

## WHAT IS PESTE DES PETITS RUMINANTS?

Peste Des Petits Ruminants (PPR) is a highly contagious viral disease caused by a Morbillivirus with closely related to rinderpest virus.

## WHAT TYPES OF ANIMALS ARE MOST COMMONLY AFFECTED BY THE PESTE DES PETITS RUMINANTS?

- Mainly goats and sheep;
- Young animals are more severely affected, goats more than sheep;
- Cattle and pigs may have an inapparent infection but do not transmit the disease.

## WHY PPP IS IT IMPORTANT TO BE CONTROLLED?

The Peste Des Petits Ruminants is a disease that can lead to major economic losses, can have high rates of morbidity and mortality - up to 100% in areas where the disease first appears.

## WHAT IS THE GEOGRAPHICAL SPREAD OF THE PPP VIRUS?

The first case of the disease was recorded in Ivory Coast in 1942. The virus is currently present in 70 countries in Asia, Africa, the Middle and Middle East, and has spread to Europe, where it has been present since 2016 (first appeared in Georgia).

The first outbreak of a Peste Des Petits Ruminants virus in the European Union was registered in 2018 with sheep in the Bulgarian region of Ambol on the border with the Thrace region in Turkey.

The emergence of a Peste Des Petits Ruminants virus can threaten livestock production in Europe and the Balkans.

## HOW PPP VIRUS CAN BE TRANSMITTED?

The Peste Des Petits Ruminants virus is transmitted by direct contact or aerosol with infected animals or their secretions and excreta (tears, nasal discharge, saliva, spit and faeces). Water, feed troughs, and bedding can also be contaminated with secretions and become additional sources of infection.

Animals may also excrete the virus before showing signs of the disease.

## WHAT ARE THE CLINICAL SIGNS OF PESTE DES PETITS RUMINANTS DISEASE?

- Sudden onset of pyrexia (up to 41 °C), that may last from 3 to 5 days;
- Depression, anorexia and dryness of the muzzle;
- Watery and mucopurulent nasal and lachrymal discharges become mucopurulent. Excessive salivation;
- Hyperaemic gums, erosive and necrotic lesions in the oral cavity;
- Profuse diarrhoea, dehydration, progressive weight loss and exhaustion, which eventually leads to death;
- Rapid and difficult breathing;
- Pregnant animals may abort;
- In mild infections, animals may convalesce;
- The morbidity / diseased rate can reach 100% with a high mortality rate;

Clinical signs and mortality may vary significantly depending on the virulence of the virus and the immune status of the animal. In mild infections, animals can be cured. Morbidity and mortality rates can vary from 20% to 100%, depending on the presence of the disease in the region.



SICK ANIMAL - DEPRESSION AND ANOREXIA



SEROUS AND MUCOCURRENT NASAL DISCHARGE



EROSIVE AND NECROTIC LESIONS IN THE ORAL CAVITY

#### HOW CAN THE PPP BE PREVENTED AND CONTROLLED?

- Animal movement control;
- Quarantine and diagnostic testing of animals;
- Cleaning and disinfection of animal holding facilities;
- By applying biosecurity measures.

#### WHO SHOULD I CONTACT IF I SUSPECT PESTE DES PETITS RUMINANTS?

If you suspect the disease, consult your veterinarian or veterinary inspector immediately.



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## WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THIS DISEASE?

