

The Queen Sirikit Royal Veterinary Service for the Rural Project

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One among the numerous Queen Sirikit Royal Initiative Projects granted to her subjects of less privilege nationwide is the Royal Veterinary Service for the Rural Project. Starting the first ever mission in November 2007 in the rural communities in some districts of Sakonnakhon province of the north-eastern as a trial, the team consisting of veterinary surgeons from various sectors and academic institutions, together with animal health service providers, and well-trained vaccinators, lead by personnel from the Department of Livestock Development, has contributed themselves working tirelessly in a five-day activity in the remote rural communities having dense livestock and domesticated animals. With great satisfaction evaluated from positive responses of the villagers, the project administrating committee decided to continue such service regularly according to the fiscal budgeting plan with an intention to distribute to all of the four regions of the kingdom on rotation and equity basis.

In January of the following year, the team conducted a two-week field trip traveling further to the three upper northern border provinces: Chiangrai, Chiangmai and Mae Hong Son in order to provide animal health services to lowland Thais as well as to highlanders who are the ethnic minorities dwelling along the mountain range of the Thailand-Myanmar border, i.e. the golden-triangle area in the past.

In general, livestock of economic importance such as cattle, buffaloes, pigs, poultry, and in some areas sheep, goats and even horses are considered as major concern in health aspect because they are more

or less the valued asset of the household. Any losses caused by ill health might be regarded as significant attrition to the family income. Avoiding the poor health condition would bring more productivity. Moreover, domestic pets such as dogs and cats are normally treated as family members especially in the rural areas. They should, therefore, be taken care by the owners and get appropriate medical care from the animal health service providers at any occasion. Mass vaccination in order to prevent some certain infectious diseases of the localities is emphasized to be the priority of each animal species. Control of internal and external parasites with any specific parasitic drugs at individual or herd scale is also routinely practiced. In addition, programs to educate public villagers are organized to meet their occupational way of lives and relevance as well.

As Thailand geographically locates in the tropical region of northern hemisphere, influenced by surplus rain precipitation in monsoon season in some years, the mega flooding post continuous heavy rain may cause severe damage to various field crops and, with no exception, to livestock of the low land in some provinces of agricultural production, especially along both sides of the main rivers. Deeply concern on this issue, Queen Sirikit graciously extends her help to alleviate the flood grief via the project for animal health as an immediate response and is always adequate and on time for needs of the flood victims with full capacity of the mandates. Thanks to organizations and volunteers who supported by joining hands without any hesitation at all time.

To date, the project has been exercising numerous operations benefited to all animal species and clients of all parts of the country in issues of

animal health and production on farm animals as well as pet animals. The service record is categorized and shown below in the summarized table:

#	Province	Date	Family service	Number of animals							Total	Mandate
				Cattle-buffalo	Sheep-goat	Pig	Horse	Dog-cat	Elephant	Poultry		
1	Sakonnakhon	Nov 7-11, 2007	14,223	1,800	12	537	-	2,297	-	11,372	16,018	166
2	Chiangrai	Feb 18-20, 2008	2,019	3,567	-	2,465	119	1,362	-	5,770	13,283	149
3	Chiangmai	Feb 22-24, 2008	1,523	3,917	-	2,131	1	737	-	10,000	18,309	166
4	Maehongson	Feb 26-28, 2008	1,724	2,732	-	663	-	544	-	1,341	5,280	117
5	Pattalung	Jul 8-10, 2008	914	624	-	-	-	397	-	-	1,021	163
6	Nakhonsrithamurat	Jul 29-31, 2008	658	2,978	-	-	-	927	-	-	3,905	171
7	Prachuabkharikan	Aug 5-6, 2008	694	2,529	3,266	37	3	406	-	1,069	7,310	91
8	Krabi	Aug 13-14, 2008	293	476	346	-	-	299	-	2,002	3,123	138
9	Nakhonpanom	Dec 6-10, 2008	1,101	1,240	-	33	-	549	-	2,430	4,252	170
10	Nan	Mar 24-26, 2009	1,062	738	-	-	76	1,475	-	867	3,176	155
11	Petchaburi	Jul 22-24, 2009	968	1,922	802	466	77	178	-	4,500	7,945	230
12	Ubolratchatani	Nov 11-13, 2009	2,976	8,014	4	365	58	2,139	-	38,152	48,732	331
13	Payao	Jan 26-29, 2010	1,485	9,910	-	2,706	-	3,205	-	90,498	106,319	208
14	Choomporn	Aug 5-7, 2010	968	1,922	802	466	77	398	-	4,500	8,165	230
15	Lopburi	Nov 13-17, 2010*	463	8,314	88	37	-	120	-	6,059	14,618	147
16	Nakhonrassima	Nov 18, 2010*	180	708	-	-	-	-	6	840	1,554	47
17	Chainat	Nov 19, 2010*	562	834	325	426	-	482	-	2,598	4,665	85
18	Suphanburi	Dec 01, 2010*	115	1,146	-	39	-	84	-	12,554	13,823	80
19	Ayutthaya	Dec 02, 2010*	225	450	108	-	-	41	-	2,972	3,571	52
20	Singburi	Dec 03, 2010*	165	212	-	57	-	56	-	-	325	97
21	Angthong	Dec 08, 2010*	313	3,431	85	87	-	166	-	985	4,754	90
22	Pattalung	Dec 21-22, 2010*	492	1,022	-	6	-	91	-	26,200	27,319	120
23	Nakhonsrithamarat	Dec 25, 2010*	321	2,253	114	-	-	389	1	113	2,870	150
24	Surattani	Dec 26, 2010*	160	635	-	567	-	619	-	1,829	3,670	129
25	Mahasarakam	Jan 19-21, 2011	1,521	2,955	-	-	-	1,014	-	15,951	19,920	251
26	Tak	Mar 16-19, 2011	1,372	8,499	-	-	15	3,245	-	5,691	17,450	238
27	Kanjanaburi	Jun 8-11, 2011	1,119	3,000	549	218	101	2,184	160	-	6,212	160
28	Songkhla	Jul 18-21, 2011	179	1,529	148	-	64	405	-	-	2,146	150
Total			37,795	84,417	6,649	11,306	591	23,809	167	248,293	369,735	-

*Flood relief, extraordinary operations

