



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
HEALTH & CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL  
Unit 04 - Veterinary Control Programmes

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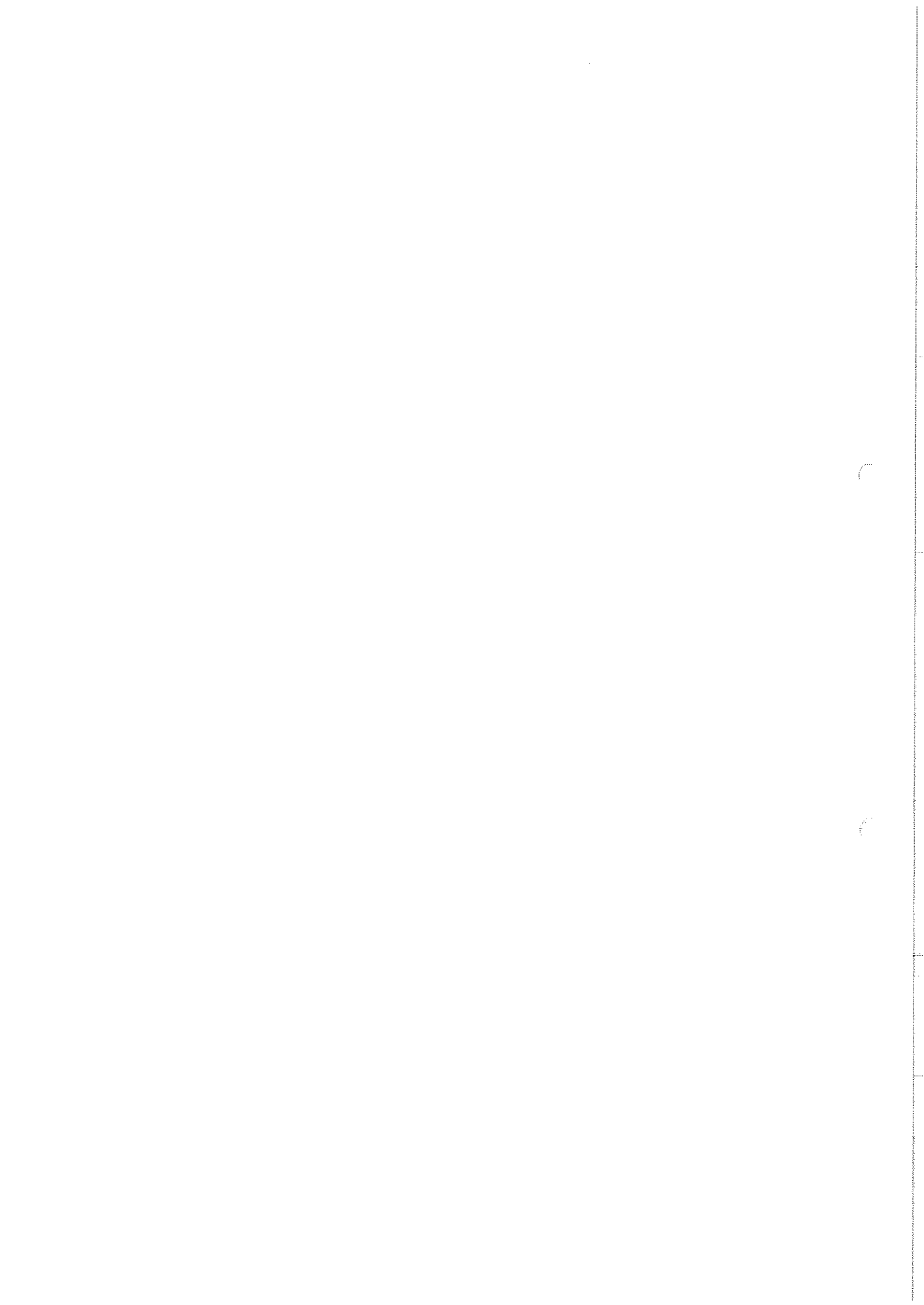
*Programmes for the eradication, control and monitoring of certain  
animal diseases and zoonoses*

## **Surveillance and Eradication programme of Bluetongue**

**Approved\* for 2009 by Commission Decision 2008/897/EC**

**The Netherlands**

\* in accordance with Commission Decision 90/424/EEC





EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
HEALTH & CONSUMER PROTECTION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Directorate D - Animal Health and Welfare  
**D1 - Animal Health and Standing Committees**

## **VACCINATION PLAN**

**Bluetongue serotype 8**

**2009**

**THE NETHERLANDS**

**Standard requirements for the submission of national programmes for the eradication, control and monitoring of bluetongue for 2009**

**1. Identification of the programme**

**Member State:** The Netherlands

**Serotype(s):** 8

**Request of co-finance for<sup>1</sup>:** vaccine, administering the vaccine and monitoring of vaccinated animals

**Reference of this document:**

**Date sent to the Commission:**

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<sup>1</sup> Indicate the measures for which co-finance is requested

## 2. Historical data on the epidemiological evolution of the disease:

### Infections 2006

Compartment	August	September	October	November	December		Total
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8				1			
9							
10			1	3			
11		1	3	6	1		
12			3	3			
13			2	1	1		
14			5	2			
15			26	14	1		
16			11	17	2		
17		1	5	5	0		
18		1	28	8	2		
19		1	32	23	1		
20	31	70	123	20	1		
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>9</b>		<b>456</b>

**Infections 2007**

<b>Compartment</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>August</b>	<b>September</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>November</b>	<b>December</b>	<b>Total</b>
1		0	15	36	10	5	
2		2	141	23	1	0	
3		2	87	28	3	1	
4		3	97	82	5	2	
5		1	108	94	5	1	
6		0	2	12	19	8	
7		21	316	48	10	3	
8		13	614	130	17	0	
9		15	199	46	6	4	
10		20	343	28	7	1	
11		40	989	211	12	6	
12	2	71	345	28	9	2	
13		30	239	23	4	1	
14		22	135	15	2	0	
15		30	157	11	0	0	
16	3	119	223	14	3	1	
17	3	112	167	20	5	1	
18	2	113	255	28	7	8	
19	1	68	94	12	3	1	
20	3	110	75	5	1	0	
<b>Total</b>	14	792	4601	894	129	45	<b>6475</b>

**Infections 2008**

Compartment	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
1		13					
2							
3		2					
4		4					
5		2					
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							
17							
18							
19							
20							
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21</b>					

### **3. Description of the submitted plan:**

The vaccination plan bluetongue serotype 8 of 2009 is subject to the effectivity of the vaccine and the vaccination strategies of affected Member States in 2008 as will be evaluated by the European Commission. Furthermore, the vaccination plan is subject to the ceilings/limitations determined by the available funds to support the campaign. This vaccination plan is valid only as part of a concerted action plan to eradicate BTV type 8 in the EU involving all affected Member States.

#### **Objectives**

- Eradication of bluetongue serotype 8 in the European Union.

#### **Principles**

- Vaccination will be obligatory for all holders of bovines, ovines and caprines.
- Vaccination will be voluntary for all holders of other susceptible species (i.e. zoo animals).
- Susceptible wild animals (no identification) in natural areas/ wildlife reserves will not be vaccinated.
- A veterinary advise will be asked from the Central Veterinary Institute regarding exemptions from the obligation for specific holders.
- The vaccination will be executed by veterinary practitioners.
- The Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority supervises the vaccination program.
- The vaccination programme will be performed in 2009 and 2010. In fall of 2009 and 2010 an evaluation of the vaccination programme will take place to determine whether (or not) the program is effective and if a prolonged vaccination campaign is necessary.
- The target of this vaccination programme is to vaccinate all susceptible animals before the start of the BT-season (June 30).
- The vaccination programme and overall seroprevalence will be monitored to review progress.

#### **Procedure**

- The vaccine will be provided free of charge.
- The farmer contacts his veterinary practitioner to vaccinate his susceptible animals.
- The veterinary practitioner orders the vaccine from the AUV (distributer) periodically.
- The veterinary practitioner registers vaccination of animals by means of an internet application (PM).
- The farmer pays the bill of the veterinary practitioner.
- DR compensates the farmer based on the pre-fixed amounts per animal. The fixed amounts per animal are subject to the European budget for co-financing
- DR claims the expenses of the vaccine, administering the vaccine and monitoring from the European Commission.



### **Identification and registration of animals and of holdings vaccinated:**

Animals for fattening or breeding that will (or might) be exported under condition 5 of Annex III of Regulation 1266/2007, need to be identifiable as vaccinated animals. For these animals individual identification and registration is necessary.

#### **Cattle**

Bovines are individually identified and registered in the national database (PM).

#### **Sheep/goats**

As a result of new European legislation (Council Regulation (EC) No 21/2004), the system of identification and registration for sheep and goats is in a transitional phase. Various methods of identification are therefore in use, including electronic identification.

After vaccination the unique farm number and the amount of animals vaccinated will be registered. For the purposes of export, the principle is that vaccinated sheep and goats for fattening and/or breeding must be identifiable. After vaccination, sheep and goats for fattening and/or breeding will be registered in the register of the holding. A registration of the ear tag number/ chip number, signed by the veterinary practitioner, is required for export certification. Sheep and goats for fattening and/or breeding can only be exported from the farm of origin. Animals for fattening or breeding that will be exported, but are not identifiable as vaccinated animals, need to comply with other conditions than condition 5 of Annex III of Regulation 1266/2007 (than condition 5.)

## **4. Measures of the submitted plan**

### **4.1 Summary of measures under the plan**

#### **4.1.1. Duration of the plan:**

The vaccination programme will be performed in 2009 and 2010. In fall of 2009 and 2010 an evaluation of the vaccination programme will take place to determine whether or not the program is effective and if a prolonged vaccination campaign is necessary to eradicate bluetongue serotype 8.

#### **First year: concise summary of activities foreseen**

- Vaccination against bluetongue serotype 8 will be obligatory for all holders of bovines, ovines and caprines. All animals have to be vaccinated before June 30 of each year.
- The Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality will order 9.000.000 million doses of inactivated BTV 8 vaccine for the vaccination of bovines (3.000.000), ovines (1.400.000) and caprines (500.000). In the calculation of the amount of vaccine doses 10% vaccine loss and extra vaccine for not registered animals is considered.
- The Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, the Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority, the farmers organisations, the Animal Health Service (GD) and all other stakeholders and interested groups have indicated that they will stimulate all holders of susceptible animals to vaccinate their animals. Special communication programs will be put in place.
- The Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (VWA) supervises the vaccination campaign.
- The General Inspection Service (AID) sets up a control strategy (PM).

## **Second year: concise summary of activities foreseen**

The activities of 2009 will be continued in 2010.

## **Last year: concise summary of activities foreseen**

In fall 2009 and 2010 an evaluation of the vaccination programme will take place to determine whether (or not) the program is effective and if a prolonged vaccination campaign is necessary to eradicate bluetongue serotype 8.

### **4.1.2. Calendar of implementation through the year (indicate priorities by region or status of herd or other relevant criteria)**

The vaccination campaign will run from 1 January 2009 to 1 July 2009 and from 1 January 2010 to 1 July 2010.

### **4.1.3. Monitoring immunization: strategy to be used to check proper implementation**

After vaccination veterinarians report through an internet application the unique farm number and the amount of animals vaccinated. An administrative control in fall 2009 of the reports sent in by veterinarians will give information of the coverage.

### **4.1.4. Other measures (specify):**

Clinical disease resembling bluetongue in vaccinated (and probably previously infected) animals will be examined carefully, keeping in mind that other BT strains may appear in this part of the Community.

In fall 2009, a monitoring program by means of a virological survey to determine 20% prevalence of bluetongue serotypes will be put in place. After acceptance in the SCOFCAH of the revised Annex 1 of Regulation 1266/2007 a Monitoring Program will be sent to the European Commission.

Pharmacovigilance will also be given special attention, as the vaccination campaign is done with a non registered vaccine.

## **4.2. Organisation, supervision and role of all stakeholders involved in the plan (full description)**

Summarizing (see above): the Ministry provides the vaccine, the veterinary practitioners carry out the vaccination and provide information thereof, the VWA supervises the vaccination and the GD provides advice and lab services to farmers, DR asks for co-financing from the Commission. Farmer organisations, trader organisations and hobby keepers organisation are all supporting and will use their means to promote vaccination.

### **4.2.1. Legal provisions for the plan (compulsory/not compulsory)**

The vaccination campaign will be obligatory for all holders of bovines, ovines and caprines and voluntary for all holders of other susceptible species (including zoo animals).

### **4.2.2. Identification and designation of the central authority charged with supervising and coordinating the departments responsible for implementing the plan;**

The Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (VWA) on behalf of the Directorate of Food and Veterinary Affairs of the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality.

### **4.2.3. Full description of the departments, services or other means to be used for implementing the measures of the plan**

**Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality**

The Minister of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality is responsible for a good and safe food supply and has to guarantee veterinary and phytosanitary safety. The control of former list A diseases (OIE) is a responsibility of the Minister of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality. The policy for former list A diseases is developed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality in close collaboration with executive services of the Ministry and stakeholders.

#### **The Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (VWA)**

The Dutch Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (VWA) helps safeguard public health and animal health by overseeing food and consumer product safety as well as animal welfare. The VWA performs inspections throughout the production chain – from raw materials and additives to the final product. The VWA is a division of the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality.

#### **National Service for the Implementation of Regulations (DR)**

DR is the main paying agency of the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality.

DR is responsible for the implementation of 200 national and EU regulations and works by order of several Dutch ministries and the European Union. A large number of experts are daily involved in developing and implementing regulations in accordance with CAP. DR has its headquarters in The Hague; six regional offices focus on specific groups of regulations. Besides the implementation of regulations, DR is also responsible for the Agricultural data collection, the Identification and Registration system of Animals and the Land Parcel Identification System.

#### **General Inspection Service (AID)**

The General Inspection Service (AID) is a department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality.

The ambition of the AID is that as many people as possible keep to the rules and regulations to do with food safety, animal health and welfare and protection of nature. To achieve this goal, the AID uses instruments like **control, tracking and communication**.

#### **Central Veterinary Institute (CVI, formerly known as CIDC)**

The CVI is the national animal disease reference institute. It is an independent veterinary research institute whose services are mainly used by the government, but also by the agro-business. The CVI carries out high-level research into safeguarding the health of farm animals and combating notifiable infectious diseases. The institute also serves as a centre for scientific expertise and diagnostic recommendations, provides training programs in combating notifiable animal diseases, performs diagnostic testing for export certification, and assesses veterinary medicines and feed additives for the Dutch government.

#### **Animal Health Service (GD)**

The Animal Health Service (GD) is a market-oriented organisation primarily for the improvement of animal health and safety of animal products. Veterinary specialists provide farmers and veterinary practitioners with assistance and advice, not only for the fight against infectious diseases, but also regarding aspects of animal husbandry and animal welfare. GD was founded in 1919 by and for farmers, with the objective of preventing and eradicating animal diseases. GD was a foundation until 2000. In 2000 GD was converted into a private company.



#### 4.4. Description of the measures of the plan<sup>3</sup>:

##### 4.4.1. Notification of the disease

Bluetongue is a notifiable disease. Farmers and veterinary practitioners are obliged to report suspicions of bluetongue to the The Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (VWA).

##### 4.4.2 Target animals and animal populations

Vaccination is obligatory for all holders of bovines, ovines and caprines and voluntary for holders of other susceptible animal species.

##### 4.4.3 Identification of animals and registration of holdings

The number of registered holdings and the number of registered animals in the Netherlands are presented in the two tables below. Due to hobby keepers, it is likely that the number of sheep and goats is somewhat underestimated.

###### Number of holdings

Cattle holdings (total)	37 319
Dairy cattle and other cattle holdings	33.991
Fattening calf holdings	3 328
sheep holdings	41 205
goat holdings	22 875

###### Number of animals

Bovines total	3 679 106
Dairy cattle	1 433 202
Young animals for milk production	1 142 016
Beef cattle	382 455
Veal calves (total)	828 740
White veal	624 513
Pink veal	204 227
Sheep	1 373 110
Goat	500 540

<sup>3</sup> A comprehensive description needs to be provided of all measures. The national legislation in which the measures are laid down is mentioned.

#### **4.4.4 Qualifications of animals and herds**

Except for wild animals (no identification), no herds or animals will be excluded from the vaccination campaign. Based on a veterinary advise from the CVI, vaccination may be voluntary for certain specific holders.

#### **4.4.5 Rules on the movement of animals**

Commission Regulation 1266/2007 provides the measures for the restricted zone. The whole territory of the Netherlands is restricted zone. After vaccination, no supplementary measures will be put in place.

#### **4.4.6 Tests used and sampling schemes**

#### **4.4.7 Vaccines used and vaccination schemes**

Inactivated vaccine against bluetongue serotype 8.

#### **4.4.8. Compensation scheme for owners for animals death due to vaccination**

Damage claims follow the normal route to the manufacturer (product liability).

#### **4.4.9. Control on the implementation of the plan and reporting:**

The Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (VWA) on behalf of the Directorate of Food and Veterinary Affairs of the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality is charged with supervising and coordinating the departments responsible for implementing the plan.

A report of the vaccination campaign will be sent to the European Commission annually, before 31 Januari of the following year. Interim reports can be given each SCOFCAH meeting by means of a presentation.

### **5. Benefits of the program**

- Foreseen eradication of bluetongue serotype 8
- Protection of animals from clinical symptoms
- Prevention of economic and financial damage due to clinical symptoms and mortality
- Facilitation of export of live animals to bluetongue serotype 8 free zones

### **06. Data on the epidemiological evolution during the last five years**

#### **6.1 Evolution of the disease**

6.1.1 Data on herds

6.1.2 Data on animals

#### **6.2 Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests (not applicable n/a)**

#### **6.3 Data on infection (n/a)**

#### **6.4 Data on the status of herds at the end of each year (n/a)**

**6.5 Data on vaccination or treatment programmes (n/a)**

**6.6 Data on wildlife (n/a)**

**7. Targets**

**7.3 Targets on vaccination or treatment**

**Year: 2009**

**Disease: bluetongue serotype 8**

**Animal species: bovines**

Region	Total number of herds	Total number of animals	Information on vaccination or treatment programme					
			Number of herds in vaccination programme	Number of herds expected to be vaccinated	Number of animals expected to be vaccinated	Number of doses of vaccine expected to be administered	Number of adults expected to be vaccinated	Number of young animals expected to be vaccinated
The Netherlands	34.000	3.000.000	34.000	34.000	3.000.000	4.500.000	1.500.000	1.500.000

In the calculation of the amount of vaccine doses necessary 25% replacement percentage is considered. Furthermore, part of the bovine population will be vaccinated for the first time, these animals need to be vaccinated twice. To calculate the amount of vaccines, the number of bovines is multiplied by 150%.

Year: 2009

Disease: bluetongue serotype 8

Animal species: ovines

Due to hobby keepers, it is likely that the number of sheep and goats is somewhat underestimated.

Region	Total number of herds	Total number of animals	Information on vaccination or treatment programme					
			Number of herds in vaccination programme	Number of herds expected to be vaccinated	Number of animals expected to be vaccinated	Number of doses expected to be administered	Number of adults expected to be vaccinated	Number of young animals expected to be vaccinated
The Netherlands	45.000	1.500.000	45.000	45.000	1.500.000	2.000.000		

In the calculation of the amount of vaccine doses necessary 25% replacement percentage is considered.

Year: 2009

Disease: bluetongue serotype 8

Animal species: caprines

Region	Total number of herds	Total number of animals	Information on vaccination or treatment programme					
			Number of herds in vaccination programme	Number of herds expected to be vaccinated	Number of animals expected to be vaccinated	Number of doses expected to be administered	Number of adults expected to be vaccinated	Number of young animals expected to be vaccinated
The Netherlands	25.000	500.000	25.000	25.000	500.000	1.250.000		

A large part of the caprine population is not vaccinated in 2008 and will be vaccinated twice in 2009. Furthermore in the calculation of the amount of vaccine doses necessary 25% replacement percentage is considered.



Year 2009

Disease: bluetongue serotype 8

Animal species: other species

Region	Total number of herds	Total number of animals	Information on vaccination or treatment programme					
			Number of herds in vaccination programme	Number of herds expected to be vaccinated	Number of animals expected to be vaccinated	Number of doses expected to be administered	Number of adults expected to be vaccinated	Number of young animals expected to be vaccinated
The Netherlands		5.000		5.000	10.000			

Year: 2010

Disease: bluetongue serotype 8

Animal species: bovines

Region	Total number of herds	Total number of animals	Information on vaccination or treatment programme					
			Number of herds in vaccination programme	Number of herds expected to be vaccinated	Number of animals expected to be vaccinated	Number of doses of vaccine expected to be administered	Number of adults expected to be vaccinated	Number of young animals expected to be vaccinated
The Netherlands	34.000	3.000.000	34.000	34.000	3.000.000	3.750.000	1.500.000	1.500.000

In the calculation of the amount of vaccine doses necessary 25% replacement percentage is considered.

Year: 2010

Disease: bluetongue serotype 8

Animal species: ovines

Due to hobby keepers, it is likely that the number of sheep and goats is somewhat underestimated.

Region	Information on vaccination or treatment programme							
	Total number of herds	Total number of animals	Number of herds in vaccination programme	Number of herds expected to be vaccinated	Number of animals expected to be vaccinated	Number of doses vaccine expected to be administered	Number of adults expected to be vaccinated	Number of young animals expected to be vaccinated
The Netherlands	45.000	1.500.000	45.000	45.000	1.500.000	1.875.000		

In the calculation of the amount of vaccine doses necessary 25% replacement percentage is considered.

Year: 2010

Disease: bluetongue serotype 8

Animal species: caprines

Region	Information on vaccination or treatment programme							
	Total number of herds	Total number of animals	Number of herds in vaccination programme	Number of herds expected to be vaccinated	Number of animals expected to be vaccinated	Number of doses vaccine expected to be administered	Number of adults expected to be vaccinated	Number of young animals expected to be vaccinated
The Netherlands	25.000	500.000	25.000	25.000	500.000	625.000		

Assumed is that goats can be revaccinated with a single vaccination. In the calculation of the amount of vaccine doses necessary 25% replacement percentage is considered.

Year: 2010

Disease: bluetongue serotype

Animal species: other species

Region	Total number of herds	Total number of animals	Information on vaccination or treatment programme					
			Number of herds in vaccination programme	Number of herds expected to be vaccinated	Number of animals expected to be vaccinated	Number of doses expected to be administered	Number of adults expected to be vaccinated	Number of young animals expected to be vaccinated
The Netherlands		5.000			5.000	10.000		

7.3 Targets on vaccination or treatment of wildlife (n/a)

### 8. Detailed analysis of the costs of the programme (one table per year of implementation)

2009

Costs related to	Specification	Number of units	Unitary costs in €	Total amount in €	Community funding requested (yes/no)
1. Testing					
1.1 Costs of the analysis					
1.2 Cost of sampling					
1.3 Other costs					
2. Vaccination					
2.1 Purchase of vaccine		9.000.000 doses	0,66/per dosis	5.940.000	Yes
2.2 Distribution costs		9.000.000 doses		800.000	
2.3 Administring costs	bovines	3.000.000	4,00/ animal	12.000.000	Yes
	ovines	1.500.000	1,50/ animal	2.250.000	Yes
	caprines	500.000	3,00/ animal	1.500000	Yes
	Other species	5.000	4,00/ animal	20.000	Yes
Other costs					
Total				22.510.000	

2010

Costs related to	Specification	Number of units	Unitary costs in €	Total amount in €	Community funding requested (Yes/no)
<b>1. Testing</b>					
<b>1.1 Costs of the analysis</b>					
<b>1.2 Cost of sampling</b>					
<b>1.3 Other costs</b>					
<b>2. Vaccination</b>					
<b>2.1 Purchase of vaccine</b>		7.000.000 doses	0,66/per dosis	4.620.000	Yes
<b>2.2 Distribution costs</b>		7.000.000 doses		800.000	
<b>2.3 Administring costs</b>	bovines	3.000.000	2,00/ animal	6.000.000	Yes
	ovines	1.500.000	1,50 / animal	2.250.000	Yes
	caprines	500.000	1,50 / animal	750.000	Yes
	Other species	5.000	4,00/ animal	20.000	Yes
<b>Other costs</b>					
<b>Total</b>				14.440.000	

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