

Surveillance Study of Plague in Thailand

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OBJECTIVE: To investigate the existence of plague in rodents and dogs. This represents a surveillance study.

BACKGROUND: It is believed that besides the Republic of Vietnam, the infection exists in some parts of Burma and Cambodia as well. While there still are cases of plague in neighboring countries, none has been reported in Thailand during the last 30 years.

DESCRIPTION: Blood samples were collected from trapped rodents and dogs from some areas of Aranyapradaet. A hemagglutination (HA) test was performed on these sera at the SMRL (Table 1).

PROGRESS: Only one trip has been made to eastern Thailand to date. A small number of rodents were trapped and a number of dogs were bled. A still smaller number of fleas were collected from the 16 trapped rodents in all. All fleas are of the species *Xenopsylla cheopis* and all were collected from *R. exulans*. Some more trips will be made in the future.

Table 1. Result of HA Test for Plague, Aranyapradaet (March 1975)

Animal Sera	No. of Specimens	No. Positive
Dog	40	0
Rodent	21	0