



Food and
Veterinary Service
Republic of Latvia

Results of the implementation of Rabies co-financed eradication program in Latvia during 2017

PAFF meeting,
Brussels, 13 June 2018





Territory and borders of Latvia

Total area: 64 635 km²

Latvia lies on the Eastern coast of the Baltic Sea.

The length of sea border is 494 km.

The total length of terrestrial borders is 1862 km.



Terrestrial borders with:

Estonia - 343 km

Russia - 282 km

Belarus – 167 km

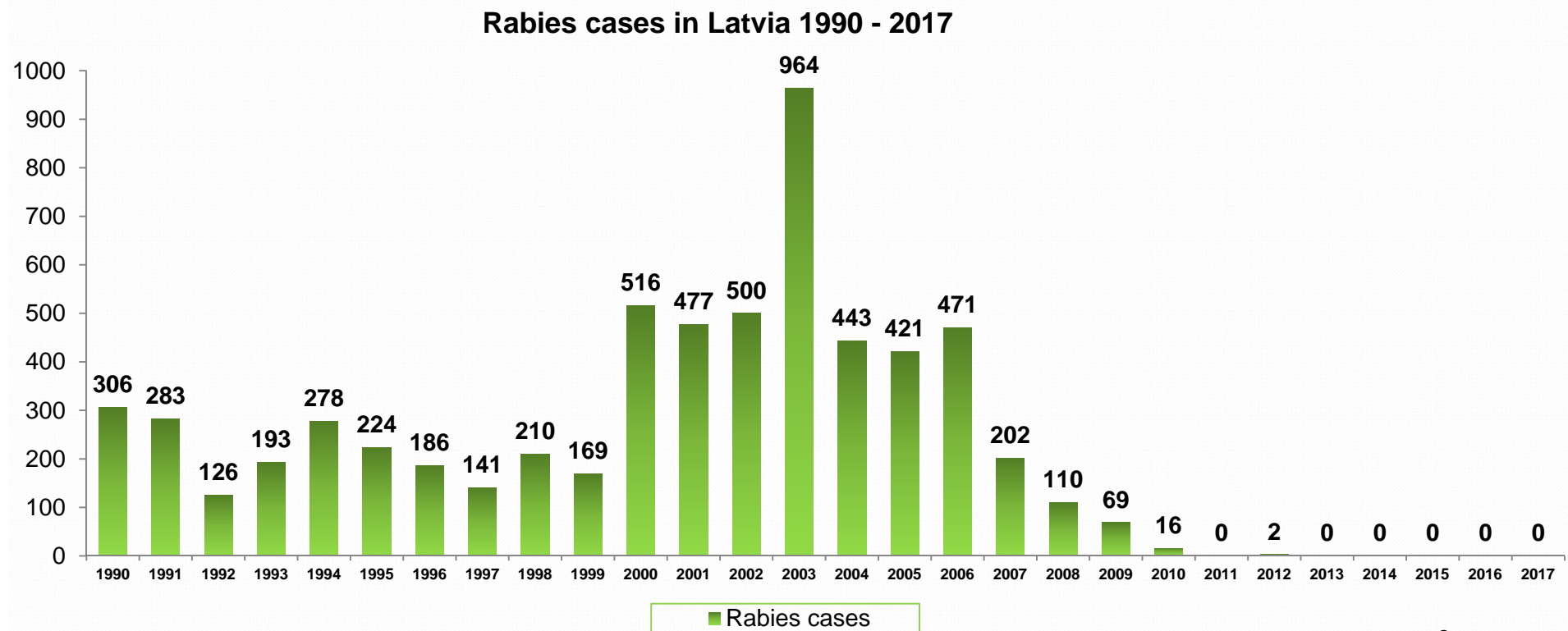
Lithuania - 576 km



Rabies cases in Latvia 1990-2017

The last rabies case was confirmed in February 2012.

Latvia is free from rabies since December 2014 (OIE self-declaration)

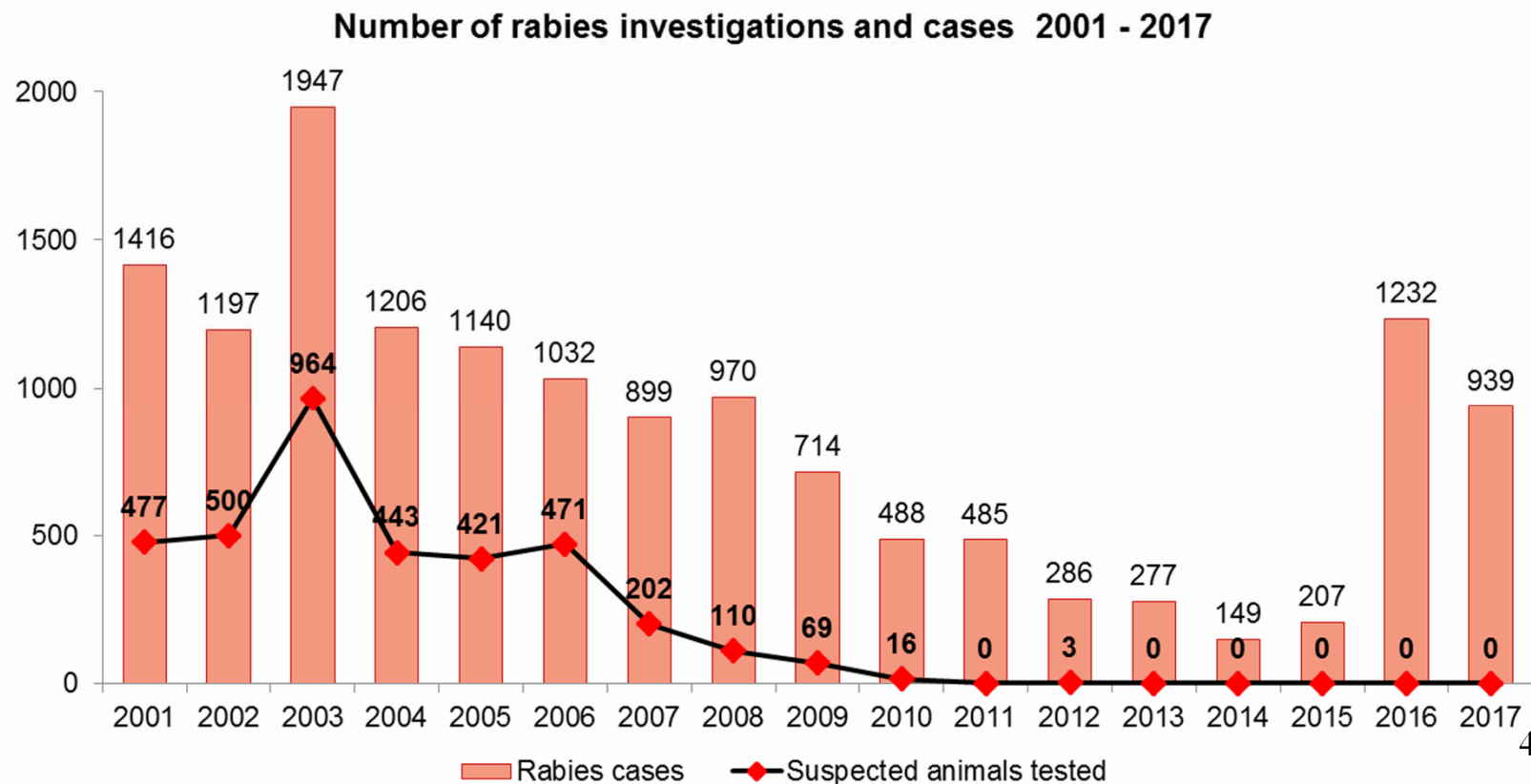




Rabies passive surveillance 2017

Passive surveillance – all suspected animals (wildlife + domestic) submitted to National Reference laboratory (NRL) for testing to rabies virus.

Program of road kills surveillance were enforced since the 2016.

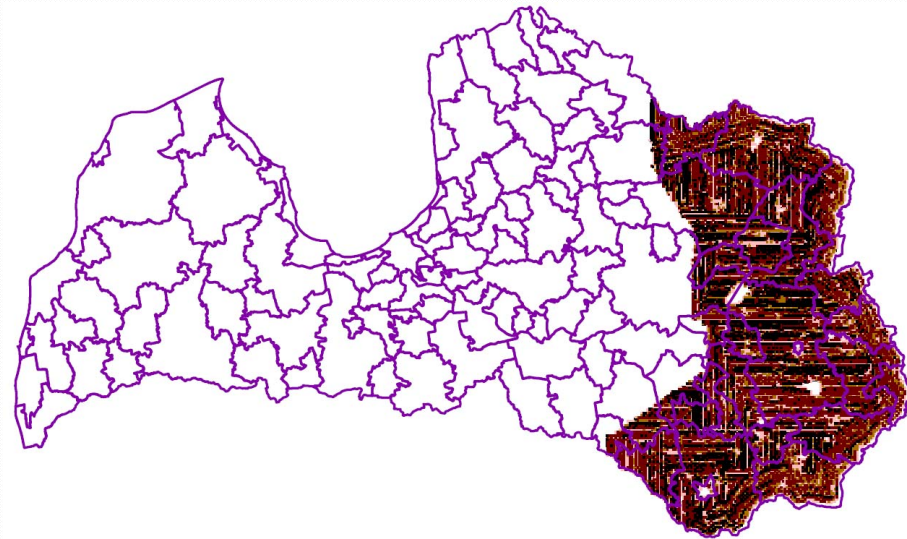




Wildlife oral vaccination in 2017

In 2017 due to favorable rabies epidemiological situation vaccination area was reduced to 19 245 km².

- Two vaccination campaigns (spring and autumn)
- Distance between flight lines 500m
- ~25 baits/km²
- Each distributed vaccine bait is registered.



480 900 Lysvulpen (Bioveta) vaccine baits were distributed during each vaccination campaign. Vaccination was performed from aircrafts Cessna 172 using fully automatic vaccine distribution registration and control device SURVIS.



Monitoring results of vaccination campaigns

To ensure vaccination efficiency control - hunted foxes and raccoon dogs from vaccinated area were purchased from hunters and submitted to NRL for testing to bait uptake (LM) and seroconversion (ELISA).

LM

Tested			Positive					
Foxes	Racoon dogs	Total	Foxes	%	Racoon dogs	%	Total	%
374	398	772	314	84	316	79	630	81

ELISA

Tested			Positive					
Foxes	Racoon dogs	Total	Foxes	%	Racoon dogs	%	Total	%
368	387	755	184	50	187	48	371	49

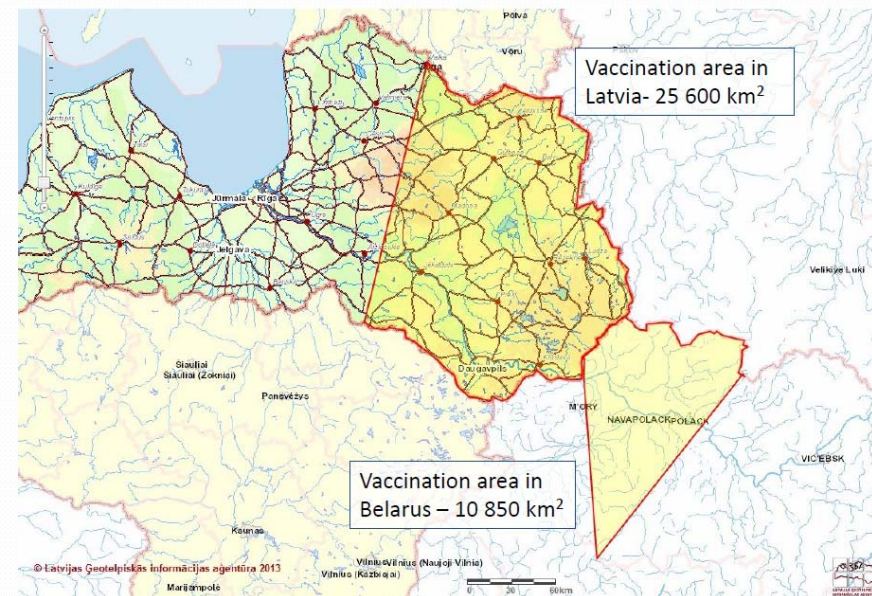
Summary: 49% of tested animals have antibodies against rabies virus



Rabies programme in the Belarus in 2017

Contract between Latvian and Belorussian authorities was not signed and no information about performed rabies ORV in Belorussia.

Since 2012 EU co-financed program includes oral vaccination of wildlife (foxes and raccoon dogs) in Belarus territory near Latvia (EU Eastern border) to establish approximately 50 km buffer zone with total area of **10 850 km²**.





Financial aspects 2017

Total eligible costs of implemented rabies eradication program
in 2017 is **617 929,52 EUR**



Thank you for your attention!

