



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH AND CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Director General

SANCO/10303/2014

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

Eradication and monitoring programme for Bluetongue

Estonia

Approved* for 2014 by Commission Decision 2013/722/EU

* in accordance with Council Decision 2009/470/EC

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.23

PROGRAMME for ERADICATION : ANNEX I

Member States seeking a financial contribution from the Union for national programmes for the eradication, control and monitoring of animal diseases and zoonosis listed below, shall submit applications containing at least the information set out in this form.

Bovine brucellosis, bovine tuberculosis, ovine and caprine brucellosis (*B. melitensis*), bluetongue in endemic or high risk areas, african swine fever, swine vesicular disease, classical swine fever, rabies.

The central data base keeps all submissions. However only the information in the last submission is shown when viewing and used when processing the data.

If encountering difficulties, please contact
SANCO-BO@ec.europa.eu

Instructions to complete the form:

1) In order to fill in and submit this form you must have **at least** the ADOBE version

Acrobat Reader 8.1.3

(example : 8.1.3, 8.1.4, 8.1.7, 9.1, 9.2,...), otherwise you will not be able to use the form.

Your version of Acrobat Reader is: **10.104**

2) Please provide as much information as possible. If you have no data for some fields then put the text "NA" (Not applicable) in this field or 0 if it is a numeric field. If you need clarifications on some of the information requested, then please contact SANCO-BO@ec.europa.eu.

3) To verify your data entry while filling your form, you can use the "verify form" button at the top of each page. If the form is not properly and completely filled in, an alert box will appear indicating the number of incorrect fields. Please use the "verify form" button until all fields are correctly filled in. **It is mandatory to fill in the box about Animal populations to make the rest of the questions visible.** If you still have any difficulties, please contact SANCO-BO@ec.europa.eu.

4) When you have finished filling the form, verify that your internet connection is active and then click on the "submit notification" button below. If the form is properly filled in, the notification will be submitted to the server and a submission number + submission date will appear in the corresponding field.

5) **IMPORTANT: Regularly save the pdf when you fill it out. After you have received the Submission number, DO NOT FORGET TO SAVE THE PDF ON YOUR COMPUTER FOR YOUR RECORDS!**

Friday, August 23, 2013 12:39:17

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Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.23

1. Identification of the programme

Member state: EESTI

Disease: Bluetongue in endemic or high risk areas

Species: Bovines and sheep and goats

This program is multi annual: no

Request of Union co-financing from beginning of:

2014

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.23

1.1 Contact

Name : Ago Pärtel

Phone : +372 605 1710

Fax. : +372 621 1441

Email : ago.partel@vet.agri.ee

2. Historical data on the epidemiological evolution of the disease

Provide a concise description on the target population (species, number of herds and animals present and under the programme), the main measures (sampling and testing regimes, eradication measures applied, qualification of herds and animals, vaccination schemes) and the main results (incidents, prevalence, qualification of herds and animals). The information is given for distinct periods if the measures were substantially modified. The information is documented by relevant summary epidemiological tables (point 6), complemented by graphs or maps (to be attached).

(max. 32000 chars) :

No epidemiological data is available.

There was a suspicion in 2012 due to positive test results (ELISA, PCR). All positive cases were connected to vaccine strain (BT-14) of unknown origin and therefore no disease was declared but positive test results are indicated in table 6.2.1 but are absent from the table concerning disease information.

Bluetongue as a disease has never been diagnosed in Estonia.

Entomological surveillance has been carried out 2008-2012. During the years the light traps have been in all counties. The highest number of vectors have been collected from samples from Lääne-Viru and Pärnu county. From the samples Veterinary and Food Laboratory has identified *Culicoides obsoletus*, *Culicoides pulicaris* and some other *Culicoides* spp. species. *Culicoides imicola* has never been detected. Vector free period has been identified, it is from November to April. On the islands and costal areas it is a little bit different (ends later) and it also depends on a average temperature on each year.

3. Description of the submitted programme

Provide a concise description of the programme with its main objective(s) (monitoring, control, eradication, qualification of herds and/or regions, reducing prevalence and incidence), the main measures (sampling and testing regimes, eradication measures to be applied, qualification of herds and animals, vaccination schemes), the target animal population, the area(s) of implementation and the definition of a positive case.

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.23

(max. 32000 chars) :

The main objective is to detect the presence or absence of bluetongue virus.

As Estonia is outside the restricted zones, our bluetongue surveillance programme consists of:

1. Passive clinical surveillance:

- Consists of a formal and ongoing system aimed at detecting and investigating suspicions of bluetongue including an early warning system for reporting suspicious cases. Owners or animal keepers as well as veterinarians must immediately report any suspicion of bluetongue to the Veterinary and Food Board. All suspected cases of bluetongue will be investigated immediately.

2. Serological surveillance:

- Consists of an active annual programme of serological testing of susceptible species populations, aimed at detecting evidence of the bluetongue virus transmission through random or targeted serological and/or virological testing. Samples will be taken during the vector period (May - October). The selection of farms is based on the production structure (both big and medium size farms are included), herds that live outside on pastures during the summer are preferred (but as keeping them on pastures is not very common anymore, it is not always possible to use only those herds). The selection of animals is random as the whole herd acts and is treated as one unit. Vaccinated animals and animals that for some reason are kept inside separately from the rest of the herd are not sampled.

Bluetongue vaccination in Estonia will only be implemented in case the disease is detected in the country.

The programme is implemented in all 15 counties. The distribution of the samples largely depends on the number of bovine farms in the county but in 2013 the scheme is following:

Name of the county	Approximate number of samples
Lääne, Põlva	60
Harju, Hiiu, Ida-Viru	100
Pärnu, Rapla, Valga, Viljandi, Võru	160
Lääne-Viru, Saare, Tartu	200
Järva, Jõgeva	300

The sample size in the farm is calculated to detect a prevalence of 20%.

A positive bluetongue case is when animal meets one of the following requirements:

- 1) it presents clinical signs consistent with the presence of bluetongue;
- 2) it is a sentinel animal that had showed negative serological results in a previous test and has seroconverted from negative to positive for antibodies to at least one bluetongue serotype since that test;
- 3) it is an animal from which the bluetongue virus has been isolated and identified as such;
- 4) it is an animal which has tested positive to bluetongue serological tests or from which viral antigen or viral ribonucleic acid (RNA) specific to one or more of the bluetongue serotypes has been identified.

In addition epidemiological data must indicate that the clinical signs or results of laboratory tests suggesting bluetongue infection are the consequence of virus circulation in the holding in which the animal is kept and not the result of the introduction of vaccinated or seropositive animals from restricted zones.

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.23

4. Measures of the submitted programme

4.1 Summary of measures under the programme

Duration of the programme : **2014**

First year :

- Control
- Testing
- Slaughter and animals tested positive
- Killing of animals tested positive
- Vaccination
- Treatment
- Disposal of products
- Eradication, control or monitoring

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.23

4.2 Organisation, supervision and role of all stakeholders involved in the programme

Describe the authorities in charge of supervising and coordinating the departments responsible for implementing the programme and the different operators involved. Describe the responsibilities of all involved.

(max. 32000 chars) :

The Veterinary and Food Board (VFB), a governmental agency carrying out its tasks under the government of the Ministry of Agriculture, functions as a supervising body and sees to that the requirements stipulated by the legislation that governs veterinary, food safety, market regulation, animal welfare and farm animal breeding are followed and executes supervision over fulfilment of these requirements and applies enforcement by state pursuant to the procedures and in the amount prescribed by law. The organization of the Veterinary and Food Board consists of the Central Office and 15 local offices - local veterinary centres in the counties. The main objective of the Central Office is to coordinate supervision while the local offices carry out supervision.

The Central Office consists of 5 departments, one of them is the Animal Health, Welfare and Feedingstuffs Department, which consists of Animal Health Office, Animal Welfare Office and Feedingstuffs Office. The Animal Health Office organizes infectious animal diseases control and applies measures for the protection of people from zoonoses; executes supervision over the identification and registration of animals and conducts veterinary controls over the movement of animals; controls the use of medicines and medicated feedingstuffs by veterinarians and animal keepers; arranges the work of the state veterinary service and coordinates and executes supervision over veterinary aid, treatment and prevention; grants approval to and organizes registration of buildings and facilities where animals are kept.

There is an animal health specialist in every local veterinary centre, who is responsible for carrying out tasks of this field.

In addition to the employees at Central Office and local veterinary centres there are authorised veterinarians who have been granted the authority to check the state of the objects that are within the competence of VFB pursuant to the Veterinary Activities Organisation Act.

Veterinary and Food Laboratory is responsible for priority statutory testing under various farm and wild animal disease surveillance and food safety control programs, also provides inspection authorities with relevant analytical support.

4.3 Description and demarcation of the geographical and administrative areas in which the programme is to be implemented

Describe the name and denomination, the administrative boundaries, and the surface of the administrative and geographical areas in which the programme is to be applied. Illustrate with maps.

(max. 32000 chars) :

The programme will be implemented and applied in whole territory of Estonia. There are 15 counties, each of them has local veterinary centre which carries out surveillance in the administrative area

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.23

concerned.
Please look at the attachment.

4.4 Description of the measures of the programme

A comprehensive description needs to be provided of all measures unless reference can be made to Union legislation. The national legislation in which the measures are laid down is mentioned.

4.4.1 Notification of the disease

(max. 32000 chars) :

According to Infectious Animal Disease Control Act supervisory officials, authorised veterinarians, veterinarians, veterinary laboratories and other persons are obliged to promptly notify a local veterinary office of the Veterinary and Food Board about suspicion or a diagnosis of an infectious animal disease subject to notification. The list of notifiable animal infectious diseases is laid down in the Regulation of the Minister of Agriculture No 34 from 25. 11.1999.

The local veterinary office immediately notifies the Director General of the Veterinary and Food Board (or in his/her absence the Deputy) and the heads of the neighbouring veterinary centres of the outbreak. When the disease is officially diagnosed the Director General of Veterinary and Food Board notifies OIE, European Commission and neighbouring countries. All positive bluetongue results must be reported immediately from the laboratories to the Estonian Veterinary and Food Board according to Infectious Animal Disease Control Act (The Regulation of the Minister of Agriculture No 46, 29.03.2007).

4.4.2 Target animals and animal population

(max. 32000 chars) :

The target population for the monitoring is entire cattle and sheep population in Estonia. Serological surveillance focuses on bovine herds.

4.4.3 Identification of animals and registration of holdings

(max. 32000 chars) :

According to the Regulation of Minister of Agriculture No 128 from 21.12.2009 all bovines, sheep and goats must be marked with unique ear tag. Based on their ear tag marked animals are registered in Estonian Agricultural Register and Information Board.

All holdings with bovines, sheep and goats are registered in Estonian Agricultural Register and Information Board (The Regulation of Minister of Agriculture No 88, §1, 18.12.2002).

4.4.4 Qualifications of animals and herds

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.23

(max. 32000 chars) :

NA

4.4.5 Rules of the movement of animals

(max. 32000 chars) :

Rules of the movement of animals are implemented according to Council Directive 2000/75/EC and Commission Regulation 1266/2007.

4.4.6 Tests used and sampling schemes

(max. 32000 chars) :

Blood samples are tested serologically with ELISA in Veterinary and Food Laboratory. Positive samples will be confirmed with PCR.

The sample size has been calculated to detect a prevalence of 20 % with 95 % confidence in the susceptible species population of Estonia. It is ensured that seropositive animals from vaccinated or immunized populations do not interfere with the serological surveys.

4.4.7 Vaccines used and vaccination schemes

(max. 32000 chars) :

Vaccination against bluetongue is implemented only if the disease is diagnosed in the country or in a neighbouring area.

4.4.8 Information and assessment on bio-security measures management and infrastructure in place in the holdings involved.

(max. 32000 chars) :

Biosecurity measures are listed in Infectious Animal Disease Control Act § 71. According to that animal keeper must follow the next biosecurity measures:

- management of movements of persons and vehicles;
- take measures to prevent free entry by unauthorized persons into livestock buildings and constructions;
- persons arriving from foreign states are not permitted to enter livestock buildings or constructions within 48 hours after arrival in Estonia;
- new animals brought into herd must be kept separately from the herd/flock, based on their disease status;

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.23

- infected animal must be separated from healthy ones;
- management of handling of feed, beddings and other possible sources of infection and regular cleaning and disinfection of above mentioned materials;
- regular deratization and disinsection;
- measures to prevent wild and domestic animals entering livestock buildings, constructions and premises and other appropriate measures for preventing animal disease from spreading.

The general requirements for hygiene measures in the primary production are specified in annex of Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 of 29 April 2004 on the hygiene of foodstuffs.

These measures are checked during the farm inspection.

4.4.9 Measures in case of a positive result

A short description is provided of the measures as regards positive animals (slaughter, destination of carcasses, use or treatment of animal products, the destruction of all products which could transmit the disease or the treatment of such products to avoid any possible contamination, a procedure for the disinfection of infected holdings, the therapeutic or preventive treatment chosen, a procedure for the restocking with healthy animals of holdings which have been depopulated by slaughter and the creation of a surveillance zone around infected holding)

(max. 32000 chars) :

If the disease is confirmed by laboratory tests, the head of the local veterinary centre suspends the status of a bluetongue herd.

According to the Regulation of Minister of Agriculture No 23 from 10.03 2010 the quarantine is established in the infected holding and in the area with 20 kilometers of radius. Epidemiological investigation is carried out.

Movement restrictions are placed in accordance with Commission Regulation 1266/2007/EC and the means foreseen in Council Directive 2000/75/EC will be applied.

Carcasses are handled in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009 laying down health rules as regards animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002 (Animal by-products Regulation).

Cleaning and disinfection is carried out according to contingency plan (approved by the Decree of Director General of Veterinary and Food Board).

4.4.10 Compensation scheme for owners of slaughtered and killed animals

(max. 32000 chars) :

Compensation and the procedures for the owners of slaughtered and killed animals is provided in the Infectious Animal Disease Control Act.

The value of agricultural animal is calculated in accordance with the Regulation of Minister of Agriculture No 6 from 02.02.2010.

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.23

4.4.11 Control on the implementation of the programme and reporting

(max. 32000 chars) :

Local veterinary centres of keep a register of bovine, sheep and goat herds that are included in bluetongue control programme and other animals and herds that are carriers of the virus or are suspected of bluetongue.

Local veterinary centres have to report about the number of tested animals and herds to Veterinary and Food Board.

5. Benefits of the programme

A description is provided of the benefits for farmers and society in general

(max. 32000 chars) :

Protecting animals from infection and therefore keeping away economical losses and welfare problems.

6. Data on the epidemiological evolution during the last five years

yes

6.1 Evolution of the disease

Evolution of the disease : Not applicable Applicable...

6.2 Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.23

6.2.1 Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests for year : **2012**

Region	Animal Species	Test Type	Test Description	Number of samples tested	Number of positive samples	
Estonia	Bovine	serological test	ELISA	2 798	9	X
Estonia	Bovine	microbiological or virological test	PCR	10	7	X
Total				2 808		
ADD A NEW ROW						

6.3 Data on infection

Data on infection

Not applicable

Applicable...

6.4 *Data on the status of herds*

Data on the status of herds :

Not applicable

Applicable...

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.23

6.5 *Data on vaccination or treatment programmes*

Data on vaccination or treatment programmes is *Not applicable* *Applicable...*

6.6 *Data on wildlife*

Data on Wildlife is : *Not applicable* *Applicable...*

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.23

7. Targets

The blocks 7.1.1, 7.1.2.1, 7.1.2.2, 7.2, 7.3.1 and 7.3.2 are repeated multiple times in case of first year submission of multiple program.

7.1 Targets related to testing (one table for each year of implementation)

7.1.1 Targets on diagnostic tests for year : **2014**

Region	Type of the test	Target population	Type of sample	Objective	Number of planned tests	
Estonia	ELISA	Bovines	serum	surveillance	2 400	X
Estonia	PCR	Bovines	blood	confirmation of suspected cases	5	X
Total					2 405	
Add a new row						

7.1.2 Targets on testing herds and animals

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.23

7.1.2.1 Targets on testing herds

Not applicable

Applicable...

7.1.2.1 Targets on the testing of herds for year : **2014**

Region	Animal species	Total number of herds	Total number of herds under the programme	Number of herds expected to be checked	Number of expected positive herds	Number of expected new positive herds	Number of herds expected to be depopulated	% positive herds expected to be depopulated	Target indicators			
									Expected % herd coverage	% positive herds Expected period herd prevalence	% new positive herds Expected herd incidence	
Estonia	Bovines	4 496	4 496	230	0	0	0	0	5,12	0	0	X
Total		4 496	4 496	230	0	0	0	0	5,12	0	0	
									Add a new row			

7.1.2.2 Targets on testing animals

Not applicable

Applicable...

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.23

7.1.2.2 Targets on the testing of animals for year :

Region	Species	Total number of animals	Number of animals under the programme	Number of animals expected to be tested	Number of animals to be tested individually	Number of expected positive animals	Slaughtering		Target indicators		
							Number of animals with positive result expected to be slaughtered or culled	Total number of animals expected to be slaughtered	Expected % coverage at animal level	% positive animals (Expected animal prevalence)	
Estonia	Bovine	248 124	248 124	2 400	2 400	0	0	0	0,97	0	X
Total		248 124	248 124	2 400	2 400	0	0	0	0,97	0	
								Add a new row			

7.2 Targets on qualification of herds and animals

Targets on qualification of herds and animals Not applicable

Applicable...

7.3 Targets on vaccination or treatment

7.3.1 Targets on vaccination or treatment is Not applicable Applicable...

7.3.2 Targets on vaccination or treatment of wildlife is Not applicable Applicable...

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.23

8. Detailed analysis of the cost of the programme for year : **2014**

The blocks are repeated multiple times in case of first year submission of multiple program.

To facilitate the handling of your cost data, you are kindly requested to:

1. Fill-in the text fields IN ENGLISH
2. Limit as much as possible the entries to the pre-loaded options where available.
3. If you need to further specify a pre-loaded option, please keep the pre-loaded text and add your clarification to it in the same box.

1. Testing							
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
Cost of analysis	Elisa (serum antibody detection)	Individual animal sample/test	2 400	5.68	13632	yes	X
Cost of analysis	PCR (animal samples)	Individual animal sample/test	5	77.39	386,95	yes	X
Cost of sampling	Domestic animals	Individual animal sample/test	2 405	1.09	2621,45	yes	X
					Add a new row		
2. Vaccination or treatment							
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
					Add a new row		
3. Slaughter and destruction							
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
					Add a new row		

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.23

4. Cleaning and disinfection							
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Community funding requested	
						Add a new row	
5. Salaries (staff contracted for the programme only)							
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
						Add a new row	
6. Consumables and specific equipment							
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
						Add a new row	
7. Other costs							
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
						Add a new row	
Total					16 640,40 €		

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.23

Attachments

IMPORTANT :

- 1) The more files you attach, the longer it takes to upload them .
- 2) This attachment files should have one of the format listed here : jpg, jpeg, tiff, tif, xls, doc, bmp, pna, pdf.
- 3) The total file size of the attached files should not exceed 2 500Kb (+- 2.5 Mb). You will receive a message while attaching when you try to load too much.
- 4) IT CAN TAKE **SEVERAL MINUTES TO UPLOAD** ALL THE ATTACHED FILES. Don't interrupt the uploading by closing the pdf and wait until you have received a Submission Number!