

**For Consideration**  
**Comments by the United States of America on Texts Submitted for Consideration**  
**International Animal Health Code Committee**  
**January 2002 Report**

## Chapter 2.1.1 - Foot and Mouth Disease

### [Article 2.1.1.6.bis](#)

#### **Current Wording (as shown in the January 2002 Report):**

##### Recovery of free status

- 1) When an FMD outbreak or FMDV infection occurs in an FMD free country or zone where vaccination is not practised, one of the following waiting periods are is required to regain the [disease free] status of FMD free country or zone where vaccination is not practised:
  - a) 3 months after the last *case* where *stamping-out* and serological surveillance are applied, or
  - b) 3 months after the slaughter of the last vaccinated animal where *stamping-out*, emergency vaccination and serological surveillance are applied, or
  - c) 6 months after the last case or the last vaccination (according to the event that occurs the latest), where stamping-out, emergency vaccination not followed by the slaughtering of all vaccinated animals, and serological surveillance are applied, provided that a serological survey based on the detection of antibodies to nonstructural proteins of FMDV demonstrates the absence of infection in the remaining vaccinated population.
  
- 2) When an FMD outbreak or FMDV infection occurs in an FMD free country or zone where vaccination is practised, the following waiting period is required to regain the disease free status:
  - a) 6 months after the last case where stamping-out, serological surveillance and emergency vaccination are applied, provided that a serological survey based on the detection of antibodies to nonstructural proteins of FMDV demonstrates the absence of infection, or
  - b) 12 months after the last case where stamping-out is applied, [or
  - b) 2 years after the last case without stamping-out.]provided that effective surveillance has been carried out.

The application to regain the free status according to one of the procedures described above should be submitted to the OIE by the country in question within 2 years of the occurrence of the first FMD outbreak or the first detection of FMDV infection, otherwise the provisions of either Article 2.1.1.2., or Article 2.1.1.3., or Article 2.1.1.4., or Article 2.1.1.5., as relevant, are applicable to the country.

#### **Suggested wording (added changes shown in bold and double underlined, and suggested deletions are shown as strike outs):**

##### Recovery of free status **for a country/zone where vaccination is NOT practised**

- 1) When an FMD outbreak or FMDV infection occurs in an FMD free country or zone where vaccination is not practised, one of the following waiting periods are is required to regain the [disease free] status of FMD free country or zone where vaccination is not practised:

- a) 3 months after the last *case* where *stamping-out* and serological surveillance are applied, or
- b) 3 months after the slaughter of the last vaccinated animal where *stamping-out*, emergency vaccination and serological surveillance are applied, or
- c) 6 months after the last *case* or the last vaccination is applied (according to the event that occurs the latest), where *stamping-out*, emergency vaccination not followed by the slaughtering of all vaccinated animals, provided unvaccinated sentinel animals are introduced into the herd/s, and serological surveillance of the vaccinated population is done. ~~are applied, provided that a~~ **A** serological survey based on the detection of antibodies to nonstructural proteins of FMDV demonstrates the absence of infection in the remaining vaccinated population, examination of the sentinel animals finds no clinical signs consistent with FMD, and diagnostic testing of the sentinels shows no evidence of infection with FMDV.

### **Recovery of free status for a country/zone where vaccination IS practiced**

- 2) When an FMD *outbreak* or FMDV infection occurs in an FMD free country or zone where vaccination is practised, the following waiting period is required to regain the ~~disease free~~ status of FMD free country/zone where vaccination is practiced:

a) 6 months after the last *case* where *stamping-out*, serological surveillance and emergency vaccination are applied, provided that a serological survey based on the detection of antibodies to nonstructural proteins of FMDV demonstrates the absence of infection, ~~or~~

b) 12 months after the last *case* where *stamping-out* is applied, [or

b) 2 years after the last case without *stamping-out*.]

provided that effective surveillance has been carried out.

The application to regain the free status (for either FMD free country/zone where vaccination is not practiced or FMD free country/zone where vaccination is practiced) according to one of the procedures described above should be submitted to the OIE by the country in question within 2 years of the occurrence of the first FMD *outbreak* or the first detection of FMDV infection, otherwise the provisions of either Article 2.1.1.2., or Article 2.1.1.3., or Article 2.1.1.4., or Article 2.1.1.5., as relevant, are applicable to the country.

Rationale: Headings and language shown helps to clarify what status is being regained, and under Article 2.1.1.6 bis 1 c), the use of sentinels and their examination assures that field virus is not circulating among a vaccinated population.