



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Date: October 30, 2006



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

Subject: GUINEA WORM WRAP-UP #167

To: Addressees

Count Down to Glory

Consecutive months with zero indigenous cases:

Burkina Faso 9
Nigeria 5
Ethiopia 3

Detect every case. Contain each worm. Trace the source of every sporadic case.

UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF GHANA'S ACTION PLAN

Ghana's Guinea Worm Eradication Program (GWEP) has now reported 2,968 cases of Guinea worm disease (GWD) in January-September 2006, which is an increase of 1% from the 2,943 cases reported during the same period of 2003 (See Table 1, and Figures 1,3 and 4). This year's case containment rate is stalled at 61% overall. Figure 2 compares the monthly percentage of persons with GWD in 2006 which were prevented from transmitting their infection to others to the GWEP's monthly targets for case containment rates. The 38 reported cases of GWD in September is a reduction of -32%, compared to 56 cases during the same month in 2005, but the case containment rate for the 38 cases reported in September 2006 is only 44% (compared to September's target of 76% for case containment in the Plan of Action). The status of program indicators in 528 known endemic villages during September were: 99% sent reports about cases, 95% had cloth filters in all households, 96% received one or more health education/mobilization sessions, 59% were protected with ABATE® Larvicide at least once in 2006, and 47% have access to one or more safe sources of drinking water.

Other measures that have been taken in follow up to the Plan of Action developed during the Program Review held in Atlanta in August include replacement of 2 regional and 3 district Guinea worm coordinators, and preparations for an intensive media blitz to inform the public about the state of the campaign and mobilize populations in the remaining endemic areas. Unfortunately, Ghana's electrical power crisis created by the low water level in Lake Volta is exacerbating problems with delivery of clean drinking water to the towns of Tamale and Savelugu in the Northern Region.

On October 26, Mr Abraham Odoom, Deputy Minister of Local Government, Rural Development and Environment announced in Tamale that the government of Ghana is committing 9.5 billion Cedis (circa US \$ 1 million) towards the eradication of Guinea worm disease. The Northern Region Poverty Reduction Program is to receive 5.5 billion Cedis for provision of 62 borehole wells to the highest endemic districts, i.e., Yendi, Tolon-Kumbungu, and Savelugu-Nanton. The Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning is to receive the remaining 4 billion Cedis for a special Guinea worm eradication fund which will be used to provide sources of safe drinking water to other lesser endemic districts.

Figure 1

Ghana Guinea Worm Eradication Program

Cases Reported, % Contained and % Change: During Jan. 2005 - Sept. 2006

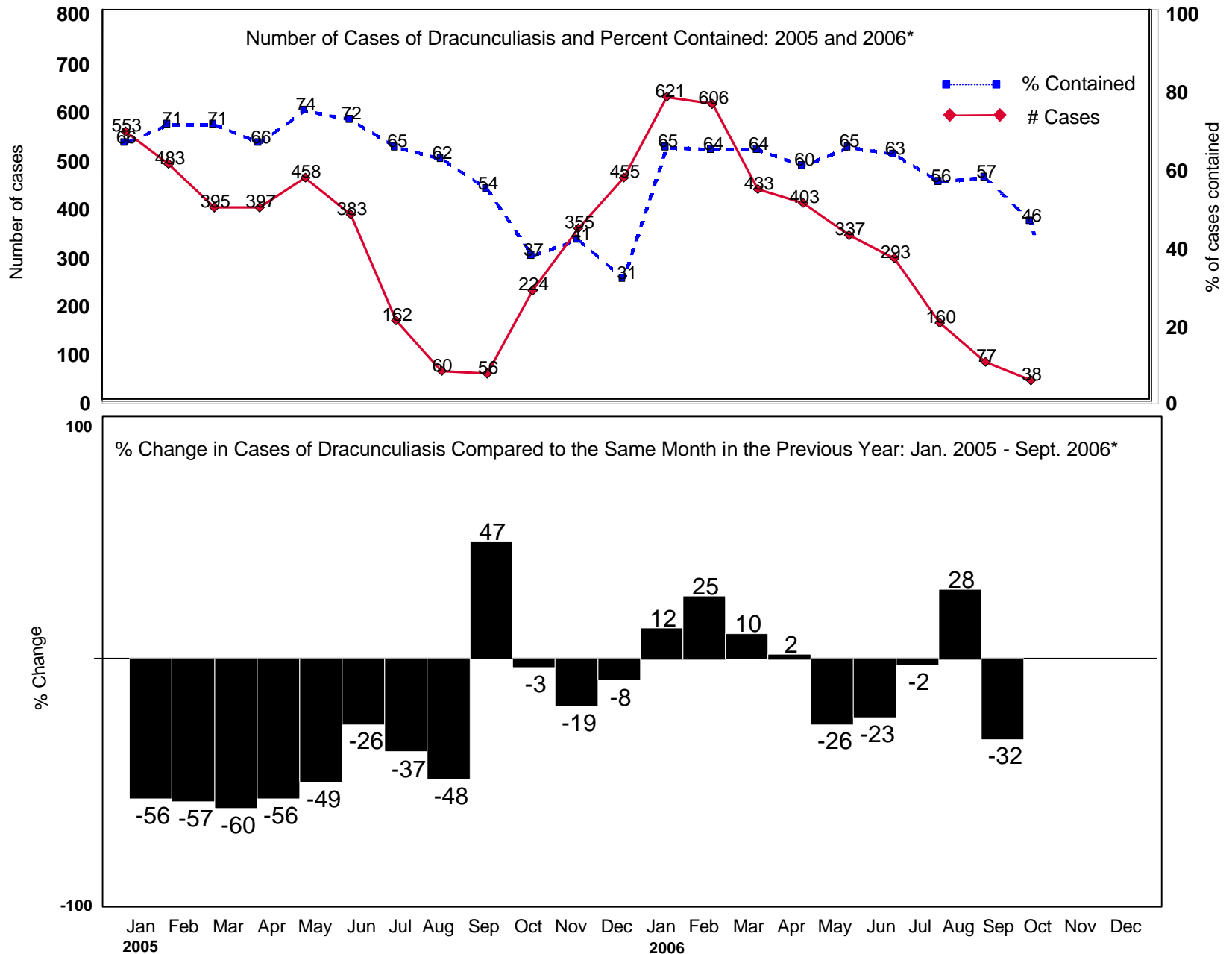
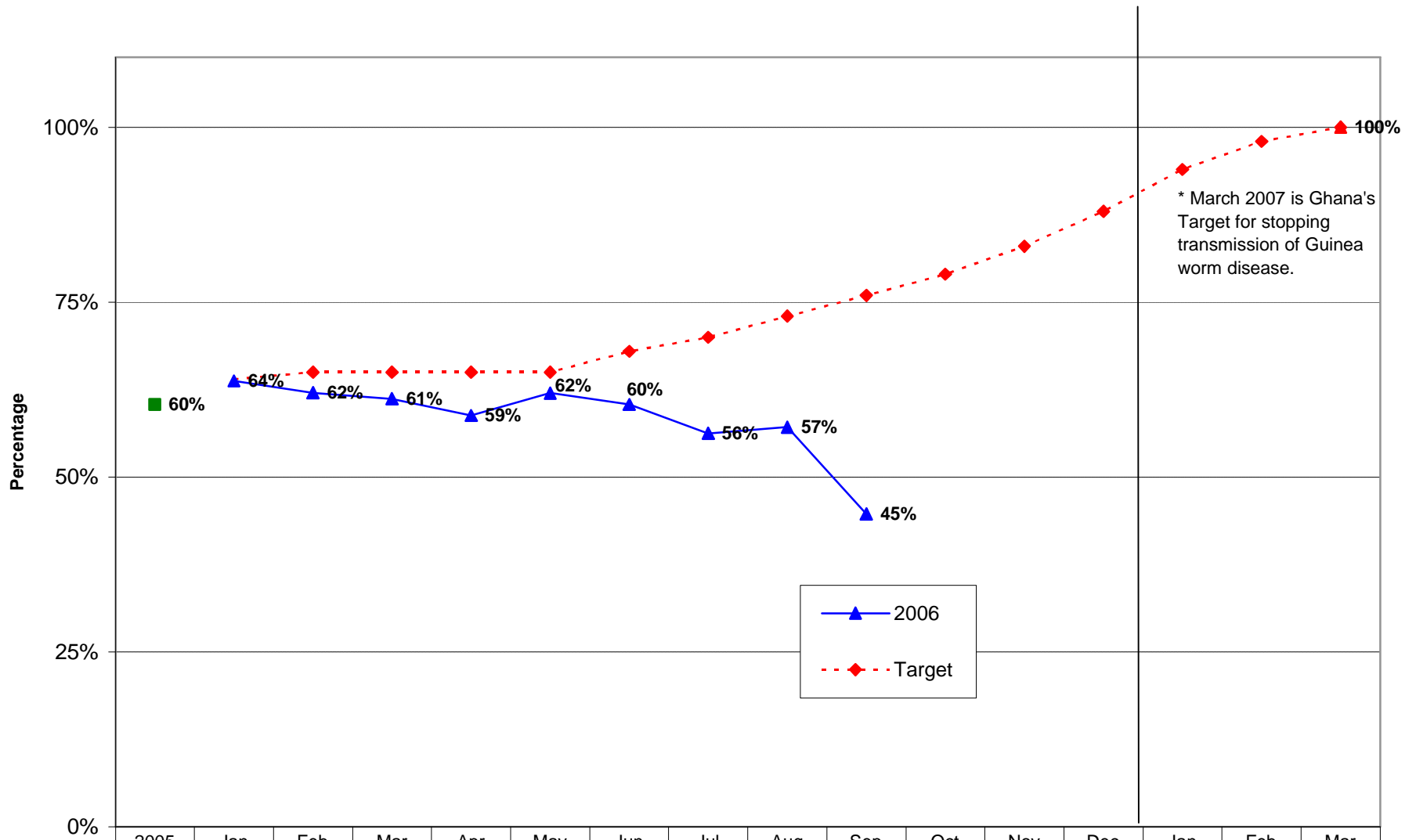


Figure 2

Ghana Guinea Worm Eradication Program Major Indicators by month
% Cases Contained by month 2006 - 2007



	2005	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
2006	60%	64%	62%	61%	59%	62%	60%	56%	57%	45%						100.0%
Target		64%	65%	65%	65%	65%	68%	70%	73%	76%	79%	83%	88%	94%	98%	100.0%

Table 1

Number of Cases Contained and Number Reported by Month during 2006*
(Countries arranged in descending order of cases in 2005)

COUNTRIES REPORTING CASES	NUMBER OF CASES CONTAINED / NUMBER OF CASES REPORTED													%
	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL*	
SUDAN	0 1 10	7 30	68 151	226 2857	2714 5175	2469 4156	2225 3335	1172 1955	819 1203	/	/	/	9700 18872	51
GHANA	396 621	376 606	265 433	237 403	209 337	177 293	90 160	44 77	17 38	/	/	/	1811 2968	61
MALI	3 3	1 1	0 0	1 1	3 3	14 14	11 14	66 72	79 91	/	/	/	178 199	89
NIGER	2 2	0 0	0 0	1 2	6 6	7 7	11 12	17 21	15 21	/	/	/	59 71	83
NIGERIA	0 0	10 14	0 0	0 0	0 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	/	/	10 15	67
TOGO	1 1	2 3	0 0	0 1	1 1	2 2	0 0	5 5	1 1	/	/	/	12 14	86
BURKINA FASO	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1	1 1	0 1	/	/	/	2 3	0
COTE D'IVOIRE	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	2 2	2 2	0 0	1 1	/	/	/	5 5	100
ETHIOPIA	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	/	/	/	3 3	100
UGANDA	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 1 0	1 1	0 0	1 1	/	/	/	2 2	100
TOTAL*	403 638	396 654	333 584	465 3264	2934 5524	2672 4475	2341 3525	1305 2131	933 1357	0 0	0 0	0 0	11782 22152	53
% CONTAINED	63	61	57	14	53	60	66	61	69				53	
% CONT. OUTSIDE SUDAN	64	62	61	59	63	64	61	76	74				63	

* provisional

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

Figure 3

Distribution by Country of 22,140 Indigenous Cases of Dracunculiasis Reported During 2006*

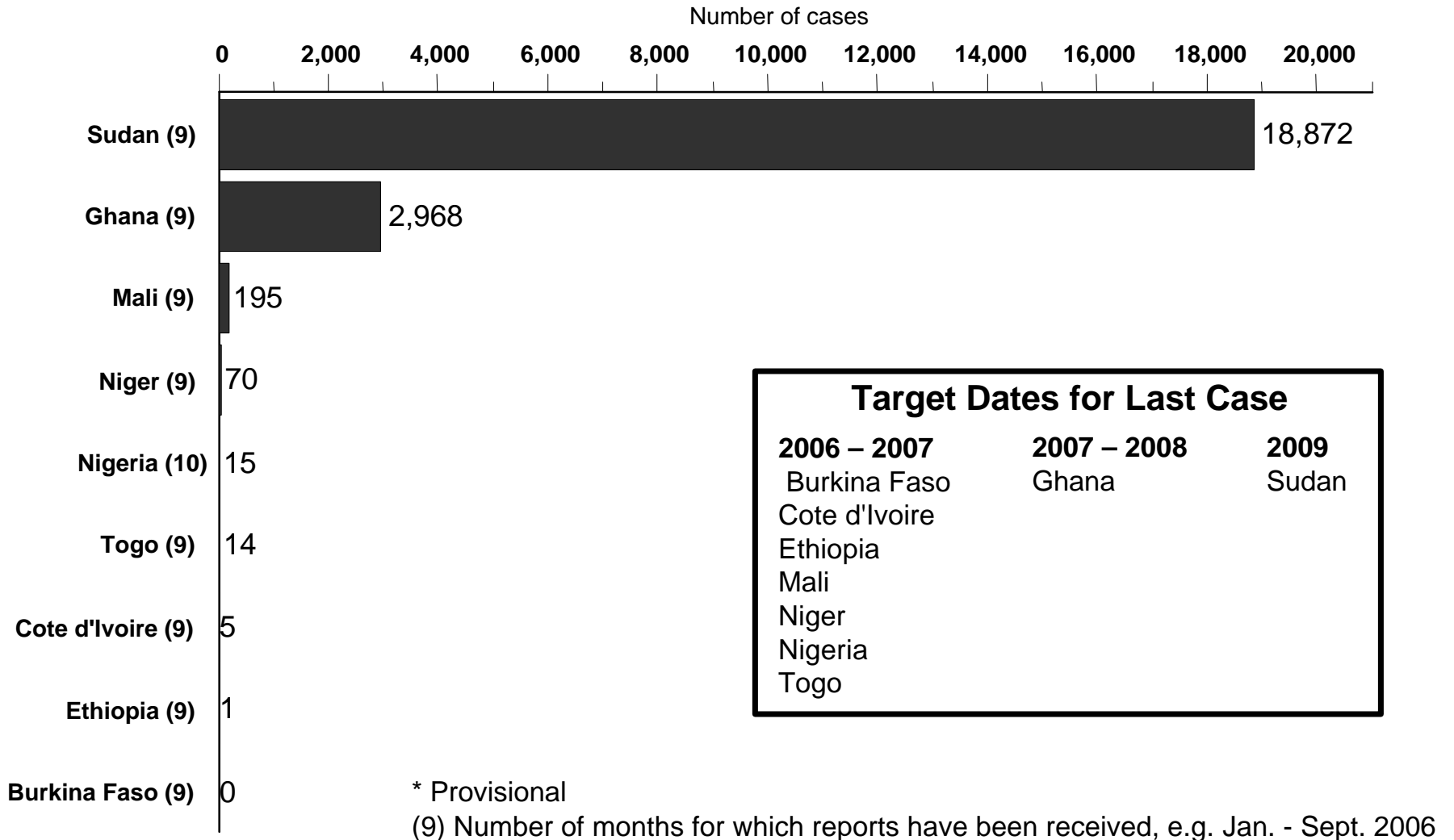
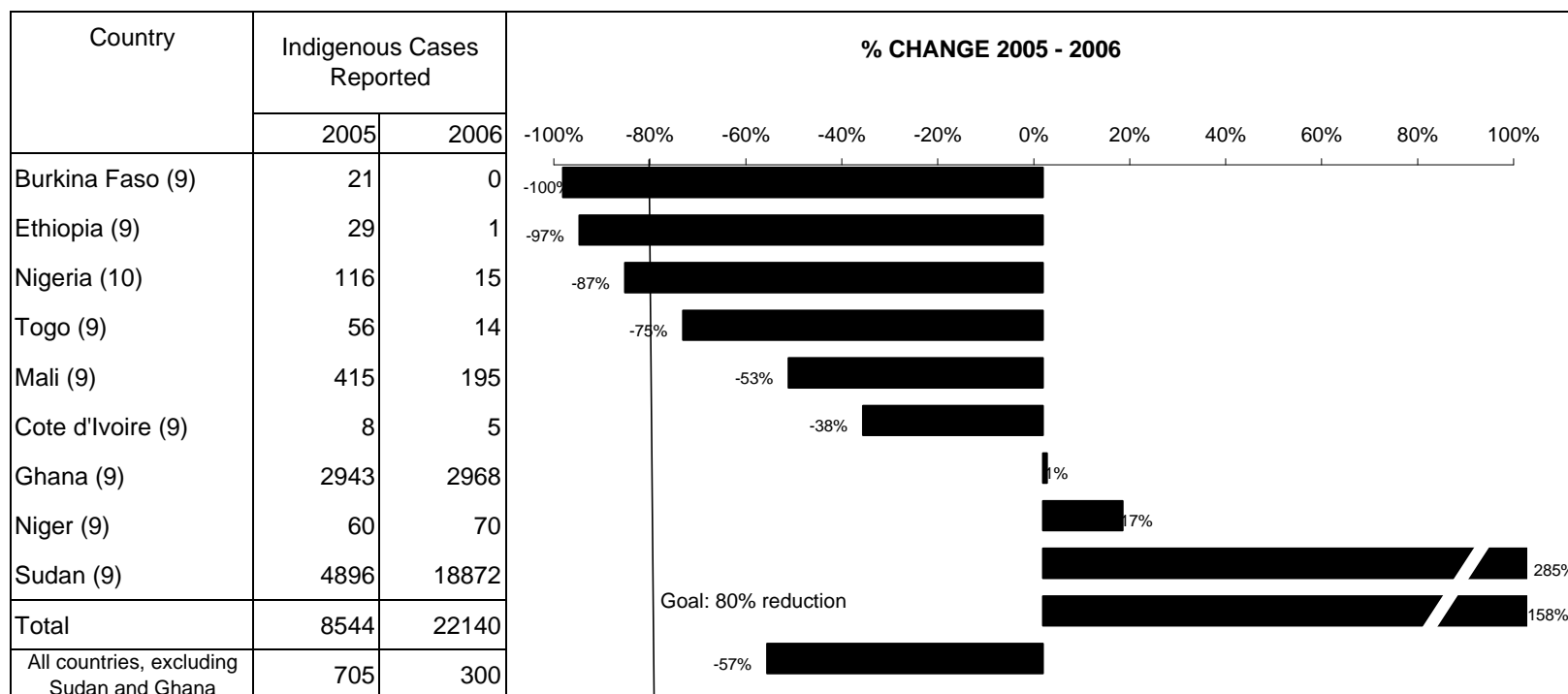


Figure 4

Number of Indigenous Cases Reported During the Specified Period in 2005 and 2006*, and Percent Change in Cases Reported



Overall % change outside of Sudan = -10%

(9) Indicates months for which reports were received, i.e., Jan. -Sept. 2006

* Provisional

Figure 5

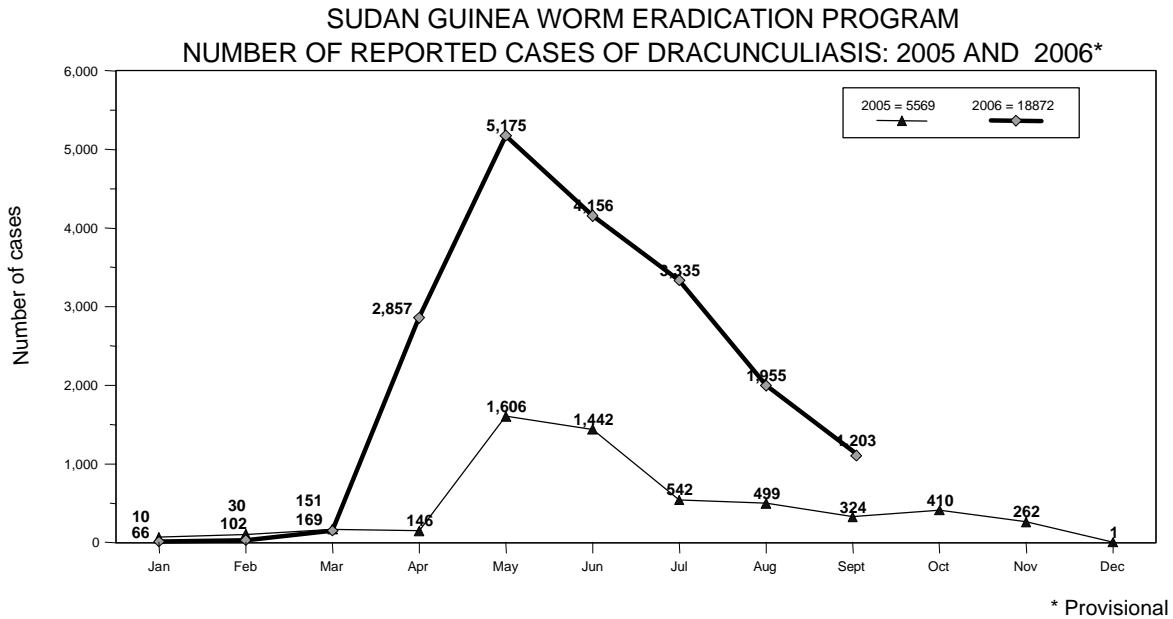
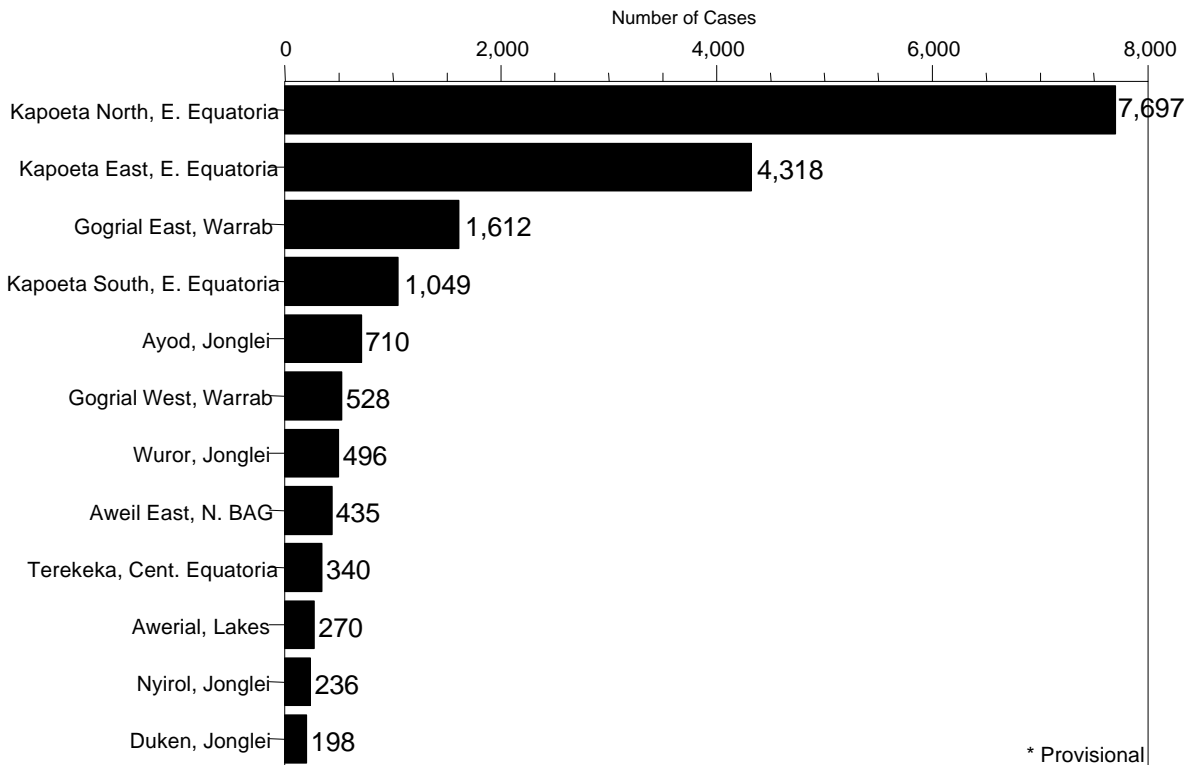


Figure 6

SUDAN GUINEA WORM ERADICATION PROGRAM
ENDEMIC COUNTIES BY STATE REPORTING 17,789 (94%) OF 18,872 CASES OF DRACUNCULIASIS
DURING JANUARY - SEPTEMBER 2006*



SUDAN

Provisional data from the southern Sudan GWEP during January –September indicates a total of 18,872 cases of GWD reported from 2,611 endemic villages, a 285% increase in cases compared to the 4,896 cases reported during the same period in 2005 (Table 1, Figures 3 and 4). The 2,611 endemic villages in 2006 is already a 141% increase over the 1,085 endemic villages reported during 2005. Figure 5 ranks the most endemic counties in southern Sudan in descending order of cases reported so far.

The reporting rate from endemic villages so far during 2006 is 63%, but the goal is to improve it to 75% or better by the end of the dry season in May 2007 or before, if possible. Full filter coverage (cloth filters in every household) in each endemic village is 16%, and 25% of endemic villages have achieved full pipe filter coverage (70% of total population or 53% of 333,907 eligible individuals). One or more health education sessions have been provided to 66% of the endemic villages, and 7% of these have been protected with the use of ABATE® Larvicide. Only 16% of endemic villages have access to one or more safe sources of drinking water.

The increases in cases of GWD and endemic villages in 2006 are a result of improved accessibility to areas of southern Sudan during 2006, unprecedented support since December 2005 by the Government of Southern Sudan and The Carter Center to intensify the GWEP, ongoing assessments of the extent of GWD in southern Sudan, and the speed and diligence with which the GWEP has been able to establish a program infrastructure and logistical support to immediately activate surveillance and monthly reporting of cases and to implement interventions in newly discovered endemic areas. UNICEF is assisting with the provision of safe sources of drinking water and WHO with surveillance in non-endemic areas.

IN BRIEF:

Togo. Dr. Bakaye Awani Su Keya DOTSE has been named the new national coordinator of Togo's GWEP. The Togolese GWEP held regional reviews in all five regions of Togo the first week of October.

MEETINGS

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 14-15 November 2006 | Program Review for Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Mali, Niger, Togo,
The Carter Center, Atlanta, USA |
| 15 November 2006 | Ceremony to honor Benin, CAR, Mauritania, Uganda
The Carter Center, Atlanta, USA |
| 5-6 December 2006 | Program Review for South Sudan GWEP
Juba, Sudan |
| 5-7 December 2006 | National Review for Niger GWEP
Dosso, Niger |
| 5-7 March 2007 | Sixth Meeting of the International Commission for the Certification of
Dracunculiasis Eradication
WHO, Geneva, Switzerland |

*Inclusion of information in the Guinea Worm Wrap-Up does not
constitute “publication” of that information.
In memory of BOB KAISER*

For information about the GW Wrap-Up, contact the WHO Collaborating Center for Research, Training, and Eradication of Dracunculiasis, NCID, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, F-22, 4770 Buford Highway, NE, Atlanta, GA 30341-3724, U.S.A. FAX: 770-488-7761. The GW Wrap-Up web location is <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/guineaworm/default.htm>.



CDC is the WHO Collaborating Center for Research, Training, and Eradication of Dracunculiasis.