**WOAH Reference Laboratory Reports Activities 2023**

**Activities in 2023**

This report has been submitted: 31 mai 2024 03:25

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**Laboratory Information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated WOAH Reference Laboratory:</th>
<th>Bovine spongiform encephalopathy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address of laboratory:</td>
<td>3-1-5 Kannondai, Tsukuba, Ibaraki, Japan. Postal code 305-0856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel.:</td>
<td>+81-29 838 83 33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail address:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gan@affrc.go.jp">gan@affrc.go.jp</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website:</td>
<td><a href="https://www.naro.go.jp/english/laboratory/niah/index.html">https://www.naro.go.jp/english/laboratory/niah/index.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name (including Title) of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official):</td>
<td>Ken KATSUDA (Director-General) National Institute of Animal Health, NARO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name (including Title and Position) of WOAH Reference Expert:</td>
<td>Yoshifumi IWAMARU (Head of Virus Group)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which of the following defines your laboratory? Check all that apply:</td>
<td>Research agency</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**TOR1: DIAGNOSTIC METHODS**

1. Did your laboratory perform diagnostic tests for the specified disease/topic for purposes such as disease diagnosis, screening of animals for export, surveillance, etc.? (Not for quality control, proficiency testing or staff training)

   - **Yes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diagnostic Test</th>
<th>Indicated in WOAH Manual (Yes/No)</th>
<th>Total number of test performed last year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indirect diagnostic tests</td>
<td>Nationally</td>
<td>Internationally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRNP genotyping</td>
<td>657</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct diagnostic tests</td>
<td>Nationally</td>
<td>Internationally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WB tests for TSE surveillance</td>
<td>657</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**TOR2: REFERENCE MATERIAL**

2. Did your laboratory produce or supply imported standard reference reagents officially recognised by WOAH?

   - No

3. Did your laboratory supply standard reference reagents (non-WOAH-approved) and/or other diagnostic reagents to WOAH Members?

   - No

4. Did your laboratory produce vaccines?

   - No

5. Did your laboratory supply vaccines to WOAH Members?

   - No

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**TOR3: NEW PROCEDURES**


6. Did your laboratory develop new diagnostic methods for the designated pathogen or disease?
No

7. Did your laboratory validate diagnostic methods according to WOAH Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?
No

8. Did your laboratory develop new vaccines for the designated pathogen or disease?
No

9. Did your laboratory validate vaccines according to WOAH Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?
No

**TOR4: DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FACILITIES**

10. Did your laboratory carry out diagnostic testing for other WOAH Members?
No

11. Did your laboratory provide expert advice in technical consultancies on the request of an WOAH Member?
Yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME OF THE WOAH MEMBER COUNTRY RECEIVING A TECHNICAL CONSULTANCY</th>
<th>PURPOSE</th>
<th>HOW THE ADVICE WAS PROVIDED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MALAYSIA</td>
<td>Inquiry about detecting BSE prion from MBM.</td>
<td>Via email</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOR5: COLLABORATIVE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STUDIES**

12. Did your laboratory participate in international scientific studies in collaboration with WOAH Members other than the own?
No

13. In exercising your activities, have you identified any regulatory research needs* relevant for WOAH?
No

**TOR6: EPIZOOTLOGICAL DATA**

14. Did your Laboratory collect epidemiological data relevant to international disease control?
No

15. Did your laboratory disseminate epidemiological data that had been processed and analysed?
No

16. What method of dissemination of information is most often used by your laboratory? (Indicate in the appropriate box the number by category and list the details in the box)

a) Articles published in peer-reviewed journals:


b) International conferences:

1. Asian Pacific Prion Symposium 2023

c) National conferences:

d) Other (Provide website address or link to appropriate information):
**TOR7: SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TRAINING**

17. Did your laboratory provide scientific and technical training to laboratory personnel from other WOAH Members?
   Yes
   a) Technical visit: 0
   b) Seminars: 0
   c) Hands-on training courses: 0
   d) Internships (>1 month): 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of technical training provided (a, b, c or d)</th>
<th>Country of origin of the expert(s) provided with training</th>
<th>No. participants from the corresponding country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>NAMIBIA</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>PARAGUAY</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>PHILIPPINES</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>UZBEKISTAN</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>ZAMBIA</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOR8: QUALITY ASSURANCE**

18. Does your laboratory have a Quality Management System?
   Yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality management system adopted</th>
<th>Certificate scan (PDF, JPG, PNG format)</th>
<th>Accreditation body</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ISO/IEC 17025:2017</td>
<td>img20231207_09221963.pdf</td>
<td>Japan Accreditation Board</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

19. Is your quality management system accredited?
   Yes
   Biosafety Committee for managing pathogens is in place. We have biosafety procedures and comply with national regulations. We have annual biosafety educational program.

**TOR9: SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS**

21. Did your laboratory organise scientific meetings related to the pathogen in question on behalf of WOAH?
   No

22. Did your laboratory participate in scientific meetings related to the pathogen in question on behalf of WOAH?
   No

**TOR10: NETWORK WITH WOAH REFERENCE LABORATORIES**

23. Did your laboratory exchange information with other WOAH Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen or disease?
   Yes

24. Do you network (collaborate or share information) with other WOAH Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen?
   No

25. Did you organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with WOAH Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen?
   No
26. Did your laboratory collaborate with other WOAH Reference Laboratories for the same disease on scientific research projects for the diagnosis or control of the pathogen of interest?
Yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE OF THE PROJECT OR CONTRACT</th>
<th>SCOPE</th>
<th>NAME(S) OF RELEVANT WOAH REFERENCE LABORATORIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TSE diagnosis</td>
<td>To improve PMCA method</td>
<td>OIE Ref Lab for CWD, Korea(REP. OF)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TSE Diagnosis**

**TOR11: OTHER INTERLABORATORY PROFICIENCY TESTING**

27. Did your laboratory organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with laboratories other than WOAH Reference Laboratories for the same pathogen?
Yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purpose for inter-laboratory test comparisons1</th>
<th>Role of your reference laboratory (organizer/participant)</th>
<th>No. participating laboratories</th>
<th>Name of the Test</th>
<th>WOAH Member Countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A proficiency test for TSE diagnosis</td>
<td>ORGANIZER</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>WB test</td>
<td>JAPAN,</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOR12: EXPERT CONSULTANTS**

28. Did your laboratory place expert consultants at the disposal of WOAH?
No

29. Additional comments regarding your report:
Yes

Regarding to question 25, we are planning to join VETQAS Proficiency Testing Schemes 2024/2025 provided by the Animal and Plant Health (APHA). It is expected that we will report this in our annual report of activities in 2024.

Since the countermeasures against BSE have worked so well, the BSE prevalence drastically decreased and stays low worldwide. Nowadays only several BSE cases (seven cases in 2023) were reported. Particularly, in the Asia and Oceania region, no BSE case has been reported except for Japan. Under these circumstances, simply we did not have chance to carry out the international diagnostic activity nor supply of reference material. We predict that this situation will not change suddenly.