

About this dossier

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Eradication: Final report for Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies 2019

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).

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ID: 20200506-YB1HRDO6

Country code: ES

Reporting period

From: 2019

To: 2019

Year of implementation: 2019

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.

The epidemiological information included in this part does not fit completely with the financial information, which only contains the eligible animals for European co-financing.

Regarding BSE:

- The number of total outbreaks from 2000 to 2019 (31st December of 2019) is 798.
- 2 positive animals for atypical BSE have been confirmed from January 1st and December 31st of 2019 (based on sampling date) and zero classical BSE cases.
- In the framework of the surveillance programme against BSE, 61.387 bovine animals have been investigated in 2019. The 99,66% of the investigated cattle (61.181 animals) belonged to the subpopulation of "dead or slaughtered animals not intended for human consumption". The proportion of risk bovine animals tested in relation to adult cattle population (age >2years) is 1,9%.

Tables with data and graphs are shown in Annex I, Part A.

Epidemiological data remarks:

- Since 2000, a constant decrease in the BSE outbreaks has been observed in Spain, with the highest decrease in 1997, when the reduction of the incidence reached a peak of 46%
- The trend analysis for 2002-2019 temporal series shows a significant decrease for the complete series (Mantel test for trend $p < 0,001$).

In 2019, no cases of classical BSE have been detected, as expected. Last BSE classical BSE case was detected in 2014, in an old animal.

- When analysing the average age of the cases, it is observed that it has been growing since the beginning of the surveillance; from the 6.4 years till 16.4 years in the cases confirmed in 2017, with a maximum peak of 18.66 years age average in 2014. For the last 9 years the average age (years) of classical BSE cases has been 15,25, whereas for atypical BSE cases has been 14,01.
- The reduction of the number of cases and the increase of the average age of positive animals (specially classical BSE) show the effectiveness of the control measures implemented, taking into account that the bovine population has maintained almost constant through the time.
- The retrospective study of samples recovered during 2003-2010, subjected to discriminatory tests, showed that the prevalence of atypical strains in the 2003-2010 period stayed low and constant, appearing in old animals. Taking into account that the results were consistent with those obtained in other MMSS where the study was performed, it was strengthened the hypothesis that states that atypical BSE cases have a sporadic and spontaneous appearance. Data of Spain of that period and after support that hypothesis.
- The favourable evolution of epidemiological indicators lead Spain to apply for the recognition of the official status of negligible BSE risk country in the OIE framework, which was obtained in May 2016, and has been maintained since then and across 2019.

Regarding SCRAPIE:

- The total number of outbreaks since 2000 to 2019 is 560.
- In 2019, 21 outbreaks have been notified (based on sampling date).
- The distribution of the outbreaks (index cases) by animal species from January 1st until December 31st is: 17 cases in sheep and 4 cases in goats.
- The characterization of each of the 21 outbreaks according to the scrapie type is: 13 classical cases and 8 atypical cases.
- The total number of positive animals in 2019 (index cases and secondary cases) is 362.
- In 2019, 56.884 animals have been investigated, and the most important subpopulation for both (number of animals investigated and positive animals) was the subpopulation "dead or slaughtered not intended for human consumption" (24.282 investigated animals and 14 positive index cases).

Tables with data and graphs are shown in Annex I, Part B.

In 2015 a modification in the national database (RASVE) was performed to include all the sampling options derived from all the eradication options (together with their exceptions) allowed by the regulation.

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

BSE:

The targets set in the approved surveillance programme have been achieved for all the different animal subpopulations. 99,66% of the investigated cattle belonged to the subpopulation "dead or slaughtered animals not intended for human consumption". The proportion of risk bovine animals tested in relation to adult cattle population (age >2years) is 1,9%.

In addition, no classical BSE positive case have been detected in 2019, therefore the progress in the disease eradication has been maintained.

Spain obtained the status recognition as BSE negligible risk country in the OIE general assembly in May 2016 and it has been recognised annually.

SCRAPIE:

After analysing the evolution of the disease since 2000, the pattern does not show a clear tendency, however in 2019 the number of positive cases (total cases) reduced in a proportion of 4,5% comparing to 2018, and index cases diminished 30% comparing to 2018, keeping very similar the total surveillance in non infected flocks/ herds (around 40.000 tests).

In relation to this sampling of non-infected flocks established in Annex III of the Regulation (EC) n^o 999/2001, the effort performed through the last years in order to reach the minimum sampling size (40.000 tests) continued during 2019, as a result, these targets were achieved and considering that point 2c) from Annex III, part II establishes that "A Member State may choose to replace a maximum of 50 % of its minimum sample size of ovine and caprine animals slaughtered for human consumption set out in points (a) and (b) by testing dead ovine or caprine animals over the age of 18 months at the ratio of one to one and in addition to the minimum sample size set out in point 3".

Sampling of non infected flocks/ herds represented 73,2% of total sampling, having detected 5,8% of total cases.

The intensified protocol of surveillance focused in infected herds/ flocks under eradication measures represented 26% of total sampling, and detected 94,2% of the total number of cases. This intensified surveillance has been increasing last years, due to the fact that huge size herds (animal population with more than 1000 animals) have been detected during 2019 or have been detected in previous years but they were during 2019 under eradication measures and therefore shall apply an intensified surveillance

protocol.

About the genotyping as a fighting tool against classical scrapie in sheep, Spain has always supported the genetic selection as a measure against the disease to complement the eradication measures. Similar to last year, the most commonly detected genotype in animals included in the scrapie resistant selection programme was the ARR/ARR genotype, however, the implementation of the breeding programme is still very low at national level. This affects the eradication possibilities, since applying the eradication through option 1 or 2 set in the EC Regulation nº 999/2001 is completely unfeasible in some cases. Its application implies the farmer to abandon the activity, so that, it is necessary to allow derogation of option 2 (delayed eradication to a maximum to 3 years and applying an intensified surveillance) or to allow option 3 (not applying eradication measures but focusing in an intensified surveillance).

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 Annex I attached with the relevant data that are explained below.

BSE:

Look at Annex I, Part A.

The evolution of the disease between 2000 and 2019 is shown in tables, graphics and maps, and also the specific situation for 2019. Please consider that the Annex contains technical-epidemiological information, and some samples are not eligible for co-financing, so the information may not match with data of point 3 (FINANCIAL DATA - REIMBURSEMENT CLAIM).

SCRAPIE:

Look at Annex I, Part B.

The evolution of the disease between 2000 and 2019 is shown in tables, graphics and maps, and also the specific situation for 2019. Similar to what is described above, please consider that the Annex contains technical-epidemiological information including samples that are not eligible for co-financing and that is why these samples are not included in point 3 (FINANCIAL DATA - REIMBURSEMENT CLAIM).

Regarding the following points of this report, please take note that tables of point 2 (Tables for TSE monitoring outcome of the year) contain technical-epidemiological data (not financing data).

- Table A, in relation to scrapie, it shows the number of total positive cases detected in 2019: outbreaks (index cases) + secondary cases (not index cases).

Look at Annex I, table B.3.

OVINE: Total Cases = 324; classical = 317 (11 index cases + 306 not index cases); atypical = 7 (6 index cases + 1 not index case)

CAPRINE: Total Cases = 38; classical = 36 (2 index cases + 34 not index cases); atypical = 2 (2 index cases)

- Tables B, C & D of the following part 2 (Tables for TSE monitoring outcome of the year) show the epidemiological information related to the NUMBER OF TESTS PERFORMED, containing tests that are not eligible for co-financing, thus these not eligible tests are not included in point 3 (FINANCIAL DATA - REIMBURSEMENT CLAIM)

-Table B: In bovine a total of 61.387 animals have been analysed, which corresponds to 61.387 tests performed in the authorized regional labs and 2 assays performed in the NRL for suspected animals and confirmatory rapid tests. Therefore, in this Table B in addition to the tests performed on eligible animals, it contains the tests performed on healthy slaughtered bovine animals from Spain (born before 01/01/2001 and coming from flocks with a BSE historical case); and tests on risk bovine populations that are not eligible for co-financing due to age. These tests are not included in Point 3 (FINANCIAL DATA - REIMBURSEMENT CLAIM).

For the 61.389 BOVINE TESTS PERFORMED, it is requested CO-FINANCING for 61.183 rapid tests.

-Tables C & D: Contain all the tests performed in the different subpopulations. Tests that are not eligible for co-financing are not included in point 3 (FINANCIAL DATA - REIMBURSEMENT CLAIM).

From a total of 34.701 ovine rapid tests performed, it is requested for co-financing 27.896 tests.

From a total of 22.182 caprine rapid tests have been performed, it is requested for co-financing 17.824 tests.

2. Tables for TSE monitoring outcome of the year

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

NB: the Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 is thereafter quoted as the TSE Regulation.

Table A

	Total positive cases detected during the implementing period

	Classical cases	Atypical cases	Unknown
TSE	0	2	0
Scrapie (ovine animals)	317	7	0
Scrapie (caprine animals)	36	2	0

Table B

RAPID TESTS ON BOVINE ANIMALS		
	Age limit applied (in months)	Number of tests cases
Risk bovine animals from MSs listed in Annex to Decision 2009/719/EC	48	61,202
Risk bovine animals from MSs NOT listed in Annex to Decision 2009/719/EC	24	0
Healthy slaughtered bovine animals from MSs listed in Annex to Decision 2009/719/EC	72	176
Healthy slaughtered bovine animals from MSs NOT listed in Annex to Decision 2009/719/EC	30	9
Suspect animals and confirmatory tests		2
Total		61,389

Table C

Population of ewes and ewe lambs put to the ram in the Member State

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RAPID TESTS ON OVINE ANIMALS	
	Number of tests
Healthy slaughtered ovine animals	9,478
Dead ovine animals	13,852
In the context of measures of control/eradication on holdings affected by TSE as described in Annexes III and VII of the TSE regulation	
Ovine animals from holdings affected by classical scrapie	11,685
Ovine animals from holdings affected by atypical scrapie	473
Ovine animals from holdings affected by BSE	0
Suspect animals	5
Total number of tests	35,493

Table D

Population of goats which have already kidded and goats mated in the Member State

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RAPID TESTS ON CAPRINE ANIMALS	
	Number of tests
Healthy slaughtered caprine animals	8,395
Dead caprine animals	10,728
In the context of measures of control/eradication on holdings affected by TSE as described in Annexes III and VII of the TSE regulation	
Caprine animals from holdings affected by classical scrapie	1,954
Caprine animals from holdings affected by atypical scrapie	1,105
Caprine animals from holdings affected by BSE	0
Suspect animals	0
Total number of tests	22,182

Table E

Confirmatory and discriminatory tests	
	Number of tests
Confirmatory tests other than rapid tests on bovine animals	15
Confirmatory tests on ovine and caprine animals	651
Discriminatory tests on bovine animals	2
Discriminatory tests on ovine and caprine animals	377

Total number of confirmatory tests	666
Total number of discriminatory tests	379

Table F

Genotyping tests	
	Number of tests
Positive TSE case	340
Randomly selected ovine animals	0
Animals in scrapie infected flocks	19,723
Breeding programme - ewes	71,399
Breeding programme - rams	17,644
Total of number of tests	109,106

Table G

COMPENSATION FOR ANIMALS In the context of suspicion, control and eradication of TSEs	
Animals culled and destroyed	Number of animals compensated
Bovine animals	21
Ovine animals	0
Caprine animals	0
Animals slaughtered	Number of animals compensated
Ovine animals	7,105
Caprine animals	449
Total Bovine	21
Total Ovine + Caprine	7,554

COMMENT / ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION

Please, consider that due to the Covid-19 situation in Spain and the difficulties encountered in order to submit the final reports by 30 April 2020, we submit it at this time, based on the allowed justification "force majeure".

Apologies for any inconveniences.

Best regards,

[Redacted signature]