

Paralytic rabies

Its most common clinical signs are member paralysis, bending of the neck and excessive salivation.

Paralytic rabies is a viral infectious-contagious disease that affects bovine animals and other livestock species: equine, caprine, ovine and porcine animals. It is transmitted through the saliva of infected animals, whether by a bite or direct contact with mucosa or any skin wounds.

This ailment affect the nervous system and has an acute, progressive and mortal course. It is considered relevant for public health because it is a zoonotic disease (transmissible to human beings). The main natural carrier of the virus is the common vampire bat (*Desmodus rotundus*), which infects the animals from which they feed.

It is worth noting that the vampire bat lives in the tropical and subtropical regions of the American continent, from northern Mexico to northern Argentina. They settle in hollow trees, caves, abandoned houses, sewers, bridges, fissures in rocks, etc. and form colonies of 20 to 50 animals.

To face this virus, the National Service for Agro-Alimentary Public Health, Safety and Quality (SENASICA) has implemented the National Campaign to Prevent and Control Rabies in Bovines and Livestock Species, which addresses reports of

animals suspected of having paralytic rabies that later are confirmed through diagnosis in official and authorized laboratories.

Moreover, it includes the vaccination of vulnerable cattle against rabies, the control of vampire bats populations, and training and communication of the campaign to producers and veterinarians.

Those activities are carried out in 25 states in the country, in regions where the disease is considered endemic, from the southern region of the State of Sonora to Chiapas, following the Pacific Ocean watershed, and from the southern region of Tamaulipas to the Yucatan peninsula, following the Mexican Gulf coast. The central high plateau and northern regions of Mexico are not affected.

The campaign is based on the NOM-067-ZOO-2007 Standard, National Campaign for the Prevention and Control of Rabies in Bovines and Livestock Species, and is applicable throughout the national territory.

- Current status
- Indicators

To participate in the campaign, request information or carry out any procedure, get in contact with the State Coordination of the Campaign or the Animal Health Subsidiary Body in your state, which you can locate in the following page:

Animal, Plant, Aquaculture Health and Safety Subsidiary Bodies

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