



Date September 10, 1998

From WHO Collaborating Center
Research, Training and Eradication of Dracunculiasis

Subject GUINEA WORM WRAP #82

To Addresses

Detect Every Case, Contain Every Worm!

NIGER MINISTER OF HEALTH VISITS TILLABERI

Between August 10th and 19th, the Minister of Health of Niger, Col. Illo Almoustapha, visited the six sanitary districts in the Department of Tillaberi. He was accompanied by the National Directors of the Ministry of Health; regional, sub-regional, and local authorities; the National Program Coordinator for the Niger Guinea Worm Eradication Program, Mr. Sadi Moussa; and health sector development partners, including the WHO Country Representative, Dr. Bernard Lala, and the Global 2000 Resident Advisor, Mr. Mohamed Salissou Kane. Guinea worm eradication was one of the key themes discussed during the visit, especially during the minister's visits to Bankilare in Tera District and Ayerou in Tillaberi District, where he addressed political leaders, tribal chiefs, and village-based health workers from surrounding areas, as well as the villagers themselves, on the importance of and ways to prevent transmission of dracunculiasis.

Figure 1

NUMBER OF CASES CONTAINED AND NUMBER REPORTED BY MONTH DURING 1998*
(COUNTRIES ARRANGED IN DESCENDING ORDER OF CASES IN 1997)

COUNTRY	NUMBER OF CASES CONTAINED / NUMBER OF CASES REPORTED												TOTAL*	CONT.	%
	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER			
	465	856	889	1610	1789	2044							7653		
SUDAN	/ 1328	/ 1254	/ 1520	/ 2592	/ 2988	/ 3175	/	/	/	/	/	/	/ 12857	60	
NIGERIA	/ 1511	/ 1305	/ 1279	/ 942	/ 1220	/ 1485	/ 1389	/	/	/	/	/	/ 9131	84	
GHANA **	870	Tc /													
	/ 1277														



The minister stressed the commitment of the national Government of Niger to eradicating the disease, and asked local authorities and the population to support the program fully. The minister said that he hoped that in the near future, the young children that are currently on the backs of their mothers, and the generation to come, will not know what Aitilbane [the local name for Guinea worm disease] is. Tillaberi and Tera Districts have reported 93% of all cases reported in Tillaberi Department so far this year, and Tillaberi Department has reported 56% of all cases reported in Niger during the same period. [Niger appears to be making progress in reducing the numbers of cases reported last year (Figure 1)

IN BRIEF:

Nigeria and Cameroon held their regularly scheduled border meeting in Borno State, Nigeria, on August 27. Dr. Dama Mana of Cameroon and Dr. Emmanuel Miri and Mr. Joshua Ologe of Global 2000/Nigeria attended, among others.

Sudan's Coordination Meeting will be held in Nairobi on September 24-25. So far this year, a total of 153 cases of dracunculiasis have been reported as imported into Uganda from Sudan.

Ghana's national Program Review will be held in Accra on September 28-29. Dr. Alhousseini Maiga of WHO is consulting in Ghana August 28-September 15.

Mr. Emmanuel Pupilampu of CDC is consulting in Mauritania on August 15-September 11.

GW WRAP-UP NOW ON THE WEBB

The Guinea Worm Wrap-Up is now on the CDC web site: www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/list_drc.htm
To date, issues #s 77, 79, 80, and 81 can now be accessed and future issues will be available at the same web site.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS



Anonymous, 1998. Guinea Worm: Threat declining but not eliminated. Am Assn Wrld Hlth Q, 12(2):7, April-June.

Bourne PG, 1998. My role in the guinea worm eradication effort [editorial]. Am Assn Wrld Hlth Q, 12(2):3, April-June.

Hopkins DR, 1998. Dracunculiasis. In: Maxcy-Rosenau, Last Public Health & Preventive Medicine, 14th edition, Robert B. Wallace (ed), Stamford, Conn: Appleton & Lange, pp. 254-255.

Kumar S, 1998. India eradicates guineaworm, or near enough. The Lancet, 352:46, August 8.

Molyneaux DH, 1998. Vectorborne parasitic diseases - An overview of recent changes. Intl J Parasitol, 28(6):927-934, June.

CHAD (7)	10	100	19	2
MAURITANIA (7)	83	86**	86	32
SUDAN (6)***	6009	28	30863	12857
MALI (7)	231	70	393	200
GHANA (7)	1030	100	6743	3589
UGANDA (8)	276	99	1240	802
BENIN (7)	245	93	299	

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