



ASEAN BIOLOGICAL THREATS SURVEILLANCE CENTRE

DISEASE ALERT

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May 7, 2025 | Issue No. 30

First alert: May 2, 2025

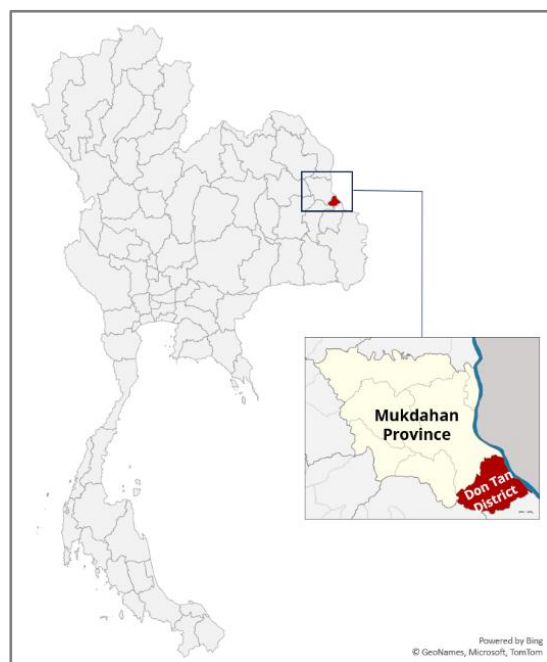
Third alert: May 7, 2025 | Update on Anthrax in Thailand

Sub-Locations Affected

Mukdahan Province (Don Tan District),
Thailand

Event Description

As of May 6, 2025, the Mukdahan Provincial Public Health Office (PPHO) has officially confirmed four cases of anthrax, subsequent to the Department of Disease Control's (DDC) announcement on May 1, 2025, regarding the first confirmed case, which resulted in death.



Map of location affected

Epidemiological Information

- On May 6, 2025, the Mukdahan PPHO announced a total of four confirmed anthrax cases in the province, following the first fatal case reported on May 1, 2025. The three remaining patients are currently undergoing treatment, two at Mukdahan Hospital and one at Don Tan Hospital.

Patient 1: On April 24, 2025, a 53-year-old male construction worker with underlying diabetes in Don Tan District developed fever and skin lesions on his right hand and sought initial treatment at Don Tan Hospital. As his condition worsened, he was transferred to Mukdahan Hospital on April 27 with severe symptoms. Laboratory tests confirmed anthrax infection, and he died on April 30.

Patient 2: On May 2, 2025, the second case was confirmed in a 53-year-old man who was involved in butchering cattle with the first patient. The man had blisters and wounds on his skin and is currently receiving treatment in the hospital, including antibiotics and close observation.

Patient 3 was confirmed on May 4, 2025, followed by the confirmation of **Patient 4** on May 6, 2025, among the 636 contacts. No further information about the patients has been released.

Response Measures

- The Department of Disease Control, in collaboration with the Mukdahan Provincial Public Health Office and the local livestock network, has conducted field visits and continues to closely monitor the situation. A total of 1,222 cattle has been vaccinated, and disease control measures are ongoing.
- Health officials have tested 636 people at risk, including 98 who are currently under a seven-day observation period.
- All at-risk areas have been disinfected at three animal slaughter sites (two in Ban Lao Mee and one in Ban Khok Sawang). High-risk areas, including the slaughter sites and drainage systems, have been decontaminated. Animal samples have been collected for laboratory testing, and the results are still pending.
- The Director-General of the DDC advised public to: 1) avoid contact with cows, buffalo, goats, and sheep, 2) wash hands and cleanse body after contact with animals, 3) choose to consume meat that has been certified as food safe, 4) immediately notify the livestock official when finding an animal that is sick or has died abnormally, and 5) see a doctor immediately when perceiving any symptoms. More information can be accessed through the DDC hotline at 1422.

- The Department of Livestock Development (DLD) has enforced strict control measures to prevent further spread. Quarantining animals and administering penicillin antibiotics for 3–5 days. Banning cattle grazing in high-risk zones. Monitoring soil in animal pens for contamination.
- Animal health surveillance is ongoing, and samples, such as dried meat and skins from pigs and cattle, meat and blood from cutting boards, and cow feces, have been sent for testing to the Upper Northeastern Veterinary Research and Development Center in Khon Kaen Province.
- The Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives has directed officials to take urgent measures in response to the outbreak. These measures include sealing off affected areas, vaccinating all cattle and buffalo, and restricting livestock movement. The ministry has also reinforced border controls and initiated comprehensive animal disease screenings at airports, seaports, and all entry and exit checkpoints. A 5-kilometer radius has been sealed in the suspected outbreak zone, where movement is strictly prohibited and measures are in place to prevent animals from grazing together.

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