



JABATAN PERKHIDMATAN VETERINAR MALAYSIA

LAPORAN LIPUTAN MEDIA

8 Ogos 2017

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OLEH:

**SEKSYEN KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT DAN ANTARABANGSA
BAHAGIAN PERANCANGAN
JABATAN PERKHIDMATAN VETERINAR MALAYSIA**

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Matang declared 'rabies-controlled area'

By John Bunyan
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IPOH — The Perak government has declared the Matang sub-district as a "rabies controlled area" effective today.

State Health Committee chairman Datuk Dr Mah Hang Soon said the declaration was made after results of 43 samples taken by the authorities were negative of the rabies infection.

"Many would wonder why we have not de-gazetted the area, but we are following international standards when it comes to disease control or prevention.

"We are following strict procedures, so there are a few steps we have to take before we can de-gazette the place.

"It takes about two years to de-gazette a place. Declaring it a rabies-controlled area is a start," Mah told reporters.

On July 4, two sisters aged 12 and 11 from Kuala Sepetang in Taiping were vaccinated as a precautionary measure after they were bitten by their rabid pet dog.

The dog, which was put down by a private veterinarian, was confirmed to have rabies based on samples taken from its brain.

Following the incident, Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Zambry Abd Kadir declared the Matang sub-district a "rabies infection area" as a measure to ensure the disease did not spread.



Dr Mah says the state government has declared the Matang sub-district a 'rabies-controlled area'. — Picture by Marcus Pheong

Dr Mah said yesterday's declaration was also made to ensure animal monitoring in the area would continue according to protocols set by the Veterinary Department.

"At the moment, we have vaccinated 371 dogs and cats," he added.

Dr Mah reassured the public Kuala Sepetang was safe to visit.

"I was told by the people there and also their assemblyman (Chua Yee Ling) that the usual crowd is back and things are back to normal.

"There won't be roadblocks from now on," he said.

However, Dr Mah urged the public to continue taking precautions to ensure an outbreak does not occur.

"Vaccinate your pets and read up on the issues related to diseases. If you want to adopt a stray dog or cat, ensure they are licensed."

Dr Mah added the authorities were still trying to determine how the disease reached the district.

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BABI berkeliraran di pekarangan Masjid Kariah Dato Kelana Petra Mubarak Al Haj, Ampangan.

Babi kerap masuk kawasan masjid

Seremban: Kehadiran sekumpulan babi yang memasuki perkarangan Masjid Kariah Dato Kelana Petra Mubarak Al Haj, Ampangan membimbangkan jemaah berikutan menimbulkan banyak masalah.

Imam Satu masjid berkenaan, Datuk Muhamad Yasin berkata, babi itu memasuki kawasan masjid sejak tiga hari lalu kerana habitat asalnya mengecil.

Katanya, haiwan itu sebelum ini mendiami kawasan di Bukit Tabuh di belakang masjid, namun kawasan terbabit diterokai sebagai projek perumahan.

"Disebabkan itu, ia kerap masuk ke kawasan masjid untuk mencari makan," katanya ketika ditemui, semalam.

Muhamad berkata, penduduk memberitahu babi itu turut berkeliraran di se-

kitar kawasan perumahan berdekatan sejak awal tahun ini.

"Kami bimbang haiwan ini akan menyondol jemaah dan meninggalkan najis. Di masjid ini juga kelas pengajian pada petang dibuka dan dibimbangi menakutkan pelajar," katanya.

Menurutnya, pihaknya sudah membuat aduan kepada jawatankuasa Kemajuan dan Keselamatan Kampung berhampiran serta Jabatan Perlindungan Hidupan Liar dan Taman Negara (PERHILITAN).

"Kakitangan PERHILITAN pernah datang ke sini beberapa bulan lalu untuk memasang perangkap namun haiwan ini masih banyak. Selalunya babi dewasa akan datang dalam lima ekor pada satu masa dan tindakan berkesan perlu dibuat," katanya.

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8 OGOS 2017			

Penyakit anjing gila terkawal di Sarawak

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■ KUALA LUMPUR 7 OGOS

PENYAKIT anjing gila yang melanda di Sarawak kini berada dalam keadaan terkawal dan tiada kes baharu yang dilaporkan.

Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr. S. Subramaniam bagaimanapun berkata, Kementerian belum boleh mengisytiharkan kawasan itu bebas sepenuhnya sehingga tiada sebarang kes tersebut direkod selama dua tahun berturut-turut.

"Laporan terakhir Jabatan Veterinar Sarawak mengesahkan pemeriksaan ke atas anjing di kawasan Bau, Sarawak itu menunjukkan bacaan negatif dan tiada lagi kes terbaharu di kawasan berkenaan.

"Jika keadaan ini kekal dan tiada bukti penyakit anjing dijangkiti virus itu baru Kementerian boleh anggap kawasan berkenaan adalah terkawal," katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian selepas melancarkan kempen amalan pemakanan sihat 'suku suku separuh' di Sekolah Kebangsaan Setiawangsa di sini hari ini.

Yang turut hadir Timbalan Menteri Pendidikan, Datuk P. Kamalanathan serta Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr. Noor Hisham Abdullah.

Sempena kempen berkenaan, Subramaniam berharap, kempen yang diadakan secara menyeluruh dengan penglibatan pelbagai pihak termasuk agensi kesihatan, masyarakat dapat memainkan peranan mengamalkan pemakanan sihat dan seterusnya mengurangkan risiko penyakit berbahaya.

Katanya, kempen membawa mesej penting yang menerangkan Konsep Pinggan Sihat Malaysia di mana maksud suku bahagian pinggan diisi dengan karbohidrat seperti nasi, mi atau roti, suku lagi diisi dengan sumber protein manakala separuh lagi untuk buah dan sayur.



S. SUBRAMANIAM

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Matang rabies-free in two years

District a controlled area for now but is safe to visit, says committee

IPOH: It will take about two years for the Matang sub-district to be de-gazetted as rabies infected and officially declared free of the disease, the state Health Committee said.

Its chairman Datuk Dr Mah Hang Soon, who also heads a special task force on rabies, said the state government has taken the first step by declaring Matang a "rabies-controlled area" effective today.

"People may wonder why we have not de-gazetted the area yet but we are following international standards when it comes to disease control or prevention," he told reporters at the State Secretariat yesterday.

"We are following strict procedures, so there are steps we must

We are following international standards when it comes to disease control or prevention.

Datuk Dr Mah Hang Soon

follow. It takes about two years.

"Declaring it a rabies-controlled area is a start," he said.

On July 17, Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abd Kadir declared the Matang sub-district a rabies

infection area, as a measure to contain any potential outbreak.

The declaration was made after the authorities started vaccinating all pets within a 1km radius of where a rabid dog died after it bit two children in Kuala Sepetang, about 70km from here.

Dr Mah said the decision to begin de-gazetting Matang was made after all the 43 samples from dogs, cats and monkeys taken in the area tested negative.

He said Matang was safe to visit. "I was informed that things are returning to normal.

"There will be no more road-blocks to check dog and cat movements in the area from today onwards," he said.

Dr Mah commended the people

in the area for taking the initiative to educate themselves about rabies.

However, he urged residents to take the necessary precautions to ensure there is no recurrence.

"Vaccinate your pets, read up on issues related to diseases, and if you want to rear stray dogs or cats, make sure you license them."

Meanwhile, Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr S. Subramaniam said the rabies outbreak in Serian, Sarawak, is under control.

No new cases were reported in new localities there, he added.

"Test results on dogs in the surrounding areas also showed negative for rabies," he said, adding that it would take at least two years for the areas to be declared free of rabies.

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Dutch egg farmers 'helpless'

Rearers at the mercy of possible chicken culls amid toxin contamination

EDE: Wim ten Ham's farm in the central Dutch town of Ede - where dozens of poultry farms are reputed for their eggs - is one of hundreds of farms whose eggs are suspected of having been contaminated by the insecticide fipronil.

Contamination with the toxic chemical has prompted supermarkets in Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany to remove millions of eggs from their shelves, including the discount supermarket giant Aldi which announced on Friday it was pulling all Dutch eggs from stores in Germany.

Authorities in Switzerland and Sweden also said they were tracking shipments and removing eggs, as the impact of the affair widened.

The Dutch food authority (NVWA) also shuttered 138 poultry farms - about a fifth of those in the country - and warned that eggs from another 59 farms contained high enough levels of fipronil that it warned they should not be eaten by children.

Fipronil is used in veterinary products to get rid of fleas, lice and ticks, but is banned from being used to treat animals destined for human consumption, such as chickens.

In large quantities, the insecticide is considered to be "moderately hazardous" according to the World Health Organisation, and can have dangerous effects on people's kidneys, liver and thyroid glands.

"We are closed and will remain closed until we are able to prove that fipronil has been eliminated from our chickens and is no longer present in our eggs," ten Ham said.

When his farm's eggs were tested, authorities found that they contained 0.30mg/kg of the toxic insecticide when only a level of 0.005mg/kg is allowed.

To eradicate fipronil from his farm, ten Ham has two choices: destroy all 68,000 of his chickens, which would cost 400,000 euros (RM2.02mil), or induce a moult and evacuate the birds' droppings.

According to members of the Dutch poultry union, fipronil is lodged in the chickens' abdominal fat deposits and moulting can reduce it, as the agriculture site Boerderij reported.

During the moulting, which generally begins in autumn due to the decrease in light, the bird sheds feathers and loses fat.

Ten Ham has since plunged his nearly 70,000 chickens into darkness and put them on a modified diet to make it easier for them to lose fat.

Chickens can remain contaminated for between six to eight weeks.

"I feel powerless," ten Ham said, adding that he understood rules needed to be upheld but lamented the strict regulations.

"It's trade protectionism," he said. "It's only to keep the economy going."

Belgian officials admitted on Saturday they knew in early June there was a potential problem over eggs contaminated with fipronil but kept it secret because of an ongoing fraud investigation. — AFP

I feel powerless. It's trade protectionism. It's only to keep the economy going.

Wim ten Ham