

Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD)

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Lumpy Skin Disease Latest News

With over 900 cattle infected with Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) and more cases emerging daily, Pune district is staring at a potential decline in milk supply.

About Lumpy Skin Disease

- It is a highly **infectious viral disease** that **affects all breeds of cattle and water buffalo**.
- **Causative Agent:** It is caused by the **lumpy skin disease virus (LSDV)**, a member of the genus Capripoxvirus (CaPV) within the family Poxviridae (smallpox and monkeypox viruses are also a part of the same family).
- LSDV is **not zoonotic**, so humans cannot get infected by the virus.
- The disease is **endemic in Africa and the Middle East** and has been **spreading increasingly in Europe and Southeast Asia** over recent years.
- The disease is **most common in the wet summer and fall months**, especially in **low-lying areas near water bodies**, but it can also occur in the dry season.

- LSD is a **highly host-specific disease**. It primarily affects cows and to a lesser extent, buffalo.
- The disease is **more severe in cattle** compared to buffaloes in terms of morbidity and mortality.
- The disease is of **economic importance** as it can cause a **temporary reduction in milk production**, temporary or permanent **sterility in bulls**, **damage to hides** and, **occasionally, death**.

Lumpy Skin Disease Transmission

- It is transmitted by **blood-feeding insects**, such as certain species of flies, mosquitoes, or ticks.
- Infected **animals shed the virus through oral and nasal secretions**, which may contaminate common feeding and water troughs.
- Thus, the disease can either spread through **direct contact with the vectors** or through **contaminated fodder and water**.

Lumpy Skin Disease Symptoms

- The disease is characterized by **high fever** and **enlarged superficial lymph nodes on the skin** and peculiar multiple nodules or **lumps on the skin**.
- It can **also lead to death**, especially in animals that have not previously been exposed to the virus or have low immunity.

Lumpy Skin Disease Treatment

- There is **no treatment** for the virus, so **prevention by vaccination is the most effective means** of control.
- The infected animals receive **supportive care**, which involves the use of antibiotics, painkillers, and wound care sprays to treat symptoms.

Source: [HT](#)

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