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# THE OFFICIAL

Official acts and recommendations



# OFFICIAL ACTS

# EXPERT REPORTS

# ANIMAL HEALTH

*The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) maintains a list of terrestrial and aquatic animal diseases that are of international concern owing to their effect on animal or human health, and OIE Members are obliged to notify the OIE when any OIE-listed disease (or infection, or infestation) is detected in their country, zone or compartment. In turn, the OIE disseminates this information to other Members, so that they can take the necessary actions to prevent the transboundary spread of these animal diseases.*

The [list of diseases notifiable to the OIE](#) is reviewed on a regular basis, and exclusions and new inclusions are adopted by the World Assembly of OIE Delegates at its General Session every year.

It is important that OIE Members share a common understanding of what constitutes a 'case' for the purposes of notification – the case definition – so that the occurrence and distribution of confirmed cases can be notified consistently among Members and over time. The [Terrestrial Animal Health Code \(Terrestrial Code\)](#) does not yet include a case definition for all OIE-listed terrestrial diseases, which could result in poor or inconsistent notification of disease events. To address this, and to assist Members in meeting their notification obligations, **the OIE is working in collaboration with subject-matter experts to develop case definitions** for those OIE-listed diseases where this information is absent or incomplete in the *Terrestrial Code*. The case definitions will eventually be incorporated in the *Terrestrial Code* through the [OIE standard-setting process](#), in accordance with the prioritised work programme of the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission. In the interim they will be made publicly available on the OIE website after the endorsement of the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases.

The development of these case definitions supports the initiative of the OIE to codify information included in notifications submitted by OIE Members in the [World Animal Health Information System \(OIE-WAHIS\)](#). Accurate codification allows identification and consistent classification of core information, key components of which (including pathogenic agent and host species) are captured by the case definitions.

## ANIMAL HEALTH

### ► AD HOC GROUPS

# Developing case definitions for OIE-listed diseases for terrestrial animals

#### KEYWORDS

#animal disease, #OIE-listed disease, #Terrestrial Animal Health Code, #World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE).



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