

## About this dossier

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## Eradication: Final report for Bluetongue 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).

This form is for information only, no submission possible.

ID: 20200518-GY4P7M5J

**Country code:** EL

### 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.

#### BLUETONGUE (BT) SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES

##### A. Passive surveillance

Clinical surveillance was applied in all ruminants and included clinical investigation for the presence of typical symptoms of the disease. It was carried out in all flocks of species sensitive to Bluetongue (BT) (bovine, ovine and caprine) in the Country, as well as in flocks of bovine, ovine and caprine animals, introduced from countries or Member States, where outbreaks of the disease have been identified. In case of suspicion of disease, Local Veterinary Authorities, under the supervision and coordination of the Central Competent Authority, implemented all measures defined in the national and European law for Bluetongue.

##### B. Active surveillance for monitoring virus circulation (combined serological and virological surveillance).

Collection of at least 60 blood samples, distributed within two-month periods, yearly (at least 360 samplings), from bovines and/or small ruminants, in all Regional Units of the Country and testing. The aforementioned samples were blood samples, without anti-coagulant, from seronegative cattle (>6 months) and/or seronegative ovines (>3 months) and/or seronegative caprines (>3 months) tested with ELISA for BT antibodies. Whole blood samples from positive for BT antibodies animals were further examined with PCR for virus detection.

All the aforementioned samples equally originated from at least six (6) holdings, evenly distributed in each Regional Unit, in order to provide geographical coverage therein. It was compulsory for the Local Veterinary Authorities to register the exact location, the owner and the code number of each holding and to notify them to the Central Competent Authority.

The sample size has been calculated to reach the compulsory prevalence detection of 5%.

### C. Entomological surveillance

Entomological monitoring consisted of an active programme of vector catching by means of permanently sited traps intended to determine the population dynamics and overwintering features of the Culicoides species in the sampled site. The programme aimed at gathering information on the proven and potential vector species in the Member State or in an epidemiologically relevant geographical area, their distribution and seasonal profiles. The frequency of operation of the traps were adjusted to the seasonal variations of the epidemiological situation during the year to optimise the determination of the population dynamics and overwintering features of the Culicoides. An adequate proportion of the midges collected in the insect traps were sent to the Entomology laboratory, which was counting and identifying Culicoides species on a routine basis.

Entomological surveillance included the placement of at least one vector trap in each prefecture included in Table I of the attached Annex, once or twice monthly, throughout the year and, additionally, every week the month preceding and the month following the vector free season (as described in Annex I point 4 of Regulation 1266/2007), in the Regional Unit of Evros and in the Islands of Lesbos, Samos and Rhodes.

The location where the traps were placed has been selected by the Entomology Laboratory. It was compulsory for the Local Veterinary Authorities to register the exact location, the owner and the code number of each holding and to notify them to the Central Competent Authority.

Traps were sent to the National Reference Laboratory for BT where molecular techniques were used for BT Virus detection.

### D. Vaccination

The objectives of vaccination are a) prevention of appearance of clinical manifestations of the disease (mostly in sheep, but also in goats and, to a much lesser extent, in bovines) and b) limitation of spread of the disease (e.g. in case of recurrence etc.).

Vaccination was implemented on an optional basis in the year 2015, after the 2014 epizootic.

Given the epidemiological situation in Greece in 2019, vaccination was not considered as a means of disease control.

General description of lab testing scheme for BT

Animals suspected for an active BT infection in accordance with Regulation 1266/2007, were subjected to serological testing and those tested positive were subjected to further testing with PCR for detection of BT Virus. In case of a positive PCR result, further testing was carried out, in order to define the BT Virus serotype (BT virus type-specific PCR). Virus typing was always performed for the first (primary) outbreak confirmed within a Regional Unit, as well as for at least one sample from each BT outbreak during a given transmission period.

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

### Active Surveillance for BT

The targets of the Active Serological Surveillance programme have not been achieved, due to inadequate personnel in the Veterinary Authorities (Central Authority, Regional and Local Units, Laboratories), already having to cope with an enormous amount of workload, which makes the implementation of the programme difficult or even, in certain Regional Units, unattainable. Additionally, specific measures regarding surveillance and preventive activities against African Swine Fever, already in place, since the summer of 2019, demanded increased number of farm visits to swine herds.

With the aim to improve the implementation of the Programme, without compromising the effectiveness of serological surveillance, since 01.01.2020, the collection of at least 60 blood samples has been decided to be distributed within three-month periods, yearly, in contrast to two-months periods, which was in place until 31.12.2019. We hope that the reduction of samplings from sentinel animals from six (6) to four (4) throughout the year may facilitate the efforts for a more consistent implementation of the Programme.

The targets of the Active Entomological Surveillance programme have not been achieved, due to a) inadequate personnel in the Veterinary Authorities (Central Authority, Regional and Local Units, Laboratories), already having to cope with an enormous amount of workload, which makes the implementation of the program, difficult or even, in certain Regional Units, unattainable, and b) the fact that financial processes necessary for provision of adequate number of traps were blocked, as a result of changes in procurement procedures, thus not being available during 2019.

## **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 see the attached files "Annex Bluetongue in Greece 2019" and "Bluetongue in Greece 2008-2019".

## 2. TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION ON BLUETONGUE 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

Table A is not to be filled in for Bluetongue

### 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	Number of animals tested	Number of animals tested individually	Number of positive animals	Number of outbreaks
ARGOLIDA	Cattle	1,021	30	30	30	30	0	0
ARGOLIDA	Sheep and Goats	158,493	30	30	30	30	0	0
ARCADIA	Cattle	2,423	10	10	15	15	0	0
ARCADIA	Sheep and Goats	263,319	50	50	46	46	0	0
ATTICA	Cattle	3,113	30	30	30	30	0	0
ATTICA	Sheep and Goats	138,215	30	30	30	30	0	0
GREVENA	Cattle	8,167	60	60	40	40	0	0
DRAMA	Cattle	24,499	30	30	24	24	0	0
DRAMA	Sheep and Goats	149,167	30	30	73	73	0	0
EVROS	Cattle	18,929	30	30	40	40	0	0
EVROS	Sheep and Goats	168,199	30	30	15	15	0	0
EVOIA	Sheep and Goats	265,558	60	60	15	15	0	0
IMATHIA	Cattle	13,527	13,527	13,527	1	1	0	0
IMATHIA	Goats	18,894	18,894	18,894	7	7	0	0
IRAKLEIO	Cattle	1,342	30	30	10	10	0	0
IRAKLEIO	Sheep and Goats	1,228,538	30	30	10	10	0	0
IKARIA	Cattle	385	30	30	27	27	1	1
IKARIA	Sheep and Goats	29,554	30	30	60	60	1	1
IOANNINA	Goats	48,250	48,250	48,250	34	34	0	0
KARDITSA	Cattle	11,463	30	30	38	38	0	0
KARDITSA	Sheep and Goats	221,475	30	30	27	27	0	0
KASTORIA	Cattle	3,753	30	30	76	76	2	1
KASTORIA	Sheep and Goats	88,821	30	30	12	12	1	1
KERKYRA	Sheep	6,744	6,744	6,744	4	4	0	0
KEFALLONIA	Cattle	2,780	30	30	6	6	0	0
KEFALLONIA	Sheep and Goats	201,880	30	30	70	70	0	0
KILKIS	Cattle	19,768	60	60	119	119	0	0
KILKIS	Sheep	147,920	147,920	147,920	53	53	0	0
KORINTHOS	Sheep	81,384	81,384	81,384	2	2	0	0
KOS	Cattle	4,943	4,943	4,943	2	2	1	1
KOS	Sheep	52,062	52,062	52,062	8	8	1	1
KOS	Goats	83,319	83,319	83,319	18	18	0	0
KYKLADES	Cattle	12,727	240	240	150	150	0	0
LAKONIA	Cattle	8,158	30	30	37	37	0	0
LAKONIA	Sheep and Goats	251,736	30	30	10	10	0	0
LARISSA	Sheep and Goats	1,038,371	1,038,371	1,038,371	10	10	0	0
LASITHI	Cattle	22	60	60	18	18	0	0

LESVOS	Cattle	7,574	30	30	130	130	13	13
LESVOS	Sheep and Goats	535,436	30	30	22	22	15	15
LEFKADA	Cattle	656	60	60	56	56	0	0
LEMNOS	Cattle	656	30	30	12	12	0	0
LEMNOS	Sheep and Goats	535,436	30	30	13	13	0	0
MESSINIA	Sheep and Goats	110,854	30	30	40	40	0	0
PELLA	Cattle	19,558	30	30	20	20	0	0
PELLA	Sheep and Goats	198,477	30	30	51	51	0	0
PREVEZA	Cattle	19,086	30	30	10	10	0	0
PREVEZA	Sheep and Goats	185,375	30	30	10	10	0	0
RODOPI	Cattle	26,613	60	60	46	46	0	0
SAMOS	Sheep and Goats	29,554	60	60	112	112	1	1
THESSALONIKI	Cattle	59,788	60	60	68	68	0	0
FTHIOTIDA	Sheep	182,156	182,156	182,156	5	5	0	0
FLORINA	Cattle	13,306	60	60	65	65	0	0
CHALKIDIKI	Cattle	3,949	60	60	60	60	0	0
CHALKIDIKI	Sheep	71,915	71,915	71,915	6	6	0	0
CHANIA	Cattle	222	30	30	26	26	0	0
CHANIA	Sheep and Goats	554,049	30	30	48	48	0	0
XANTHI	Cattle	24,502	30	30	72	72	0	0
XANTHI	Sheep and Goats	166,338	30	30	30	30	0	0
EVOIA	Sheep and Goats	265,558	265,558	265,558	6	6	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>7,789,977</b>	<b>2,016,933</b>	<b>2,016,933</b>	<b>2,105</b>	<b>2,105</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>35</b>

**Table C - DATA ON VACCINATION PROGRAMMES**

Region	Animal species	Total number of herds	Total number of animals	Serotype	Number of herds in vaccination programme	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)
<b>Total</b>		0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Table D - DATA ON STATUS OF HERDS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD**

Table D is not to be filled in for Bluetongue

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

Table E is not to be filled in for Bluetongue

**Table F - STRATIFIED DATA ON SURVEILLANCE AND LABORATORY TESTS**

Region	Animal species	Number of samples	Test type	Number of tests	Number of positive tests
ARGOLIDA	Cattle	107	Elisa test	107	0
ARGOLIDA	Sheep and Goats	140	Elisa test	140	0
ARCADIA	Cattle	50	Elisa test	50	1
ARCADIA	Cattle	1	PCR test	1	0
ARCADIA	Sheep and Goats	250	Elisa test	250	0
GREVENA	Cattle	100	Elisa test	100	10
GREVENA	Cattle	10	PCR test	10	0
DRAMA	Cattle	114	Elisa test	114	3
DRAMA	Cattle	3	PCR test	3	0
DRAMA	Sheep and Goats	272	Elisa test	270	17
DRAMA	Sheep and Goats	17	PCR test	23	0
EVROS	Cattle	159	Elisa test	159	2
EVROS	Cattle	2	PCR test	2	0

EVROS	Sheep and Goats	15	Elisa test	15	0
EVOIA	Sheep and Goats	21	Elisa test	21	1
EVOIA	Sheep and Goats	1	PCR test	1	0
IMATHIA	Cattle	1	Elisa test	1	0
IMATHIA	Goats	1	Elisa test	1	0
IMATHIA	Goats	2	PCR test	2	0
IRAKLEIO	Cattle	10	Elisa test	10	0
IRAKLEIO	Sheep and Goats	40	Elisa test	40	0
IKARIA	Cattle	50	Elisa test	50	2
IKARIA	Cattle	2	PCR test	8	2
IKARIA	Sheep and Goats	189	Elisa test	193	4
IKARIA	Sheep and Goats	4	PCR test	5	1
IOANNINA	Goats	34	Elisa test	34	0
KARDITSA	Cattle	137	Elisa test	137	0
KARDITSA	Sheep and Goats	93	Elisa test	93	0
KASTORIA	Cattle	189	Elisa test	190	16
KASTORIA	Cattle	16	PCR test	16	0
KASTORIA	Sheep and Goats	13	Elisa test	13	0
KASTORIA	Sheep and Goats	1	PCR test	1	0
KERKYRA	Sheep and Goats	4	Elisa test	4	0
KERKYRA	Sheep and Goats	4	PCR test	4	0
KEFALLONIA	Cattle	6	Elisa test	6	0
KEFALLONIA	Sheep and Goats	290	Elisa test	290	45
KEFALLONIA	Sheep and Goats	20	PCR test	20	0
KILKIS	Cattle	364	Elisa test	352	42
KILKIS	Cattle	34	PCR test	34	0
KILKIS	Sheep and Goats	53	Elisa test	53	53
KILKIS	Sheep and Goats	6	PCR test	6	0
KORINTHOS	Sheep	2	Elisa test	2	0
KOS	Cattle	3	Elisa test	3	3
KOS	Cattle	11	PCR test	11	2
KOS	Sheep and Goats	29	Elisa test	29	6
KOS	Sheep and Goats	19	PCR test	19	5
LAKONIA	Cattle	50	Elisa test	50	0
LAKONIA	Sheep and Goats	10	Elisa test	10	0
LARISSA	Sheep and Goats	10	Elisa test	10	5
LARISSA	Sheep and Goats	3	PCR test	3	0
LASITHI	Cattle	36	Elisa test	33	7
LASITHI	Cattle	7	PCR test	7	3
LESVOS	Cattle	367	Elisa test	367	44
LESVOS	Cattle	183	PCR test	183	68
LESVOS	Sheep and Goats	539	Elisa test	540	114
LESVOS	Sheep and Goats	320	PCR test	320	98
LEFKADA	Cattle	100	Elisa test	100	0
LEMNOS	Cattle	45	Elisa test	45	1
LEMNOS	Cattle	1	Elisa test	1	0
MESSINIA	Sheep and Goats	60	Elisa test	60	0
PELLA	Cattle	63	Elisa test	63	7
PELLA	Cattle	6	PCR test	6	0
PELLA	Sheep and Goats	231	Elisa test	231	1

PREVEZA	Cattle	120	Elisa test	90	0
PREVEZA	Sheep and Goats	40	Elisa test	30	0
RODOPI	Cattle	268	Elisa test	268	1
RODOPI	Cattle	1	PCR test	1	0
SAMOS	Sheep and Goats	228	Elisa test	228	16
SAMOS	Sheep and Goats	41	PCR test	41	12
THESSALONIKI	Cattle	310	Elisa test	310	4
THESSALONIKI	Cattle	4	PCR test	4	0
FLORINA	Cattle	360	Elisa test	360	9
FLORINA	Cattle	10	PCR test	10	0
CHALKIDIKI	Cattle	161	Elisa test	160	18
CHALKIDIKI	Cattle	10	PCR test	10	0
CHALKIDIKI	Sheep	6	Elisa test	6	6
CHALKIDIKI	Sheep	3	PCR test	3	0
CHANIA	Cattle	61	Elisa test	61	0
CHANIA	Sheep and Goats	128	Elisa test	128	2
CHANIA	Sheep and Goats	3	PCR test	3	0
XANTHI	Cattle	252	Elisa test	252	1
XANTHI	Cattle	2	PCR test	2	0
XANTHI	Sheep and Goats	52	Elisa test	52	0
XANTHI	Sheep and Goats	1	PCR test	1	0
KYKLADES	Cattle	750	Elisa test	750	1
ATTICA	Cattle	154	Elisa test	154	3
ATTICA	Cattle	3	PCR test	3	0
ATTICA	Sheep and Goats	171	Elisa test	172	14
ATTICA	Sheep and Goats	2	PCR test	2	0
LEMNOS	Sheep and Goats	38	Elisa test	38	0
FTHIOTIDA	Sheep and Goats	5	Elisa test	5	0
<b>Total</b>		8,104		8,066	650
			<b>Methods of laboratory analysis</b>	<b>Total number of tests</b>	
			<b>Total - Elisa test</b>	7,301	
			<b>Total - PCR test</b>	765	

## COMMENT / ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION

In 2019, the amount of [REDACTED] euros was spent for the supply of a new stereoscope and the amount of [REDACTED] euros for the supply of 11 insect traps, in order to improve entomological surveillance. Funding of this equipment has been approved according to the Grant Decision for Funding for the year 2019, but given that no column in the reimbursement claim is available, these expenses could not be included in the declaration form. The corresponding invoices are hereby attached and we kindly request to consider these extra costs performed.