



ROMANIA

NATIONAL SANITARY  
VETERINARY AND FOOD  
SAFETY AUTHORITY

Rabies Situation And Oral  
Vaccination of Foxes in 2013 in the

**ROMANIA**

**06-07 October 2014**

Brussels



## The objectives of the programme for 2013

- - oral vaccination of foxes against rabies by airplanes
- - surveillance of rabies in wild animals population in Romania
- - control of rabies in fox population in Romania
- - monitoring of oral vaccination in fox population in Romania
- - determination of vaccination efficiency
- - surveillance of rabies prevalence in the population of domestic animals, including dogs and cats



## Actions undertaken for the fulfillment of the objectives:

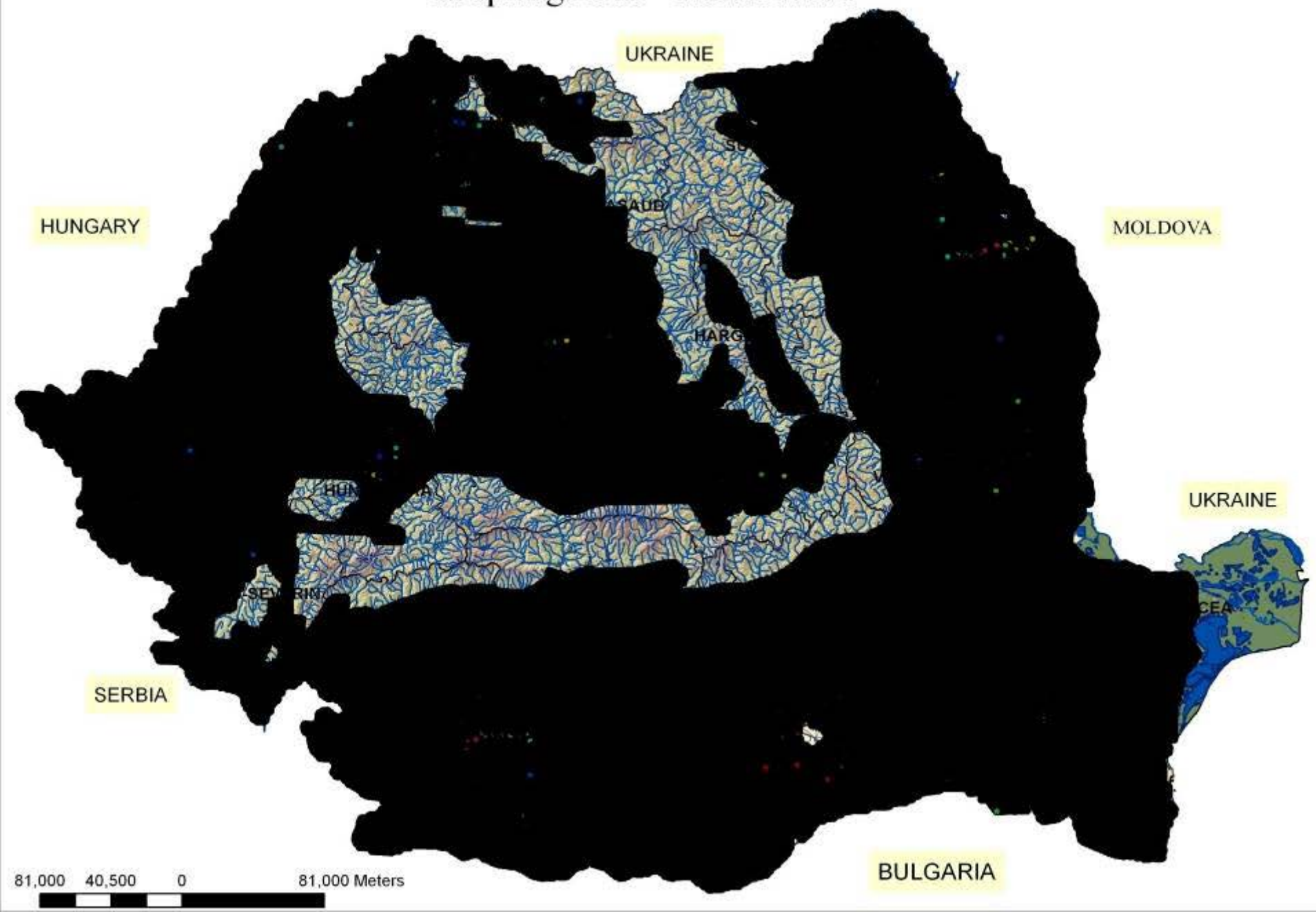
- - oral vaccination of foxes by airplane distribution in 2 campaigns for obtaining territory free of rabies;
- - creating vaccination barriers around localities by the manual vaccination in foxes in order to decrease the prevalence of rabies in domestic animals;
- - public awareness campaigns regarding oral vaccination of foxes;
- - monitoring of evolution of rabies correlated with the plan for application of vaccination and the results obtained;
- - control of the application of vaccination plans and evaluation of its efficiency;
- - collection of data, their proper registration, their statistic and informatics procession and their presentation in proper forms in order to be used in the practice of control and eradication of rabies in Romania;
- - the competent authority will control the correct application of the aerial distribution during its implementation, also by checking the recorded flight routes and bait release data.
- - vaccination of domestic animals in outbreak;
- - compulsory vaccination of dogs and cats; identification and registration of dogs and cats
- - monitoring of animal movements in conformity with CE Reg. no.998/2003 regarding animal health requirements regulating trade and imports of animals, semen and embryos in Community that are not subject to animal health requirements established by the Community norms provided in Annex A, point I to Directive 90/425/EEC.



## Implementation of the vaccination program of foxes against rabies - Romania 2013

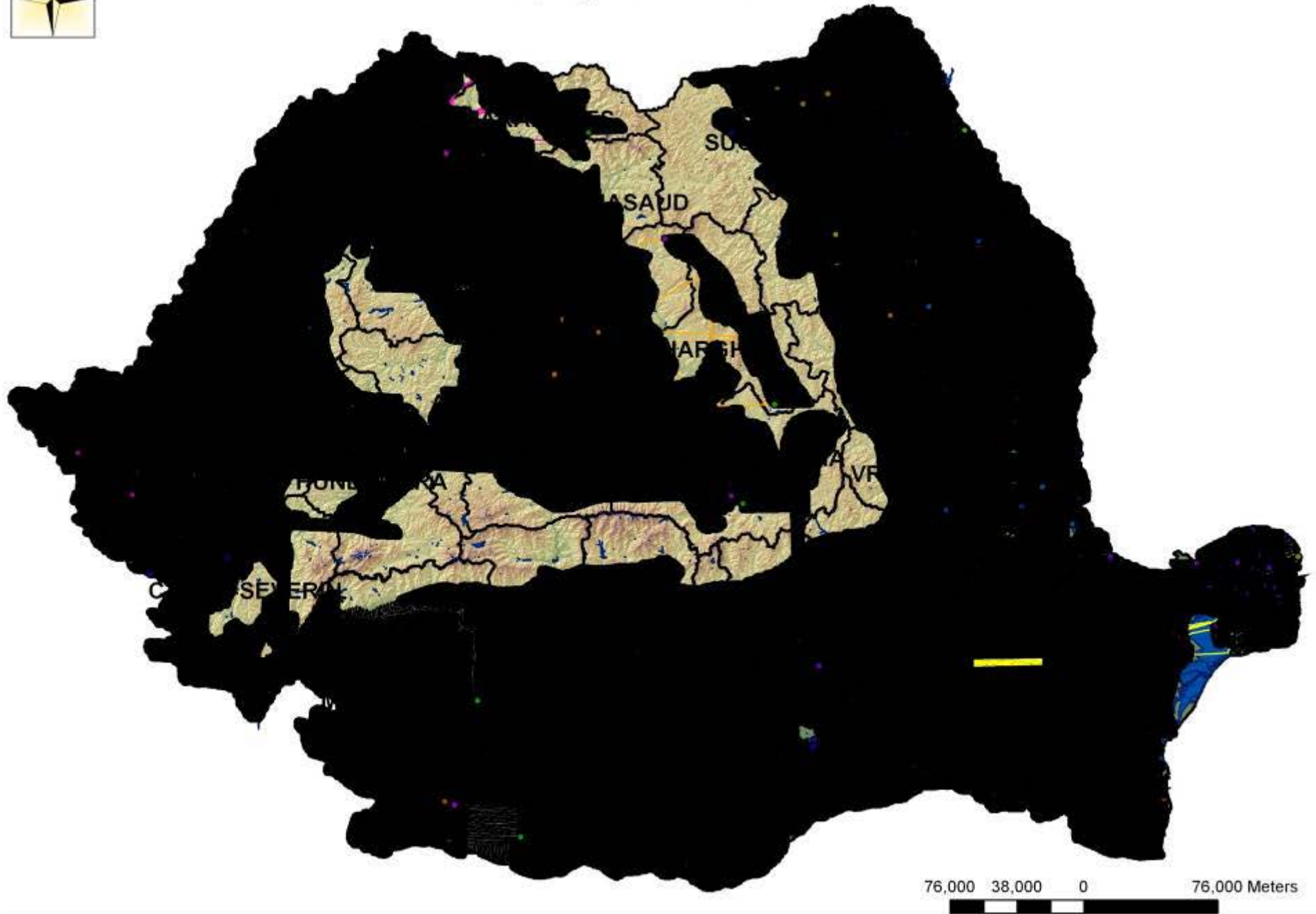
- Application in 41 counties, the bait distribution includes border with Serbia, Hungary, Ukraine, Moldova and Bulgaria
- First campaign – started in 07 june and end in 13 july
- Second campaign – started in 01 october and end in 28 november
- Estimated area for vaccination : 196.000 km<sup>2</sup>
- Distribution pattern: “cross-flights”
- Baits distributed by airplanes 7.774.908 baits:
  - First campaign : 3.846.098 baits with an approx. 20 baits/km<sup>2</sup>
  - Second campaign : 3.928.810 baits with an approx. 20 baits/km<sup>2</sup>
- Baits distributed manual 117.450 baits:
  - First campaign : 58735 baits with an approx. 25 baits/km<sup>2</sup>
  - Second campaign : 58715 baits with an approx. 25 baits/km<sup>2</sup>

# Aerian distribution of antirabies vaccin baits for foxes in spring 2013 - ROMANIA -





Aerial distribution of antirabies baits vaccination of foxes  
Autumn campaign 2013 ROMANIA



# The methods use for evaluation of fox vaccination by NRL

- Fluorescence antibody test (FAT) /direct immunofluorescence test
- Tetracycline detection
- ELISA antibody
- RT-PCR
- Sequencing

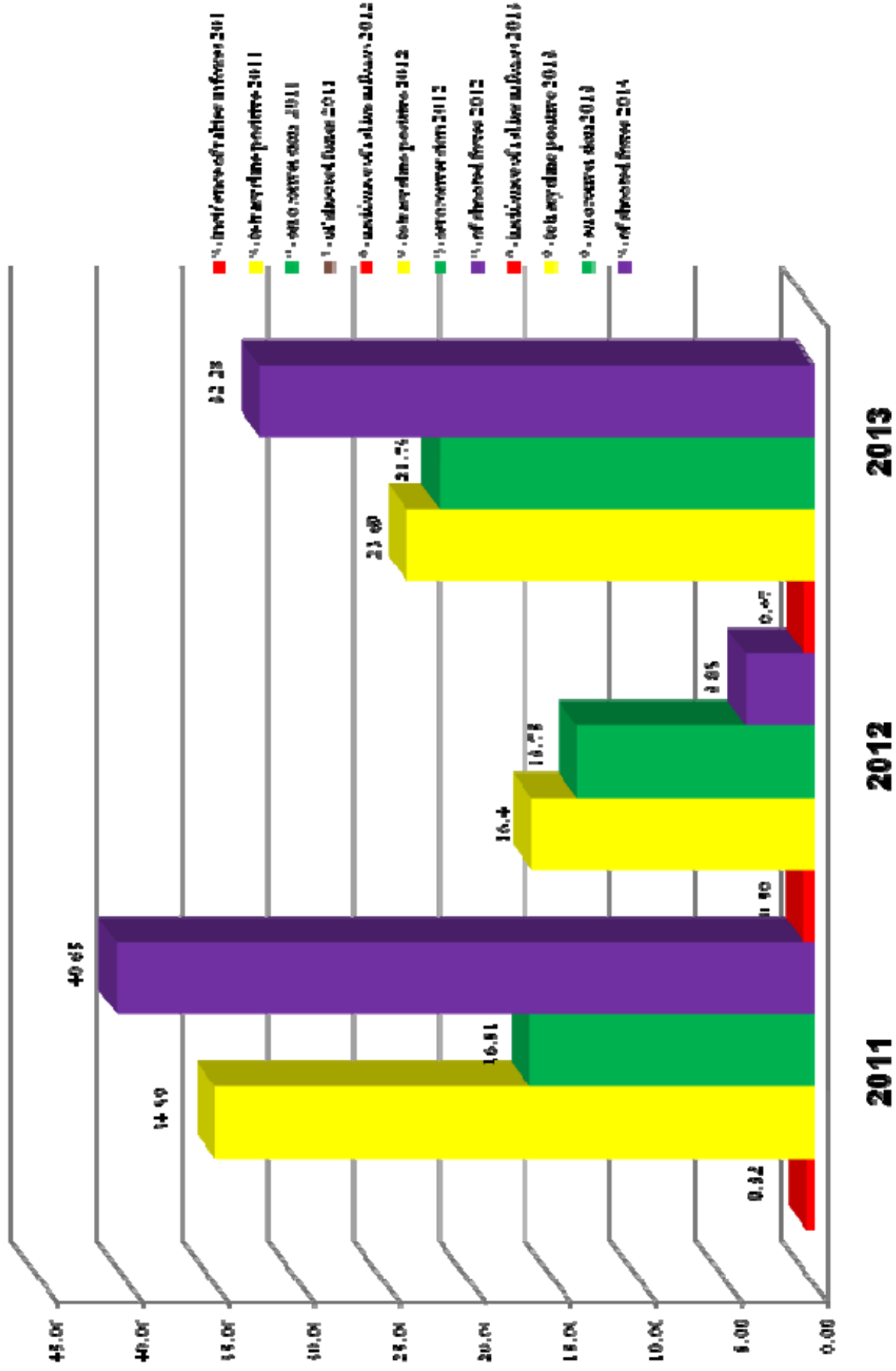


## Evaluation of 2013 rabies eradication programme

- Surveillance:
  - Number of tested animals: After 45 days' time following vaccination campaigns shooting of foxes for vaccination efficacy determination - 3200 foxes shot
- Monitoring of efficacy of vaccination campaign
  - Bait up - take - determination of bio - marker TTC :
    - 3196 samples → 757 positive and 2439 negative → 23,69 %  
tetracycline positive
  - Detection of antibodies from thoracic liquid Elisa:
    - 2947 samples → 642 positive and 2305 negative → 21.78 %  
seroconversion
  - Determination of virus titer in baits
  - PCR-sequencing for molecular characterization of rabies Romanian isolates showed only wild strains and no vaccine strain.



# Efficacy of rabies vaccination in foxes 2011 - 2013





## Parenteral antirabic vaccination in 2013

- Emergency vaccination consecutive rabies confirmation in the area, which are subject to cofinancing, was done to 8247 domestic animals as follows:
  - Sheep: 6457
  - Cows: 729
  - Goats: 700
  - Pigs: 342
  - Horses: 18
  - All dogs are vaccinated every year from the State Budget.

## Second vaccination campaign 2013

- We have some suspicions regarding the distribution of the baits from the second campaign of vaccination
- To conclude regarding the existing suspicions, NSVFSA proceed to a penal complaint file addressed to the National Anticorruption Directorate (NAD). We already informed European Commission concerning this **ISSUE**, investigations are ongoing, and as soon as we have new findings we will inform Commission
- Accordingly to the provisions of the contract, aerial company provided so far all the mandatory documents requested.
- Due to the suspicions persistence, NSVFSA did not paid so far the amounts of money owed to aerial company for the second campaign for aerial distribution, but NSVFSA paid the whole amount owed for the vaccine baits purchased from the provider of the vaccine baits.
- NSVFSA has also paid for all services provided by the aerial company during the first campaign, and for the second campaign paid only the services for the people warning, and the storage of baits.



# Financial aspect 2013

| Surveillance     | Vaccination    |                                     | Commission approval 2012/761 EU | Total costs of the programme | Total costs of the programme (75% co finance) |
|------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Diagnostic tests | Baits purchase | Baits distribution - First campaign | Approved                        | 100%                         | 75 %  |
| 87.678 €         | 1.755.849 €    | 146.899 €                           | 6.000.000 €                     | 1.944.528 €                  | 1.463.936 €                                   |



# Oral vaccination strategy planned for 2014

- In 2014, was done a new tender for the period of 2014-2017, with new technical specifications. The tender was finish in June, and we prepared the autumn vaccination campaign for 2014. The winner of the tender confirmed to us that the time for starting autumn vaccination campaign will be until end of September.
- For 2014, the Programme of Monitoring, Control and Eradication of rabies will be implemented on the entire territory of Romania and it will be applied to the entire population of foxes.
- Concerning the vaccination strategy adopted to the domestic animals, there shall be vaccinated dogs and cats from backyards and also emergency vaccination will be done only for the domestic animals in the outbreaks.
- Oral vaccination of foxes, accordingly to the programme, will be carried out in two vaccination campaigns, in spring and autumn, mostly by plane distribution, 25 baits/ campaign/km<sup>2</sup> with a distance between flight lines of 500 meters and 150 meters altitude, by avoiding the territories of localities, water surfaces, highways, etc.
- Estimated surface suitable for aerial vaccination is approximated at 213.375 square kilometers.
- Estimated number of vaccine doses needed for aerial distribution is about 10668750 baits and for manual distribution 150800 baits.



**I'm lucky, I'm vaccinated**

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