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FAX TRANSMISSION

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TO: [REDACTED] **FROM:** [REDACTED]

DATE: 04.02.03 **FAX NO:** [REDACTED]

PAGES: 1 **RE:** Strain differentiation results

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for submitting two bovine epithelium samples from Lebanon, collected on 11th and 12th December 2002 and received by us on 28th January 2003, for FMD diagnosis. We have now completed the serotyping investigation with the results listed below.

Your Reference	WRL Reference	Description of Sample	Submission Comments	Serotyping Result by ELISA	Remarks
83/6 Beirut	LEB 3/2002	Epithelium	Vaccinated On 25/10/2002	O	Direct antigen ELISA positive. Negative after passage in BTY* and IB-RS-2** cells.
Skandar	LEB 4/2002	Epithelium	Vaccinated On 28/10/2002	O	Direct antigen ELISA positive. Negative after passage in BTY and IB-RS-2 cells.

BTY* Primary bovine thyroid cells
IB-RS-2** Continuous pig kidney cell line

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Both samples were positive for serotype O FMD virus, after direct examination by ELISA, but we failed to grow any live virus. We will repeat the virus isolation attempt and also carry out RT-PCR analysis. Results of these tests will be forwarded to you as soon as they are available. I am interested to see that these samples came from recently vaccinated animals. Please could you supply details of the type of vaccine that had been used.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Head: World Reference Laboratory for FMD

Cc [REDACTED]