

**To:** (10)(2e) (10)(2e)@minvws.nl  
**From:** (10)(2e)  
**Sent:** Tue 9/15/2020 6:24:06 AM  
**Subject:** FW: PRO/AH/EDR> COVID-19 update (382): Netherlands, animal, farmedmink, spread, control  
**Received:** Tue 9/15/2020 6:24:07 AM

Hoi, hierbij een voorbeeld. Je kunt kiezen uit diverse categorie waar je je op wilt abonneren, dus enkel humaan of dier of zoonosen.

Er zijn meer collega's die het volgen. Zo blijf je op je dossier een beetje bij over de grenzen.

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**Van:** (10)(2e)@promedmail.org  
**Verzonden:** 31 aug. 2020 04:53  
**Aan:** (10)(2e)@promedmail.org; (10)(2e)@promedmail.org; (10)(2e)@promedmail.org  
**Onderwerp:** PRO/AH/EDR> COVID-19 update (382): Netherlands, animal, farmed mink, spread, control

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 UPDATE (382): NETHERLANDS, ANIMAL, FARMED MINK, SPREAD, CONTROL

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A ProMED-mail post

<<http://www.promedmail.org>>

ProMED-mail is a program of the International Society for Infectious Diseases

<<http://www.isid.org>>

Date: Thu 27 Aug 2020

Source: Reuters [edited]

<[More than 10\)\(1c\) mink farms in the Netherlands will be ordered closed by March \[2020\] after animals at dozens of locations contracted the coronavirus, Dutch news agency ANP reported on Thursday \[27 Aug 2020\].](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-netherlands/netherlands-to-close-mink-farms-after-coronavirus-outbreaks-idUSKBN25N2W2?utm_source=reddit.com--></a></p>
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(10)(1c) of the [minks], which are bred for their fur, have been culled in the Netherlands and other European countries since the virus outbreak.

The Netherlands had already intended to halt its mink breeding industry by 2024 but decided to bring forward the closures after several farm employees contracted COVID-19.

The government has set aside (10)(2b) euros [USD (10)(2b)] to compensate farmers, the ANP report said, citing sources.

According to the Dutch Federation of Pelt Farmers, the Netherlands exports around (10)(2b) euros [USD (10)(2b)] worth of fur a year for use in (10)(2a) and globally. The country had roughly (10)(1c) mink at 10)(1c) farms, Statistics Netherlands' data said.

[Byline: Anthony Deutsch]

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Communicated by:  
 ProMED-mail  
 <(10)(2e)@promedmail.org>

[On Fri 28 Aug 2020, the Dutch ministers Schouten (agriculture) and De

Jonge (health) informed the House of Representatives about the updated situation regarding SARS-CoV-2 in mink and explained the conclusions and advice received [on 24 Aug 2020] from the Outbreak Management Team Zoonosen (OMT-Z) and the Administrative Coordination Consultation on Zoonoses (BAO-Z). The above "letter to the parliament" (in Dutch, 8 pages) is available at

<<https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/kamerstukken/2020/08/28/stand-van-zaken-sars-cov-2-bij-nertsen-omt-z-advies-en-voorgenoemen-beleid-nertsenhouderij>>.

The introduction, addressing the current state of affairs of COVID-19 in Netherlands' minks, says:

"Infections with SARS-CoV-2 have now been detected on [redacted] mink farms. The most recent infection took place on 27 Aug 2020 in Ortersum (municipality Genneep) on a farm with about [redacted] mother animals. This infection came to light by the reporting of disease signs in the mink. All infected farms have been vacated. They are located in North Brabant [redacted] outbreaks), Limburg [redacted] and Gelderland [redacted]. Of the [redacted] outbreaks, [redacted] were discovered due to the "duty to report disease signs" requirement, while [redacted] outbreaks were detected due to the "early warning (EW)" mode, prescribing weekly submission of dead animals to the laboratory. So far, the origin of infections on mink farms could not be definitely traced, with the exception of the [redacted] companies at the beginning of the outbreak where infected employees may have introduced the virus. The research addressing the virus distribution routes will be continued in the coming weeks."

>From other parts of the letter, we hereby present the letter's segments addressing Dutch research into COVID-19 in cats, dogs and rabbits.

#### 1. Dogs and cats

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This study looked at the number of animals with antibodies to the virus as an indication of a transmitted infection. In total, [redacted] blood samples were examined; [redacted] for dogs and [redacted] for cats. These were samples collected by veterinarians and sent to the diagnostic laboratories of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Utrecht University for regular diagnosis and, therefore, not in any connection with COVID-19 suspicion or due to the animals' contacts with human COVID-19 patients.

Antibodies against SARS-CoV-2 have been detected in [redacted] (10)(1c) cats (0.4%) and [redacted] (10)(1c) dogs (0.2%). The prevalence within this tested population is low, indicating that infections in cats and dogs are occasional, probably due to human spread.

Cats have been studied in the [redacted] positive mink farms; in [redacted] animals, antibodies were detected.

Research into SARS-CoV-2 infections within other populations of dogs and cats, including cats in shelters and dogs and cats with known contact with COVID-positive owners, is still running.

#### 2. Rabbits

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The serological screening of the remaining rabbit holdings has been completed. All blood samples tested negative. That means that SARS-CoV-2 has not been found to have circulated in any of the rabbit holdings in the Netherlands. Also, internationally, there are no indications of SARS-CoV-2 infections in rabbits, be they commercial rabbit enterprises or pet rabbits.

This last observation may be seen as a response to ProMED-mail's recent request for information on the results of the Dutch rabbit serosurvey (<http://promedmail.org/post/20200828.7726781>). The issue was raised following the publication of a preprint paper presenting experimental infection trials in rabbits in which sero-survey/screening afield for SARS-CoV-2 infections in rabbits were

advocated. - Mod.AS

HealthMap/ProMED map:

Netherlands: <<http://healthmap.org/promed/p/104>>]

[See Also:

COVID-19 update (379): animal, rabbit, exptl infect, Netherlands, screening <http://promedmail.org/post/20200828.7726781>  
 COVID-19 update (376): animal, ferret, mink, comment <http://promedmail.org/post/20200827.7721923>  
 COVID-19 update (374): animal, ferret, research, epidemiology <http://promedmail.org/post/20200825.7715862>  
 COVID-19 update (366): animal, USA (UT) mink <http://promedmail.org/post/20200818.7692815>  
 COVID-19 update (365): Germany case data, countries, WHO, global <http://promedmail.org/post/20200818.7690696>  
 COVID-19 update (364): USA (NC,NY) animal, dog, comment <http://promedmail.org/post/20200818.7689234>  
 COVID-19 update (363): animal, Denmark (ND) Netherlands (NB,LI) mink, spread <http://promedmail.org/post/20200817.7687830>  
 COVID-19 update (360): USA (NC, NY) animal, dog, comment <http://promedmail.org/post/20200815.7681907>  
 COVID-19 update (340): animal, China, envr monitoring, Netherlands (NB), mink <http://promedmail.org/post/20200801.7635820>  
 COVID-19 update (334): animal, Netherlands, mink, spread, UK, cat, 1st rep, OIE <http://promedmail.org/post/20200727.7617582>  
 COVID-19 update (324): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink, spread <http://promedmail.org/post/20200719.7591013>  
 COVID-19 update (317): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink, spread <http://promedmail.org/post/20200716.7578453>  
 COVID-19 update (307): Netherlands (NB), Denmark (ND) farmed mink, spread, control <http://promedmail.org/post/20200708.7553067>  
 COVID-19 update (301): Denmark (ND) Netherlands (NB) farmed mink, spread, control <http://promedmail.org/post/20200703.7536980>  
 COVID-19 update (284): Denmark (ND) animal, farmed mink, spread, dog <http://promedmail.org/post/20200624.7506728>  
 COVID-19 update (281): Netherlands (NB, LI) farmed mink, spread, animal, global <http://promedmail.org/post/20200623.7502849>  
 COVID-19 update (266): Denmark (ND) animal, farmed mink, 1st rep <http://promedmail.org/post/20200617.7479510>  
 COVID-19 update (251): Netherlands (NB, LI) animal, farmed mink, spread, culling <http://promedmail.org/post/20200610.7453845>  
 COVID-19 update (248): Netherlands (NB, LI) animal, mink, spread, culling, cat <http://promedmail.org/post/20200609.7446478>  
 COVID-19 update (236): Netherlands (NB, LI) animal, farmed mink, spread, culling <http://promedmail.org/post/20200604.7427849>  
 COVID-19 update (230): Netherlands (NB, LI) animal, farmed mink, spread, control <http://promedmail.org/post/20200602.7420433>  
 COVID-19 update (215): Netherlands (NB) animal, mink-to-human, epidem., control <http://promedmail.org/post/20200527.7385049>  
 COVID-19 update (209): Netherlands (NB) farmed mink, animal-to-human, cat, epid <http://promedmail.org/post/20200525.7375359>  
 COVID-19 update (198): Netherlands (NB) farmed mink, animal-to-human infect susp <http://promedmail.org/post/20200520.7359976>  
 COVID-19 update (189): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink, research, cat, dog <http://promedmail.org/post/20200517.7344274>  
 COVID-19 update (177): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink, Spain (CT) cat susp <http://promedmail.org/post/20200512.7328587>  
 COVID-19 update (174): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink, comment <http://promedmail.org/post/20200511.7323845>  
 COVID-19 update (169): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink, spread, rabbit susp <http://promedmail.org/post/20200509.7316646>  
 COVID-19 update (154): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink, research <http://promedmail.org/post/20200503.7294846>  
 COVID-19 update (146): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink, epidemiology <http://promedmail.org/post/20200501.7286113>  
 COVID-19 update (135): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink <http://promedmail.org/post/20200427.7272289>

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