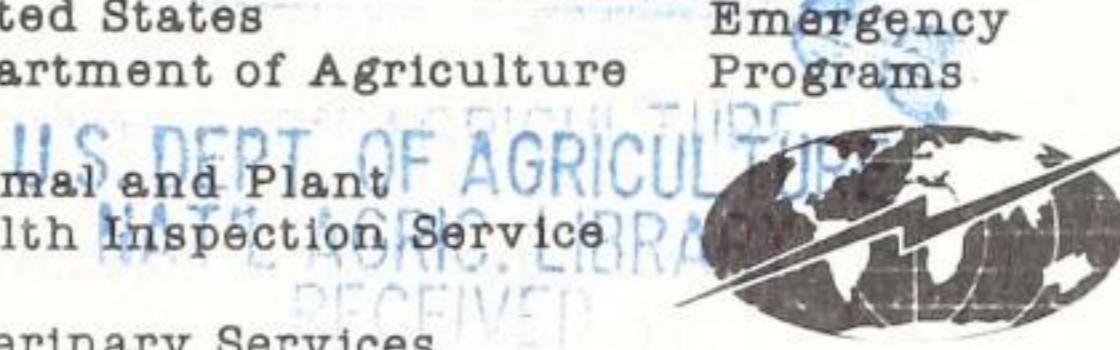


# Foreign Animal Disease Report

Number 12-3

United States Department of Agriculture Emergency Programs  
 Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service  
 Veterinary Services



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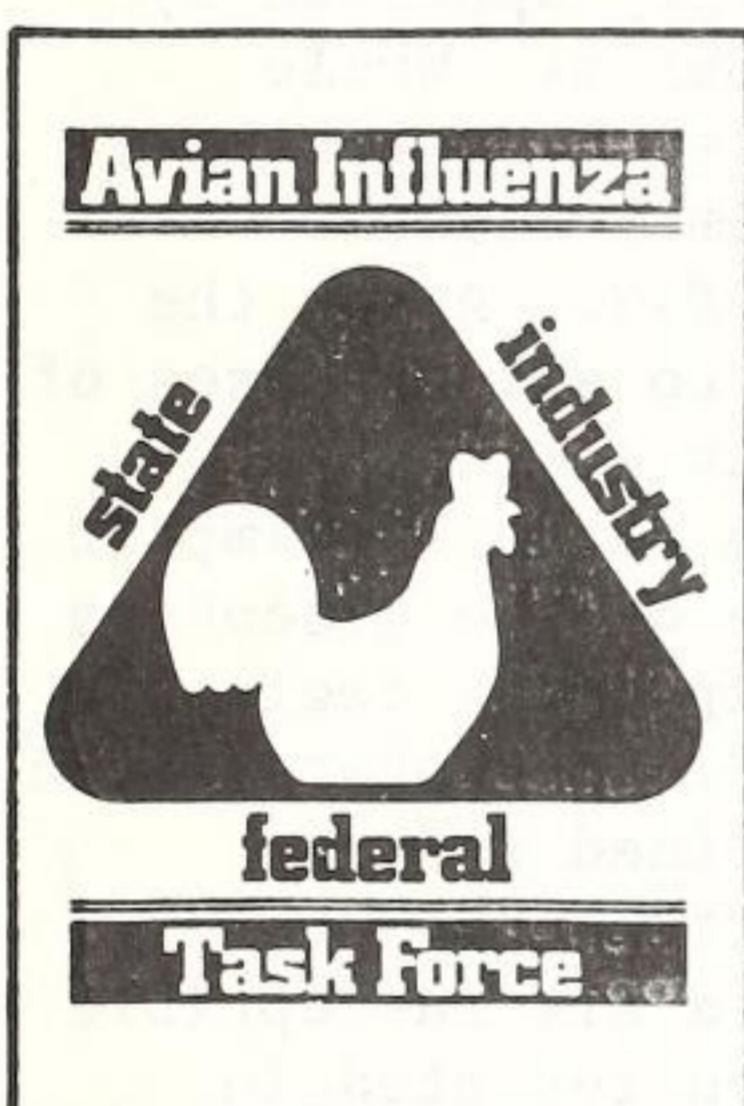
September 1984

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**Avian Influenza  
Update**

Since the last update on avian influenza in the June 1984 Foreign Animal Disease Report (12-2), a number of advances in eradication have been made.



The area in Pa. under quarantine was reduced in early June by 1,476 square miles, which leaves approximately 4,024 square miles under quarantine.

A total of 328 flocks with lethal avian influenza virus were depopulated by the task force, and indemnity was paid the owners. An additional 18 flocks were depopulated by the owners without indemnity.

A total of 47 seropositive flocks were depopulated with indemnity. An additional 20 flocks were depopulated by owners without indemnity.

The last avian influenza virus was isolated in Pa. from a flock depopulated March 31, 1984.

In Va., the poultry industry and State depopulated four flocks prior to task force involvement. The Avian Influenza Task Force has depopulated 65 infected flocks and four seropositive flocks.

All flocks known to be affected with avian influenza have been depopulated. A poultry disease surveillance program is in full operation in Pa. and Va., and is expected to continue until January 1985 or longer, depending on the quarantine release dates. (Dr. Allan A. Furr, 301 436-8091)

**Exotic  
Newcastle  
Disease**

Velogenic viscerotropic Newcastle disease (VVND, exotic Newcastle disease) appeared in the States of Calif., Ut., Mo., Okla., Ala., Ga., and Fla., during the spring and early summer months of 1984. The cases in Calif., Ut., Mo., and Okla., were related to shipments of baby yellow-naped Amazon parrots. This marks the sixth consecutive year that yellow-napes have been associated with introductions of VVND into the United States.

Very young spectacled Amazon parrots with VVND were sold by a dealer in Ala., resulting in the spread of the disease to Ala., Ga., and Fla. Some of these birds appeared to be as young as 4 weeks of age. The task of tracing movements from this dealer was difficult because no records had been kept of the infected birds that were sold for cash at a bird show in Atlanta, Ga.

An outbreak that seems unrelated to any of the other VVND cases this year also occurred in Fla., requiring the depopulation of two premises that had received yellow napes from a group of 10 brought into the country from an unknown source. Investigation of this case was continuing at the time this issue of FAD Report went to press.

All infected birds have been depopulated to eliminate VVND. Commercial poultry have not been involved in any of these occurrences. (Dr. K. A. Hand, 301 436-8065)

Import Animals

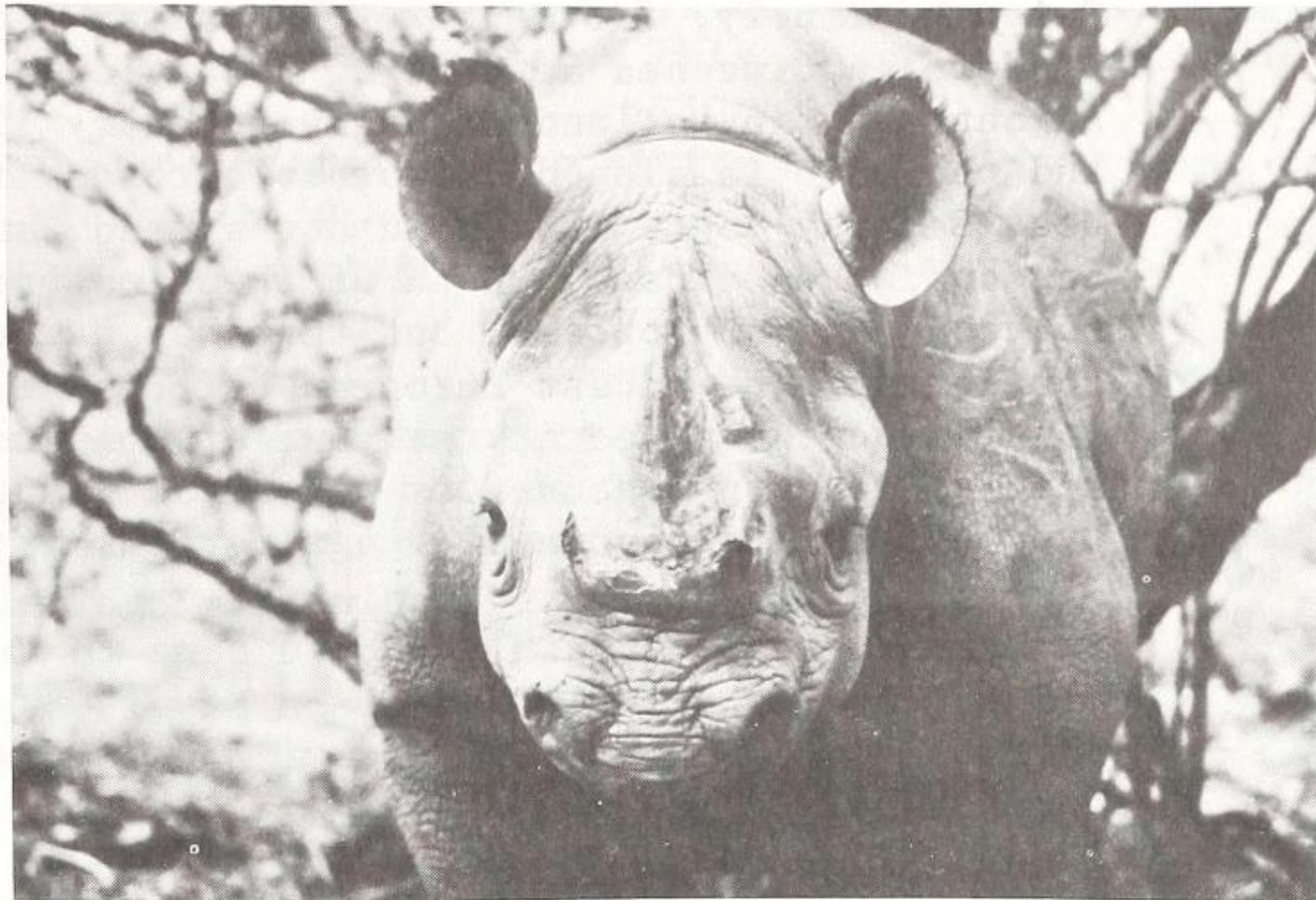
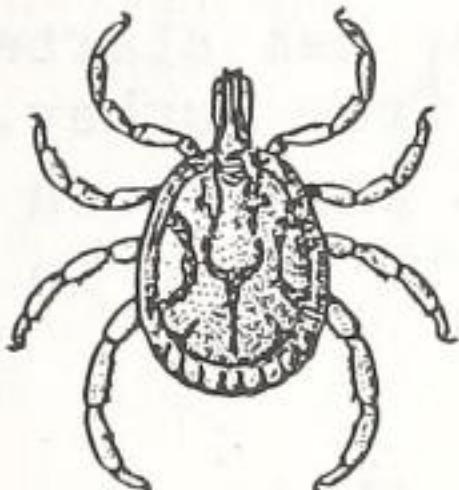
A total of 333 Chilean llamas and alpacas were placed in the Harry S. Truman Animal Import Center (HSTAIC), Key West, Fla., during August 1984 in preparation for entry into the United States. These animals had been transferred earlier from quarantine facilities supervised by the Chilean veterinary authorities to an embarkation quarantine facility approved by the U.S. Department of Agriculture at Arica, Chile. Whole blood, serum, and probang samples were collected by Veterinary Services personnel and sent to the Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (FADDL) at Plum Island, N.Y. After the animals were shown to be healthy and negative to all diseases of concern, they were transferred to HSTAIC for an additional 3 month period of quarantine and testing. These stringent import requirements were considered necessary because of the discovery of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) in Chile's Trapatrapa region in March 1984. This region is approximately 1,931 kilometers south of the place where the llamas and alpacas remained under Government supervised quarantine before and after the March outbreak. The Chilean Government has destroyed all susceptible species in the affected area. FMD has not been reported in Chile since May. (Dr. M. P. Dulin, 301 436-8170)

New Import Center

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) opened its Los Angeles Animal Import Center (LAAIC) in May 1984. This new facility has 48 horse stalls and approximately 40 isolettes for the quarantine of pet birds. The LAAIC is the first quarantine facility to be operated by the Department on the West Coast. Other USDA quarantine facilities are located at Newburgh, N.Y., Miami, Fla., and Honolulu, Hawaii. (Dr. M. P. Dulin, 301 436-8170)

Exotic Ticks in Texas

On June 5, 1984, four male bont ticks--Amblyomma hebraeum Koch--were identified on a female black rhinoceros in Texas. The importance of this introduction of a foreign tick lies in its ability to serve as a vector of heartwater disease in cattle, sheep, and goats. An article on heartwater appeared in the June 1982 issue (10-1). The rhinoceros was kept with another female and a male on the La Coma Redgate Ranch near Linn, Texas. These were part of a consignment of five imported into



the United States from South Africa on March 23, 1984. The other two rhinoceroses, one male and one female, are on the Waterfall Ranch, an exotic game ranch near Glen Rose, Texas.

The ticks were collected on May 23, 1984, by Dr. S. L. Huntress, veterinarian at the Gladys Porter Zoo, Brownsville, Texas, during a postmortem examination of one of the female rhinoceroses on the La Coma Redgate Ranch.

On June 7, 1984, Dr. D. D. Wilson, entomologist for Emergency Programs, and Mr. R. D. Richard, entomologist from the National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL), were sent to Texas to examine the rhinoceroses for additional bont ticks and to conduct a survey for ticks on both ranches.

On the La Coma Redgate Ranch, three male A. hebraeum, nine male and one partially engorged female Cayenne ticks--A. cajannense--were found on the male rhinoceros. Six female A. cajannense were found on the female rhinoceros. No bont ticks were found on the two rhinoceroses on the Waterfall Ranch; however, one male Lone Star tick--A. americanum--was found on the male rhinoceros, and two male and three unengorged female A. americanum were found on the female rhinoceroses. Both A. cajannense and A. americanum are endemic in the United States.

No bont ticks were found on either of the ranches when the rhinoceros pastures were surveyed with tick drags and carbon dioxide traps.

The rhinoceroses on both ranches were sprayed with an acaricide after they were examined for ticks.

A followup investigation was conducted in July 1984. The rhinoceroses were reexamined for ticks and the pastures surveyed again without finding any bont ticks. (Dr. D. D. Wilson, 301, 436-8087)