



Date: June 20, 2005



From: WHO Collaborating Center for
Research, Training and Eradication of Dracunculiasis

Subject: GUINEA WORM WRAP-UP #153

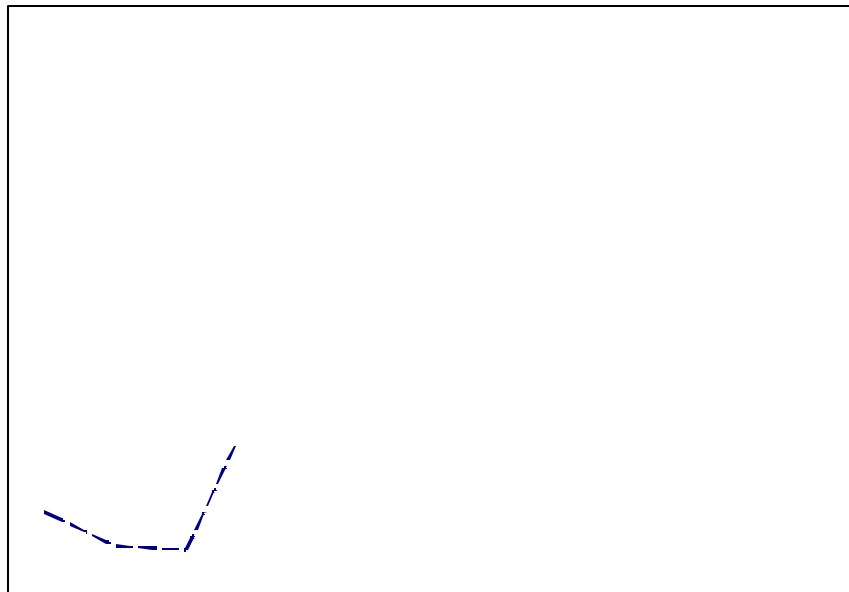
To: Addressees

Explain & Contain Every Case During 2005!

GHANA REDUCES CASES BY -56% IN JANUARY-MAY 2005

The National Program Coordinator of Ghana's Guinea Worm Eradication Program (GWEP), Dr. Andrew Seidu-Korkor of the Ghana Health Service, reports that during January-May 2005, Ghana detected 2,263 cases of dracunculiasis, in 420 villages, which is a reduction of -56% from the 5,176 cases detected in Ghana during the same period of 2004 (Figure 1). 300 of the villages had indigenous cases. 98% of Ghana's cases in 2004 were reported from only 25 districts (Figures 2 and 3).

Figure 1

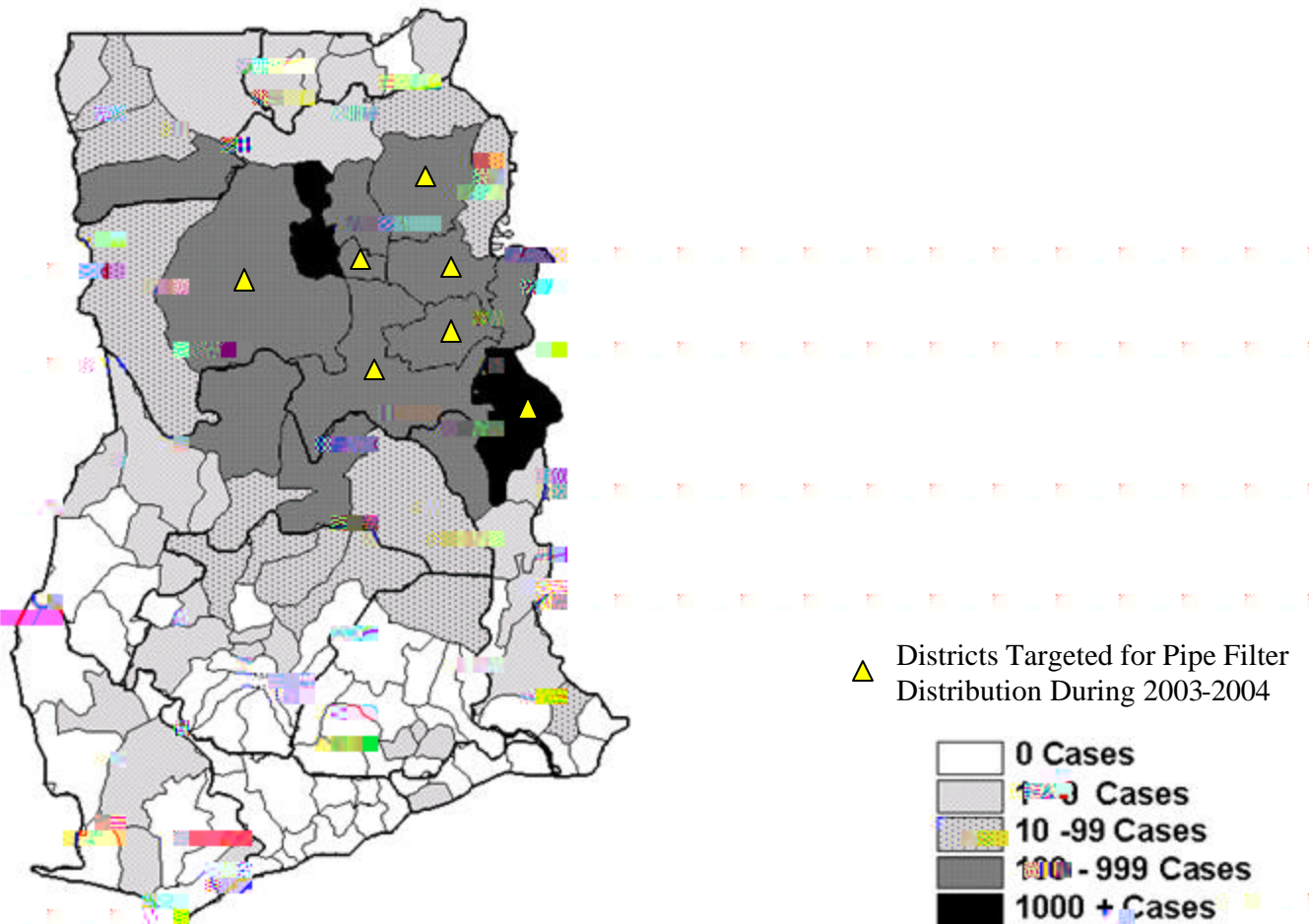


Two districts, Nkwanta (Volta Region) and Tolon-Kumbungu (Northern Region), that together reported 35% of Ghana's cases in 2004, have recorded reductions of -90% (from 1,006 to 97 cases) and -11% (from 452 to 404 cases), respectively, in cases during Jan. – Mar. 2005. Two of Tolon-Kumbungu's highest endemic villages, which shared a common water source (Gblarimani and Gburimani-

Dr. Ernesto Ruiz-Tiben technical director of the Guinea Worm Eradication Program at The Carter Center, made a consultative visit to Ghana on May 16-27. The WHO National Program Officer, Mr. Edward Gyepi-Gabrah, and Ms. Katherine Conlon of WHO/Geneva undertook a technical support visit to East and West Mamprusi Districts in Ghana's Northern Region to assess the sensitivity of the Community-Based Surveillance System in districts freed from Guinea worm disease, and thereby help Ghana's preparedness for detecting new outbreaks of cases and certification of such areas. The semi-annual Program Review for Ghana's GWEP is scheduled for August 16-17.

Figure 3

Ghana Guinea Worm Eradication Program Distribution of 7,275 Cases of Dracunculiasis in 2004



UPDATE: STATUS OF UNICEF/GATES WATER SUPPLY FOR MALI, NIGER, AND TOGO

As noted in earlier issues, the UNICEF missions in Mali, Niger and Togo received funds from the Contingency Fund of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's original grant for dracunculiasis eradication, to help provide or repair safe sources of drinking water for priority endemic villages in parts of Mali, Niger and Togo before the end of 2005. Mali received \$305,000, Niger received \$257,500, and Togo received \$217,500. The GWEPs in these countries have urbr2005. Mai(se at48 0 king water for)

participated in the conference and described health activities that are being assisted by The Carter Center in Sudan. One of the 18 draft recommendations of the conference states: "*The conference recognizes the great job being undertaken by the Samaritan Purse and*

Table 1

Number of cases contained and number reported by month during 2005*

(Countries arranged in descending order of cases in 2004)

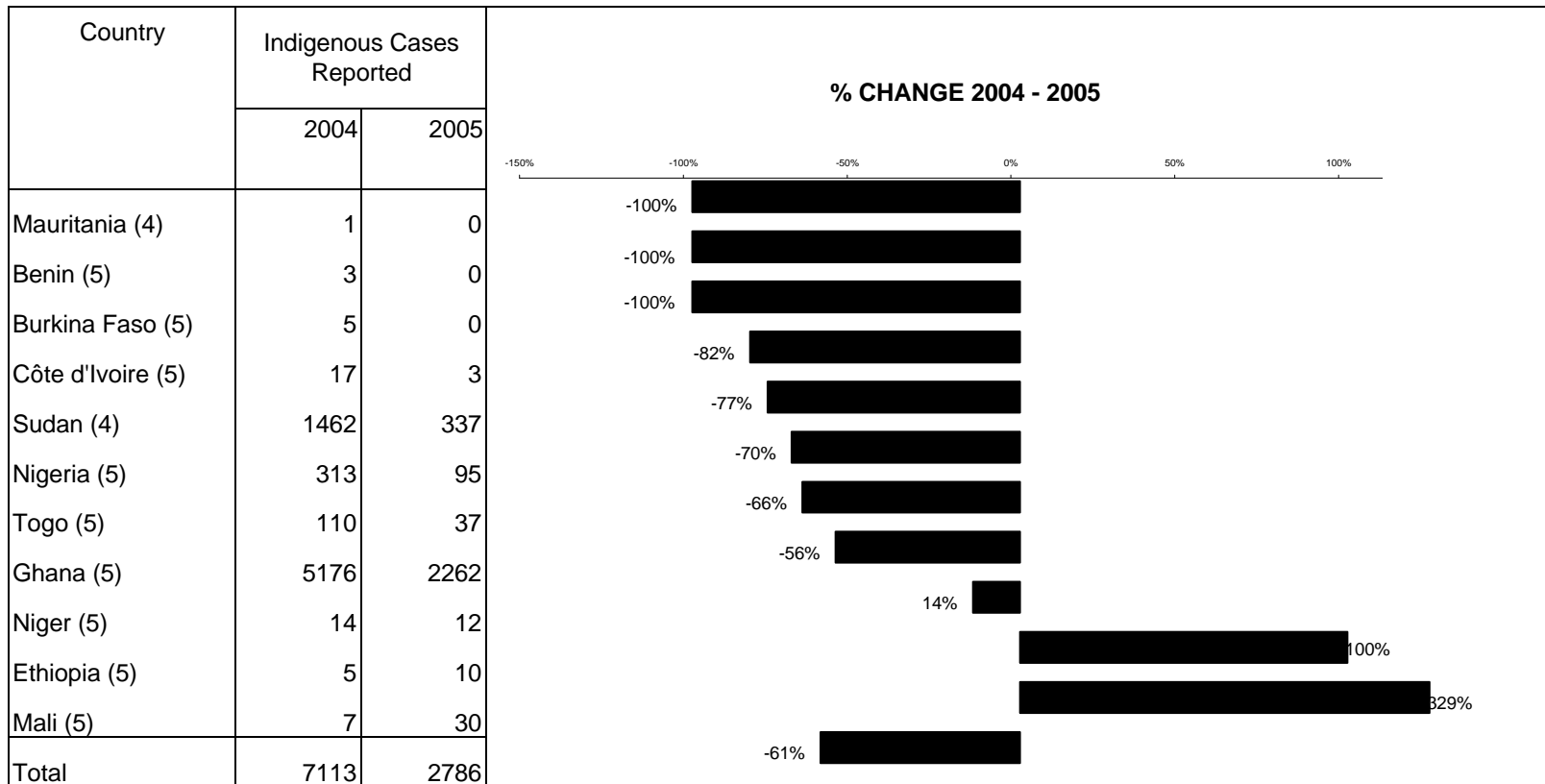
COUNTRIES REPORTING CASES	NUMBER OF CASES CONTAINED / NUMBER OF CASES REPORTED													CONT.	%
	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL*		
GHANA	358 / 544	242 / 482	217 / 393	181 / 387	242 / 457	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	1240 / 2263	55	
SUDAN	0 / 70	1 / 91	1 / 92	5 / 84	6 / 9	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	13 / 346	4	
NIGERIA	25 / 34	13 / 15	5 / 9	11 / 29	7 / 8	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	61 / 95	64	
MALI	3 / 4	1 / 1	1 / 1	0 / 1	22 / 23	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	27 / 30	90	
NIGER	2 / 2	4 / 4	1 / 1	1 / 4	2 / 3	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	10 / 14	71	
TOGO	11 / 11	1 / 4	2 / 2	3 / 3	16 / 19	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	33 / 39	85	
BURKINA FASO	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	1 / 1	0 / 0	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	1 / 1	100	
COTE D'IVOIRE	0 / 0	0 / 0	1 / 1	1 / 1	1 / 1	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	3 / 3	100	
BENIN	0 / 0	0 / 0	1 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 0	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	1 / 1	100	
ETHIOPIA	2 / 2	0 / 0	0 / 0	3 / 3	6 / 7	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	11 / 12	92	
MAURITANIA	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	0 / 0	0	
TOTAL*	401 / 667	262 / 597	229 / 500	206 / 513	302 / 527	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	1400 / 2804	50	
% CONTAINED	60	44	46	40	57								50		

* provisional

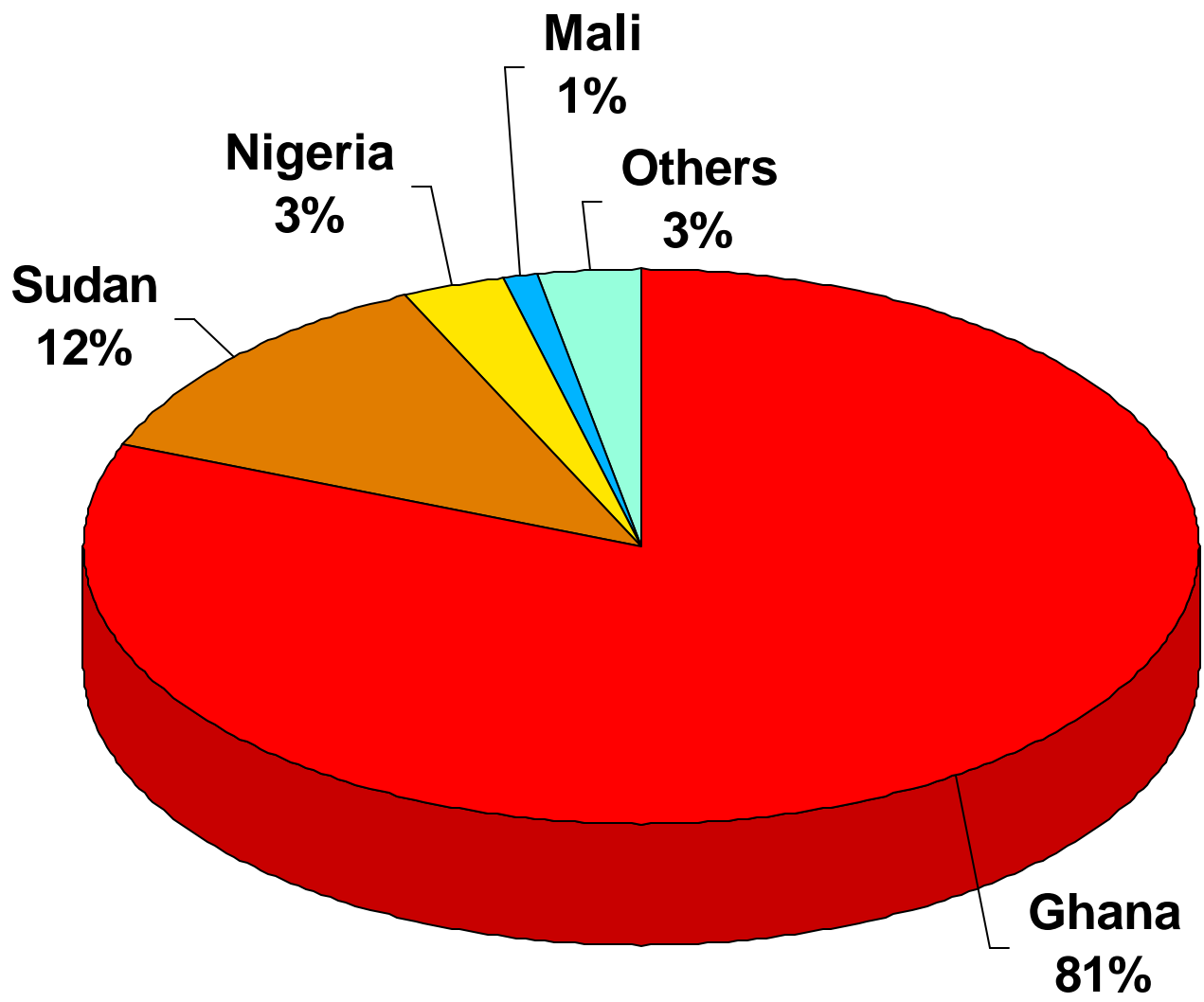
Shaded cells denote months when zero indigenous cases were reported. Numbers indicate how many imported cases were reported and contained that month.

Figure 4

Number of Indigenous Cases Reported During the Specified Period in 2004 and 2005*, and Percent Change in Cases Reported



(5)Indicates months for which reports were received, i.e., Jan-May 2005
Provisional



NEW INTERNATIONAL DECADE: “WATER FOR LIFE” 2005 – 2015



Goal 4: Reduce child mortality by 2/3. Children living in households with adults infected with dracunculiasis are three times as likely to be malnourished (6,7). Malnutrition in all its forms increases the risk of disease and early death. For example, in developing countries, protein-energy malnutrition is a major factor in half of all under-five deaths.

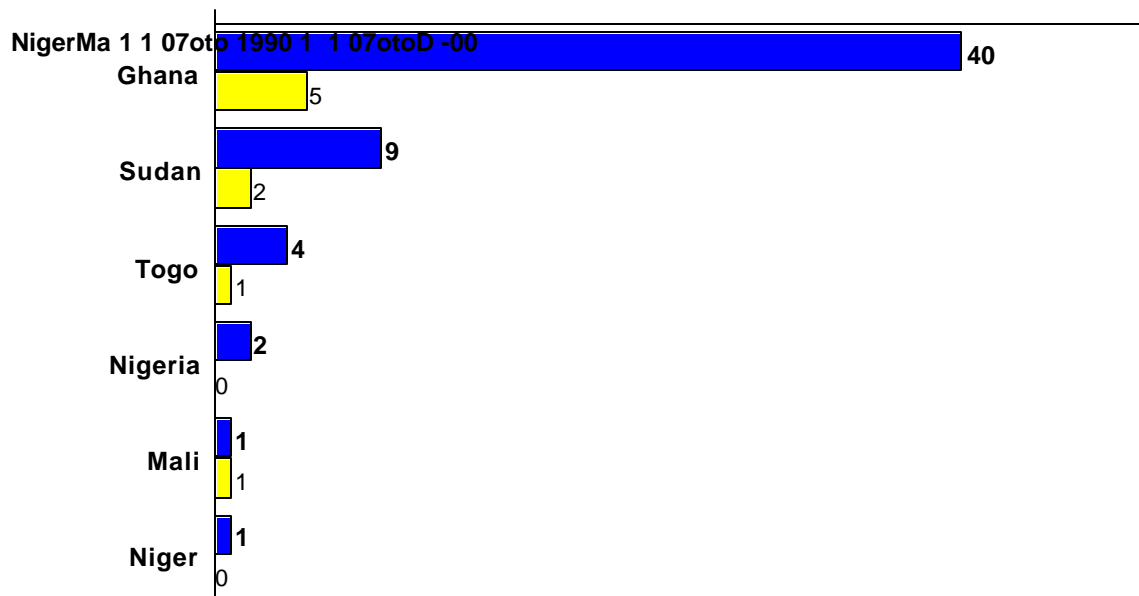
Goal 5: Reduce maternal mortality by 3/4. No significant direct effect.

Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases. Dracunculiasis was the second disease, after smallpox, to be officially targeted for eradication. In 1986 there were an estimated 3.5 million cases of dracunculiasis and by 1998, The World Bank estimated that the campaign had already prevented between 9 and 13 million cases. Today,

SADI MOUSSA GRADUATES, WINS AWARD

We are delighted to report that Foege Fellow and former National Program Coordinator of Niger's GWEP, Mr. Sadi Moussa, received his Masters of Public Health (MPH) degree from the Rollins School of Public Health of Emory University during the annual graduation ceremonies in Atlanta, Georgia on May 16, 2005. Mr. Moussa also was honored during the ceremonies by being named as this year's recipient of the James W. Alley, M.D. Student Award, which "recognizes the graduating MPH student who, in the eyes of the faculty and students, has provided the greatest service to disadvantaged populations during his or her career". The award, which has been given annually since 1991, is in memory of Dr. Alley, who was the state health officer for the state of Georgia from 1973 to 1990. CONGRATULATIONS., Sadi!!!!

Figure 6



GUINEA WORM WRAP-UP GOING ELECTRONIC

We alert the readership of the *Guinea Worm Wrap-Up* that beginning with issue #155 we will only distribute a link to the internet allowing access to issue #155 and subsequent issues. Thereafter, we will not send printed copies via mail. Please send your name and current e-mail address to gwrapup@cdc.gov, so we can begin to implement this very important change.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Owusu DA, 2005. Guinea worm: on the brink of extinction. New African May: 27.

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