



Epidemiological situation: BTV and EHD

Amendment to CDR 2020/688

DG SANTE/G2

AHAC, 11 June 2024

Introduction

- BTV and EHD are similar (virology and epidemiology)
- BTV is present in the EU for decades
- EHD was absent until late 2022
- Both diseases are regulated at EU level
- But with different degree of EU intervention

Infection with BTV (serotypes 1-24)

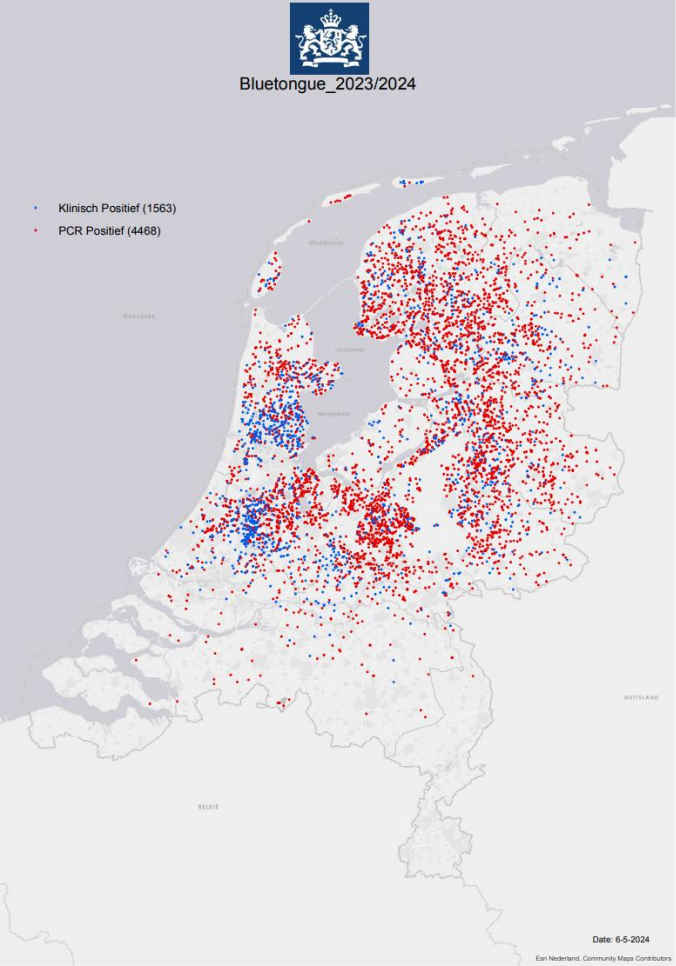
- **Legal background**

- BTV is a disease regulated Regulation (EU) 2016/429 ('Animal Health Law') that **partially changes the previous approach** from a disease of immediate eradication to a disease that may be subject to **optional** eradication programmes with the objective of gaining the disease-free status (**listed as C** in CIR (EU) 2018/1882)
- Member States or zones thereof with a BTV free status or with an approved programme are listed in CIR (EU) 2021/620
- BTV is also categorised as D in in CIR (EU) 2018/1882: there are EU rules to prevent its spread by movements between Member States or from third countries

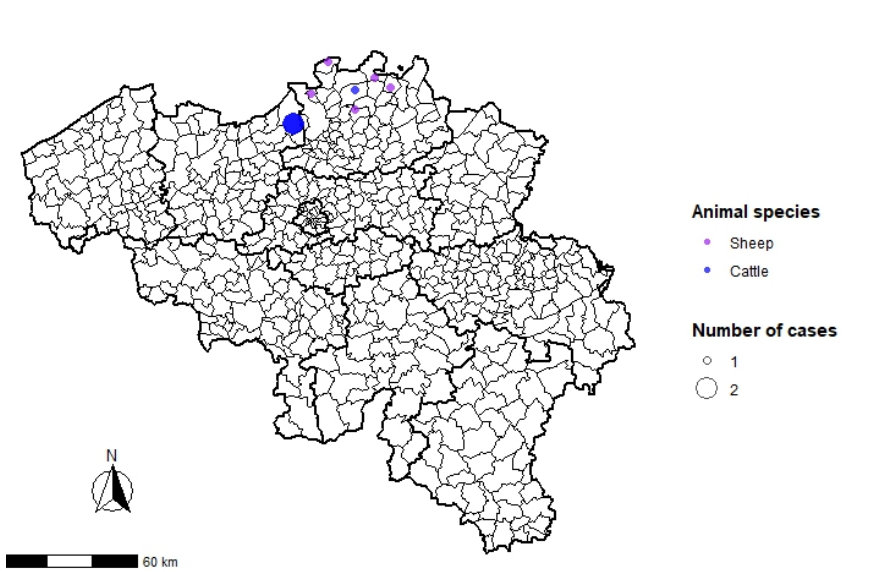
2023-2024 relevant epidemiological facts: BTV-3

Detection and spread of **serotype 3** (BTV-3) in the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany (also in UK-GB)

BTV-3/start in September 2023

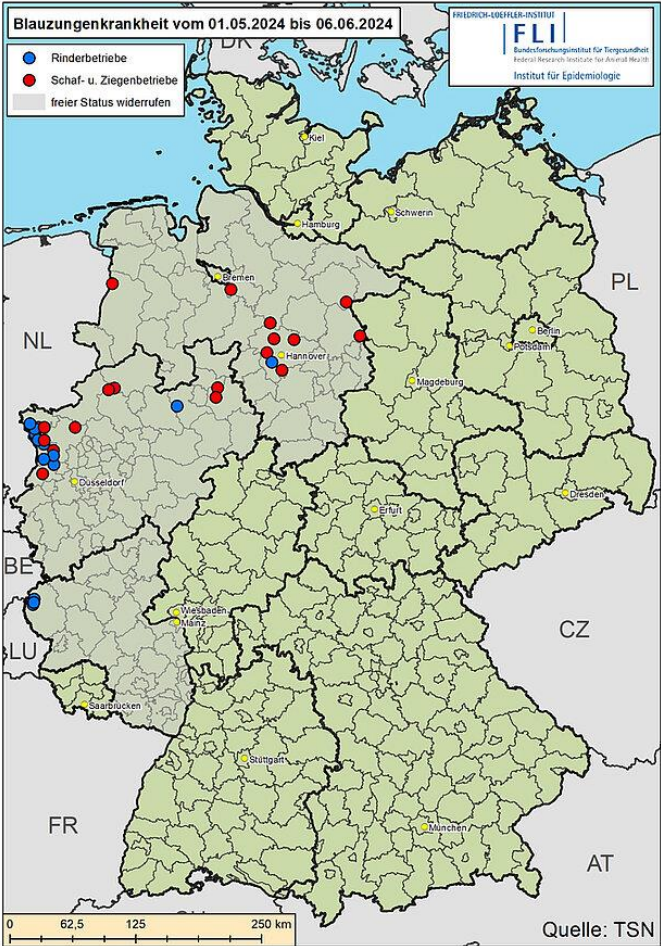


BTV-3/start in October 2023



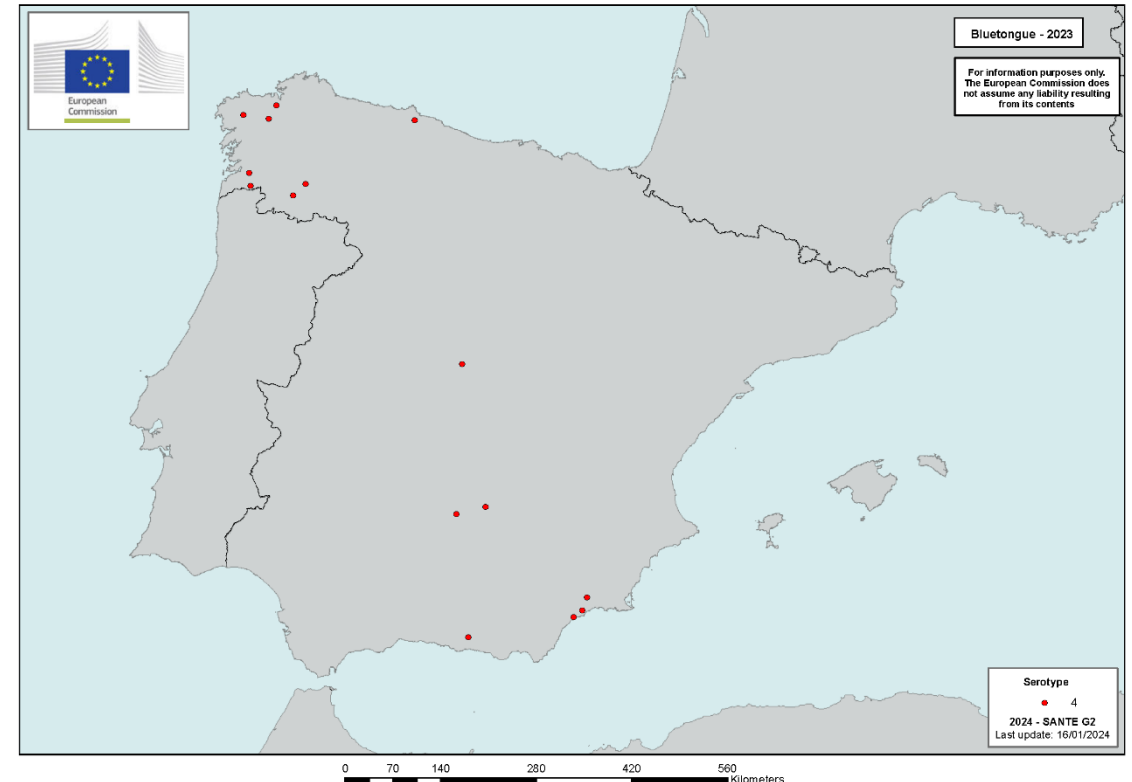
View the map with the number of positive cases of bluetongue by place of residence in the

BTV-3/start in October 2023



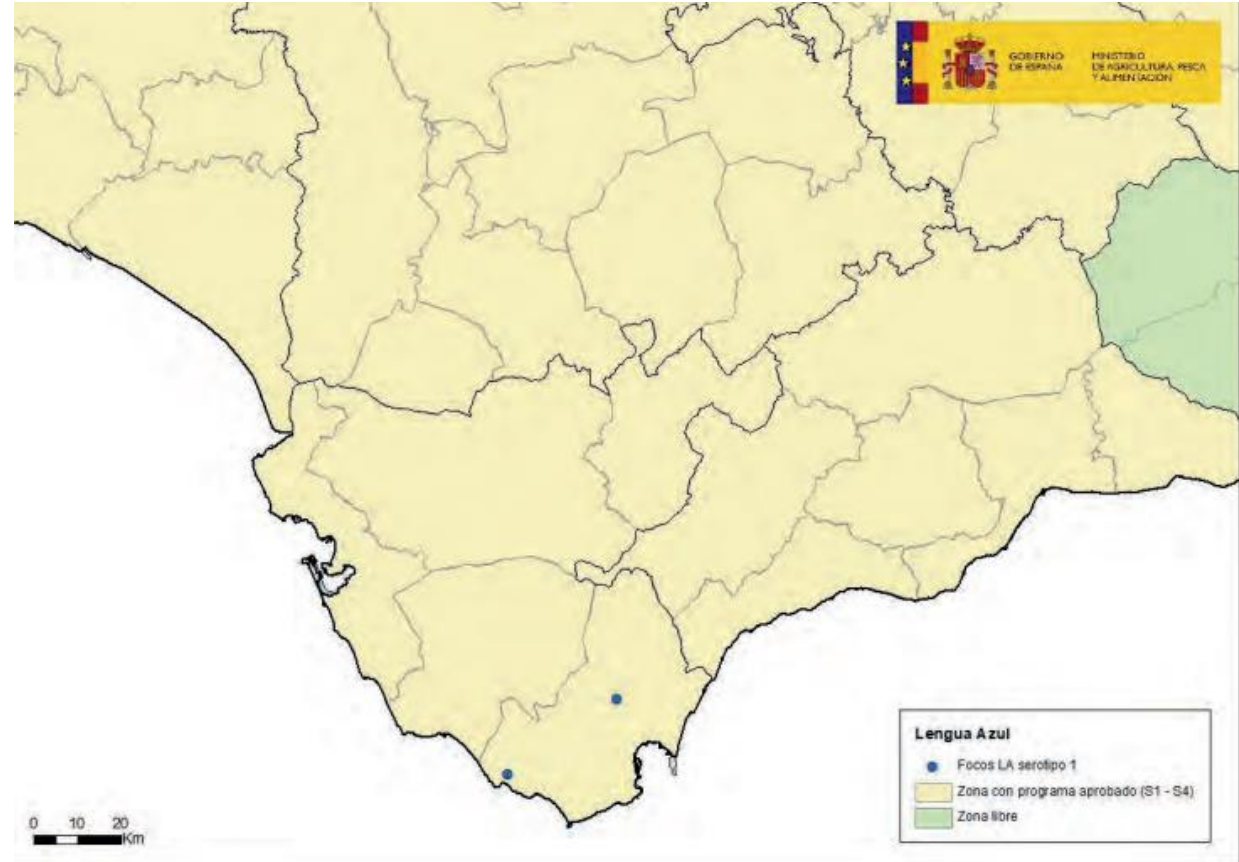
2023-2024 relevant epidemiological facts: BTV-4

- Outbreaks in 2023 that changed the BTV 4 status
 - Galicia - February 2023
 - Castilla la Mancha - August 2023
 - Andalucía, Murcia, Asturias, Madrid and Galicia (further North) - November 2023
 - Eradication of BTV-4 in Balearic Islands
 - Valencia - February 2024



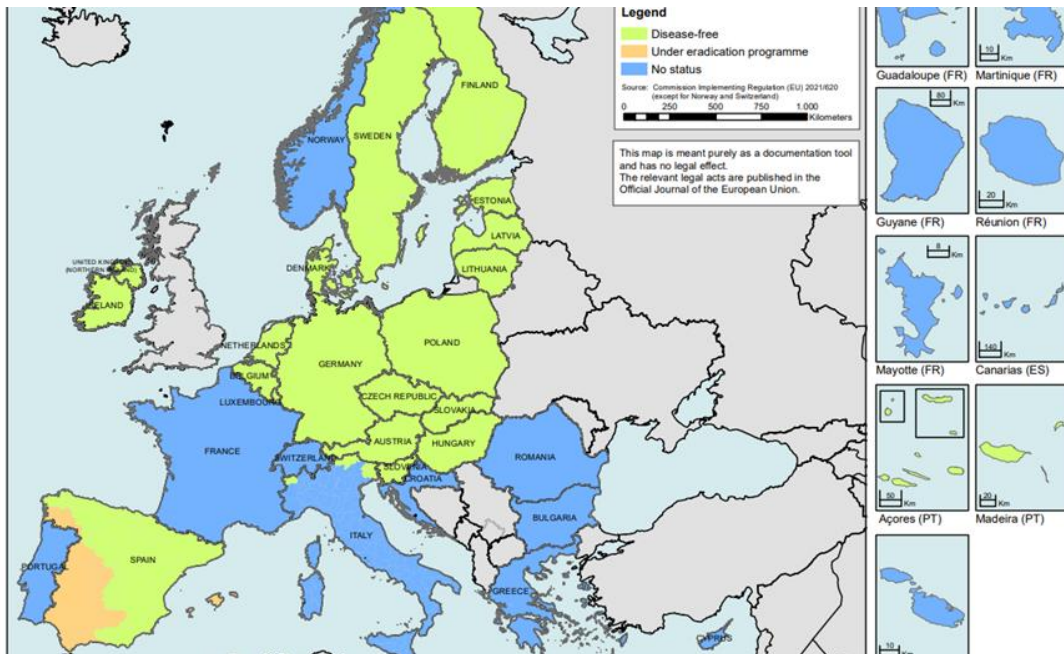
2023-2024 relevant epidemiological facts: BTV-1

- Last detection of BTV-1 in Spain in December 2021
- Until November 2023: two outbreaks in sentinel farms

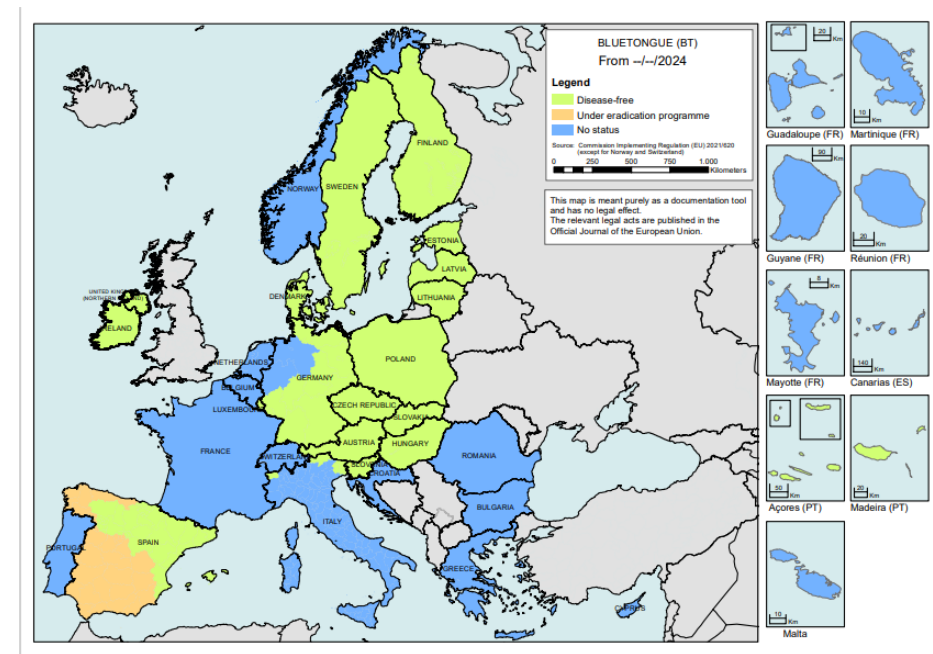


CIR (EU) 2021/620: BTV free areas/areas with an approved eradication programme

Before BTV 3 detection (and evolution of BTV-4)



Following BTV-3 detection (and evolution of BTV-4)



EU policy for BTV

1. Movement of animals

- EU legislation prevents the movement of animals from affected MSs or regions
- However, there are other possibilities. Animals can be moved if
 - properly vaccinated
 - from a seasonally BTV free area
 - from vector protected establishment (+different testing regimes)
 - Also, it is possible that a MS voluntarily accepts animals without any BTV related condition or without any BTV related condition with regard to the serotypes present in their territory (e.g. BE, NL and BTV 3 infected areas in DE do not request BTV-3 conditions)

2. Vaccination

- Vaccination remains a **key tool** for BTV eradication and to ensure safe movement of animals (to other MS and to third countries)
- efforts of the MSs with vaccine producers for quick vaccine development (BTV-3)

3. Funding

- There are two **theoretical** possibilities to co-finance **veterinary measures** under the SMP EU funding
 - Veterinary programmes: BTV is **not an eligible disease for 2024 programmes**
 - Emergency veterinary control measures: **Not a priority**. Priority is ASF or HPAI

Infection with epizootic hemorrhagic disease virus (EHD)

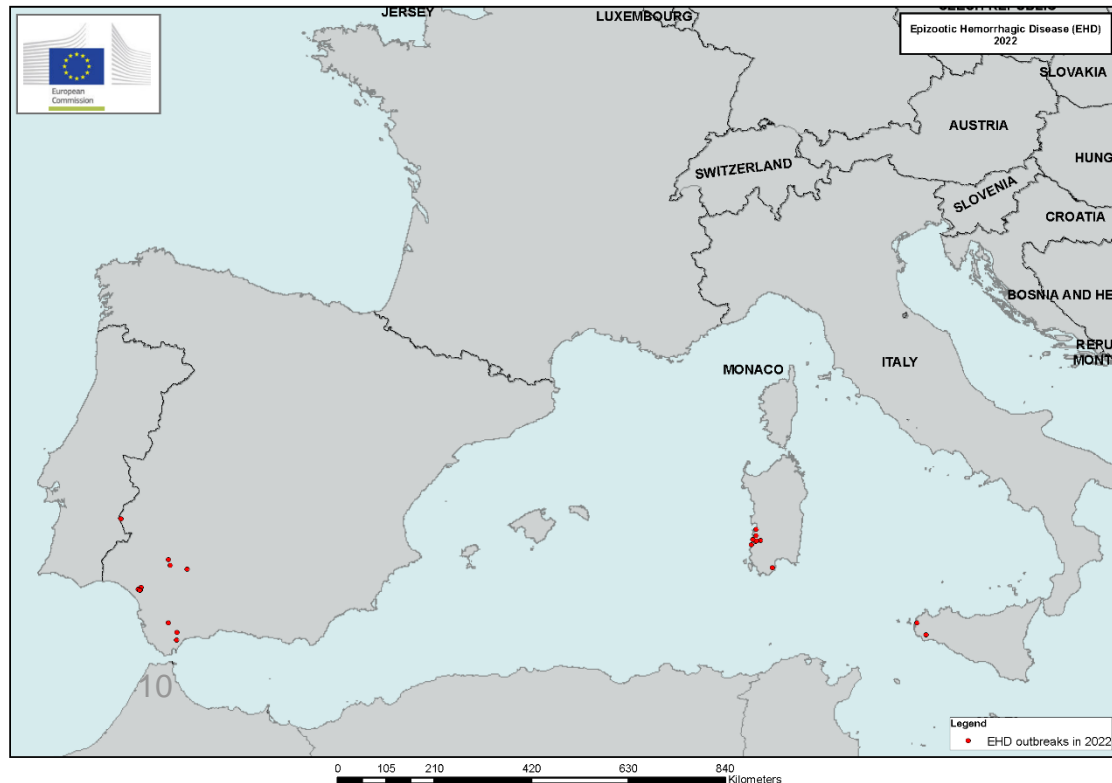
Legal background

- EHD is a disease regulated in Regulation (EU) 2016/429 (AHL)
- EHD has been categorised as **category D** and E disease in CIR (EU) 2018/1882. That means that measures at EU level are limited to:
 - surveillance and notification; and
 - to prevent the disease from spreading on account of movements of animals between Member States or from third countries

Situation EHD 2022-2023

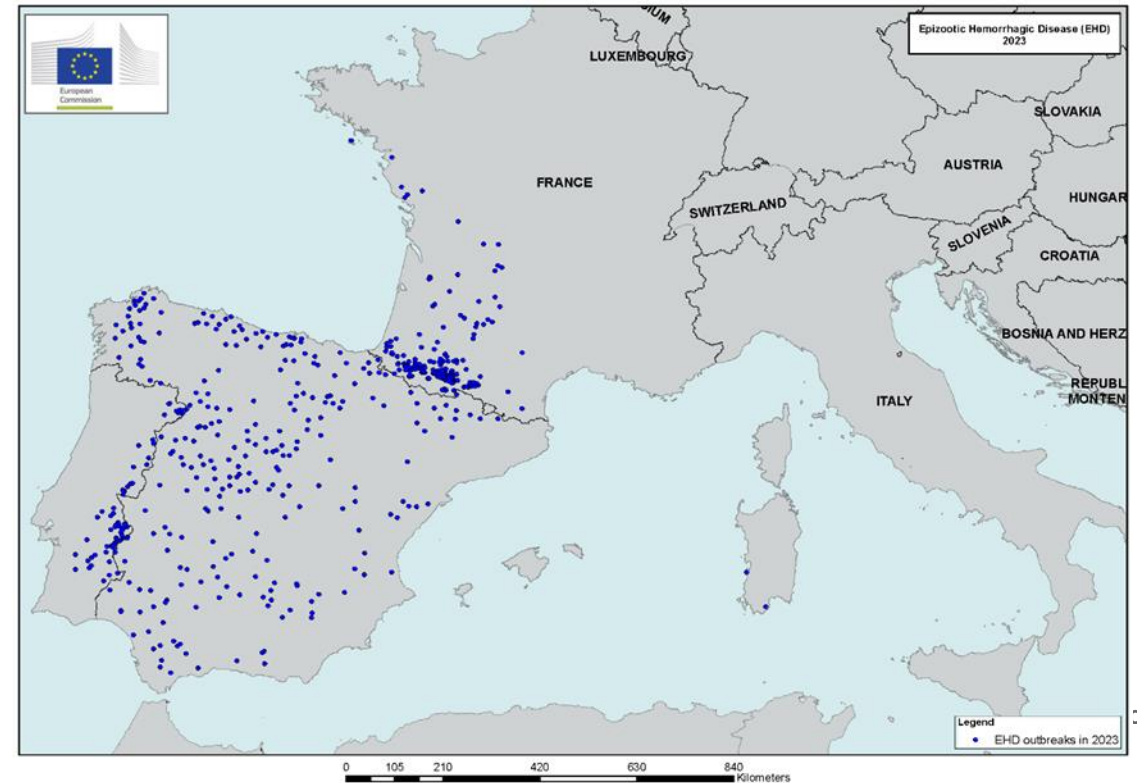
EHD in 2022

- Italy: 10 outbreaks (Sicily and Sardinia)
- Spain: 11 outbreaks (Andalucía and Extremadura)



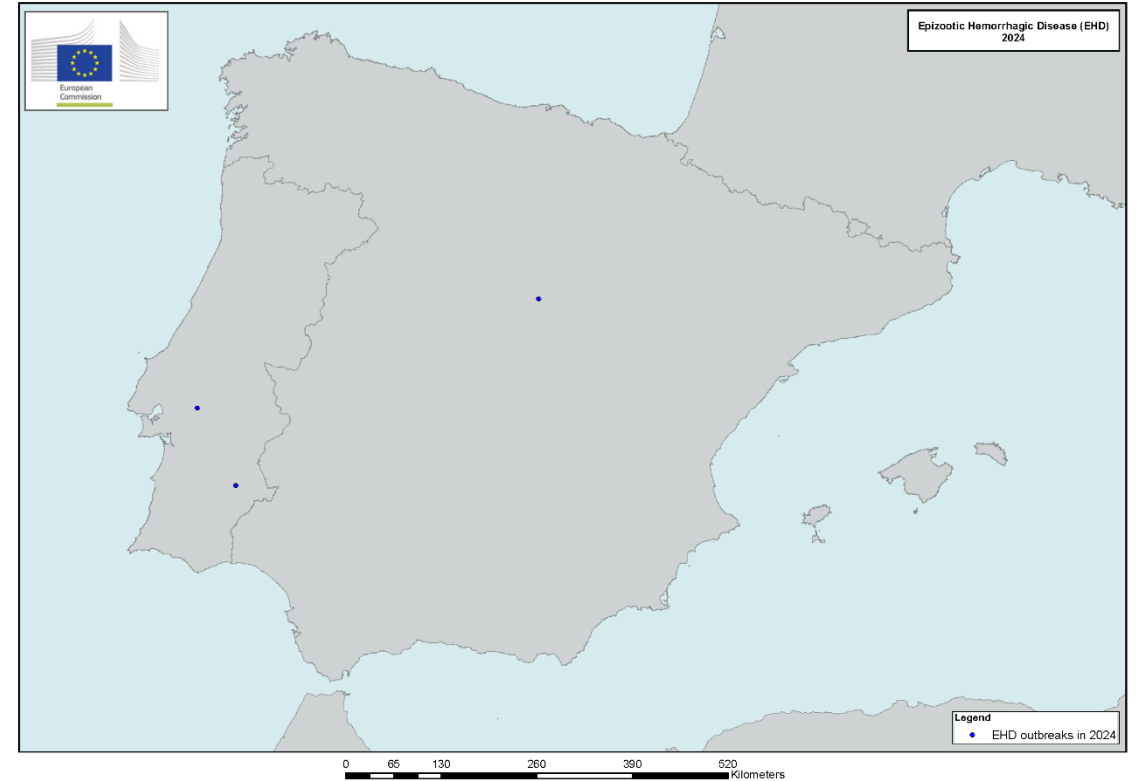
EHD in 2023

- Spain: 263 outbreaks
- France: 225 outbreaks
- Portugal: 73 outbreaks
- Italy: 2 outbreaks (Sardinia)



Situation EHD 2024

- First outbreaks in first week of June



EU policy for EHD

1. Movement of animals (CDR (EU) 2020/688)

- EU legislation prevents the movement of animals from affected areas where there were outbreaks in the previous 2 years (**150 km radius**)
- **Options** for movements based on risk mitigation measures (introduced in 2023)
 - seasonally free area
 - vector protected establishment combined with different testing regimes,
 - No EHD requirements if MS of destinations agrees, inform other MS and the Commission and accept animals under those conditions from any MS

2. Vaccination

- Vaccination, if available, might be a tool to prevent the disease from spreading on account of movements
- No vaccine authorized in the EU yet

3. Funding

- No legal base to co-finance **veterinary measures**

EU policy for EHD - amendment to CDR (EU) 2020/688

Work ongoing to provide for two additional movement options when the animals are sourced from areas where EHD is present and moved to another member State:

- the animals have been **vaccinated** against infection with epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus and the animals are within the immunity period guaranteed in the specifications of the vaccine and meet at least one of the following requirements:
 - they have been vaccinated at least 60 days prior to the date of movement;
 - they have been vaccinated with an inactivated vaccine and have been subject to a PCR test, with negative results on samples collected at least 14 days after the onset of the immunity set in the specifications of the vaccine’;

EU policy for EHD - amendment to CDR (EU) 2020/688

Work ongoing to provide for two additional movement options when the animals are sourced from areas where EHD is present and moved to another member State:

- movements that comply with specific requirements defined by the competent authority of the Member State of destination (and inform other MS and the Commission and accept animals under those conditions from any MS)

Transit rules applicable to certain situations

Expected entry into force: last quarter of 2024

Conclusion BTV - EHD

BTV

- EU rules are proportionate and flexible
- BTV is a disease of voluntary eradication
- BTV vaccines are key instruments
- The Commission & MSs ensure safe movements of animals

EHD

- EHD is a disease not subject to EU eradication programmes
- EHD vaccines not yet available
- The Commission & MSs ensure safe movements of animals

Questions?



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