



XA0100562

VI. SPECIAL REPORTSA. NWS Eradication From Libya - Update

D.A. Lindquist, Director SECNA/FP, Tripoli, Libya  
(Submitted 7 April 1992)

The status of the FAO-led Programme to eradicate the New World Screwworm from Libya was reported in the August 1991 issue of the Insect and Pest Control Newsletter (No. 46). Since that report, the dispersal of sterile NWS has terminated and surveillance intensified.

The last animal with an NWS infested wound was found on 7 April 1991, one year ago to the day that this report is being written. The last fertile NWS fly captured was on 27 April 1991.

Six months after the last case was located, the dispersal of sterile NWS was stopped. The last dispersal was on 18 October 1991. Surveillance had been gradually intensified from mid 1991 and animal inspections were averaging about 3 million per month from July 1991 onward. No NWS infested animals were found.

The NWS seemed to have been eradicated by the end of 1991. But looking for the last tiny pocket of wild NWS continues. If, by mid-June 1992, no NWS cases or fertile flies are found, the Government of Libya can declare the pest eradicated. The day for this announcement is scheduled for 22 June 1992.

The NWS eradication Programme in Libya has been successful. There are a number of reasons for this success. One of the most important was the total support given the Programme by the Libyan Government. The financial, human, physical and political resources required for success were made available by the Libyan Government through the Veterinary Services Organization of the Ministry of Agriculture. This type of local support is rare.

The reason for the faster than expected eradication was that the team in Libya took advantage of the cooler than normal winter of 1990/91. This cool winter greatly reduced the NWS population in January - March. By initiating the dispersal of sterile NWS throughout the infested area during the first week of February 1991, sterile NWS were waiting for the adults emerging from overwintering pupae in the soil. Thus, eradication was achieved rapidly.

B. Tsetse Eradication on Zanzibar

M. Vreysen, FAO/IAEA Expert, Zanzibar  
(Submitted 10 April 1992)



XA0100563

Since 1984, the IAEA has provided technical assistance to the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, through project URT/5/007 to eradicate the tsetse fly Glossina austeni from the island of Unguja (Zanzibar) using the Sterile Insect Technique (SIT). G. austeni is the only tsetse species on the island and is solely responsible for the transmission of animal trypanosomiasis, one of the major factors limiting livestock production on the island. The project is being carried out in collaboration with the Department of Livestock Development, Zanzibar (DLDZ) and FAO/UNDP Animal Disease Project (URT/86/022). The release of sterile males is integrated with other