

Eradication: Final report for Bluetongue 2018

For each approved annual or multi-annual programme Member States shall submit to the Commission by the 30 April each year an annual detailed technical and financial report covering the previous year. That report shall include the results achieved and a detailed account of eligible costs incurred (Art 14 of Regulation (EU) No 652/2014).

This form is for information only, no submission possible.

ID: 20190430-TAZSWVHY

Country code: AT

Reporting period

From: 2018

To: 2018

Year of implementation: 2018

1. Technical implementation of the programme

1.1 Description and evaluation of the evolution of the epidemiological situation, the technical implementation of the activities foreseen under the programme and the cost-effectiveness of the programme.

Target population (2018)

1.931.616 cattle in 59.519 holdings

465.854 sheep in 17.220 holdings

115.259 goats in 10.286 holdings

Due to massive spread of BTV-4 in South-/East-Europe during 2014, the surveillance programme in Austria has been adapted in 2015 in order to ensure early detection of any cases.

In November/December 2015, 4 outbreaks of BTV-4 (6 cases) and in 2016, 2 additional outbreaks occurred in the eastern part of Austria. In December 2016 one further outbreak was confirmed in a free territory in the South of Austria (Kärnten). In all cases, a restriction zone has been established and trade restrictions according to EU-legislation have been ordered. All cases have been found in the frame of the surveillance programme - none of the positive animals had clinical signs.

Vaccination is possible on a voluntary basis. Currently no vaccination campaign is planned, voluntary vaccinations are possible but not organized or financed by the Federal Ministry of Health.

Cases BTV-4:

2015: 4
2016: 3
2017: 0
2018: 0
2019 (Jan - April): 0

After regaining freedom from BTV-8 in 2011 surveillance was based on four regional units. Actually, after the BTV-4 outbreaks, again 28 reference units have been installed taking into account geographical, epidemiological, climatical and political parameters as well as national trade policies. 60 samples of cattle per regional unit have been taken quarterly, within the restriction zone, sampling was performed in Autumn only (risk-based). From 2017 on, sampling in all regional units is performed on a quarterly basis.

1.2 Details on the level of achievement of the targets set in the approved programme and technical difficulties.

main objectives/main measures:

1. Monitoring

The whole susceptible population is covered by active and passive surveillance. These are carried out in order to ensure early detection of BT cases (as described in Regulation (EC) Nr. 1266/2007) and to identify the serotypes present. Requirements of Regulation (EC) Nr. 1266/2007 concerning necessary numbers of samples to regain disease free status are already considered within the calculation of sampling plan.

2. Eradication

In case of confirmed outbreaks these measures take place:

- demarcation/adaption of restriction zones
- further epidemiological investigation and sampling in holdings and relevant surrounding area
- options in case of positive results: slaughter, treatment under quarantine (no compensation)
- killing of infected animals only in case of animal welfare necessity (compensation paid)

3. Sampling

Austria is divided into 28 regional units. Per unit 60 samples are taken four times a year. The targeted prevalence is 5 %.

According to the Ministry`s decree concerning BT surveillance, the sampling has to fulfill the following criteria:

- target species: cattle
- animals have never been vaccinated against BT-virus
- age: born between 2013 and 2016
- animals stay within the regional unit of sampling at least for 60 days
- a maximum of 6 animals per farm
- no vector proofed premises
- animals are not intended for purchase or slaughter in the near future - a follow-up investigation must be possible.

All samples have to be recorded within the Electronic Database (VIS).

The selection of farms and animals is carried out by the Federal Counties.

An entomological surveillance programme has been re-installed in order to define vector-free periods and is carried out only during vector free period according to Regulation (EC) Nr. 1266/2007.

The Austrian Bluetongue programme aims to identify new outbreaks as soon as possible and to detect other serotypes (i.g. reoccurrence of BTV-8).

For 2019 a further spread of mainly BTV-4 has to be feared. BTV-8 occurs in Switzerland, Germany, and Italy; this could lead to a re-introduction of BTV-8 in Austria.

Please note that like in the last years the Austrian programme also includes laboratory tests that are not organized or financed by the CVA. Results of all BT-tests carried out by the NRL - including those not part of the surveillance programme - are also considered in the statistics and tables provided (=routine tests). These tests provide a comprehensive overview of the BT-situation and any unexplainable positive results trigger measures of the veterinary authorities.

However, reimbursement is exclusively requested only for tests carried out within the official active and passive surveillance programme!

BT vaccination is voluntary but neither organized nor financed by the Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Health and Consumer Protection.

1.3 Epidemiological maps for infection and other relevant data on the disease/activities (information on serotypes involved,...) (Please attach files of data using the PDF attachment feature) Use the textbox below to provide clarifications for the maps you attach, if needed.

Please refer to the map attached (samples 2018)

2. TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION ON BLUETONGUE PROGRAMMES

VERY IMPORTANT: Please fill out the following tables with figures corresponding to measures performed during the implementing period (1/1 to 31/12).

Table A - DATA ON HERDS

Table A is not to be filled in for Bluetongue

Table B - DATA ON ANIMALS

Region	Animal species	Total number of animals	Number of animals under the programme	Number of animals to be tested under the programme	Number of animals tested	Number of animals tested individually	Number of positive animals	Number of outbreaks
Austria	Cattle	1,931,616	1,931,616	7,000	26,853	26,853	0	0
Austria	Sheep	465,854	465,854	500	888	888	0	0
Austria	Goats	115,259	115,259	100	1,664	1,664	0	0
Total		2,512,729	2,512,729	7,600	29,405	29,405	0	0

Table C - DATA ON VACCINATION PROGRAMMES

Region	Animal species	Total number of herds	Total number of animals	Serotype	Number of herds in vaccination programme	Number of herds vaccinated	Number of animals vaccinated	Number of doses of vaccine administered	Number of adults vaccinated	Number of young animals vaccinated	Number of animals with primary vaccination (initial+ booster)
Total		0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table D - DATA ON STATUS OF HERDS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD

Table D is not to be filled in for Bluetongue

Table E - SUSPENSION/WITHDRAWAL OF THE FREE OR OFFICIALLY FREE STATUS

Table E is not to be filled in for Bluetongue

Table F - STRATIFIED DATA ON SURVEILLANCE AND LABORATORY TESTS

Region	Animal species	Number of samples	Test type	Number of tests	Number of positive tests
Austria	Cattle	7,025	Elisa test	7,025	0
Austria	Cattle	97	PCR test	97	0
Total		7,122		7,122	0
			Methods of laboratory analysis	Total number of tests	
			Total - Elisa test	7,025	
			Total - PCR test	97	

COMMENT / ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION

Table B: samples in the frame of the official surveillance programme + samples of all other investigations (e.g. samples of import investigations, breeding stations)

Table C: no data due to voluntary vaccination

Table F: only samples in the frame of the official surveillance programme