5)(DPP)

From:	Barton Behravesh, Casey (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD)
To:	Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Subject:	FW: Spanish mink farm in Teruel
Date:	Friday, June 19, 2020 2:56:26 PM

Fyi-one of our team is from Spain and found this article for us.

Note, there are 70,000 animals in the farm, 15,000 reproductive females.
Only 7 animals were tested….

Subject: Spanish mink farm in Teruel

Hello team,
I was checking the Spanish mink farm (in Teruel) situation and found this:
https://www.animalshealth.es/profesionales/dan-negativo-test-coronavirus-visones-granja-espanola-covid-19

Date: June 4th, 2020
Summary: Minks in that Spanish farm had no clinical signs, 7 animals were tested by PCR and yield negative.

Fragment of the article:

The farm was placed under official control, and as a preventive measure, animal movement was banned. On May 22, the Official Veterinary Services of the Government of Aragon [region of Spain where this farm is] carried out an inspection visit to the farm, verifying the ***absence of symptoms in the animals****.*

In addition, the farm's biosecurity protocol was reviewed and its correct application was verified. The number of dead animals was recorded and it was found that there had been no increase in mortality.

On May 28, samples were taken at the farm, and following the protocol established by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAPA) [I haven't found what this is], a ***random sample of 7 animals was selected****, who underwent* ***a PCR test*** *in MAPA's national reference laboratory for diagnosing animal diseases, located in Algete (Madrid).*

The ***results have been negative****, so* ***the presence of Covid-19 in farm animals has not been verified****, which confirms the initial theory of the health services.*

From:	Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To:	CDCL-NASPHV-ACTIVE-MEMBERS@LISTSERV.CDC.GOV
Subject:	Interim SARS-CoV-2 Guidance and Recommendations for Farmed Mink and Other Mustelids available on APHIS OH website
Date:	Wednesday, June 10, 2020 2:03:00 PM

The Interim SARS-CoV-2 Guidance and Recommendations for Farmed Mink and Other Mustelids has been posted!
https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/one_health/downloads/sars-cov-2-guidance-for-farmed-mink.pdf

This guidance was developed collaboratively by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and state animal and public health partners using a One Health approach. The document is intended to provide the most up to date information related to SARS-CoV-2 and farmed mink and other mustelids and guidance related to SARS-CoV-2 prevention and control strategies for public and animal health officials and partners in the mink industry.

Please share with others as deemed appropriate.

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Hayden, Joelle R - APHIS
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Subject: mink document
Date: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 10:25:11 AM
Attachments: Final Interim SARS-CoV-2 Guidance and Recommendations for Farmed Mink and Other Mustelids updates 6-2-20 clean (1).docx

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This is the version that was cleared. Working on web request for posting, will ask for it to be posted today.

Interim SARS-CoV-2 Guidance and Recommendations for Farmed Mink and Other Mustelids[1]:

This guidance was developed collaboratively by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and state animal and public health partners using a One Health approach. This document is intended to provide the most up to date information related to SARS-CoV-2 and farmed mink and other mustelids and guidance related to SARS-CoV-2 prevention and control strategies for public and animal health officials and partners in the mink industry.

Q: What is a mink?

A: A mink belongs to the taxonomic order Carnivora, which means it is carnivorous – a meat-eater. The order, Carnivora, includes other meat-eaters, such as lions, tigers, hyenas, coyotes, and wolves. Within the order, Carnivora, the mink belongs to the family Mustelid, commonly known as the weasel family. This family includes ferrets, skunks, otters, fishers, martens, and wolverines.

Q: What do we currently know about mink and COVID-19?

A: SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, was recently detected in mink on multiple farms in the Netherlands. The mink showed various respiratory (lung) and gastrointestinal signs (gut); the farms also experienced increased death loss[2]. Investigations have been launched to find out the source of the infections. Because some employees had symptoms of COVID-19, it is assumed that the farm workers were also infected and likely the source of the mink infections.

Recent research shows that ferrets (which are closely related to mink) can be experimentally infected with SARS-CoV-2 and can spread the virus to other ferrets in laboratory settings. The study did not investigate whether animals can spread infection to people.

Q: What are the clinical signs of SARS-CoV-2 infection in mink or other mustelids?

A: Dutch officials reported respiratory and gastrointestinal signs in the sick mink. Recent research also showed that in a laboratory setting, ferrets that were experimentally infected with SARS-CoV-2 exhibited fever, mild respiratory, and gastrointestinal signs.

Q: What should I do if I suspect mink or other mustelids on my farm are infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus?

A: Any producer or veterinarian who suspects mink or mustelids (or other animals residing on the premises) to be infected with SARS-CoV-2 virus[3] should contact their State Animal Health Official (SAHO) immediately. The SAHO will engage the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Area Veterinarian in Charge (AVIC), State Public Health Veterinarian (SPHV), and/or national animal health and public health officials to decide whether testing is warranted.

Q. How will animal samples be collected and tested?

A: The SAHO and USDA AVIC will initiate the investigation, specimen collection and testing. State animal health laboratories can conduct animal testing, but any positive samples need to be confirmed through additional testing by USDA's National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL).

[1]Note: Additional guidance on ferrets and other small non-traditional companion animals is forthcoming
[2]Increased death loss means losses above those expected during production
[3]Other common causes of respiratory and/or gastrointestinal disease and increased death loss should be ruled out first

Q: What will happen if mink or mustelids test positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus?

A: The SAHO and USDA AVIC will initiate animal disease response activities. Animal health and public health officials (including the State Public Health Veterinarian) should collaborate using a One Health approach to conduct epidemiological investigations into animal and human infections with SARS-CoV-2 to protect animal and human health.

Q: Can people get COVID-19 from mink or other mustelids?

A: We are still learning about SARS-CoV-2 in animals, but there is currently no evidence that animals, including mink or other mustelids, play a significant role in spreading the virus to humans. Based on the limited information available to date, the risk of animals spreading SARS-CoV-2 to people is considered to be low.

The primary route of transmission of SARS-CoV-2 is from person to person: between people who are in close contact with one another (within six feet) or through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. Airborne transmission over long distances is unlikely. It may also be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a contaminated surface or object that has the virus on it, and then touching their own mouth, nose, or eyes. This is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads. People can spread the virus to other people, as well as animals, before they show symptoms, or even if they do not have any symptoms.

Further studies are needed to understand if and how different animals could be affected by the virus that causes COVID-19 and the role animals may play in the spread of the virus.

Q: How can I protect people and animals on my farm from becoming infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus?

A: To ensure the health and safety of animals and people on your farm, follow state and industry biosecurity and safety guidance.

Biosecurity is a series of management practices designed to reduce the risk of disease agents being introduced and spread on the farm. In broad terms, it refers to anything designed to prevent the transfer of disease-causing pathogens. Biosecurity is crucial to control and contain a disease such as COVID-19, as well as in the daily management practices protecting the health of farm workers and animals. To be effective, biosecurity measures need to be disease-specific, as well as site-specific.

Steps you can take to reduce the risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission include:

- **Restricted access to the premises and buildings where production animals are kept**.
    - Limit access to essential personnel only.
    - Limit non-production animal access, and implement measures to exclude domestic pets, rodents, birds, and other wildlife from buildings.
- **All employees should stay home if they are sick.** Encouraging farm workers and supervisors not to come to work if they are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and to take steps to help prevent the spread of the virus.
    - Employees who have symptoms upon arrival at work or who become sick during the day should immediately be separated from other employees, customers, and visitors, and sent home.

    - Employees should not return to work until the criteria to discontinue home isolation are met, after talking with their doctor.
    - Implement sick leave policies that are flexible, nonpunitive, and consistent with public health guidance, allowing employees to stay home if they have symptoms of respiratory infection.
- **Increase distance between workers**. Whenever possible, mink farm workers should maintain 6 feet of distance between each other. Adjustments should be made to allow for social distancing and avoid groups of workers when clocking in or out, during breaks, or in locker/changing rooms, or other shared spaces.
- Mink farm employers should put in place engineering controls (e.g., physical partitions or barriers between workers within 6 feet of each other) and administrative controls (e.g., stagger workers' arrival and departure times to avoid clusters of workers in parking areas, locker rooms, and near time clocks) to separate and distance employees as a top priority and main way to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- **Encourage employees to use cloth face coverings**. Wearing a cloth face covering does NOT replace the need to practice social distancing.
    - Cloth face coverings may prevent people, including those who are unaware they have the virus, from spreading it to others, but they may not protect the wearer from exposure to the virus. Cloth face coverings do not function the same way as personal protective equipment (PPE) such as a respirator.
    - Workers can wear a cloth face covering when their employer has determined in their hazard assessment that a respirator or disposable medical facemask (such as a surgical mask) worn to protect the worker is not required.
    - If cloth face coverings are worn in these facilities, employers should provide readily available clean cloth face coverings (or disposable facemask options) for workers to use when the coverings become wet, soiled, or otherwise visibly contaminated.
- **Limit duration of contact among coworkers**. Continued close contact with potentially infectious individuals increases the risk of SARS-CoV-2 spread.
- **Encourage proper hand hygiene and provide employees with what they need to clean their hands.** This is an important infection control measure. Encourage employees to wash their hands regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. An alcohol-based hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol can be used, but not as a substitute for cleaning hands with soap and water. If hands are visibly dirty, always wash hands with soap and water before using alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- **Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces** such as tools, workstations, and shared spaces such as break room tables, locker rooms, and entrances/exits to the facility on a routine basis. Put in place practical biosecurity practices on the farm, including having dedicated boot disinfecting stations between farm areas. To disinfect, use products that meet EPA's criteria for use against SARS-CoV-2, diluted household bleach solutions prepared according to the manufacturer's label for disinfection, or alcohol solutions with at least 60% alcohol, and are appropriate for the surface. Follow manufacturer's directions for proper use and recommended PPE.
- Additional recommendations are described in the U.S. Department of Labor and U.S. Department of Health and Human Service's booklet Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for

COVID-19, as well as CDC's Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

Q: Should I screen workers on my farm?

A: Workplaces, particularly in areas where community transmission of COVID-19 is ongoing, can consider developing and implementing a comprehensive screening and monitoring strategy aimed at preventing the introduction of COVID-19 into the worksite. Consider a strategy that includes:

1) **Conducting daily health checks** (e.g., symptom and/or temperature screening) of employees before they enter the facility, following the guidance of the state and local public health authorities and your occupational health services.
   - If doing health checks, conduct them safely and respectfully (employers may use the "Should we be screening employees for COVID-19 symptoms" section of General Business Frequently Asked Questions as a guide).
   - Complete the health checks in a way that avoids employees being together in large crowds; consider providing multiple screening entry points into the building.
   - To prevent stigma and discrimination in the workplace, do not assume risk based on race or country of origin and be sure to maintain the confidentiality of people with confirmed COVID-19.
2) **Follow the criteria for return to work of exposed and recovered** persons, for those who had signs or symptoms of COVID-19 but have recovered.
   a. Employees should not return to work until they meet the criteria to discontinue home isolation and have consulted with a healthcare provider.
3) **Criteria for exclusion of sick workers.**

CDC's Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) provides detailed recommendations for each of these three points and can be adapted for your mink farm setting. Refer specifically to the subsections: *"Prevent and Reduce Transmission among Employees."*

Q: How can I educate and train workers and supervisors about ways that they can reduce the spread of COVID-19?

A: Supplement workers' normal and required job training the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards, with additional training and information about COVID-19, recognizing signs and symptoms of infection, and ways to prevent exposure to the virus. Training should include information about how to put in place the various infection prevention and control measures recommended here, and they should be included in any infection prevention and control or COVID-19 response plan that an employer develops. OSHA provides additional information about training on its COVID-19 webpage.

All communication and training should be easy to understand and should (1) be provided in languages appropriate to the preferred languages spoken or read by the workers, if possible; (2) be at the appropriate literacy level; and (3) include accurate and timely information about:

- Signs and symptoms of COVID-19, how it spreads, risks for workplace exposures, and how workers can protect themselves;
- Proper handwashing practices and use of hand sanitizer stations;

- Cough and sneeze etiquette;
- Other routine infection control precautions (e.g., safe practices for how to put on (don) and take off (doff) PPE, cloth face coverings, and social distancing).

Employers should place simple posters in appropriate languages for their employees that encourage staying home when sick, cough and sneeze etiquette, and proper hand hygiene practices. They should place these posters at the entrance to the workplace and in break areas, locker rooms, and other workplace areas where they are likely to be seen.

Other guidance provides additional details for recommendations in the subsection "*Educate workers about steps they can take to protect themselves at work and at home.*"

Q: What precautions should mink farm workers take around sick animals?

A: Based on the limited information available to date, the risk of animals spreading SARS-CoV-2 to people is thought to be low. However, because we do not know a lot about COVID-19 and animals, the PPE guidelines use a cautious approach. Recommendations may change over time, as new information becomes available.

- Minimize contact with sick or dead animals. If animals appear to be sick, wear gloves, face mask, and goggles or face shield when working with or near sick animals.
    - If an animal is suspected to have or tests positive for SARS-CoV-2, the animal should be immediately isolated from other animals. The number of people interacting with these animals should be kept to a minimum. Staff that must have contact with these animals should wear respiratory protection (e.g. N95) instead of a facemask. Staff at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 should not work with animals suspected or confirmed to be infected with SARS-CoV-2.
- Always immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds after:
    - You have direct contact with animals, their food, or supplies, waste/feces.
    - Cleaning up after animals, including any body fluids or waste.
    - Leaving areas where animals are housed, even if you did not touch an animal.
    - Removing PPE or cloth face covering.
- Use a surgical mask and eye protection (e.g., goggles or a face shield) whenever splashes, or sprays are likely to occur. Do not use compressed air and/or water under pressure for cleaning, or any other methods that might aerosolize (spray into the air) infectious material. PPE may be needed when cleaning or disinfecting a potentially SARS-CoV-2 contaminated area; follow the cleaning or disinfectant product manufacturer's instructions for use. Follow recommendations for safe practices for how to put on (don) and take off (doff) PPE.
- **If there is a breach in PPE or other accidental direct contact with a sick animal or its urine, feces, blood, saliva, or vomit on exposed skin**, a supervisor should be immediately notified, and the exposed area should be immediately washed with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not immediately available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol content) on skin. If hands are visibly dirty, always wash hands with soap and water before using alcohol-based hand sanitizer. If an employee has an exposure to their mucous membranes (e.g. eyes, inside of nose, or mouth), the area that was exposed should be flushed with only water. Do not use soap or hand sanitizer to wash the eyes, inside of nose, or mouth.

- **If a farm worker receives a bite, scratch or, abrasion** from an animal, animal product, or an object contaminated by an animal: wash the exposed area of skin immediately with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds, immediately alert the supervisor, and contact a health care provider.
- **If there are people exposed to sick animals or sick people**, the exposed person may need to self-monitor for temperature or symptoms for a period of 14 days post-incident. See CDC Coronavirus Self-Checker for additional guidance on symptom monitoring.

Q: What precautions should mink farm workers take around healthy animals?

A: When interacting with healthy mink or other animals, use the same precautions as you would when interacting with other people: maintain social distance (6 feet, or 2 meters) when possible, minimize any close contact, and wear cloth face coverings when feasible.

Q: Where can I get more information on carcass disposal?

A: Carcasses from COVID-19 positive, suspected, or exposed animals should be disposed of in compliance with all Federal, State, and local regulations. Additional information about State requirements for carcass disposal is available on the Veterinary Compliance Assistance Web site. APHIS, upon request, can provide technical support and guidance to assist in identifying and implementing a local disposal plan.

- Carcasses must be carefully transported to the approved disposal site to prevent contaminated material from escaping the transport vehicles. All vehicles should be cleaned and disinfected after each use.
- Onsite composting, onsite burial, incineration, landfill, and rendering, or a combination of these methods, are generally the most suitable options.
- For more information, visit the APHIS Carcass Management Dashboard at https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/emergency-management/carcass-management/carcass

Q: What precautions should I take around animal carcasses or pelts?

A: Because mink processing procedures have the potential to spread other zoonotic diseases to the worker, the following precautions should always be taken when handling carcasses or during pelting:

- Use face shield or a facemask and eye protection (e.g. goggles or face shield) whenever splashes or sprays are likely to occur.
- If participating in aerosol-generating procedures (e.g., whelping, pelting, rendering), consider wearing a face shield or goggles, gloves, protective outerwear, and respiratory protection that is at least as protective as a fit-tested NIOSH-certified disposable N95 filtering face piece respirator.
    - If an N95 respirator is not available, use a combination of a surgical mask and a face shield that covers the entire front (that extends to the chin or below) and sides of the face
    - Respirator use should be in the context of a complete respiratory protection program in accordance with OSHA Respiratory Protection standard (29 CFR 1910.134), which includes medical evaluations, training, and fit testing.

- Wear gloves and other protective outerwear as needed to avoid bare-skinned contact with animal carcasses, organs, bodily fluids, and pelts.
- Always immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds after:
    - Experiencing inadvertent direct contact with animal carcasses, organs, and pelts;
    - Cleaning up after animals, including any body fluids or waste;
    - Removing PPE or cloth face covering.
- Clean tools with reusable gloves and appropriate disinfectant. To disinfect, use products that meet EPA's criteria for use against SARS-CoV-2, diluted household bleach solutions prepared according to the manufacturer's label for disinfection, or alcohol solutions with at least 60% alcohol, and are appropriate for the surface. Follow manufacturer's directions for use.

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: Williams, Carl
Subject: RE: [External] FW: COVID-19 Guidance for farmed Mink (and other Mustelids) available on APHIS OH website
Date: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 2:01:00 PM

☺

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
Strategy and Policy
USDA:APHIS:Veterinary Services
2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Williams, Carl [mailto:carl.williams@dhhs.nc.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 2:00 PM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: Re: [External] FW: COVID-19 Guidance for farmed Mink (and other Mustelids) available on APHIS OH website

Thanks Jane. I will let you post to the list serve, then it comes straight from the source!

Carl

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 3:53 PM
To: Williams, Carl <carl.williams@dhhs.nc.gov>
Subject: [External] FW: COVID-19 Guidance for farmed Mink (and other Mustelids) available on APHIS OH website

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to report.spam@nc.gov

Hi Carl,

The Interim SARS-CoV-2 Guidance and Recommendations for Farmed Mink and

Other Mustelids has been posted!
https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/one_health/downloads/sars-cov-2-guidance-for-farmed-mink.pdf

Please share this with NASPHV members and others as deemed appropriate. I will also post it to the listserv.

Best,
Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
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From:	Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS
To:	Rooney, Jane A - APHIS; Flugge, Stephanie M - APHIS
Subject:	RE: Action -Review Requested: Sedlacek/Smith Letter-due by 3pm ET today (6/16)
Date:	Tuesday, June 16, 2020 11:12:30 AM

Ditto. ☺

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 12:48 PM
To: Flugge, Stephanie M - APHIS <stephanie.flugge@usda.gov>; Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Action -Review Requested: Sedlacek/Smith Letter-due by 3pm ET today (6/16)

We reviewed and approved as it was developed. Looks same.

Thanks,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
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Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Flugge, Stephanie M - APHIS
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 10:41 AM
To: Rushin, Gerald L - APHIS <gerald.l.rushin@usda.gov>; Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: Action -Review Requested: Sedlacek/Smith Letter-due by 3pm ET today (6/16)

Good morning/afternoon Jane and Jerry,

VSDA just sent this response letter on COVID-19 in mink for review . Please take a look at the letter an let me know if you have any edits or suggestions to the text. I know this is a short turn around but please share your reply with me by 1pm (MT)/ 3pm ET today.

Thanks,
Stephanie

From: Duong, Nhu-Phuong - APHIS
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 10:35 AM
To: Neese, Donald R - APHIS <Donald.Neese@usda.gov>; Flugge, Stephanie M - APHIS <stephanie.flugge@usda.gov>
Cc: Bare, Chelsea J - APHIS <chelsea.j.bare@usda.gov>
Subject: FW: ACTION REQUIRED: Sedlacek/Smith Letter

Hi Don/Stephanie,

Can you make sure staff has had a chance to review? I'll need a response by 3:00 PM ET.

Thank you,
Nhu

Nhu-Phuong Duong
Management Analyst, USDA-APHIS-VS-ODA
1400 Independence Ave., SW, Whitten 318E
Washington D.C. 20250
w: 202-799-7143
m: 240-397-1508
phuongnhu.duong@usda.gov

From: Stepney, Felicia D - APHIS
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 12:19 PM
To: APHIS-VS DA Assistants <vsdaassistants@usda.gov>; Curlett, Ed C - APHIS <ed.c.curlett@usda.gov>; Jones, Bethany - APHIS <bethany.x.jones@usda.gov>; Myers, Christina J - APHIS <christina.j.myers@usda.gov>; Needham, Christopher M - APHIS <christopher.m.needham@usda.gov>; Zimmers, Hallie - APHIS <hallie.zimmers@usda.gov>
Cc: McCain, Ke Wanda L - APHIS <kewanda.l.mccain@usda.gov>; Hodge, Deborah A - APHIS <deborah.a.hodge@usda.gov>
Subject: ACTION REQUIRED: Sedlacek/Smith Letter

Please clear this letter by 4:15 PM today.

Felicia Stepney
Management and Program Analyst & APHIS Stories Coordinator
Resource Management Operations, Legislative and Public Affairs
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA
4700 River Road, 2A-02J
(301) 851-4064-office phone

(301) 955-6621-mobile
(301) 734-5387

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
To: Carpenter, Ann (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD)
Cc: One Health (CDC)
Subject: RE: Agency POC Updates for OHFICCG Call Tomorrow
Date: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 8:32:00 AM

Hi Ann,

That goes without saying – unless I tell you I won't be on the call!

Thanks,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
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2150 Centre Ave., Building B, MS3E13
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Carpenter, Ann (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) [mailto:pzy4@cdc.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 7:13 AM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Cc: One Health (CDC) <onehealth@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Agency POC Updates for OHFICCG Call Tomorrow

Hi Jane,

Great, thank you very much! Would you be able to share a quick verbal update as well with APHIS news?

Thank you!

Ann

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 6:17 PM
To: Carpenter, Ann (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <pzy4@cdc.gov>
Cc: One Health (CDC) <onehealth@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Agency POC Updates for OHFICCG Call Tomorrow

Hi Ann,

Please find below OH updates for APHIS Veterinary Services:

Livestock Working Group:

- Updated information from the Netherlands
  - There are now 15 mink farms confirmed positive for SARS-CoV-2.
  - All positive farms are being culled and will lay fallow until permission to restock; with incentives, some farms may not restock (as mink farming is banned in the Netherlands in 2024).
  - There are approximately 120 mink farms still in operation in the Netherlands. All are undergoing active surveillance; weekly submission of dead mink and live animal serology.
  - Farm employee testing has increased.
  - Farm cats are also being tested; some farms are seeing up to 30% positives, with PCR and sequence similar to the mink.
- Started discussions and information gathering to inform development of SARS-CoV-2 guidance for farmed rabbits.

National Animal Health Laboratory Network

- Four private veterinary diagnostic laboratories have received and been asked to complete the same spreadsheet completed weekly by National Animal Health Laboratory Network laboratories.

- Current animal testing numbers in the National Animal Health Laboratory Network laboratories testing for SARS-CoV-2:
  - Approximately 285 animals tested
  - 84% are dogs, cats and ferrets
  - 31% were reported to be clinical at the time of testing

- Two National Animal Health Laboratory Network laboratories are approved to electronically message SARS-CoV-2 test results in the LMS database. Three additional laboratories are working on the approval and one more laboratory has stated interest in beginning the process.

National Veterinary Services Laboratories

On June 4, the National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) reported a confirmed case of SARS CoV-2 in an eight-year-old domestic cat residing in a COVID positive household in

Cook Co. Illinois. The cat was presented with a fever and oral ulcerations. Samples from the cat tested non-negative by SARS-CoV-2 PCR at a private veterinary laboratory, IDEXX, after testing negative by a routine feline respiratory panel. Testing at NVSL confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection by RT-PCR and sequencing. The history and test results meet the criteria of a confirmed case; information has been added to the USDA confirmation table and was reported to OIE on June 10th. The cat is recovering

Jane

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Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Carpenter, Ann (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) [mailto:pzy4@cdc.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 12:40 PM
To: kristina.m.mcelroy2.civ@mail.mil; Gay, Cyril <cyril.gay@usda.gov>; Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>; Hart, Ellen (FDA/CVM) <Ellen.Hart@fda.hhs.gov>; Cote, Andrea - FSIS <andrea.cote@usda.gov>; jsleeman@usgs.gov; mchopkins@usgs.gov; pbright@usaid.gov; Joseph, Debbie <Debbie.Joseph@hq.dhs.gov>; Egan, Sarah <sarah.egan@fema.dhs.gov>
Cc: One Health (CDC) <onehealth@cdc.gov>; nwn2@cdc.gov; Wilson-Egbe, Wanda (OS/ASPR/EMMO) <Wanda.Wilson-egbe@hhs.gov>
Subject: Agency POC Updates for OHFICCG Call Tomorrow

Dear OHFICCG Agency POCs,

Thank you for your ongoing collaboration on the OHFICCG calls addressing the One Health aspects of COVID-19. We greatly appreciate the information that you provided last week. I wanted to reach out and confirm that you will be able to attend the call and share agency updates this week, if you have not done so already.

If you are unable to make the call, please identify a back-up who will be able to provide agency updates in your place. For individuals who also attend the Federal-State call on Thursdays, please let me know if you are unable to attend that call as well.

Please let me know if you have any questions, and thank you for your partnership!

Sincerely,

Ann Carpenter

Ann Carpenter, DVM, MPH
ORISE Fellow
One Health Office
National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
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404-718-5200

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From: Porter-Spalding, Barbara A - APHIS
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Subject: RE: AVMA Smart Brief link to article that mentions our guidance for mink producers
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 1:53:46 PM

(b) (5)(DPP)
[redacted]

B

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:53 PM
To: Porter-Spalding, Barbara A - APHIS <barbara.a.porter-spalding@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: AVMA Smart Brief link to article that mentions our guidance for mink producers

Now let's hope we can get our response plan worked out before anything hits!

(b) (5)(DPP)
[redacted]

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
Director, One Health Coordination
Office of Interagency Coordination
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Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Porter-Spalding, Barbara A - APHIS
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 1:48 PM
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: AVMA Smart Brief link to article that mentions our guidance for mink producers

Bravo!

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS

Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 3:46 PM
To: david.smith@agriculture.ny.gov; maggie.baldwin@state.co.us; Garvey, Ann (CDC idph.iowa.gov) <Ann.Garvey@idph.iowa.gov>; Porter-Spalding, Barbara A - APHIS <barbara.a.porter-spalding@usda.gov>; Loiacono, Christina M - APHIS <christina.m.loiacono@usda.gov>
Cc: Olander, Doris - APHIS <doris.olander@usda.gov>
Subject: FW: AVMA Smart Brief link to article that mentions our guidance for mink producers

Wisconsin State Journal article (linked in today's AVMA Smart Brief) that mentions our USDA – CDC SARS-CoV-2 guidance for mink producers: https://madison.com/wsj/news/local/environment/wisconsin-ag-officials-caution-mink-farmers-after-covid-19-outbreaks-in-europe/article_80180947-7539-5104-bbc5-81b0736cd2db.html#tracking-source=home-top-story-1

Jane

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Ph: 970-494-7397
Mobile: 301-789-3064
Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov

From: Miller, Lori P - APHIS
To: Olander, Doris - APHIS
Cc: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Subject: RE: Biozip bags?
Date: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 2:29:58 PM

Hi, Doris.

I agree with your logic;

(b) (5)(DPP)

Lori P. Miller, PE
Senior Staff Officer/Environmental Engineer

United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Veterinary Services
Strategy and Policy

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Riverdale, MD 20737

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<image002.jpg><https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAAPHIS/subscriber/topics?qsp=USDAAPHIS_1>Click here to subscribe to the VS Animal Health Stakeholder Registry<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAAPHIS/subscriber/topics?qsp=USDAAPHIS_1>

From: Olander, Doris - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 4:11 PM
To: Miller, Lori P - APHIS <lori.p.miller@usda.gov>
Cc: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Biozip bags?

Hi Lori. Jane and I are going to talk at 2:30 MT today. My purpose is to "lean in" Here are a few #s

- Male mink weigh around 2.5#
- Female mink weigh about 1.3 #
- Mink have just had kits which are tiny.
- In the fall the mink are almost adults and are pelted
- In WI in 2018, 970,000 pelts were produced
- Utah is #2 at ~700,000 pelts
- There are still breeders kept after pelting so fall population in WI is over a million
- Our largest farm in WI has 300,000+ animals.
- Per 100,000 adult mink you have about 185,000 lbs of mean, fast caged critters that have to be hand grabbed one by one.
- An average person would have a hard time catching caged mink without getting hurt
- As usual disposal is often the big hurdle
- I would go with the Hurikan, for sure!
- The 1000 model could run 2000#/hr
- 2000#/hr can dispose of 100,000 # in 4 days or so
- ***Can we still get one on turnkey from Clean Harbors?***
- Since mink are not livestock can APHIS support its deployment with personnel under COVID $?

Doris

From: Miller, Lori P - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 2:00 PM
To: Olander, Doris - APHIS <doris.olander@usda.gov>; Brown, Lisa A - APHIS <lisa.a.brown@usda.gov>
Cc: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Biozip bags?

By way of copy to this email, I'll bring Jane Rooney of our One Health program into the mix. She may be able to advise on what our strategy for depopulation might be with covid mink.

Covid would be handled like any other zoonotic animal disease, such as HPAI. However, public perception might be a factor making it even more difficult than HPAI. (b) (5)(DPP) [redacted]

Lori P. Miller, PE
Senior Staff Officer/Environmental Engineer

United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Veterinary Services
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From: Olander, Doris - APHIS
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 2:03 PM
To: Brown, Lisa A - APHIS <lisa.a.brown@usda.gov>
Cc: Miller, Lori P - APHIS <lori.p.miller@usda.gov>
Subject: Biozip bags?

Hi Lisa. Does NVS have any Biozip bags that could be shipped **IF** we need them for disposal of COVID infected mink. The Netherlands has had multiple mink farms come down with COVID and all of them have been depopulated. I am just forward thinking because WI has the largest mink industry in the US including one farm with over 300,000 animals.

Regards, Doris

USDA VETERINARY SERVICES –Wisconsin
Veterinary Epidemiologist
608 444 5237
doris.olander@usda.gov

From: Jones, Annette@CDFA
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Subject: RE: COVID-19 Guidance for farmed Mink (and other Mustelids) available on APHIS OH website
Date: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 3:46:03 PM

Will do. Thanks

Annette Jones, D.V.M.
Director and State Veterinarian
AHFSS, CDFA
(916) 900-5000

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 12:52 PM
To: Jones, Annette@CDFA <annette.jones@cdfa.ca.gov>
Subject: COVID-19 Guidance for farmed Mink (and other Mustelids) available on APHIS OH website

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Hi Annette,

The Interim SARS-CoV-2 Guidance and Recommendations for Farmed Mink and Other Mustelids has been posted!
https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/one_health/downloads/sars-cov-2-guidance-for-farmed-mink.pdf

Please share this with NASAHO members and others as deemed appropriate.

Best,
Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
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Strategy and Policy
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From: Fabregas, Eilyn N - APHIS
To: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS; Walker, Thomas R - APHIS
Subject: RE: Dutch mink cull starts as coronavirus spreads to 10th farm
Date: Monday, June 8, 2020 9:13:42 AM
Attachments: image003.png
image004.png

Okay, great! Let us know how we can be of further assistance.

Best,

eilyn

From: Rooney, Jane A - APHIS
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 9:20 AM
To: Fabregas, Eilyn N - APHIS <eilyn.n.fabregas@usda.gov>; Walker, Thomas R - APHIS <thomas.r.walker@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Dutch mink cull starts as coronavirus spreads to 10th farm

Hi Eilyn,

Thanks for this information. Our mink guidance document is in final clearance (unbelievable how long this has taken) and will be sent out to our NASAHO, NASPHV and industry stakeholders as soon I we hear clearance is complete. We also have a draft response plan in the works.

Best,

Jane

Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.
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From: Fabregas, Eilyn N - APHIS
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 7:07 AM
To: Walker, Thomas R - APHIS <thomas.r.walker@usda.gov>; Rooney, Jane A - APHIS <jane.a.rooney@usda.gov>
Subject: Dutch mink cull starts as coronavirus spreads to 10th farm

https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-netherlands-mink-idUSKBN23D0KB
WORLD NEWS

JUNE 6, 2020 / 7:48 AM / 2 DAYS AGO

AMSTERDAM (Reuters) - Dutch mink farms have begun a government-ordered cull amid concern that animals infected with coronavirus could transmit the illness to humans.



FILE PHOTO: A mink farm is seen during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak in Oploo, Netherlands June 3, 2020. REUTERS/Piroschka van de Wouw/File Photo

Infected mink have been found on 10 Dutch farms where the ferret-like animals are bred for their fur, according to the country's Food & Wares Authority.

"All mink breeding farms where there is an infection will be cleared, and farms where there are no infections won't be," said spokeswoman Frederique Hermie.

The government ordered the cull of 10,000 mink on Wednesday after determining that affected farms could act as a long-term reservoir of disease.

Dutch mink were first infected with coronavirus by their handlers in April. In May, the government identified two cases in which humans had been infected by sick animals — the only animal-to-human transmissions known since the global outbreak began in China.

The cull involves farm workers in protective clothing using gas on mink mothers and pups. The bodies will be sent to a disposal plant and the farms will be disinfected.

Groups opposed to the fur trade say the outbreak is another reason to close all farms.

"We are calling for the 24 countries around the world that still allow mink farming to very rapidly evaluate the situation and evidence coming out of the Netherlands," said Claire Bass, executive director of the Humane Society International - United Kingdom.

The group says China, Denmark and Poland are the largest mink producers, with 60 million killed annually for their fur.

According to the Dutch Federation of Pelt Farmers there are 140 mink farms in the Netherlands, exporting 90 million euros ($101.56 million) worth of fur a year.

Federation spokesman Wim Verhagen said the cull was "very hard for farmers to accept" as few infected animals show visible signs of sickness. The government is compensating affected farmers.

(This story corrects name, title of Humane Society representative.)

Eilyn N. Fabregas, MSc, RBP

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If you think safety is expensive, try an accident!