



## International Animal Health Division

International Animal Disease Monitoring

## Preliminary Outbreak Assessment



Ref: VITT 1200/RVF Tanzania

Date: 13 February 2007

## Rift Valley Fever in Tanzania

**Note:** Defra's International Animal Health Division (IAHD) monitors outbreaks of specified disease around the world. Rift Valley Fever (RVF) is among those diseases of concern.

### Disease Report

Six outbreaks of Rift Valley Fever (RVF) were confirmed in Arusha province of Tanzania (Sale District, Ngorongoro) on 7 February 2007 (see map). The outbreak started in mid-January and has affected cattle, sheep and goats (OIE, 2007). These outbreaks follow heavy rains in the local area.



### Situation Assessment

The last case of RVF in animals in Tanzania was reported in July 1998. RVF is a viral disease within the genus *Phlebovirus* (family Bunyaviridae).

The outbreaks follow other RVF outbreaks that started in Kenya in December 2006.

EU rules do not allow the import of live ruminant animals or unprocessed animal products from Tanzania.

Further details about RVF may be found at (<http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/diseases/monitoring/pdf/rvf-kenya.pdf>).

### Conclusion

Based on the disease report and current information, there appears to be a negligible risk of introducing the disease to the UK by legal trade.

We will continue to monitor developments and will re-assess the situation as new information becomes available.

### References

OIE. (2007). Rift Valley fever, Tanzania. TZA 12-02-07 OIE Alert Message. Received by e-mail Monday 12/02/2007 at 13:53.