



Date: February 14, 2001

From:



WHO Collaborating Center for
Research, Training and Eradication of Dracunculiasis

Subject:

GUINEA WORM WRAP-UP # 110

To: Addressees

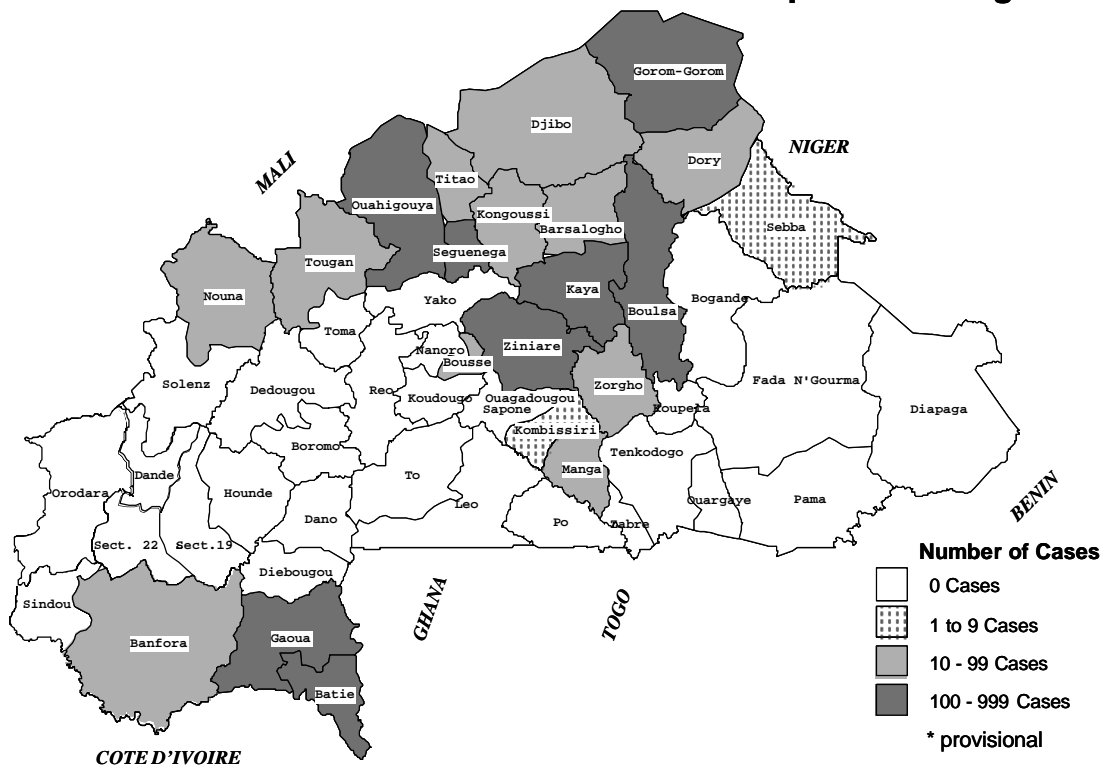
Detect Every Case (within 24 hours), Contain Every Worm (immediately)!

BURKINA FASO: PREPARING FOR 2001

Under the leadership of Dr. Dieudonne Sankara, Burkina Faso's Guinea Worm Eradication Program has begun preparing for this year's peak transmission season, which in this country begins in April/May and runs through September. A national conference was held on January 16th-18th to review the Plan of Action for 2001 that was shared with external partners in December. The meeting, which was convened at Ouahigouya in the second-highest endemic district, was well attended by Guinea worm supervisors, *agents renforts*, and district medical directors, as well as by other representatives of the Ministry of Public Health, WHO, The Carter Center/Global 2000, and Peace Corps.

Figure 1

**Burkina Faso Guinea Worm Eradication Program
Distribution of Cases of Dracunculiasis Reported During 2000***



Burkina Faso reported (provisionally) 1938 cases of dracunculiasis in 2000, which is a modest reduction of 11% in reported cases from the 2,184 reported in 1999. It is now the fourth highest endemic country remaining, after Sudan, Nigeria, and Ghana (see Guinea Worm Race 2000). 68% of the cases in 2000 were reported to have been contained. The geographic distribution of cases in 2000 is illustrated in Figure 1. Most of the remaining cases are concentrated in the north-central part of the country, with a smaller but significant focus in the southwest, bordering northeast Côte d'Ivoire and northwest Ghana. Burkina Faso ranks second in the number of cases exported to other countries in 2000 (18). Provisional reports are that 295 villages reported one or more cases of dracunculiasis in Burkina Faso during 2000. However, 108 (37%) of the 295 villages reported only 1 case. As of September 2000, 70% of endemic villages were reported to have cloth filters in all households, 63% had at least one source of safe drinking water, and Abate was being used in 19% of the endemic villages.

UNICEF has indicated its intention to provide some support for the program in 2001, including two 4-wheel drive vehicles and rehabilitation of wells in endemic villages. More than 20 U.S. Peace Corps Volunteers are posted in some of the most endemic areas, including the highest-endemic district (Kaya), and plan to assist by implementing "Worm Weeks" of intensive community mobilization and health education immediately prior to the peak transmission season. The Carter Center/Global 2000 has provided two short-term consultants, has purchased 20,000 square meters of nylon filter material and 50 additional bicycles to complement 250 bicycles being provided by UNICEF, and will provide other support to the national secretariat of the program. The program already has sufficient Abate on hand for this year.

BASF DONATES 12,000 LITERS OF ABATE FOR 2001

BASF BASF, A.G. has informed The Carter Center that it will donate 12,000 liters of Abate (temephos) for the Guinea Worm Eradication Program in 2001. The German-based BASF, which is a global chemical and agricultural company, purchased the Cyanamid Division from American Home Products (AHP) last year and will continue AHP's long tradition of supporting the program. The value of this new donation, which will be shipped to Ghana, Nigeria, and Kenya (for southern Sudan), is approximately \$250,000. As the remaining endemic countries get closer and closer to breaking all transmission from the final cases of dracunculiasis, vector control, using Abate, is an increasingly critical component of the campaign. We are delighted to welcome BASF as a valued new partner in the "Grand Coalition" against Guinea worm disease, and are very grateful for their generosity, especially at this final stage of the eradication campaign. Thank you BASF!!

IN BRIEF:

Côte d'Ivoire Reports 35 cases for January 2001, only 15 (43%) of which were contained.

Ghana In December 2000, the 31st December Women's Movement drama group and the Christian Mothers drama group performed Guinea worm dramas during community durbars at Kranya Akura and Abease, respectively, in Atebubu District of Brong Ahafo Region. The purpose of the durbars was to increase awareness of strategies for eradicating dracunculiasis.

Table 1

Number of cases contained and number reported by month during 2000*

(Countries arranged in descending order of cases in 1999)

COUNTRY	NUMBER OF CASES CONTAINED / NUMBER OF CASES REPORTED													TOTAL*	%
	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	CONT.		
SUDAN	511 / 1261	602 / 1029	512 / 896	563 / 1309	1951 / 6061	3299 / 8572	3411 / 7418	3972 / 8826	3699 / 9926	2801 / 5550	847 / 1885	561 / 1286	22729 / 54019	42	
NIGERIA	709 / 1265	451 / 993	651 / 1137	368 / 755	346 / 630	324 / 449	337 / 512	321 / 493	274 / 365	228 / 283	202 / 284	365 / 652	4576 / 7818	59	
GHANA	1737 / 1896	1214 / 1523	706 / 1091	450 / 661	485 / 596	201 / 237	94 / 111	30 / 68	19 / 62	125 / 128	296 / 373	539 / 655	5896 / 7401	80	
BURKINA FASO	8 / 24	5 / 9	33 / 67	103 / 190	220 / 326	249 / 339	193 / 269	186 / 275	99 / 147	95 / 125	128 / 148	6 / 19	1325 / 1938	68	
NIGER	1 / 1	2 / 2	0 / 0	2 / 3	23 / 39	67 / 106	116 / 177	187 / 363	148 / 223	108 / 146	40 / 63	28 / 43	722 / 1166	62	
TOGO	63 / 90	39 / 51	36 / 53	16 / 35	50 / 73	45 / 55	46 / 69	20 / 28	31 / 47	52 / 74	101 / 116	96 / 137	595 / 828	72	
BENIN	41 / 53	20 / 29	10 / 17	8 / 9	0 / 0	3 / 4	3 / 3	0 / 0	7 / 7	14 / 14	23 / 26	21 / 25	150 / 187	80	
COTE D'IVOIRE	25 / 26	63 / 69	15 / 42	5 / 32	6 / 17	16 / 45	12 / 12	23 / 26	8 / 8	6 / 6	5 / 6	0 / 1	184 / 290	63	
MALI	5 / 5	0 / 1	0 / 0	5 / 5	5 / 13	6 / 11	14 / 28	19 / 29	32 / 76	50 / 66	23 / 29	14 / 30	173 / 293	59	
UGANDA	4 / 4	2 / 2	3 / 4	11 / 11	14 / 16	10 / 10	12 / 24	8 / 15	4 / 4	4 / 5	0 / 0	0 / 2	72 / 97	74	
MAURITANIA	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	1 / 1	4 / 5	3 / 8	27 / 44	21 / 40	14 / 21	4 / 4	3 / 3	77 / 126	61	
ETHIOPIA	0 / 0	0 / 0	2 / 2	26 / 26	11 / 12	4 / 4	9 / 9	1 / 2	1 / 1	2 / 2	1 / 1	0 / 0	57 / 59	97	
C.A.R. [^]	0 / 13	0 / 6	0 / 1	0 / 0	0 / 1	0 / 8	0 / 4	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 33	0	
CAMEROON	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 1	0 / 0	2 / 2	0 / 0	0 / 0	3 / 3	100	
CHAD	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0	
TOTAL*	3104 / 4638	2398 / 3714	1968 / 3310	1557 / 3036	3112 / 7785	4228 / 9845	4250 / 8644	4795 / 10170	4343 / 10906	3501 / 6422	1670 / 2935	1633 / 2853	36559 / 74258	49	
% CONTAINED	67	65	59	51	40	43	49	47	40	55	57	57	49		

* PROVISIONAL

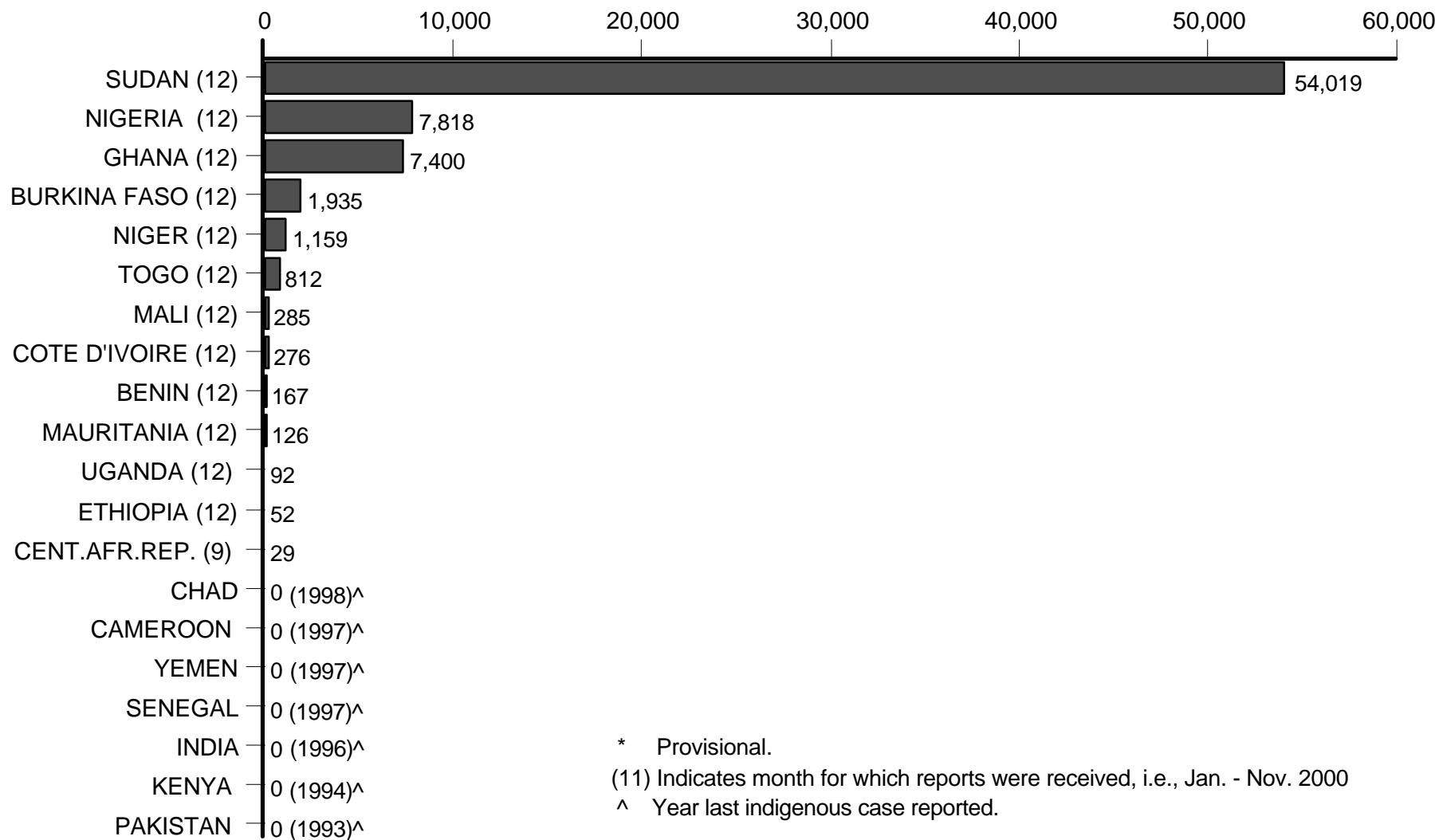
Shaded cells denote months when zero indigenous cases were reported. Numbers indicate how many imported cases were reported that month.

[^] So far, 3 of the 33 cases reported by Central African Republic as Guinea worm disease were confirmed to be onchocerciasis. One case of dracunculiasis was imported from Sudan in January.

Figure 2

Dracunculiasis Eradication Campaign

Distribution of 74,170 Indigenous Cases of Dracunculiasis Reported During 2000 by Country*



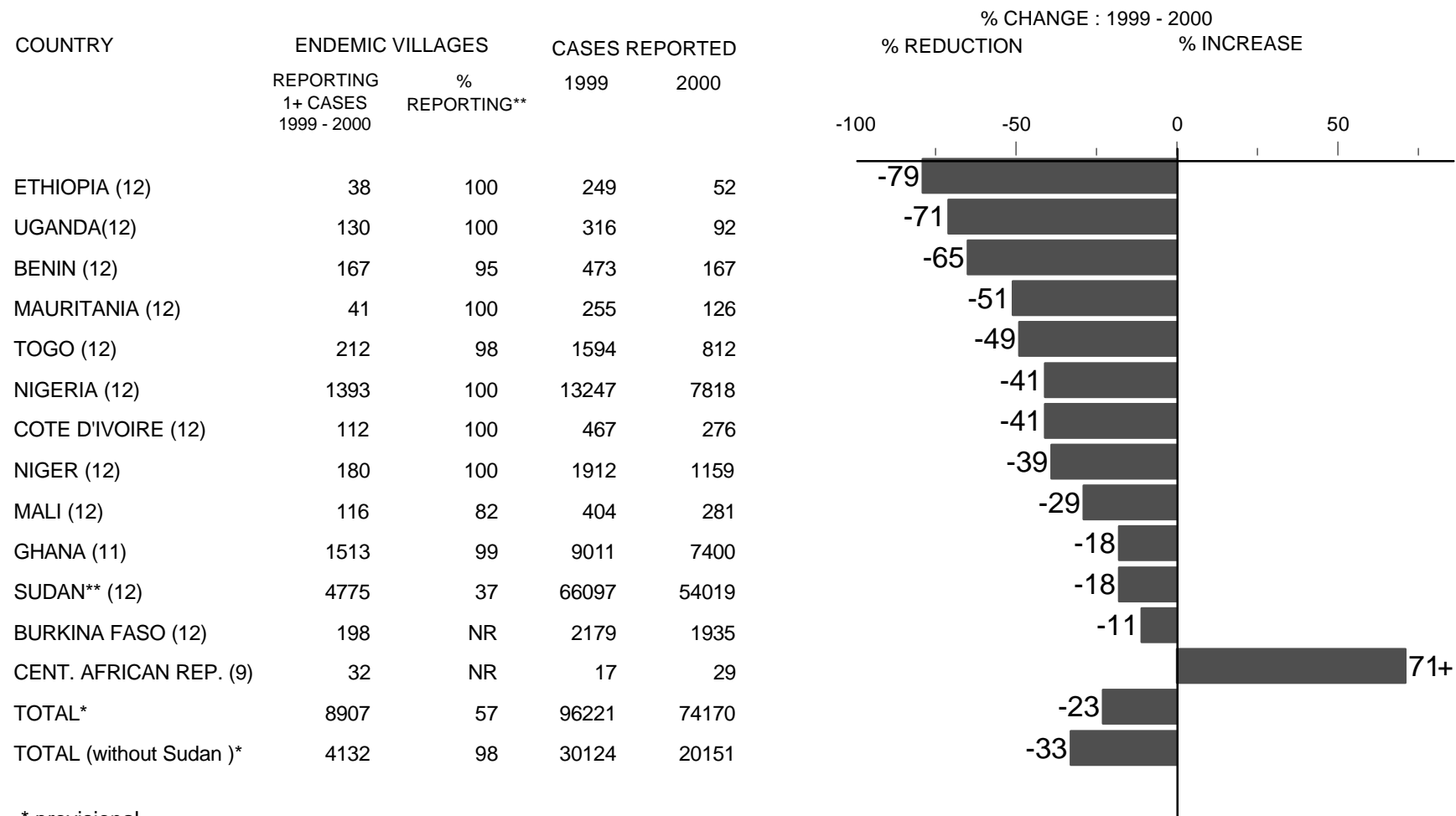
* Provisional.

(11) Indicates month for which reports were received, i.e., Jan. - Nov. 2000

^ Year last indigenous case reported.

Figure 3

Percentage of Endemic Villages Reporting and Percentage Change in Number of Indigenous Cases of Dracunculiasis During 1999 and 2000*, by Country



* provisional

** 2,600 (33%) of 7,898 endemic villages are not accessible to the program

Togo The Guinea Worm Eradication Program held its national review at Kpalime on February 8-10, 2001. Representatives of the six regional health directors (DRS), prefectural health directors (DPS) from endemic districts, and staff from the program participated. The meeting reviewed the status of Guinea worm eradication activities in each region and nationally, discussed the Plans of Action for 2001 for each prefecture and region, and made specific recommendations. External partners who participated in the meeting included Global 2000/The Carter Center, WHO, UNICEF, and the US Peace Corps.

Niger reports zero indigenous cases; only 2 imported cases (from Benin) in January 2001

Nigeria We congratulate Professor A.B.C. Nwosu on his appointment as Federal Minister of Health! For more recent readers, Prof. Nwosu is the former state commissioner for health in the old Anambra State, who initiated the Guinea Worm Eradication Program there in 1986, and thereby helped to get the national Nigerian program off to a solid start. Welcome back to the Guinea worm wars, Prof. Nwosu. We expect that Guinea worm's reign in Nigeria will be ended once and for all under your stewardship. Congratulations are also in order for Dr. Jude Anosike and his colleagues in Ebonyi Local Government Area, who have reduced the reported cases of Guinea worm by –89% in what was the highest endemic LGA in Nigeria only one year ago. BRAVO!! Nigeria has reported 1,017 cases in January 2001, a 20% reduction from the 1,265 cases reported in January 2000. 66% were contained. As of December 2000, 88% of Nigeria's 1,394 endemic villages had all households with cloth filters, Abate was applied in 54%, and 50% had at least one safe source of drinking water.

Figure 4

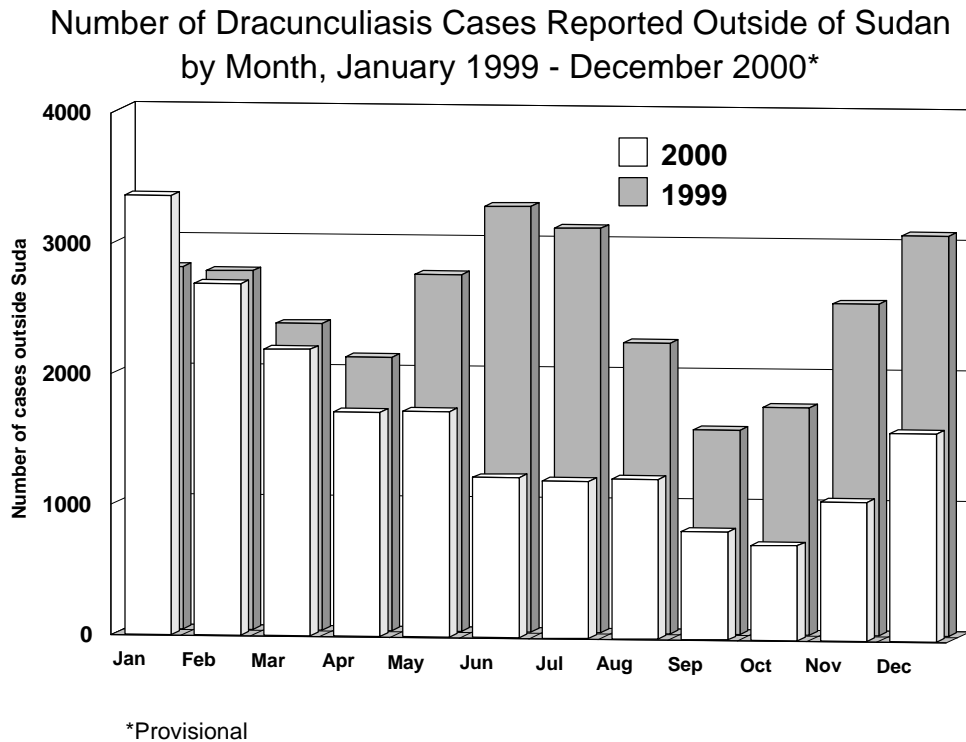
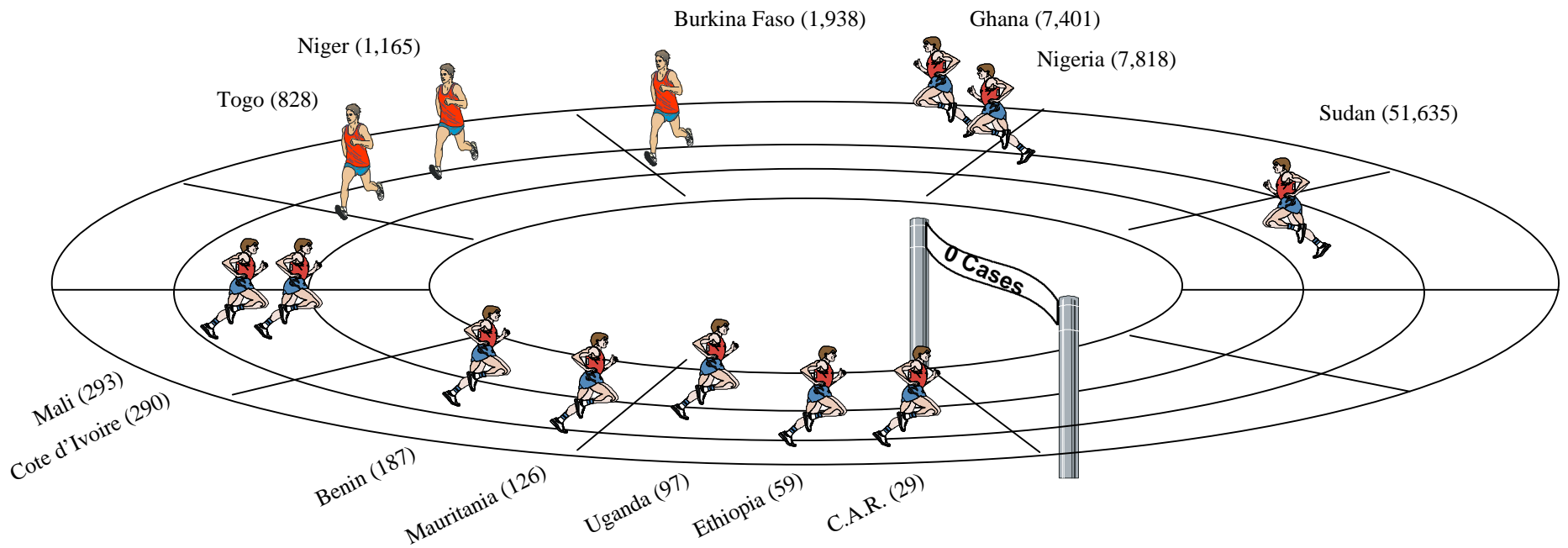


Figure 5

GUINEA WORM RACE: 2000*



*Provisional, includes imported cases

MEETINGS

The sixth meeting of national programme coordinators of Guinea Worm Eradication Programs will be held in Lomé, Togo on March 26-29, 2001. This meeting is co-sponsored by WHO, The Carter Center, and UNICEF, including funds provided by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The chairman of the International Commission for the Certification of Dracunculiasis Eradication, Dr. A.R. Al-Awadi, is expected to attend, as well as General Yakubu Gowon of Nigeria.

GUINEA WORM RACE 2000

Seven of the 13 endemic countries remaining (Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Uganda, Mauritania, Ethiopia and Central African Republic) came close to the finish line in 2000 (figure 5). (In 1999, 53 of Mauritania's 255 cases were reported in October-December). All of these countries should be able to detect and contain every case in 2001, even though Côte d'Ivoire has already missed that target in January. Benin raced past Côte d'Ivoire and Mali in 2000. Uganda came in a head of Mauritania. Ghana narrowly stayed ahead of Nigeria in Guinea Worm Race 2000, but there will be a high stakes challenge re-match to see which of those two countries has fewer cases in 2001.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Watts SJ, 2000. Cases of Guinea worm (dracunculiasis) in nineteenth-century Australia. Health & History 2:139-143. [This report is of imported cases.]

Prothero RM. 2000. Health hazards and wetness in tropical Africa. Geography. 85(Part 4):335-344.

*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 Dr. Daniel Colley, Acting Director, 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) 488-4532. The GW Wrap-Up web location has changed to <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/guineaworm/default.htm>



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