



Food and
Veterinary Service
Republic of Latvia

**Results of the implementation of Rabies
co-financed eradication program in Latvia
during 2019**

SCoPAFF
23.-24. September 2020





Human Rabies case in 2019

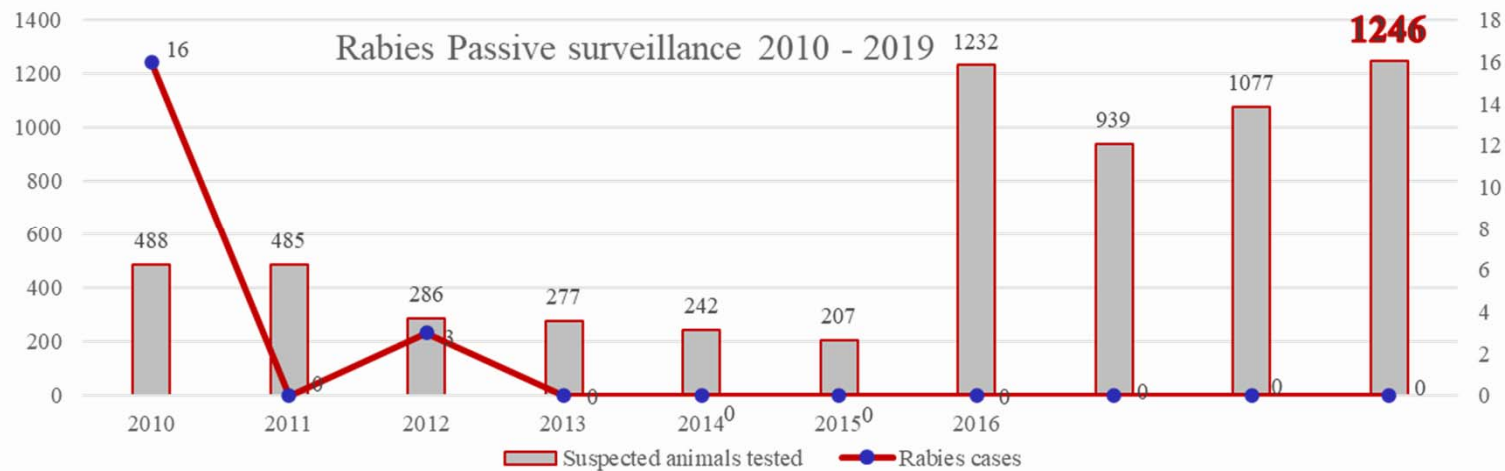
- Human rabies case was confirmed in Latvia in December 2019
- The epidemiological investigation and sequencing of the virus isolate revealed that it was imported case
- The virus isolate showed 99.17% similarity with one of the Rabies viruses isolated in Nepal
- Respective person was bitted by a puppy during trip in India



Rabies passive surveillance 2019

Passive surveillance – all suspected animals (wildlife + domestic). All samples have submitted to National Reference laboratory for testing on Rabies virus

Intensified program of road kills passive surveillance is in place since the 2016



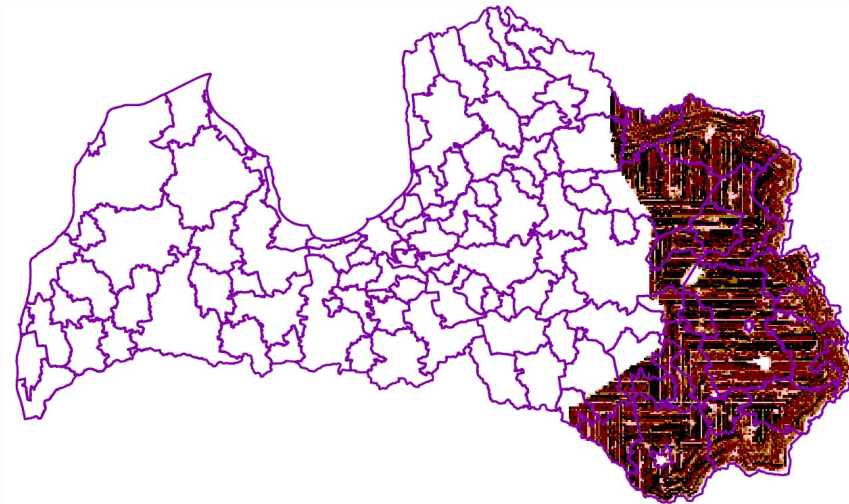
The last (animal) Rabies case was confirmed in February 2012

Latvia is free from Rabies since December 2014 (OIE self-declaration)



Wildlife oral vaccination in 2019 (Latvia)

- Vaccination area - **19 245 km²**
- **Two vaccination campaigns** (spring and autumn)
- **480 900** Lysvulpen (Bioveta) vaccine baits per campaign
- Aerial fully automatic vaccine distribution (Cessna 172)
- Distance between flight lines 500m
- ~25 baits/km²
- Each distributed vaccine bait is registered





Monitoring results of vaccination campaigns (Latvia)

To ensure vaccination efficiency control - hunted foxes and raccoon dogs from vaccinated area were purchased from hunters and submitted to NRL for testing to bait uptake (LM) and seroconversion (ELISA)

Year	LM tested	LM positive	%	Elisa tested	Elisa positive	%
2019	836	694	83	836	437	52

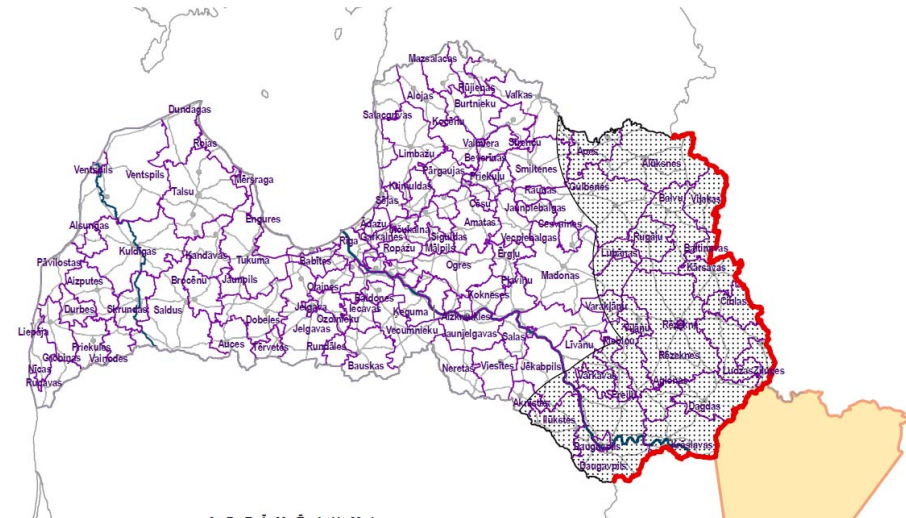
Summary: 52% of tested animals have antibodies against Rabies virus



Wildlife oral vaccination in 2019 (Belarus)

EU co-financed program includes oral vaccination of wildlife (foxes and raccoon dogs) in Belarus territory along Latvia (EU Eastern) border.

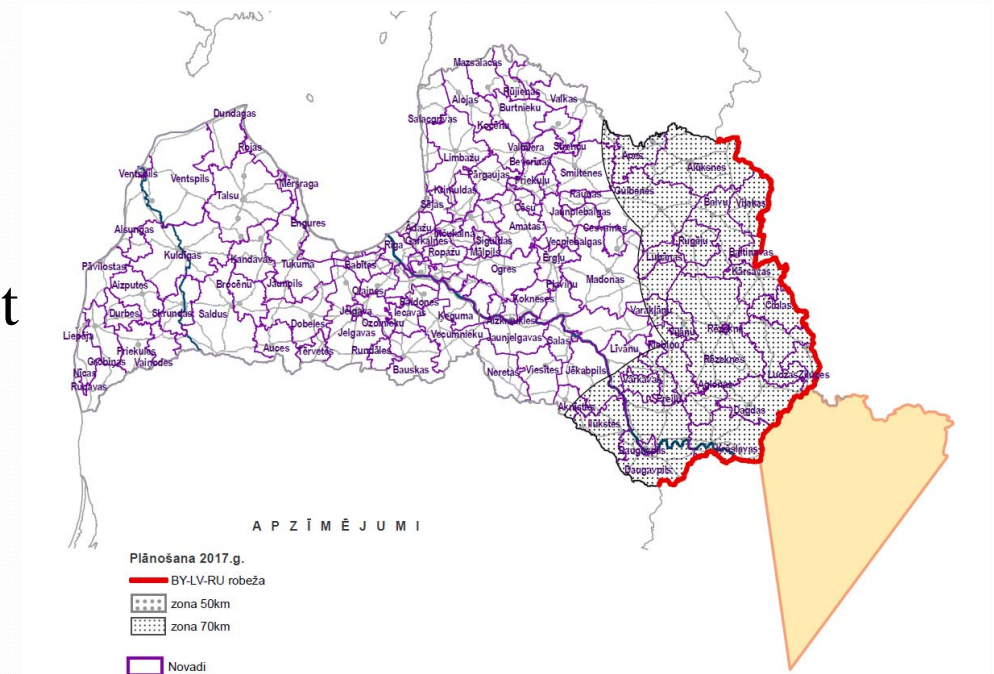
- Vaccination area (buffer zone) - **10 850 km²**
- Two vaccination campaigns (spring and autumn)
- ~250 000 vaccine baits per campaign
- Vaccine - Рабивит-ВБФ (Strain – ERA, Belorussian producer - «БелВитунифарм»)
- Aerial vaccine distribution (AN-2)
- Distance between flight lines 500m
- ~23 baits/km²
- Each distributed vaccine bait is registered





Monitoring results of vaccination campaigns (Belarus)

In Belarus - samples are collected, but not tested yet





Financial aspects of Rabies co-financed program

Total eligible costs of Rabies eradication program in 2019 is

1.061.785,44 EUR (Latvia and Belarus side)

Co-financing of program from EU budget is up to 75%



Thank you for your attention!