



Federaal Agentschap voor de Veiligheid van de Voedselketen
Agence fédérale pour la Sécurité de la Chaîne alimentaire
Föderalagentur für die Sicherheit der Nahrungsmittelkette
Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain

FAVV
AFSCA
FASNK
FASFC

AOB_Bluetongue Belgium

Bluetongue - Situation in Belgium

20/10/2023

Bluetongue – Situation in Belgium

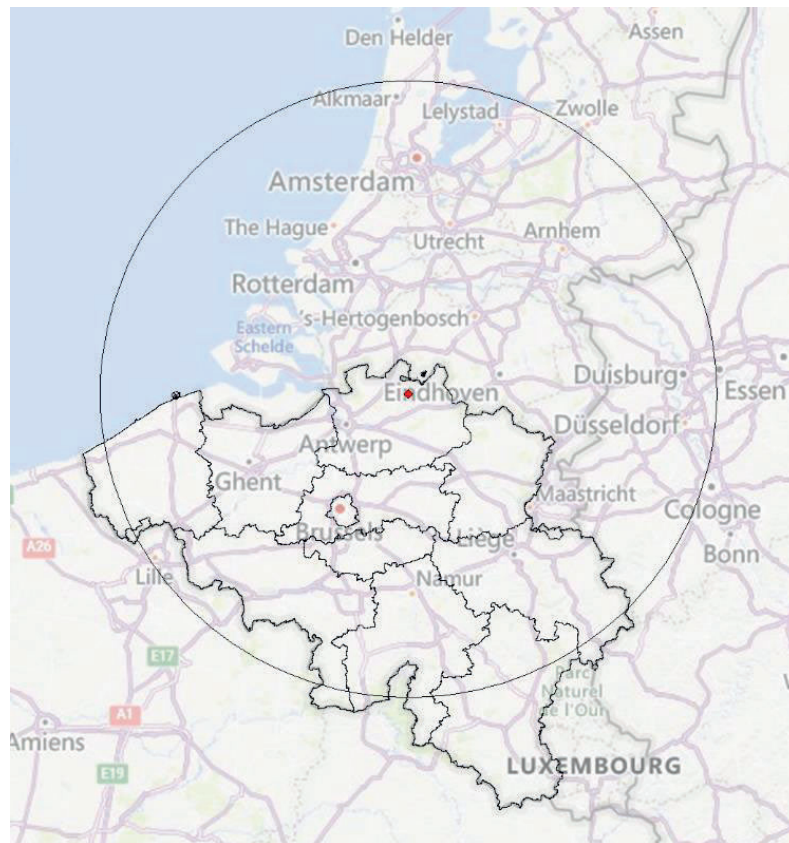
- 5 June 2023: officially free of Bluetongue (BT)
- Loss of BT-free status:
 - 6 October 2023: suspicion of BTV in one sheep on a small holding in Merksplas (PCR positive after diagnostic examination):
 - **Fever**
 - **Respiratory symptoms**
 - Stiffness
 - Crusts on the nose
 - Dried nasal discharge
 - The sheep is now cured of its symptoms
 - 9 October 2023: confirmation of BTV serotype 3, same serotype as in the Netherlands
 - 18 October 2023: No additional cases of BTV



Bluetongue – Situation in Belgium

150 km zone

Entire Belgian territory
demarcated as restricted zone
→ no restrictions on national trade



Bluetongue – Situation in Belgium

○ Consequences

- No restriction measures on affected farms
- Major impact on movement of live ruminants, semen and embryos to other Member States
 - No vaccine available
 - No vector-free period
 - No approved eradication programme
 - The conditions for "safe animals" are not met
- Only specific derogations depending on Member State of destination

○ Future:

- Further spread of the virus is expected, although the temperature drops
- Vaccination: collaboration with Germany and the Netherlands to obtain a vaccine as soon as possible



Onze missie is ervoor zorgen dat alle actoren van de keten aan de consument en aan elkaar een optimale zekerheid geven dat levensmiddelen, dieren, planten en producten die ze consumeren, houden of gebruiken, betrouwbaar, veilig en beschermd zijn, nu en in de toekomst.

Notre mission est de veiller à ce que tous les acteurs de la chaîne fournissent aux consommateurs et les uns aux autres une assurance optimale que les aliments, les animaux, les plantes et les produits qu'ils consomment, utilisent ou détiennent sont fiables, sûrs et protégés, maintenant et à l'avenir.

Unsere Aufgabe ist es, dafür Sorge zu tragen, dass alle Akteure der Kette den Verbrauchern und einander bestmöglich garantieren, dass die Lebensmittel, Tiere, Pflanzen und Erzeugnisse, die sie verzehren, halten oder verwenden, zuverlässig, sicher und geschützt sind, jetzt und auch in Zukunft.

Our mission is to ensure that all actors in the food chain can provide the consumers and each other with the greatest possible assurance that the food, animals, plants and products they consume, keep or use are reliable, safe and protected, now and in the future.

