



# Bluetongue Virus circulation and vaccination in 2016

Ministry of Agriculture  
Veterinary and Food Safety Directorate  
ScPAFF, November 30, 2016

# Objectives of BT 2016 programme

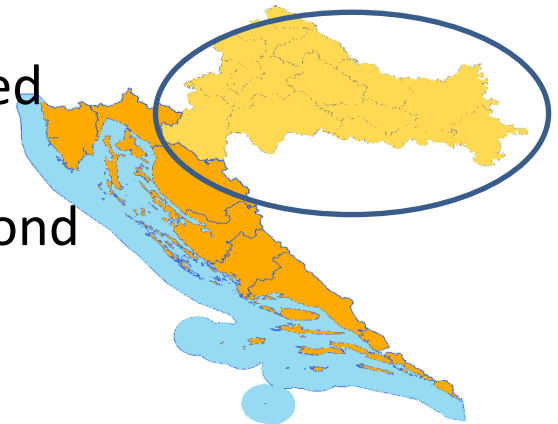
1. Vaccination of all domestic ruminants (cattle, sheep and goats)
2. To monitor the BTV4 circulation in order to regain free status of the country
3. To early detect incursion of any other serotype other than BTV4 in areas which are at risk of such introduction
4. To carry out entomological surveillance

# 1. Vaccination plan 2016

- **Goal** – to vaccinate all bovines, caprine and ovine animals older than 3 months - all animals already vaccinated in 2015 once; those animals that were vacc. in 2016 for the first time- twice
  - 457 000 bovine animals & 660 000 sheep and goats
- Vaccination plan
  - Deadline: January – March 2016
  - Vaccine used Bluevac serotype 4
- On May 13<sup>th</sup>
  - 78,51% of sheep vaccinated
  - 69,22 % of goats vaccinated
  - 78,55 % of cattle vaccinated

## 2. To monitor the BTV4 circulation in order to regain free status of the country

- Survey in line with Annex I point 3 of Regulation 1266/2007
- The sample size calculated considering a reference geographic unit of 45 km x 45 km and taking into account the geographic extension of whole Croatia
- In total 2000 sentinel animals selected and will be tested
  - 1535 animals in the mainland part of the country (15 counties) to be tested 2 times before and after the vector season (first control till 15 October and second round in November on the same animals)



### 3. To early detect incursion of any other serotype (other than BTV4) in areas which are at risk of such introduction

- Survey in line with Annex I point 2 of 1266/2007 Regulation
- The whole coastal area of Croatia is considered to be at risk for BTV1 introduction from Italy
- Sampling to be performed in the period of the year when infection is most likely to be detected
- 634 sentinel animals will be sampled on monthly basis from September to December
- The sentinel animals will be distributed within counties over coast.
- the same animals will be tested on serotype 1 & 4

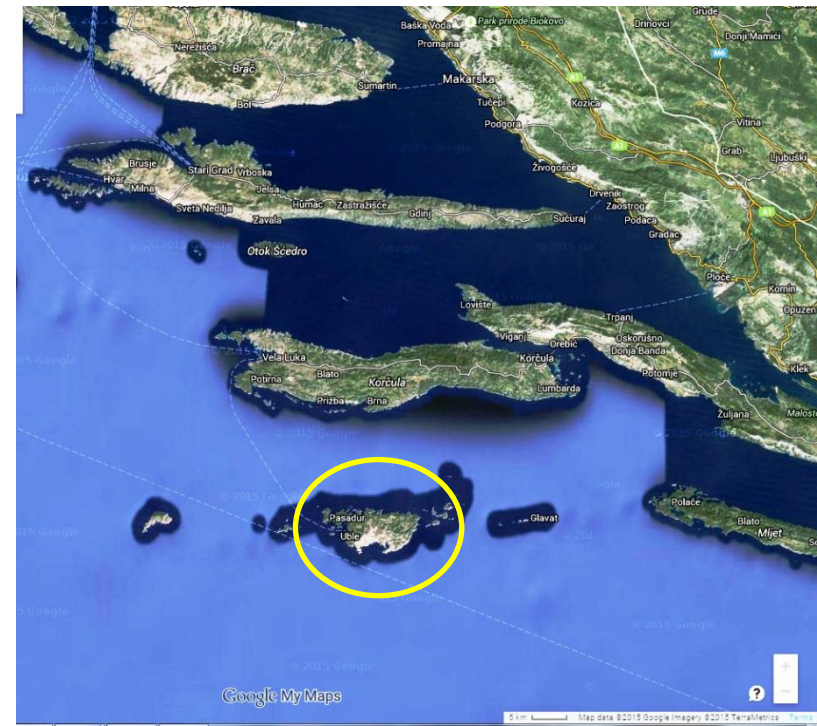


## 4. Entomological surveillance

- Aim of the surveillance
  - to define the areas and periods of major risk of BTV transmission
  - to possibly define seasonally vector-free periods as defined in Annex V of Reg. 1266/2007
- Species will be identified by morphological identification and molecular techniques
- Virological examination of selected *Culicoides* pools will be performed as a complementary tool for early detection of virus circulation (PCR in progress)
- Survey started in April and will be carried out all along the year, by permanent traps operating on monthly basis
- *C. obsoletus* complex and *C. pulicaris* complex detected
- No *C. imicola* so far detected

# BT disease occurrence 2014/2015

- Serotype 4 is proved to circulate within the whole Croatia
- Serotype 1 - isolated zone island Lastovo (no further spread detected so far)



# BT disease occurrence 2016

- **Serotype 4** is proved to circulate within the whole Croatia (9 counties)
- 23 outbreaks:
  - 19 sheep
  - 17 cattle
- non- vaccinated animals
- cELISA, rtPCR; SN test
- for the first time clinical signs of disease in cattle





***Thank you!***