



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Health and Food Safety Directorate General

sante.ddg2.g.5(2019)3047259

Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed

Section *Animal Health and Welfare*

25-26 February 2019

CIRCABC Link: <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/d36ff9ae-0fd1-41e0-8ee0-8fec085e3c37>

SUMMARY REPORT

A.01 General information by Member States.

No item raised.

A.02 Information from Bulgaria on Newcastle disease in poultry.

No further virus spread was reported and all restrictions have been lifted.

A.03 Information from the Commission on reporting of the results of avian influenza surveillance in poultry and wild birds carried out by Member States during 2018.

Modalities for reporting during the transitional phase were explained.

A.04 Information by the Commission on Member States' implementation of preventive vaccination plans against avian influenza in zoo birds during 2018.

Member States were reminded of the above in relation to preventative vaccination in zoo birds carried out during 2018.

A.05 Information from France on a pilot study in relation to low pathogenic avian influenza in ducks.

France presented the outcome of a scientific study based on intensified surveillance for LP Avian influenza, identification of risk factors for spread and enhanced biosecurity measures.

A.06 Declaration by Norway of freedom from ISA in an independent compartment comprising the fish farm "10183 Barstadvik".

The declaration demonstrates that the proposed compartment and conducted surveillance program apparently are in compliance with current legislation. No comments or discussion. The declaration will be published on the website of the Norwegian Authorities:

https://www.mattilsynet.no/language/english/fish_and_aquaculture/fish_health/declaration_of_areas_free_of_infectious_salmon_anemia_isa_in_norway.8674.

A.07 Declaration by Norway of a modification of the basis for an existing independent compartment previously declared free from ISA. The compartment comprises the fish farms "11453 Trosnavåg" and "12964 Hognaland".

The declaration demonstrates that the proposed amendment of the water supply to the farm "Trosnavåg" apparently is in compliance with the current legislation. No comments or discussion. The declaration is published on the website of the Norwegian Authorities:

https://www.mattilsynet.no/language/english/fish_and_aquaculture/fish_health/declaration_of_areas_free_of_infectious_salmon_anaemia_isa_in_norway.8674.

A.08 Declaration by Estonia of freedom from VHS and IHN in an independent compartment comprising the fishfarm Ösel Harvest OÜ.

The declaration demonstrates that the proposed compartment and conducted surveillance program apparently are in compliance with current legislation. No comments or discussion. The declaration will be published on the website of the Estonian Authorities: <https://vet.agri.ee/?op=body&id=870>.

A.09 Information on African swine fever in Member States.

Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Hungary, Lithuania, Poland and Romania presented an update on the African swine fever situation. Slovakia gave a presentation on African swine fever preparedness.

A.10 Best practises to prevent an introduction of African swine fever. Information from Finland on the use of sniffer dogs at the EU borders.

Finland gave a presentation on its experience to date with a sniffer dog on border controls in general and on African swine fever prevention measures in particular.

A.11 Outcomes of the study on "Establishing best practices on the production, the processing and the marketing of meat from uncastrated pigs or pigs vaccinated against boar taint".

The Commission presented the outcomes of the study insisting on the feasibility of the best practices for phasing out surgical castration based on practical examples and case studies. It also explained that the dissemination phase of the project has not been performed in absence of an acceptable offer following an open call procedure. The Commission however, declared that it is now looking for possible alternatives to promote the results of the study.

One Member State asked in which way Member States could contribute to further disseminate the results of the study. Another Member State wanted to know if the study also considered anaesthesia as well as the consumers' perception on immunocastration. The Commission welcomed any offer that could further disseminate the results of the study and specified that the study did not cover anaesthesia nor the perception of the consumers. Both issues were not in the scope of the pilot project mandated by the European Parliament, which was at the origin of the initiative.

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision on the evolution of animal diseases in the Union.

No item raised.

B.02 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending the Annex to Implementing Decision 2014/709/EU concerning animal health control measures relating to African swine fever in certain Member States.

The Commission presented for vote a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending the Annex to Implementing Decision 2014/709/EU concerning animal health control measures relating to African swine fever in certain Member States. By this review of African swine fever regionalisation measures, all the areas of the Czech Republic were delisted from the Annex of that Decision due to the favourable epidemiological situation in the Member State.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.03 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 as regards microbiological standards for raw petfood, requirements concerning approved establishments, technical parameters applicable to the alternative method Brookes' gasification process and hydrolysis of rendered fats, transport conditions for certain Category 3 materials, imports of processed manure, horns, horn products, gelatine and flavouring innards, and exports of certain blood, blood products and intermediate products.

Withdrawn from Agenda.

B.04 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 as regards harmonisation of the lists of approved or registered plants and of traceability of certain animal by-products and derived products.

Withdrawn from Agenda.

B.05 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decisions approving the plan for the eradication of African swine fever in feral pigs in certain areas of Hungary.

Following a presentation by Hungary on their measures to eradicate African swine fever, the Commission presented for a vote a draft Decision approving the plan for the eradication of African swine fever in wild boar in certain areas of Hungary, in line with Article 16 of Directive 2002/60/EC.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.06 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision approving the plan for the eradication of African swine fever in feral pigs in certain areas of Bulgaria.

Following a presentation by Bulgaria on their measures to eradicate African swine fever, the Commission presented for a vote a draft Decision approving the plan for the eradication of African swine fever in wild boar in certain areas of Bulgaria, in line with Article 16 of Directive 2002/60/EC.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.07 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision repealing Decision 2005/779/EC concerning animal health protection measures against swine vesicular disease in Italy.

Italy gave a short presentation of the eradication and monitoring program. The conclusion is that Calabria should be recognised as free from swine vesicular disease, and since all other regions of Italy have earlier been recognised as free from that disease, Decision 2005/779/EC on protection measures against swine vesicular disease in Italy should be repealed.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

B.08 Exchange of views and possible opinion of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the 'Better Training for Safer Food' programme and the adoption of the work programme for 2019.

In order to ensure the implementation of the 'Better Training for Safer Food' Programme, it is necessary to adopt an annual financing decision which constitutes the work programme for training in the field of food and feed safety, animal health, animal welfare and plant health. The Commission presented the BTSF work programme and draft financing decision for 2019.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

C.01 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision on the implementation by Member States of surveillance programmes for avian influenza in poultry and wild birds.

Withdrawn from Agenda.

C.02 Exchange of views of the Committee on a draft Commission Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision 2014/709/EU concerning animal health control measures relating to African swine fever in certain Member States.

The Commission presented for a discussion with Member States certain amendments of Commission Implementing Decision 2014/709/EU in relation to i) ELISA testing, ii) trade in live pigs in continuous areas of African swine fever restrictions and iii) extension of validity of the Decision until April 2021. Member States were invited to submit written comments by 5 March 2019.

M.01 Commission Implementing Decision amending Commission Implementing Decision 2014/909/EU concerning certain protective measures with regard to confirmed occurrences of Small Hive Beetle in Italy.

Italy gave a presentation on the state of play with emphasis on small hive beetle (SHB) surveillance data from 2018. The data showed no SHB outside of Reggio Calabria and sporadic outbreaks in Reggio Calabria. Overall, there has been little change in the epidemiological situation in the last two years. The Commission briefly explained that it is planning (subject to internal agreement) to propose the prolongation of Commission Implementing Decision 2014/909/EU which will run out end of March 2019, by approximately another two years. Some Member States sought clarification on the scope and timing of that amendment. The Commission explained that the amendment would be limited to the change of date of application, that the PAFF Committee vote may take place on 7 March, apologised for the late information and asked the delegates to give appropriate mandate to their colleagues, who will be present.

M.02 Intra EU-trade in wild boars. Croatia informed the Committee about a trade in former feral pigs from Hungary to Croatia.

Hungary confirmed that such trade is in line with the explanations provided by the EC and the current legislative framework.

The Commission reminded the Committee about the letters sent by the EC to all EU CVOs in April and September 2018 and the prohibition of trade in wild boar, which has been in place in the EU since June 2018.