

# AVIS: The Fact Sheet (2004)



ADVANCED VETERINARY INFORMATION SYSTEM

## New, Revised Edition: 2004

**General Editors:** Dr. Bill Geering, Dr. Tony Garland, Dr. Mark Rweyemamu  
**Commissioning Editor:** Professor Julian Hilton

### AVIS: The Advanced Veterinary Information System

The AVIS System was initiated in 1992 to pioneer the creation of peer-reviewed, “gold-standard” multimedia reference and training materials for professionals, stakeholders and decision-makers in animal health and production. Programs are reviewed and updated on an ongoing basis. 2004 sees the publication of the most comprehensive revision to date. AVIS programs are available on-line, on CD or DVD.

AVIS programs are written by leading experts from all over the world. They include authoritative reference information, such as the OIE Diagnostic Manual, FAO Manuals and the expertise of the designated World Reference Laboratory.

### AVIS

AVIS consists of Founders and Associates. The **Founders** were:

- BBSRC Institute for Animal Health, Compton and Pirbright, UK
- The Food and Agriculture Organisation, Rome, Italy
- L'Office International des Epizooties, Paris, France
- Telos ALEFF Ltd., London, UK.

**Associates** now include:

- AFSSA, Nancy
- The Veterinary Laboratory Agency, Weybridge, UK
- The United States Department of Agriculture, Washington DC
- TAIEX Office, European Commission, Brussels
- The University of Florida, Gainesville.

### AVIS Pricing Policy and Discounts

#### Equity Pricing

AVIS has an “Equity Pricing” policy, based on capacity to pay. Substantial discounts are available to developing countries and educational establishments. Discounts may be combined. Programs may be purchased through subscription or a licence payment. Revenues from published programs are used to fund the development of new ones. The purchase of AVIS has been supported by a wide number of governmental, non-governmental and commercial organizations.

AVIS: The Food and Agriculture Organisation, Rome, L'Office International des Epizooties, Paris,  
Institute of Animal Health, UK, Telos Aleff Ltd., London  
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## 1. New AVIS Edition 2004

**AVIS** is pleased to announce the publication of a completely revised and updated edition. This edition takes into account the changing role of the veterinary public service professional and the needs of other key stakeholders. The recurrent theme is global interdependence in dealing with animal infectious diseases.

- It digests the animal health, managerial and technical lessons learned from recent epidemics of FMD, BSE, CSF, PPR and the various avian diseases, which have caused substantial problems in the past three years.
- The impact of a disease is presented in its social, economic, rural livelihoods, human health and animal welfare dimensions.
- New modules have been added on risk management, contingency planning and emergency response.
- The image library has been extensively enriched, and video sequences are introduced for the first time.

Millions of users world-wide have also shown that AVIS programs are well suited to public information and communication. FMD alone attracted 11 million online users when it was made available at [www.aleffgroup.com](http://www.aleffgroup.com) at no charge during the 2001 outbreaks.

## 2. AVIS: The Advanced Veterinary Information System

### List A Focused, Selective List B

The primary AVIS targets are List A diseases, such as FMD and Avian Influenza, but include key List B diseases, such as Rabies and Brucellosis.

### A Modular, Highly Cost-Effective Approach

**AVIS** is disease-focused. Every disease is reviewed in an **Overview** module. Depending on the significance and complexity of that disease there are up to five further modules, each meeting the needs of a different stakeholder. A Resources module, containing maps, images, key documents, tools, checklists and useful links to other web-based resources enriches the whole program.

Each module is also richly illustrated with maps, colour photographs, diagrams, and videos, while a wide variety of **Tools**, such as checklists and animations of key processes, support key work processes. These make the programs highly suited to real time professional use, as well as training. Powerful navigation aids and a search engine make the AVIS knowledge base easy to access.

### A Proven Multimedia Training and Capacity-Building Tool

AVIS has proven highly cost-effective for training key personnel. Screens are designed with overhead projection in mind.

### SPECIAL EDITIONS

Special editions have been developed 1. for FAO and IAEA TCPs, 2. the new member countries of the European Union, 3. for Central and South America and 4. for individual countries such as Sudan, USA, Israel, Thailand and Poland.

### 3. AVIS PROGRAMS

- ❖ **Contagious Bovine PleuroPneumonia (6 modules)**
  - Overview
  - Disease
  - Cause
  - Epidemiology
  - Management
  - Resources
- ❖ **Foot and Mouth Disease (6 modules)**
  - Overview
  - Disease
  - Cause
  - Epidemiology
  - Management
  - Resources
- ❖ **Poultry Diseases (3 modules)**
  - Overview of Key Diseases
  - Poultry Hygiene
  - Newcastle Disease
- ❖ **Rabies (4 modules)**
  - Overview
  - The Disease
  - Prevention and Control
  - Resources
- ❖ **Rabia (Español)**
- ❖ **Rinderpest (6 modules)**
  - Overview
  - Recognizing Rinderpest
  - Diagnosing Rinderpest
  - Practical Guide for Field Personnel
  - Disease and Serological Surveillance
  - Picture, Print and Promote – Village Education
- ❖ **African Horse Sickness**
  - Overview
  - Resources
- ❖ **African Swine Fever**
  - Overview
  - Resources
- ❖ **Avian Influenza**
  - Overview
  - Resources
- ❖ **Bluetongue**
  - Overview
  - Resources
- ❖ **Brucellosis**
  - Overview
  - Resources
- ❖ **Classical Swine Fever**
  - Overview
  - Resources
- ❖ **Peste des Petits Ruminants**
  - Overview
  - Resources
- ❖ **Swine Vesicular Disease**
  - Overview
  - Resources
- ❖ **Tuberculosis**
  - Overview
  - Resources

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## 4. AVIS: Addressing Stakeholder Needs

Different stakeholders in animal health and production have different needs, but common standards link all actions and interventions. The **Overview** module gives the non-specialist a rapid and authoritative introduction to the key issues concerning a given disease. Further modules address specific stakeholder needs:

- Livestock producers and farming communities
- Planners and decision-makers on the national and sub-national level
- National veterinary authorities and reference sites
- Regional field staff and extension services, including veterinarians
- Laboratory workers
- Epidemiologists and control specialists
- Personnel from enterprises and organizations involved in animal disease control, i.e. meat and dairy industry, vaccine producers, NGOs
- Veterinary students.

Sample AVIS Overviews at:

<http://www.fao.org/ag/AGA/AGAH/EMPRES/GEMP/index.html>

### Languages

AVIS is now working, where there is identified need, in English, Spanish and French. Rabies, for example, is available in English and Spanish. Other languages, such as Arabic are under active discussion. If you have a specific language requirement, please contact the AVIS office in London.

### The Power and Ease of Multimedia

Multimedia technology puts users at the centre of an authoritative information web. Colour photographs, hotwords or hyperlinks, animations and maps make the knowledge-base easy to comprehend and navigate for the trainee or non-specialist. For the busy professional, a single mouse click opens the box of "Tools" which support key daily tasks in disease prevention, recognition and management. Each program contains a sophisticated glossary, user-defined search facility and a "Map" button for fast access to key reference materials.

Screen design, functionality, navigation and content structure are simple and standardized throughout the system; so every module works in the same way. Access to information is mostly through mouse clicks, but powerful utilities, such as a search engine and a content map are also available.

### Customisation

AVIS can customize programs for particular needs, such as local legal requirements, language, culture, or regional priorities. Discuss your needs with an AVIS officer – contact details below.

## 5. AVIS Associations and Collaborations

AVIS welcomes collaboration and association with complementary projects. Examples to date include:

**AFSIS: (Advanced Food Safety Information System)** General Editor, Dr. Apostolos Rantsios. For further information, visit [www.afsis.com](http://www.afsis.com).

**FAO EMPRES: Good Emergency Management Practice (GEMP)**

The objectives of AVIS are also coordinated with the FAO EMPRES action.

**Planning:** In order to prepare well for a possible animal disease outbreak, good planning is essential, to a high level of precision and detail.

**GEMP:** Following on its decision to promote a standard policy for the management of emergency situations, EMPRES has now formulated a code of practice, **Good Emergency Management Practice (GEMP)**.

**Molecular Diagnostic Techniques:** A companion series of programs is also being developed on diagnostic techniques derived from molecular biology. The first program, the **Overview**, was released in October 1999. A web-enabled version is also now available.

**GLP:** An introductory program into Good Laboratory Practice is available. Details on request.

## 6. Support and Contacts

### Technical Support

For technical support, please contact Dr. Mark Rweyemamu, AVIS Technical Director, at the AVIS Office, or by email [AVISCollege1@aol.com](mailto:AVISCollege1@aol.com).

### Content Proposals

Contact Professor Julian Hilton, AVIS Commissioning Editor, [jhilton@aleffgroup.com](mailto:jhilton@aleffgroup.com).

### Enquiries and Sales

Contact Dr. Malika Moussaid, [mmoussaid@aol.com](mailto:mmoussaid@aol.com) or [mmoussaid@aleffgroup.com](mailto:mmoussaid@aleffgroup.com).

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