

**23/06/2020**

**Highlight**

**[Mink could spark another pandemic: expert](#)**

*Global Times-19/06/2020*

Mink could become the intermediate host of coronavirus, and lead to another novel coronavirus pandemic after they infect humans, a Chinese virologist warned, after mink in Demark and the Netherlands were identified as infected with COVID-19. Samples from 34 mink have shown that the animals were infected with the novel coronavirus in Denmark recently, and the local authority ordered 11,000 mink culled.

- **Relevant OIE link:** [Questions and answers on COVID-19](#) *Last updated – 09/06/2020*

THEMATIC	HEADLINE – JOURNAL - DATE – ARTICLE’S LEAD	OIE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT COMMENTS
<p><b>Emerging diseases</b></p> <p>COVID-19</p>	<p><b><a href="#">Mink could spark another pandemic: expert</a></b>  <i>Global Times-19/06/2020</i>            Mink could become the intermediate host of coronavirus, and lead to another novel coronavirus pandemic after they infect humans, a Chinese virologist warned, after mink in Demark and the Netherlands were identified as infected with COVID-19. Samples from 34 mink have shown that the animals were infected with the novel coronavirus in Denmark recently, and the local authority ordered 11,000 mink culled.</p> <p><b><a href="#">Our pet cats and dogs could give us coronavirus second wave</a></b>  <i>Metro-19/06/2020</i>            Scientists have called for more research into how Covid-19 affects animals amid fears they could re-infect human populations who have fought to bring the virus under control. They called for further studies to be conducted into which animals are vulnerable to infection and for regular testing to then be carried out on those species posing the greatest risk of passing the virus on to humans.</p> <p><b><a href="#">Animal suspected of passing Covid-19 from bats to humans trafficked into New Zealand</a></b>  <i>Stuff.co.nz-20/06/2020</i>            Border officials seized more than 150 products</p>	<p><b>Relevant OIE link</b>  <a href="#">Questions and answers on COVID-19</a>  <i>Last updated – 09/06/2020</i></p> <p><b>Related Report</b>  <a href="#">Covid-19 and New Zealand’s Role in the Global Illegal Wildlife Trade</a></p>

	<p>made from pangolin – the scaly creature suspected to be a carrier of the coronavirus Covid-19 – over the course of two years. The pandemic has put the spotlight on the illegal trade of wild animals, after the infection was suspected to have spilled over from pangolin into bats and then humans.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Prior infection provides protection against SARS-CoV-2 virus in hamsters</u></a>  <i>News Medical Life Sciences-22/06/2020</i></p> <p>In an animal model for COVID-19 that shares important features of human disease, scientists at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, the University of Tokyo and the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai show that prior infection with the SARS-CoV-2 virus provides protection against reinfection, and treatment with convalescent serum limits virus replication in their lungs.</p>	<p><i>Journal of African Elephants – 10/06/2020</i></p> <p><b>Related Study</b>  <a href="#"><u>Syrian hamsters as a small animal model for SARS-CoV-2 infection and countermeasure development</u></a>  <i>PNAS – 22/06/2020</i></p>
<p><b>Animal Welfare</b></p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Approval for EU inquiry into animal welfare during transport</u></a>  <i>Agriland-19/06/2020</i></p> <p>The European Parliament has approved a special committee of inquiry into the welfare of animals during transport. The vote took place today – Friday, June 19. Calls for the inquiry came in the wake of concerns about the way animals are transported both within and outside of the EU.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>European Parliament approves new committee on live transport of animals</u></a>  <i>EURACTIV-19/06/2020</i></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Protection of transported animals: Parliament establishes inquiry committee</u></a>  <i>EU News-19/06/2020</i></p> <p><a href="#"><u>China: Annual Dog Meat Festival Begins Amid COVID-19, Activists Hope This To Be Last Year</u></a>  <i>Republic World-22/06/2020</i></p> <p>The ten-day annual dog meat festival in China has opened while violating the government campaign of improving the situation of animals in the country. However, according to reports, the activists are hoping that its days are limited. The controversial festival that takes place in the</p>	<p><b>OIE Related Resources</b>  <a href="#"><u>Terrestrial Animal Code: Chapter 7.1: Introduction to the recommendations for animal welfare</u></a>  <i>Last updated - 2019</i></p>

southwestern city of Yulin welcomes thousands of visitors every year but activists have said that its popularity is now plunging. The Chinese government is now exploring new legislation to halt the trade and assure protection of the pet animals. Therefore, the campaigners are hoping that 2020 will be the last year when the dog meat festival takes place in the country.

[China's annual dog-meat fair opens; activists hope for last time](#)

*swissinfo.ch-22/06/2020*

[38 Dead Dogs Discovered On Ukraine International Flight To Toronto](#)

*Simple Flying-19/06/2020*

Some unfortunate news coming out of Toronto as 38 puppies perished on a Ukraine International Airlines flight. There were as many as 500 dogs onboard the flight, with many arriving sick. This incident occurred on June 13th, 2020.

**Excerpt**

“Canada’s dog import requirements are determined by the Health of Animals Act and the Health of Animals Regulations. The import conditions are developed by taking into account the diseases and conditions affecting animals, the current national disease health status, the risk to human health, and Canada’s obligations as members of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) and the World Trade Organization (WTO).”

**Food Security**

[FAO calls for more innovative policies in Asia-Pacific to ensure food security and nutrition in the wake of COVID-19](#)

*ReliefWeb-21/06/2020*

The global pandemic caused by COVID-19 requires a greater coordinated response on many policy levels, but particularly to ensure food security and nutrition for billions of people in the vast Asia-Pacific region, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) reported today. FAO’s Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific has just published a series of regional policy briefs that analyse the impact COVID-19 is having on present food supplies in the Asia-Pacific region.

<p><b>Food Safety</b></p>	<p><a href="#"><u>China Stops Poultry Imports From Tyson Foods Due to COVID-19 Concerns, Clamping Down on Inspections</u></a>  <i>FoodSafetyTech (blog)-22/06/2020</i>  On Sunday China’s General Administration of Customs announced that it would be suspending imported shipments of poultry from a Tyson Foods plant based in Springdale, Arkansas. The suspension is reportedly due to an outbreak of coronavirus cases at the facility. On Friday Tyson Foods announced the results of COVID-19 testing conducted at its facilities in northwestern Arkansas (Benton and Washington counties): 3,748 employees were tested; 481 tested positive, and 95% were asymptomatic.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Hundreds test positive at Tyson Foods plant in Arkansas</u></a>  <i>KSTP-21/06/2020</i></p>	
<p><b>Animal Health</b></p>	<p><b>Ebola</b> <a href="#"><u>DR Congo reports new deaths due to Ebola outbreak</u></a>  <i>Anadolu Agency-22/06/2020</i>  The death toll from Ebola in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has risen to 13, authorities said Monday. In a statement, the Ebola Treatment Centre (CTE) said two more people died due to the disease. Moreover, the case-count has risen to 21, with three more infections in the 11th Ebola wave. No new cases were reported for 53 days in the 10th wave of Ebola outbreak, which began in the east of the country in 2018.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Second deadliest Ebola outbreak on record is days from being declared over</u></a>  <i>STAT-22/06/2020</i></p> <p><b>Avian Influenza</b> <a href="#"><u>Bulgaria confirms new bird flu outbreak on farm -OIE</u></a>  <i>Successful Farming-19/06/2020</i>  The outbreak in the town of Asenovgrad killed 68 birds and led to the slaughtering of the rest of the flock of nearly 79,000 animals, the Paris-based OIE said in a notice on Friday, quoting information from Bulgaria's food safety agency.</p>	<p><b>Bulgaria (H5N8) Excerpt</b>  “Bulgaria has confirmed a new outbreak of highly pathogenic H5N8 avian influenza on a farm in the south of the country, the World Organisation for</p>

Bulgaria has reported several outbreaks of the virulent H5N8 strain of bird flu in recent months.

Animal Health (OIE) said.”

[9556 chickens culled in Changhua due to avian flu](#)

Chinese Taipei (H5N5)

*Focus Taiwan News Channel-21/06/2020*

Over 9,500 chickens on a farm in Changhua County, central Taiwan, were culled Sunday after they were confirmed to be infected with the highly pathogenic H5N5 avian influenza virus, according to the Changhua County Animal Disease Control Center.

African Swine Fever

[African Swine Fever: Trust Your Instinct, Be Prepared](#)

*Pork Magazine-22/06/2020*

In order to keep foreign animal diseases like African swine fever (ASF), a deadly virus of pigs that has no cure, out of the U.S., producers need to stay vigilant as the industry is constantly at risk for the introduction of foreign animal diseases. Because ASF continues to explode throughout parts of the world, the U.S. continues to be at more risk for getting the virus here, either accidentally or intentionally. Just as other countries have to learn to live with the virus, the U.S. will have to learn to live with that risk at a higher level than ever before.

[African swine fever dominates global protein markets, despite COVID-19](#)

*International-Mirage News-23/06/2020*

African swine fever remains the key driver impacting the global animal protein market, despite the effects of COVID-19 on demand, Rabobank's latest African Swine Fever Update has shown. And this is being borne out in Australia's red meat exports to China, which remain strong, according to latest figures.

[Report says African Swine Fever has bigger impact on global pork market than Covid-19](#)

*Meat Management (press release)-19/06/2020*

[Quezon town imposes 'lockdown' on all pigs to prevent spread of ASF virus](#)

*INQUIRER.net-23/06/2020*

The mayor of General Luna town in Quezon

<p>African horse sickness</p>	<p>province has imposed a “lockdown” on all pigs in the locality to prevent the spread of African Swine Fever (ASF). Mayor Matt Erwin Florido has ordered the “lockdown” to prevent the movement of hogs in and out of the municipality starting Tuesday after authorities recorded a confirmed ASF case in Barangay San Jose on Monday.</p> <p><a href="#">Five Thai provinces now considered clear of deadly African horse sickness</a> <i>Horsetalk-20/06/2020</i></p> <p>The outbreak of African horse sickness has been resolved in five provinces in Thailand, authorities report, as efforts continue to eradicate the deadly disease. The country is working methodically to contain its first-ever outbreak of the insect-borne virus, which kills most of the horses it infects. Measures to contain the outbreak, which began in February, include the establishment of surveillance and containment zones, quarantine, movement restrictions, disinfection, and other efforts to contain the biting midges responsible for the spread of the infection.</p>	<p><b>Excerpt</b></p> <p>“Thailand’s Department of Livestock Development, in its 11th and most up-to-date advisory to the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), says the outbreak is considered resolved in the provinces of Chaiyaphum, Sa Kaeo and Ratchaburi.”</p>
<p>Rabbit hemorrhagic disease</p>	<p><a href="#">Rabbit show at 2020 Missouri State Fair canceled due to Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease</a> <i>kttm-22/06/2020</i></p> <p>At the direction of the Missouri Department of Agriculture (MDA) State Veterinarian’s office, the Missouri State Fair will not host rabbit shows at the State Fair this August due to Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Virus Serotype 2 (RHDV2). RHDV2 is not infectious to people or other domestic animals. However, rabbits can carry other diseases such as tularemia or plague, diseases that can cause serious illness in people. Do not handle or consume sick or dead rabbits, and do not allow pets to come into contact with or consume rabbit carcasses.</p>	<p><b>United States of America (RHDV2)</b></p> <p><b>Excerpt</b></p> <p>“Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Virus Serotype 2 (RHDV2) is a highly contagious and potentially fatal disease that affects both domestic and wild rabbits of all ages. This is a foreign animal disease (FAD) as recognized by the OIE (World Organization for Animal Health) and is of high concern in the United States. RHDV2 has been confirmed in Colorado, California, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and Nevada.”</p>

<p><b>Aquatic Animals</b></p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Thai aquatic animals safe from Covid-19</u></a>  <i>Pattaya Mail-20/06/2020</i>  The Department of Fisheries said it strictly controlled contamination of both exported and imported aquatic food animals and aquaculture products, so they are safe to eat and free of Covid-19 contamination. Following reports that traces of the virus was discovered on a cutting board used for imported salmon in a huge wholesale food market in Beijing, the department’s director-general Meesak Pakdeekong said Thai aquatic products were free of the coronavirus contamination.</p>	<p><b>Excerpt</b>  “COVID-19 is spread through respiratory droplets. The World Organization for Animal Health reported the virus was found in warm blooded animals like bats, cats and dogs, the department’s director-general added.”</p>
<p><b>Bees</b></p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Helping honey bees make it through winter with early cold storage</u></a>  <i>Phys.Org-22/06/2020</i>  Putting honey bees into early indoor cold storage in October rather than November increases their chances of surviving the winter and the colonies emerge readier to pollinate almonds, according to a new Agricultural Research Service (ARS) website.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>A Record Number of Bees Died Last Summer</u></a>  <i>Gizmodo-22/06/2020</i></p>	
<p><b>Veterinary Products</b>  AMR</p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Singapore extensively maps antibiotic resistance genes</u></a>  <i>BSA bureau (press release)-19/06/2020</i>  While all-out efforts have been focused on the COVID-19 pandemic, the global epidemic of antibiotic resistance is a looming danger, projected to cause millions of deaths worldwide over the next three decades, with an economic impact estimated at 100 trillion dollars by 2050. Antimicrobial resistance will exact a heavy healthcare burden in both developed and developing countries.</p>	<p><b>Related Study</b>  <a href="#"><u>Cartography of opportunistic pathogens and antibiotic resistance genes in a tertiary hospital environment</u></a>  <i>Nature Medicine – 08/06/2020</i></p>
<p><b>Livestock</b></p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Pastoralists urged to sign up for free livestock vaccination</u></a>  <i>The Star, Kenya-20/06/2020</i>  Livestock farmers have been urged to take their cattle, sheep, and goats for the free national vaccination exercise against trans-boundary</p>	

	<p>diseases. Agriculture CS Peter Munya, while launching the national Livestock Vaccination exercise at Oloosuyian, Kajiado county on Friday, said livestock production in Kenya is under the threat of diseases. He said the vaccination drive aims at preventing the spread to enhance livestock production and health.</p>	
<p><b>Biodiversity</b></p>	<p><a href="#"><u>When planting trees threatens the forest</u></a>  <i>Science Daily-23/06/2020</i></p> <p>Campaigns to plant huge numbers of trees could backfire, according to a new study that is the first to rigorously analyze the potential effects of subsidies in such schemes. The analysis, published on June 22 in Nature Sustainability, reveals how efforts such as the global Trillion Trees campaign and a related initiative (H. R. 5859) under consideration by the U.S. Congress could lead to more biodiversity loss and little, if any, climate change upside. The researchers emphasize, however, that these efforts could have significant benefits if they include strong subsidy restrictions, such as prohibitions against replacing native forests with tree plantations.</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Poorly designed tree-planting campaigns could do more harm than good, according to Stanford researcher and others</u></a>  <i>International-Stanford University News-22/06/2020</i></p>	<p><b>Related Study</b>  <a href="#"><u>Impacts of Chilean forest subsidies on forest cover, carbon and biodiversity</u></a>  <i>Nature Sustainability – 22/06/2020</i></p>

## Climate Change

### [Greta: Climate change 'as urgent' as coronavirus](#)

*BBC News-19/06/2020*

Greta Thunberg says the world needs to learn the lessons of coronavirus and treat climate change with similar urgency. That means the world acting "with necessary force", the Swedish climate activist says in an exclusive interview with BBC News. She doesn't think any "green recovery plan" will solve the crisis alone. And she says the world is now passing a "social tipping point" on climate and issues such as Black Lives Matter.

### [Climate change as 'urgent' as coronavirus pandemic, says Greta Thunberg](#)

*WION-20/06/2020*