

Sunisa Kinawong 2012: Qualitative Risk Assessment of the Introduction of Foot and Mouth Disease Virus by Live Animals into Eastern of Thailand. Master of Science (Veterinary Epidemiology), Major Field: Veterinary Epidemiology, Department of Veterinary Public Health. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Theera Rukkwamsuk, Ph.D. 127 pages.

The objective of the study was to qualitatively assess of the risk of introduction of foot and mouth disease virus by live animals into Eastern of Thailand. The study was conducted in 8 provinces which could be subdivided into control and buffer zones between June 2011 and March 2012.

Qualitative risk assessment was used to determine the risk of introduction of FMD virus by live animals, which were imported to the Eastern region under the official regulation. In total, 106 data from questionnaires of relevant stakeholders together with data collected from literatures and DLD database were used. Qualitative risk assessment was performed according to, which classifies the risk likelihood into 4 levels (negligible, low, moderate, and high), and the uncertainty into 3 levels (low, medium and high) for each step of risk assessment.

Introduction of FMD virus by live cattle importation to the Eastern Thailand was low with medium uncertainty, by live pig was medium with medium uncertainty and live goat was low with high uncertainty. During importation process, it important to have negative NSP test and the imported live animals would be clinically observed at quarantine section before entering the eastern part. These two criteria have effect to the risk likelihood of importation of infected cattle into the eastern of Thailand.

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Thesis Advisor's signature