



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH & CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Unit 04 - Veterinary Control Programmes

SANCO/12878/2010

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

Surveillance and Eradication programme of Bluetongue

Approved* for 2011 by Commission Decision 2010/712/EU

Bulgaria

* in accordance with Council Decision 2009/470/EC

Program for Eradication : PDF detail

Submission Date	Submission Number
23/04/2010	1272024522331-140

1. Identification of the programme

Member State	Disease	Species	Request of Community co-financing from beginning of	To end of
Bulgaria	Bluetongue in endemic or high risk areas	Bovines and sheep and goats	2011	2011

1.1 Contact

Contact Name	Contact Phone	Contact Fax	Contact Email
Dr. Ilian Boykovski, Head of Department of Contagious diseases, at the National Veterinary Service	+359 2 915 98 42	+359 2 915 98 42	ilian.boykovski@nvms.government.bg

2. Historical data on the epidemiological evolution of the disease

2. Historical data on the epidemiological evolution of the disease

The bluetongue disease was first found in Bulgaria in July 1998 in the region of Burgas. Until then the disease had never been registered in territories situated beyond the 42 parallel. From 06.07.1999 until the middle of August the disease was spread in four regions – Burgas, Yambol, Haskovo and Kardjali regions, which are situated near the south country border with the Republic of Turkey and Republic of Greece. As soon as the disease was found NVS, under the direction of Dr. Philip Mellor from the Community Reference Laboratory for bluetongue in Pirbright, Great Britain, immediately implemented the following measures eradication of the disease:

- Destruction of sheep with clinical signs of bluetongue through stamping out, and burial, 975 sheep were destroyed.
- Smoking with hot and cold solutions through spraying from airplanes and special guns of a territory with radius 20 km around the affected settlements.
- Disinsectization in the vector habitats.
- Disinsectization in the infected animal holdings and in the holdings located within the protection and surveillance zones.
- Ban on the movement of susceptible animals from the affected regions to the country inside.
- Ban on grazing ruminants in the hours of highest vector activity.
- Disinsectization of all vehicles entering and leaving the protection and surveillance zones.
- Washing the small ruminants in specially adapted baths using insecticide solutions with repellent action.
- The large ruminants were treated with insecticide solutions with repellent action using manual sprayers.
- Testing of samples from wild ruminants from the affected regions.

As a result of the implemented measures the disease was limited to the 20-30 km zone from the south border in the affected regions.

In 1999 a programme for surveillance of bluetongue in ruminants was launched along the southern border of the Republic of Bulgaria. The programme involved monthly testing (from May until October) of sentinel animals for detecting antibodies against the bluetongue virus.

In order to determine the bluetongue serotype samples were sent for typing to the Community Reference Laboratory for bluetongue in Pirbright, Great Britain. The laboratory analysis revealed presence of serotype No 9.

At the end of September 2001 bluetongue in ruminants was found for the second time in animals reared near the western border of the Republic of Bulgaria with FYRO Macedonia and the Republic of Serbia. The laboratory investigations again revealed serotype No 9. 22 sheep showing clinical signs of the disease were destroyed. NVS immediately took the steps described above.

At the beginning of October 2006 as a result of the testing of samples from sentinel animals under the surveillance programme, bluetongue seropositive animals not showing clinical signs of the disease were found in the region of Burgas near the border with the Republic of Turkey. Since then no seropositive animals have been detected on the territory of the country.

3. Description of the submitted programme

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The programme includes:

- Laboratory testing of blood samples from bovines, sheep and goats for detection of antibodies against the bluetongue virus;
- Destruction of ruminants showing clinical signs of the disease;
- Payment of compensations to the owners of the compulsory killed or slaughtered animals;
- Catching culicoides for quantify and species determination;
- Emergency vaccination against the disease;

4. Measures of the submitted programme

4.1 Summary of measures under the programme

Duration of the programme

beginning of 2011 to end of 2011

First Year :

Control	X
Testing	X
Slaughter and animals tested positive	X
Killing of animals tested positive	X
Vaccination	
Treatment	
Disposal of products	X

Program for Eradication : PDF detail

Eradication, control or monitoring

Last Year :	
Eradication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Testing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Slaughter of positive animals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Killing of animals tested positive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Extended slaughter of killing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Disposal of products	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

I. Department of Contagious diseases within Directorate of Animal health at the Headquarters of NVS has the following responsibilities:

1. To draft the programme for surveillance of bluetongue in ruminants and to submit it for approval to the European Commission.
2. To control the implementation of the surveillance programme.
3. To collect and analyse the data on the sentinel animals tested for bluetongue.
4. In case of disease outbreak to test the ruminants in the protection and surveillance zones.
5. To summarize the data on seropositive animals.
6. To summarize data on the costs of surveillance from the regions with sentinel animals.
7. To keep a register in the database of all holdings with ruminants free of bluetongue.
8. To send annual report to the European Commission containing the data referred to in points 1-7.

II. At regional level the Regional Veterinary Services and the heads of departments of Animal health have the following responsibilities:

1. To control the implementation of the bluetongue surveillance programme at regional level.
2. To collect and analyse the data on the animals tested for bluetongue in the region.
3. To summarize the data on seropositive animals.
4. To summarize the data on seropositive wild animals.
5. To summarize the data on the bluetongue surveillance costs incurred at regional level.
6. To keep a register in the database of all holdings with ruminants free of bluetongue.
7. To collect and send samples for species and quantity determination of caught culicoides.
8. To send annual reports containing the data referred to in points 1-7 to Directorate of Animal health at NVS.

III. The municipal veterinarians have the following responsibilities:

1. To control the implementation of the programme for surveillance of bluetongue in the relevant municipality.
2. To control the sampling and the sending of samples from sentinel animals.

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

3. To collect and analyse the data on the animals tested for bluetongue in the veterinary units located on the territory of the relevant municipality.
 4. To summarize the data on seropositive animals (domestic and wild) from the veterinary units located on the territory of the relevant municipality.
 5. To summarize the data on the bluetongue surveillance costs incurred by the relevant municipality.
 6. To keep a register in the database of all holdings with ruminants free of bluetongue.
 7. To send annual reports containing the data referred to in points 1-6 to Directorate of Animal Health at the relevant RVS.
- IV. The veterinary private practitioners have the following responsibilities:
1. To take and send samples for bluetongue testing.
 2. To collect and analyse the data on the tested ruminants for bluetongue located on the territory of the relevant veterinary unit.
 3. To summarize data on seropositive animals from the animal holdings located within the relevant veterinary unit.
 4. To summarize the data on the bluetongue surveillance and eradication costs incurred at the level of the respective veterinary unit.
 5. To create a list of registered ruminant holdings free of bluetongue.
 6. To send annual reports to the municipal veterinarian containing the data referred to in points 1-5.

V. Diagnostics: performed only by the Reference Laboratory for exotic diseases at the National Diagnostic Research Veterinary Institute in Sofia. The National Diagnostic Research Veterinary Institute (NDRVI) in Sofia, Laboratory for Arachnology is responsible for quality and quantitative determination of the vectors and vectors control.

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

The programme will be implemented in the regions defined as high risk areas like: Burgas, Yambol, Haskovo, Kargali, Smolyan, Blagoevgrad, Kjustendil, Pernik, Sofia region, Montana and Vidin. In addition 1000 blood samples will be taken from the bovines within 20 km zone around holdings or collection centers where BT susceptible animals coming from affected countries are kept. In this way control of the disease will be carried out in the inside parts of the country.

4.4 Description of the measures of the programme

4.4.1 Notification of the disease

Art. 124 of the Law on Veterinary Activities and Ordinance No 23 of 14.12.2005 laying down the terms and conditions for notification and registration of contagious diseases of animals implementing EU Directive No82/894. BT is a subject to mandatory notification in accordance with Art 50 of the Law on Veterinary Activities.

4.4.2 Target animals and animal population

Bovines - 5140 animals in the regions defined as high risk areas like: Burgas, Yambol, Haskovo, Kargali, Smolyan, Blagoevgrad, Kjustendil, Pernik, Sofia region, Montana and Vidin. In addition 1000 blood samples will be taken from the bovines within 20 km zone around holdings or collection centers where BT susceptible animals coming from affected countries are kept

4.4.3 Identification of animals and registration of holdings

According to Art. 51 of the Law on Veterinary Activities the animals are subject to identification and the animal holdings to registration by NVS and Regulation 1760/2000 on the terms and conditions for identification of animals, registration of animal holdings and access to the database for animal identification and registration, implementing Regulation 21/2004.
According to Art. 51 of the Law on Veterinary Activities the animals are subject to identification and the animal holdings to registration by NVS and Ordinance No 61 on the terms and conditions for identification of animals, registration of animal holdings and access to the database for animal identification and registration, implementing Directives 2001/84 and 92/102

4.4.4 Qualifications of animals and herds

herds and bovines under the programme - brood regions defined as high risk areas like: Burgas, Yambol, Haskovo, Kargali, Smolyan, Blagoevgrad, Kjustendil, Pernik, Sofia region, Montana and Vidin and within 20 km zone around holdings or collection centers where BT susceptible animals coming from affected countries are kept. It is carried out in accordance with the Ordinance laying down the terms and conditions for spending the funds allocated to cover the epizootic risks.
According to Art. 6, par. 1 and par. 2 of the same Ordinance a distinction is made between stock and pedigree breeding animals.

4.4.5 Rules of the movement of animals

The Bulgarian Traceability database will be used for control of large and small ruminants' movement in the context of the BT programme.
According to the Law on Veterinary Activities (LVA) owners of farm animals are obliged to:
- ensure availability of their animals to be identified /ear-tagged/, for vaccinations and for diagnostic test purposes;
- ensure access to animal holding and the animals therein for the state veterinarian inspecting them;
- comply with and meet the requirements related moving and transportation of animals.
There is a ban imposed on any movement of unidentified animals to markets, slaughterhouses, fairs, exhibitions, competitions or other holdings or settlements.

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4.4.5 Rules of the movement of animals

4.4.6 Tests used and sampling schemes

Description of the used serological tests: competitive ELISA

The programme will be implemented in the regions defined as high risk areas like: Burgas, Yambol, Haskovo, Kargali, Smolyan, Blagoevgrad, Kiuslendil, Pernik, Sofia region, Montana and Vidin. In addition 1000 blood samples will be taken from the bovines within 20 km zone around holdings or collection centers where BT susceptible animals coming from affected countries are kept. In this way control of the disease will be carried out in the inside parts of the country. Depending on the epizootic situation NVS may order blood sampling for laboratory analysis of ruminants reared close to water reservoirs and quarantine stations, intended for collecting ruminants to intracommunity trade or export to third countries.

Due to the unfavourable epizootic situation with Blue Tongue in some member states it is possible NVS to order taking of blood samples from susceptible animals originating from affected countries. For control inside the country it is foreseen 500 samples to be taken from bovine animals bred within 20 km zone around holdings where BT susceptible animals coming from affected countries are kept.

4.4.7 Vaccines used and vaccination schemes

NA

4.4.8 Information and assessment on bio-security measures management and infrastructure

NA

4.4.9 Measures in case of a positive result

Measure provided for in ORDINANCE No 19 of 14.12.2005 for prevention, control and eradication of bluetongue in ruminants

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4.4.9 Measures in case of a positive result

4.4.10 Compensation scheme for owners of slaughtered and killed animals

Article 108 of the Law of Veterinary Activities lays down that the owners of dead, compulsory killed and destroyed animals shall be reimbursed and compensated by funds extended under the State Budget. The terms and procedures of compensations are provided for in Ordinance of the Council of Ministers of Republic of Bulgaria published by term of Article 109 of the LVA.

4.4.11 Control on the implementation of the programme and reporting

National Veterinary Service and the 28 Regional Veterinary services are the competent authorities for control of BT. The current programme is reported in accordance with Commission Decision 2008/940/EC. Two reports are performed: intermediate in July and final for the whole year.

5. Benefits of the programme

The benefits of the programme:

- Reducing the risk of spreading BT within (Bulgaria;
- Maintaining access for Bulgarian animal holders (large and small ruminants) to the EU market and third countries;

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

6.1 Evolution of the disease

6.1.1 Data on herds for year:

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

6.1 Evolution of the disease

6.1.1 Data on herds for year:

Year	Region	Total Nber of herds	Total number of herds under the programme	Number of herds checked	Number of positive herds	Number of new positive herds	Number of herds depopulated	% positive herds depopulated	% herds coverage	Indicators		
										% positive herds prevalence	% positive herds Period prevalence	% new positive herds Herd incidence
Sum:												
Total :												

6.1.2 Data on animals for year:

Year	Region	Total number of animals	Number of animals to be tested under the programme	Number of animals tested individually	Number of positives animals	Number of animals with positive result slaughtered or culled	Total number of animals slaughtered	% coverage at animal level	% positive animals prevalence
Total:									

6.2 Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests

6.2.1 Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests for year :

Year	Region	Test Type	Test Description	Number of samples tested	Number of positive samples
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6.3 Data on infection for year :

Year	Region	Number of herds infected	Number of animal infected
Total:			

6.4 Data on the status of herds at the end of year

Year	NUTS Region	Total number of herds and animals under the programme		Not Free or not officially free from disease				Free from disease		Officially free from disease	
		Herds	Animals	Unknown	Last check positive	Last check negative	Free or officially free from disease status suspended	Free from disease	Animals	Herds	Animals
Total:											

6.5 Data on vaccination or treatment programmes for year

Year	Region	Total number of herds	Total number of animals	Information on vaccination or treatment programme					Number of young animals vaccinated
				Number of herds in vaccination or treatment programme	Number of herds vaccinated or treated	Number of animals vaccinated or treated	Number of doses of vaccine or treatment administered	Number of adults vaccinated	
Total:									

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6.6 Data on wildlife

6.6.1 Estimation of wildlife population for year :

Year	Region	Species	Method of estimation	Estimation of the population
				Sum:
Total:				

6.6.2 Monitor of wildlife for year:

Year	Region	Species	Test Type	Test Description	Number of samples tested	Number of positive samples

6.6.3 Data on vaccination or treatment of wildlife for year:

Year	Region	Square km	Number of doses of vaccine or treatment to be administered	Number of campaigns	Total number of doses of vaccine or treatment to be administered
Total:					

7. Targets

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7. Targets

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

7.1.1 Targets on diagnostic tests for year:

Year	Region	Type of the test	Target population	Type of sample	Objective	Number of planned tests
2011	Blagoevgrad	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	675
	Burgas	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	495
	Haskovo	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	405
	Kardjali	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	405
	Kjustendil	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	315
	Montana	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	270
	other	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	1,000
	Pernik	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	135
	Smolyan	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	405
	Sofia	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	270
	Vidin	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	360
	Yambol	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	405
	Total:					

7.1.2 Targets on testing herds and animals

7.1.2.1 Targets on the testing of herds for year :

Year	Region	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 prevalence	% new positive herds Expected herd incidence	%
Sum:											

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7.1.2 Targets on testing herds and animals

7.1.2.1 Targets on the testing of herds for year :

Year	Region	Total number of herds	Total number of herds under the programme	Target indicators						
				Number of herds expected to be checked	Number of expected new positive herds	Number of herds expected to be depopulated	% positive herds expected to be depopulated	Expected % herd coverage	% positive herds Expected period herd prevalence	% new positive herds Expected herd incidence
Total:										

7.1.2.2 Targets on the testing of animals for year:

Year	Region	Total number of animals	Number of animals under the programme	Slaughtering					Target indicators		
				Number of animals expected to be tested	Number of animals to be tested individually	Number of expected positive animals	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)	
Sum:											
Total:											

7.2 Targets on qualification of herds and animals for year :

Year	Region	Total number of herds and animals under the programme	Targets on the status of herds and animals under the programme						
			Expected unknown	Last check positive	Last check negative	Expected free or officially free from disease status suspended	Expected free from disease	Expected officially free from disease	
Total:									

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7.2 Targets on qualification of herds and animals for year :

Year	Region	Total number of herds and animals under the programme		Targets on the status of herds and animals under the programme				Expected free from disease			
		Herds	Animals	Expected unknown	Expected not free or not free from disease	Last check positive	Last check negative	Expected free or officially free from disease status suspended	Expected free from disease	Expected officially free from disease	
		Herds	Animals	Herds	Animals	Herds	Animals	Herds	Animals	Herds	Animals
Sum:											
Total:											

7.3 Targets on vaccination or treatment

7.3.1 Targets on vaccination or treatment for year :

Year	NUTS Region	Total number of herds in vaccination or treatment programme		Targets on vaccination or treatment programme				Number of doses of vaccine or treatment expected to be administered	Number of adults expected to be vaccinated	Number of young animals expected to be vaccinated
		Herds	Animals	Number of herds in vaccination or treatment programme	Number of herds expected to be vaccinated or treated	Number of animals expected to be vaccinated or treated	Number of animals expected to be vaccinated or treated			
Sum:										
Total:										

7.3.2 Targets on vaccination or treatment of wildlife for year

Targets on vaccination or treatment programme

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8. Detailed analysis of the cost of the programme for year

Year	Cost Category	Specification	Cost related to	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Community funding request
2,011	6. Consumables and specific equipment		Sum:	10		2,500.00	
2,011.00			Sum:	15,530	Sum:	37,663.00	
			Total:	15,530	Sum:	37,663.00	