

Wild Rabies Epizootic in Ayabaca -Piura, North of Peru

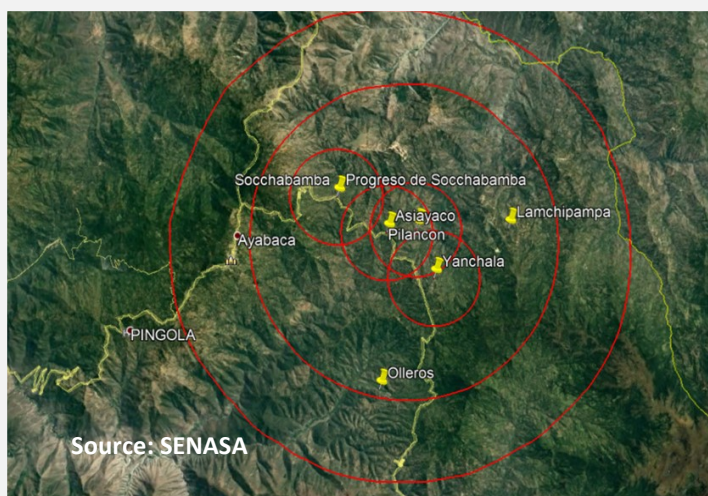
MVZ. Chávez O.¹, MV.Arévalo J., Arrieta M.², MV. Bustamante J.L¹.

Ministerio de Salud del Perú, Dirección Regional de Salud de Piura

INTRODUCTION

In Peru, the circulation of urban rabies is focused on the southern region of the country (departments of Puno and Arequipa). Wild rabies persists in the Amazon and Andean region.

Outbreak mapping, perifocal zone and buffer zone or barrier

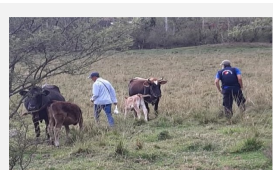


Source: SENASA

However, since October 2019, an epidemic has originated in the Northwest region, in the Olleros town, located in Ayabaca province, on the western of the Andes chain (highest area of the Piura department), 20 km from the border with Ecuador and south-east of Cajamarca department where also cases of wild rabies were registered. The main economic activity in Ayabaca is husbandry. This area had no background of rabies, for this reason, farmers thought their animals died from other diseases.



Source: SENASA



Source: DIRESA Piura

CONCLUSIONS

1. New places with livestock deaths due to suspected rabies from a bat.
2. Exposed persons handled animals with rabies (risk of human rabies).
3. Livestock generate the presence of vampire bats in the area. History of bites in other animals. Identification of shelters very close to the population.
4. Timely communication between farmers and the health authorities about the death of cattle with suspicious symptoms of rabies.

ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT FOR THE CONTROL RABIES FROM BATS

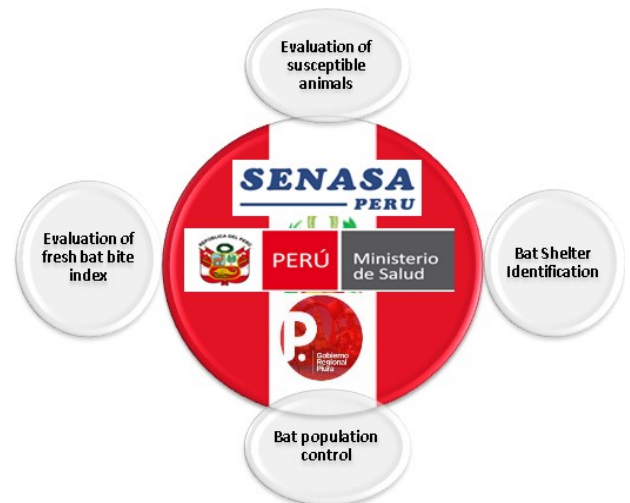
1. Epidemiological investigation and location of contacts.
2. Administration of post-exposure prophylaxis scheme for rabies in people who handled infected animals and their contacts.
3. Health Education to prevent and control of cattle rabies.
4. Location of bat shelters, capture and identification of vampire species.
5. Sanitary extraction and shipment of samples.
6. Delivery of the registration of the complaint about animal bites and the registration of patients receiving human rabies vaccination.

INTERVENTION IN ANIMALS

Vaccination of animals in outbreak areas.

1. Training of farmers.
2. Disposal of dead animals
3. Radio broadcasting (local stations)
4. Control of animal mobilization.
5. Epidemiological surveillance

Multisectorial Epidemiological surveillance



RECOMMENDATIONS

- * Develop more extensive surveillance.
- * Schedule the capture of bats in shelters near the areas that report suspicious deaths from rabies to send samples and population control (Coordinate with the Ministries of Agriculture and Health).
- * Guarantee stock of vaccines for human rabies
- * Prophylaxis is to the health establishment that cares for exposed people.
- * Training of farmers on Bovine Rabies
- * Susceptible animal vaccination.
- * Ranchers must promptly notify the death of cattle with symptoms of rabies to the Ayabaca Health Center.