

Eradication: Final report for Bovine Tuberculosis 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: 20190409-W14VHV53

Country code: IE

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.

The incidence of bovine TB in Ireland has declined significantly since 2008 when approximately 30,000 animals were removed as reactors to just 17,491 in 2018. This is an increase of 225 on 2017 which was due to increased Gamma Interferon Testing. Herd incidence, which is possibly a more accurate reflection of trends, was at 3.51% in 2018 and 3.47% in 2017. Herd incidence has decreased 40.8% since 2008 which was at 5.88%. It is not possible to attribute the decline in the incidence of the disease to any single factor. Nevertheless, the main factor involved would appear to be the badger removal policy which has been in place for some years now. In addition, the introduction of Animal Health Computer System (AHCS) and its integration with the Animal Identification and Movement System (AIM) has facilitated more effective management of programme delivery, including enhanced quality controls of delivery of the SICTT and additional movement control of animals from high risk herds such as contiguous herds not tested in the previous 4-months and due a test. The APT, number of reactor animals disclosed per 1000 tests, remained relatively low in 2018 at 1.97%, in comparison to 3.25% in 2008 and more recently 1.94% in 2017. 98.5% of herds were tested in 2018.

In May 2018 the Government of Ireland mandated the formation of a TB Stakeholder Forum. This Stakeholder Forum comprises of representatives from across the agrifood sector, leading researchers and the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. The Stake Holder Forum has been mandated to bring proposals for the Minister's approval for driving forward the eradication of TB by 2030, while at the same

time respecting the principles of the National Farmed Animal Health Strategy which are;

- (i) Working in partnership to improve animal health standards
- (ii) Roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders must be clear
- (iii) Principle of 'prevention is better than cure' must be consistently applied, and (iv) animal health programmes will have clear objectives, and will be sustainably and appropriately funded.

To date 6 meetings of the Forum have taken place discussing policy options for eradication by 2030, governance of the programme going forward and costs and benefits. A number of bilaterals in relation to the current programme have also been held. It is expected that the Forum will report on disease and governance policy mid-2019. This will be followed by a report on costs and benefits pending the completion of a 3rd party review of this element of the programme. There has been broad agreement on governance and some policy options.

The cost of the TB eradication scheme has been falling progressively in recent years, mainly due to the substantial reduction in the incidence of the disease. In 2018, the cost of the scheme (excluding staff salary costs) amounted to approx. €36m compared with €55m in 2008. Within this figure, the cost of compensation has fallen considerably over the years from €27m in 2008 to €18m in 2018. However, the cost of compensation increased in 2018 when compared to 2017 by approximately €4m. This was primarily driven by increased expenditure on compensation for animals removed as reactor (On-farm Market Valuation). Reasons for this include; a buoyant dairy sector meant the average value of dairy cattle was higher than previous years, and also, salvage values were lower than 2017. This is possibly reflecting adverse weather and an oversupply of cull cattle to factories. This means the Gross Differential Amount (i.e. difference between market value and salvage value) rose by 16% from €618 at end January 2018 to €718 at end December.

Please see attachment for the detailed list of expenditure for the programme excluding staffing costs, "TB Expenditure 2018".

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

All targets were substantially reached, 98.5% of herds were subjected to at least one test during the year and 96% of animals; herds that remained untested at year end comprised of herds with no animals during the year, newly established herds and other herds that were tested in the early part of 2019.

The total number of Tuberculin tests carried out was 8,869,856

The total number of Gamma-interferon tests carried out was 54,508.

The total number of Bacteriological Tests carried out was 3,048

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.

See attachment "epi map for final report 2018".

1.4 Additional epidemiological information (on epidemiological inquiries, abortions, lesions found in abattoir, human cases, etc...)

(1) Following examination of lesions found in abattoir in 3,597 cattle at routine slaughter 1,612 were determined infected as a result of laboratory examination.

(2) Following examination of tissues/glands from 295 animals, considered to be positive reactors to a tuberculin test and where herd status was suspended pending completion of laboratory examination, under the singleton procedure as described in the Irish programme, 46 were determined infected as a result of laboratory examination.

(3) Following examination of tissues/glands from 237 animals of unresolved status 24 were determined infected as a result of laboratory examination.

(4) Following examination of glands from 1,185 animals considered to be positive reactors but where additional laboratory examination was requested for various reasons 227 were determined infected as a result of laboratory examination.

2. TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION ON RUMINANT DISEASES 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

| Region | Animal species | Total number of herds | Total number of herds under the programme | Number of herds to be checked under the programme this year | Number of herds checked | Number of positive herds | Number of new positive herds | Number of herds depopulated |
|--------|----------------|-----------------------|---|---|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | | | | | | | | |

| | | % of positive herds depopulated | % of herds coverage | | % of positive herds Period herd prevalence | | % of positive herds Herd incidence | |
|--------------|--------|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------|--|-------|------------------------------------|----|
| Ireland | Cattle | 112,105 | 112,105 | 112,105 | 110,454 | 5,573 | 3,874 | 26 |
| | | 0.47 % | 98.53 % | | 5.05 % | | 3.51 % | |
| Total | | 112,105 | 112,105 | 112,105 | 110,454 | 5,573 | 3,874 | 26 |
| | | 0.47 % | 98.53 % | | 5.05 % | | 3.51 % | |

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 this year | Number of animals tested | Number of animals tested individually | Number of positive animals | Number of animals with positive result slaughtered or culled | Number of animals slaughtered |
|--------------|----------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| | | % coverage at animals level | | | | % positive animals Animal Prevalence | | | |
| Ireland | Cattle | 7,371,499 | 7,371,499 | 7,371,499 | 7,069,655 | 7,069,655 | 17,491 | 17,915 | 19,119 |
| | | 95.91 % | | | | 0.25 % | | | |
| Total | | 7,371,499 | 7,371,499 | 7,371,499 | 7,069,655 | 7,069,655 | 17,491 | 17,915 | 19,119 |
| | | 95.91 % | | | | 0.25 % | | | |

Table C - DATA ON VACCINATION PROGRAMMES

| Region | Animal species | Total number of herds | Total number of animals | Number of herds in vaccination programme this year | 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

| | Region | Animal species | Total number of herds and animals under the programme | Unknown | Not free or not officially free from disease | | Free of officially free-disease status suspended/withdrawn | Free from disease | Officially free from disease |
|------------------------|---------|----------------|---|---------|--|---------------------|--|-------------------|------------------------------|
| | | | | | Last check positive | Last check negative | | | |
| herds | Ireland | Cattle | 112,105 | 0 | 1,215 | 961 | 225 | 0 | 109,704 |
| animals | " | " | 6,398,745 | 0 | 180,257 | 113,866 | 28,092 | 0 | 6,076,530 |
| Total - herds | | | 112,105 | 0 | 1,215 | 961 | 225 | 0 | 109,704 |
| Total - animals | | | 6,398,745 | 0 | 180,257 | 113,866 | 28,092 | 0 | 6,076,530 |

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

| Region | Animal species | Status | Reason | Number of herds |
|--------------|----------------|-----------|---|-----------------|
| Ireland | Cattle | suspended | non-negative result in diagnostic test | 2,562 |
| Ireland | Cattle | withdrawn | non-negative result in diagnostic test | 3,780 |
| Ireland | Cattle | suspended | does not fulfil the routine testing frequency | 10,229 |
| Ireland | Cattle | withdrawn | does not fulfil the routine testing frequency | 3 |
| Ireland | Cattle | suspended | entering animals in the herd with insufficient status | 24 |
| Ireland | Cattle | withdrawn | entering animals in the herd with insufficient status | 8 |
| Ireland | Cattle | suspended | the disease is suspected | 5,466 |
| Ireland | Cattle | withdrawn | the disease is suspected | 23 |
| Total | | | | 22,095 |

Table F - STRATIFIED DATA ON SURVEILLANCE AND LABORATORY TESTS

| Region | Animal species | Test type | Number of samples | Number of tests | Number of positive tests |
|---------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Ireland | Cattle | Tuberculin test | 8,869,856 | 8,869,856 | 17,491 |
| Ireland | Cattle | Gamma-interferon test | 54,508 | 54,508 | 11,697 |
| Ireland | Cattle | Bacteriological test | 3,048 | 3,048 | 356 |

| | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------|
| Total | 8,927,412 | 8,927,412 | 29,544 |
| | Methods of laboratory analysis | Total number of tests | |
| | Total - Bacteriological test | 3,048 | |
| | Total - Gamma-interferon test | 54,508 | |
| | Total - Tuberculin test | 8,869,856 | |

COMMENT / ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION

1.8.9 SANTE Data Collection Platform - PRODUCTION • Contact us at SANTE-XMLGATE3@ec.europa.eu