



Table 1

Number of Cases Contained and Number Reported by Month during 2008*
(Countries arranged in descending order of cases in 2007)

NUMBER OF CASES CONTAINED / NUMBER OF CASES REPORTED

%



Table 2

Number of Cases Contained and Number Reported by Month during 2009*
(Countries arranged in descending order of cases in 2008)

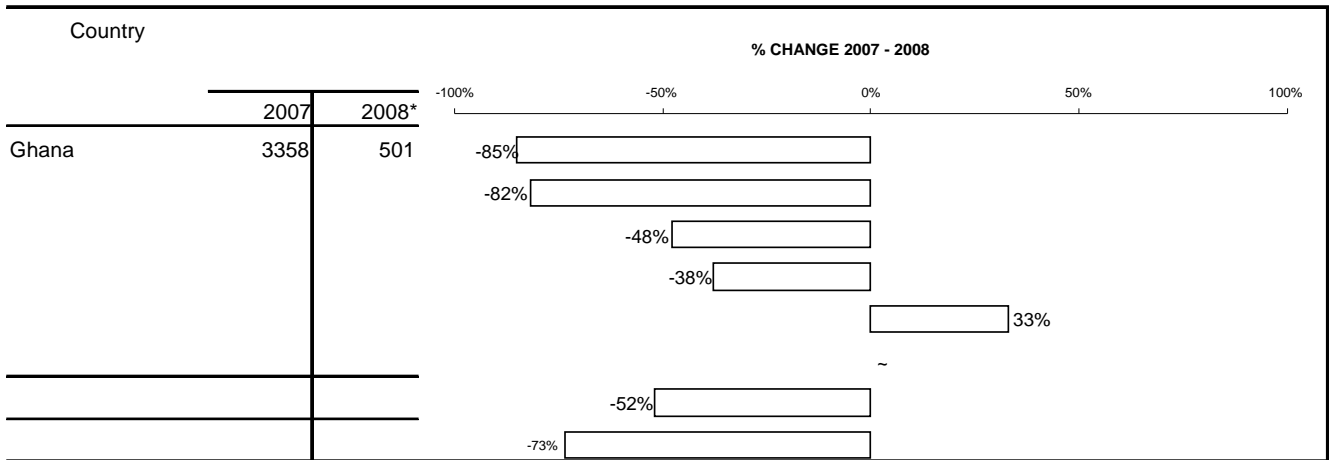
	NUMBER OF CASES CONTAINED / NUMBER OF CASES REPORTED												TOTAL*	CONT.	%
	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER			
SUDAN	2 / 11	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	2 / 11	18	
GHANA	31 / 45	49 / 50	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	80 / 95	84	
MALI	0 / 0	0 / 0	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	0 / 0		
ETHIOPIA**	0 / 0	0 / 0	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	0 / 0		
NIGERIA	0 / 0	0 / 0	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	0 / 0		
NIGER	0 / 0	0 / 0	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	0 / 0		
TOTAL*	33 / 56	49 / 50	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	82 / 106	77	
% CONTAINED													77		
% CONT. OUTSIDE SUDAN	69	98											84		

* provisional

Shaded cells denote months when zero indigenous cases were reported. Numbers indicate how many imported cases were reported and contained that month.

Figure 2

Number of Indigenous Cases Reported During the Specified Period in 2007 and 2008*, and Percent Change in Cases Reported



* Provisional: excludes 4 cases exported from one country to another

Figure 3

(2) Number of Indigenous Cases Reported During the Specified Period in 2008 and 2009*, and Percent Change in Cases Reported

Months since last indigenous case of dracunculiasis:
Ethiopia: 4 months, **Niger:** 4 months, **Nigeria:** 3 months, **Mali:** 2 months

NIGERIA

Nigeria reported 38 cases during 2008, all reportedly contained (Table 1), from 5 villages in 4
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Figure 4

Nigerian Guinea Worm Eradication Program
Cumulative Frequency of Rumors of Cases of Guinea Worm Disease Investigated during 2006,
2007, and 2008**

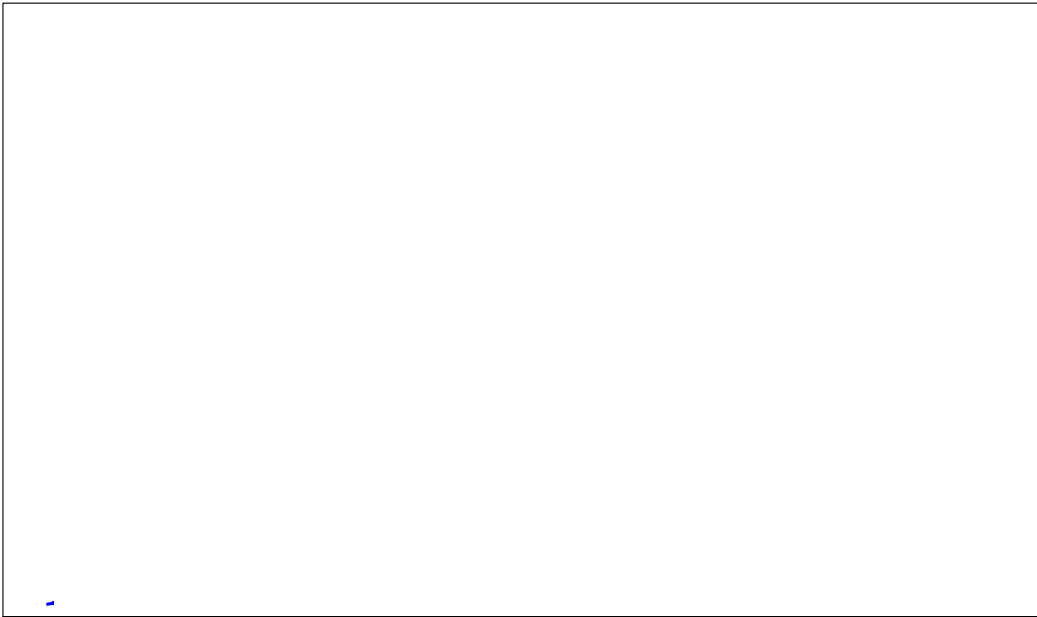


Figure 5



Table 4

Nigeria Guinea Worm Eradication Program
 Frequency and Percent of Outcome Conditions Resulting from
 Investigations of 526 Alleged Cases of Guinea Worm Disease in 2008

Condition	Frequency	%
Boil / ulcer / sore	156	30%
Rheumatism / arthritis	84	16%
Localized swelling	57	11%
Scar or wound	44	8%
False Allegation of GWD	29	6%
Varicose vein	28	5%
Skin Rash	26	5%
Lymphodema	15	3%
Onchocerciasis nodule	13	2%
Pain	11	2%
Itching	9	2%
Calcification	9	2%
Myasis	11	2%
History of GWD	3	1%
Other	31	6%
TOTAL	526	100%

were imported, and realize how much needs to be done to correct the deficiencies. We are also aware that during a number of years preceding the claimed interruption of transmission there were many periods of severe insecurity in Gambella Region because of conflict between the Agnuak people and “Ethiopian Highlanders” over land use, all of which interfered with program operations. Analysis of the line-listing of cases in 2008 shows that detection of several of the 9 uncontained cases in 3 villages of Gambella Region was badly delayed, leaving Ethiopia in danger of onward transmission, starting in March 2009. Awukoy village (39 cases overall) had 7 uncontained cases, on March 16 (4 days delay before detected), March 16 (31 days delay), March 21 (4 days), March 31 (15 days), April 3 (18 days), April 18 (2 days) and June 20 (15 days); Wankak village had 1 uncontained case on August 16, 2 days delay; and Tharpam village had 1 uncontained case (imported from Sudan) on August 30, 6 days delay. Knowing now that it did have uncontained cases on its territory in 2008, and knowing when and where those cases occurred, the challenge for the EDEP is to prove that it can detect, contain and explain whatever cases occur in Gambella or elsewhere in Ethiopia during 2009. Having had the benefit of last year’s wake up call, Ethiopia can rise to that challenge. Its actions in 2009 will determine whether it does so, and whether 2008’s embarrassment becomes a worse tragedy in 2009. The world is watching! The EDEP reported that it investigated “all” rumors in 2008, but presented no details, it offers a reward of 100 birr (~US\$10) for reporting of a case in villages under

compared to 180 villages reporting indigenous cases in 2007. Household filter coverage improved from 70% to 75% of endemic villages with cloth filters in all households between 2007 and 2008, while coverage with pipe filters improved from 30% to 74% in the same period. As of March 11th, 117 cases had been reported so far in 2009, compared to 201 cases in January-March 2008. Of the 45 cases reported in January 35 were contained, 5 were not contained (3 of these were not detected within 24 hours), and 5 are still pending. Of the 50 cases reported during February, 30 are contained, 19 are pending containment, and 1 was uncontained. So far, 74 of the cases reported in 2009, were detected in Fulfulso Junction of Central Gonja District in Northern Region, and another 20 cases were exported from Fulfulso to other locations in the Northern (19) and Brong Ahafo (1) Regions. Transmission appears to have been blocked by case,4-,9

MEETINGS:

WHO has announced workshops to strengthen capacity of national Guinea Worm Eradication Programs in surveillance and data management. A workshop for French-speaking countries will be held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso during April 7-9 and one for English-speaking countries will be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia during April 22-23, 2009.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

World Health Organization, 2009. Dracunculiasis: gearing up for eradication. Action Against Worms. Issue 13 (February).

Rinaldi, A., 2009. Free, at last! The progress of new disease eradication campaigns for Guinea worm disease and polio, and the prospect of tackling other diseases. EMBO Reports 10 (3): 15-21

“Ah! The fierce urgency of stopping transmission of Guinea worm disease in 2009!”
- An old Guinea worm warrior

Figure 6

Inclusion of information in the Guinea Worm Wrap-Up
does not constitute “publication” of that information.
In memory of BOB KAISER

For information about the GW Wrap-Up, contact the WHO Collaborating Center for Research, Training, and Eradication of Dracunculiasis, NCZVED, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, F-22, 4770 Buford Highway, NE, Atlanta, GA 30341-3724, U.S.A. FAX: 770-488-7761. The GW Wrap-Up web location is

