



*EuFMD and the Pirbright Institute present the*

## Foot-and-Mouth Disease Laboratory Investigation Training Course

The European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease's innovative online training courses combine convenient self-paced study with a unique opportunity to interact with international experts and colleagues. The Pirbright Institute hosts the World Reference Laboratory for Foot-and-Mouth Disease and provides global leadership on laboratory diagnostics for foot-and-mouth disease (FMD).

The **FMD Laboratory Investigation Training Course (FLIT-C)** is an **online** training course that aims to update those working in national FMD laboratories on the latest techniques for FMD related laboratory diagnostics and provide a unique platform for exchange of knowledge and experience between colleagues in national, regional and world reference laboratories.

### Who is the course for?

Those working in national or regional reference FMD laboratories and actively involved in carrying out or managing laboratory testing activities. Participants must be motivated and able to study for 3 hours per week over a four-week period and must be proficient to communicate in English.

### What will participants learn?

**After studying this course participants will be able to:**

- guide field staff in collection of quality diagnostic samples;
- submit appropriate samples to reference laboratories;
- select appropriate diagnostic tests to detect FMD virus and FMD virus-specific antibodies, and interpret the results of these tests;
- understand the principles of accurate virus detection test methods (virus isolation, ELISA and RT-PCR) and assays used for serology (VNT and ELISA);
- outline techniques for further characterization of FMD virus including genomic sequencing and vaccine matching tests;
- understand the importance and basic principles of laboratory Quality Assurance;
- explain the key principles of biosecurity and biosafety measures to be carried out in an FMD laboratory.

### What does the course involve?

This course will be taught entirely online in English and will include approximately 12 hours of interactive e-learning content to be studied on a self-directed basis over a four-week period. The training modules have been prepared by a team of experts at The Pirbright Institute based on the laboratory's extensive experience.

### Expert tutorial support

This is a tutored online course and provides course participants with a unique opportunity to interact with experts at The Pirbright Institute and EuFMD. The course will include **two live webinars** and, additionally, tutors will be available through an online discussion forum to address questions from the course participants.

Our tutors will be pleased to address all topics related to FMD laboratory testing, from trouble-shooting common problems with diagnostic tests to providing guidance on the interpretation of serological surveillance.

**For more information on this course please write to [eufmd-training@fao.org](mailto:eufmd-training@fao.org)**