

Foot and Mouth Disease 2001 Lessons Learnt

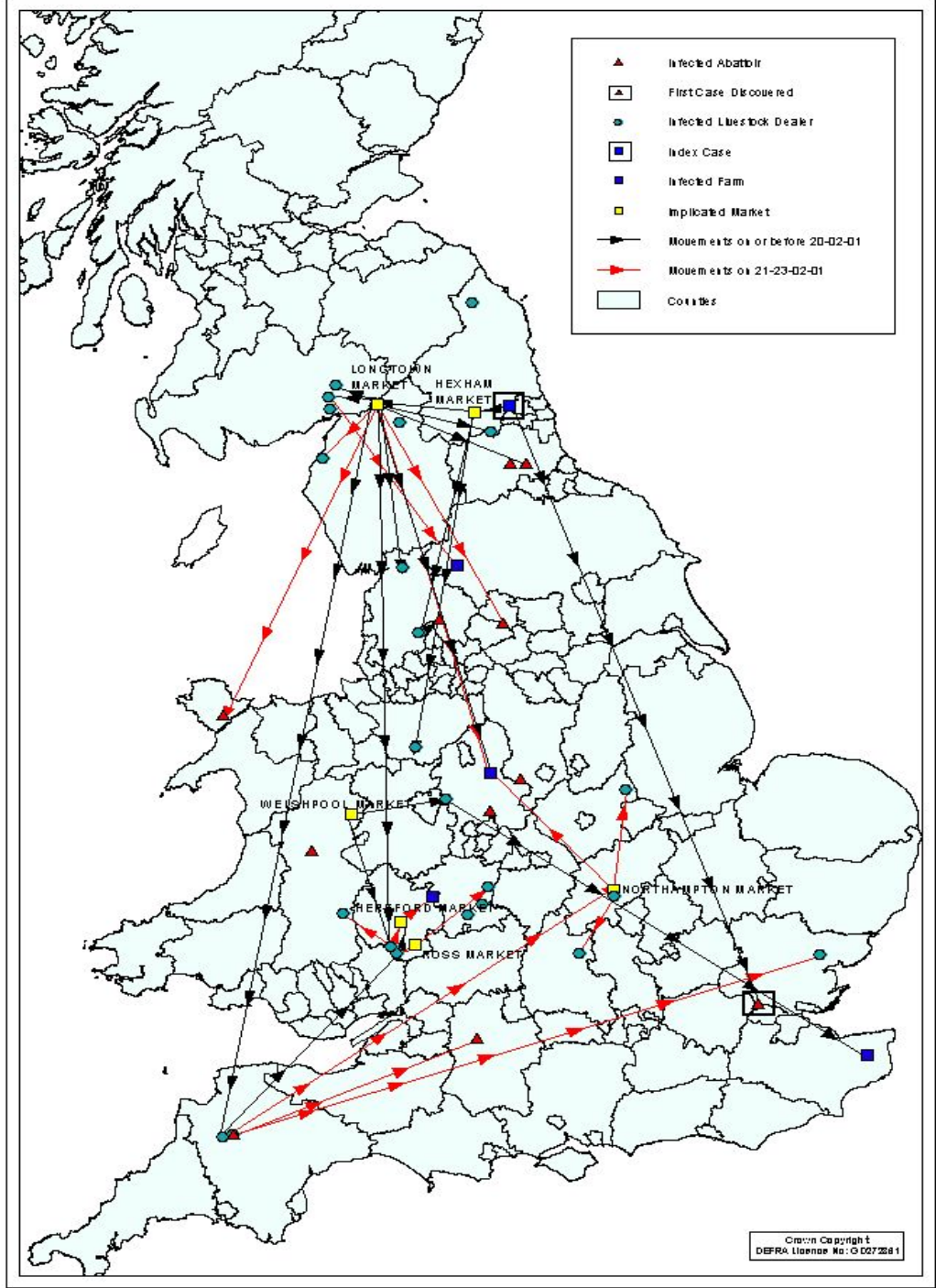
Fred Landeg Deputy Chief Veterinary Officer

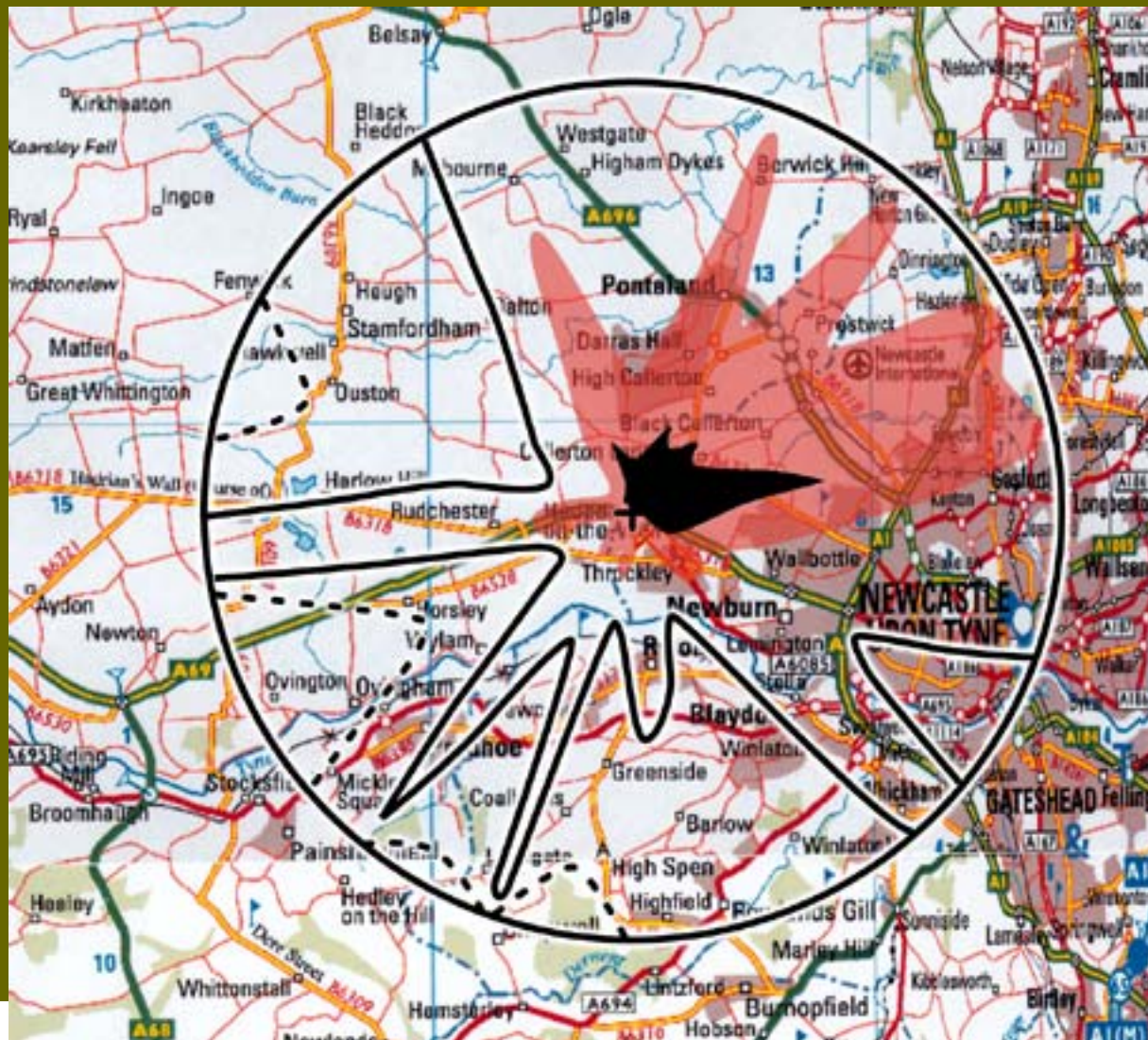
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Unprecedented Factors

- Delay in reporting disease
- Airborne infection of sheep
- Movement of sheep through markets before disease suspected
- Time of year – virus survival – movements of sheep
- Absence of signs of disease in sheep





Silent Spread

- Late January early February 2001 virus enters pigs at Heddon on the Wall by illegal feeding of waste food.
- 12 February virus plume infects sheep 5 kilometres
- 13 February 16 sheep sold in Hexham market some to a dealer
- 15 February dealer sheep sold in Longtown Market
- 57 Farms in 16 counties infected before disease diagnosed on 19 February
- 23 February National Movement Standstill introduced

Lessons Learnt

- *Prevention is better than cure*
- HMRC now responsible for import checks
substantial increase in seizures.
- Banning of Swill Feeding 24 May 2001
- National Movement controls 6/20 day standstill
- National Movement ban from day 1

Unprecedented Scale

- 2026 Infected Premises
- 8230 Dangerous Contact Premises
- (DCs include 3363 Contiguous Premises)
- 256 Slaughter on Suspicion Premises
- 6.7 Million animals slaughtered

Unprecedented Scale

- 4.2 million for disease control
 - 3,466,000 Sheep
 - 586,000 Cattle
 - 144,000 Pigs
 - 2000 Goats
 - 1000 Others
- 2.5 million animals welfare disposal scheme

Unprecedented Scale

- 80,000 tracings from IPs
- 250,000 movement licences
- Cleansing and disinfection
- Restocking
- Proving Freedom – Serology



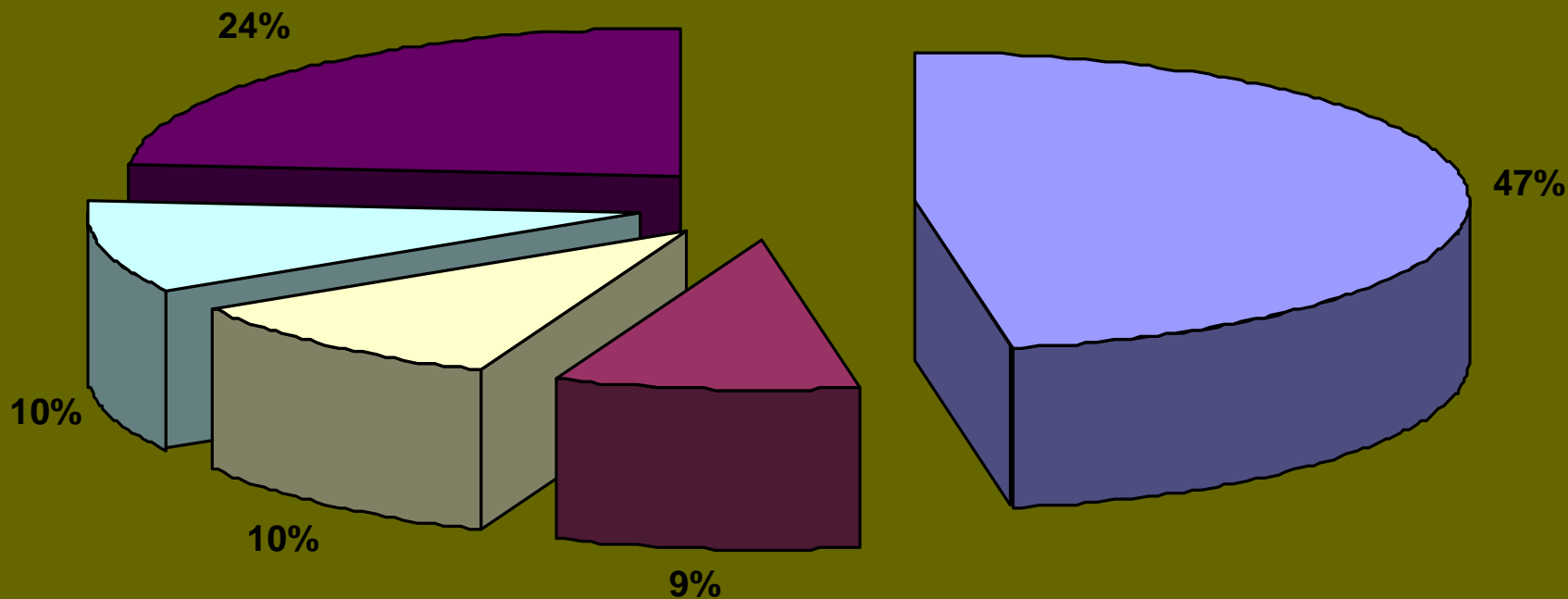
Unprecedented Scale

- 2,000 Veterinary surgeons
- 6,000 Technical and Administrative staff
- 2,000 Military staff
- Direct Costs
 - £2,797,000,000
 - Indirect costs agriculture and tourism
 - £5,000,000,000

Lessons

- Command and Control
- Need to work across Government many Agencies will be involved
- Coordination across Government to deal with different facets of the outbreak.
- Role of CCS

Direct Government Expenditure £2.797 Billion



Lessons Learnt

- Contingency planning – worst case - mandatory
- Ramping up resources
- Rapid diagnosis
- Vaccination
- Consumer confidence
- Keeping the Countryside open







Lined pit with leachate management



Disposal Hierarchy

Incineration



Rendering



Licensed landfill



Pyres & On-farm burial – *only in remote areas*

Air Curtain Burners







26 05 2001

Disease is a natural disaster

- All involved need to work together to a common purpose and with single minded determination if outbreaks are to be overcome.

