



Assessment *Echinococcus multilocularis* surveillance reports submitted in 2014

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BACKGROUND

Assessment of *Echinococcus multilocularis* surveillance reports submitted in 2014 by IE, FI, MT and UK

in the context of Commission Regulation (EU) No 1152/2011 regarding preventive health measures for the control of *E. multilocularis* infection in dogs





CONCLUSIONS

- **None of the four MS has detected *E. multilocularis*** through the surveillance activities reported in 2014
- Under the assumption of an unbiased representative sample (IE, FI, UK) and an unbiased risk based sample (MT) and considering the sensitivity of the tests applied, **all four MS have fulfilled the requirement** of Regulation (EU) No 1152/2011 regarding detecting a prevalence of not more than 1 % with a confidence level of at least 0.95.



CONCLUSIONS

- A robust estimation of **test sensitivity** is required
- **More detailed information on the fox and (raccoon) dog populations** (e.g. the density and local distribution, age structure and gender distribution) would allow a **better assessment of potential bias** in the presented sampling strategies when comparing this information to the characteristics of the sample population.





CONCLUSIONS

- Considering that a **risk-based approach** implies a good knowledge on the relative risk between groups within the target population, **scientific evidences underpinning the proposed relative risk values would minimise the potential impact of uncertainties** around these estimations.





RECOMMENDATIONS

- It is recommended that **each laboratory** involved in a surveillance programme **determines the sensitivity of each test** used to diagnose *Echinococcus multilocularis*
- **Collaboration between epidemiologists and wildlife experts** would facilitate data collection and subsequent estimation of wildlife population parameters
- **For risk-based approaches**, it is recommended to identify or perform additional **scientific studies on risk factors** affecting the probability of host animal species being infected with *Echinococcus multilocularis*



UPCOMING EFSA OUTPUTS ON *E. MULTILOCULARIS*

- **End Feb 2015**
scientific report on the assessment of *E. multilocularis* surveillance reports 2012 and 2013 submitted by Norway
- **End Oct 2015**
scientific report on the assessment of *E. multilocularis* surveillance reports submitted by IE, FI, NO, MT and UK in 2015
- **End Nov 2015**
scientific opinion on *E. multilocularis* infections in animals