

Ovine and caprine brucellosis control programme, Greece, 2018

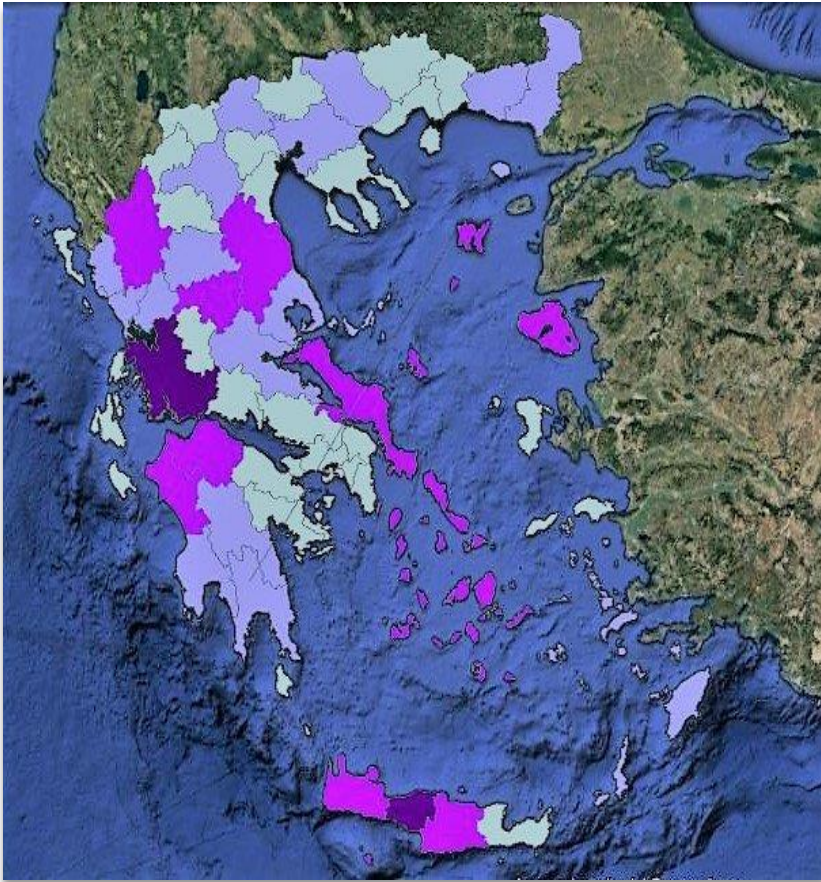


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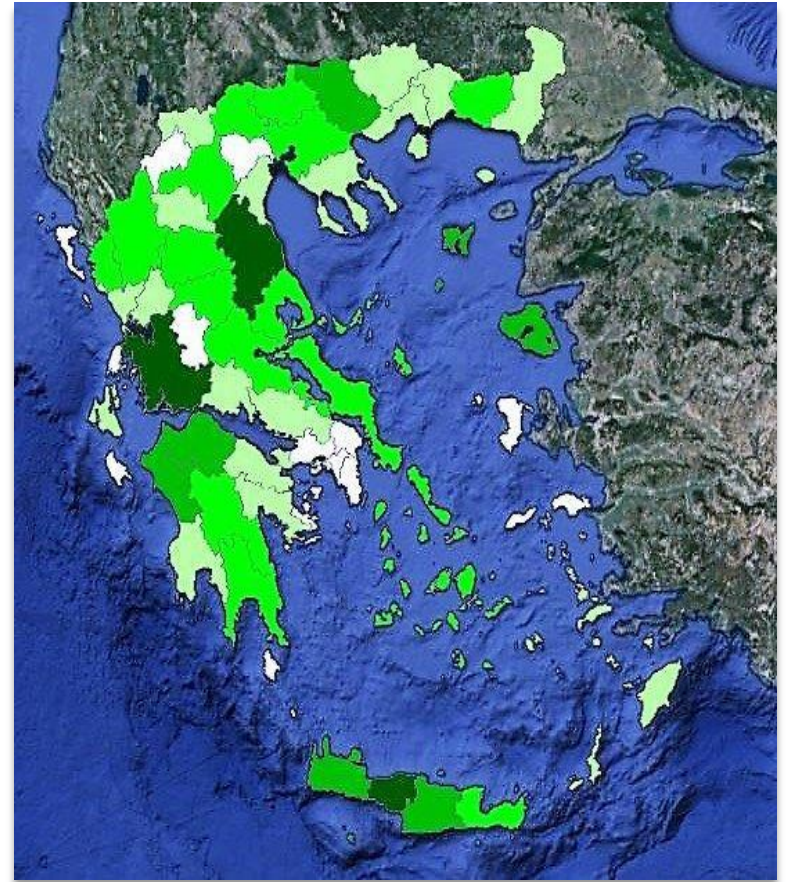
Outline

- Herds and animal population
- Vaccination - Eradication programme
- Human cases
- Conclusions - problems
- Next steps

Herds and animal population



≈77.000 herds



≈ 14.500.000 animals

385 official veterinarians & 480 private vets

Implementation of brucellosis control programme



- Vaccination Zone
- Eradication Zone

MD 3339/117339 (GG 3589B' /04-11-2016) *“Control & eradication programme of ovine and caprine brucellosis”*

Vaccination coverage (Herds)

Vaccination zone



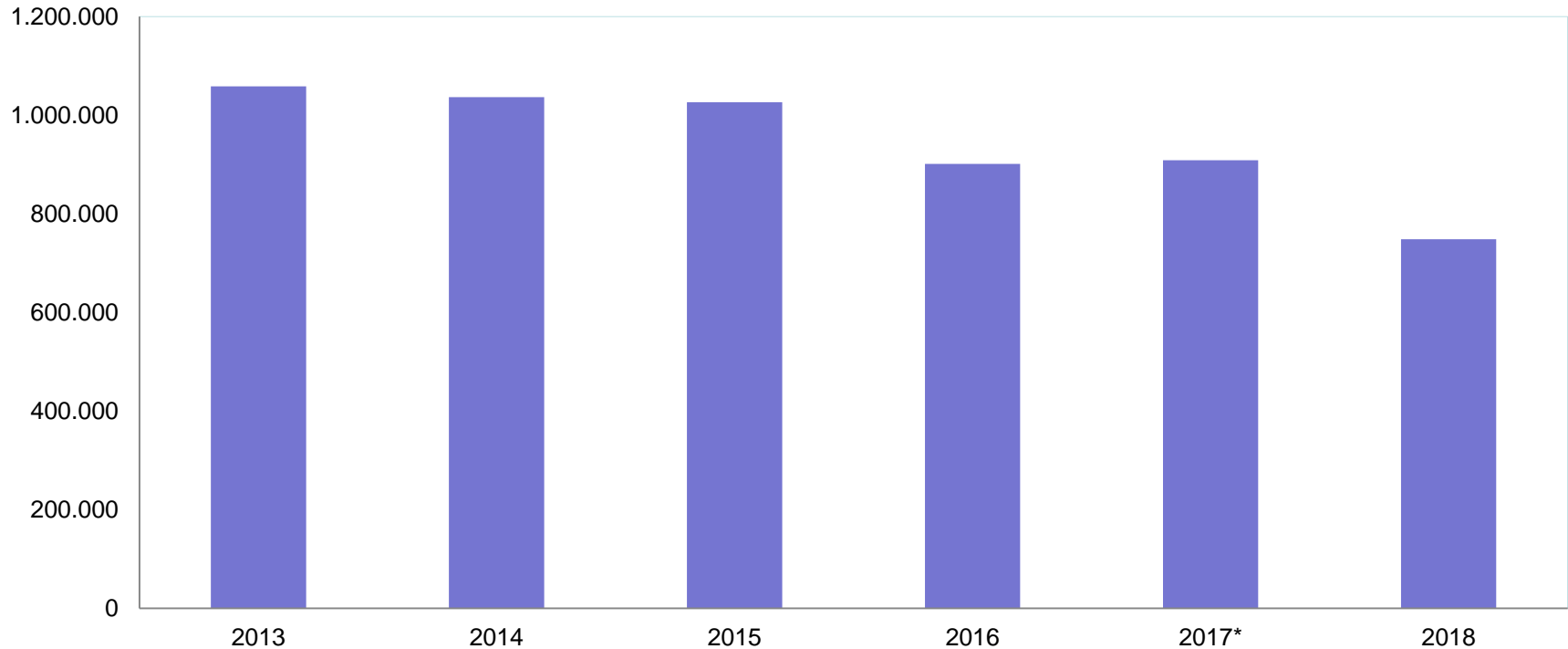
Total herds Vaccinated herds

2018 target → **45.000/57.000 vaccinated herds**

23.500 herds were vaccinated- VC was 42%

Vaccination coverage (animals)

Vaccination zone



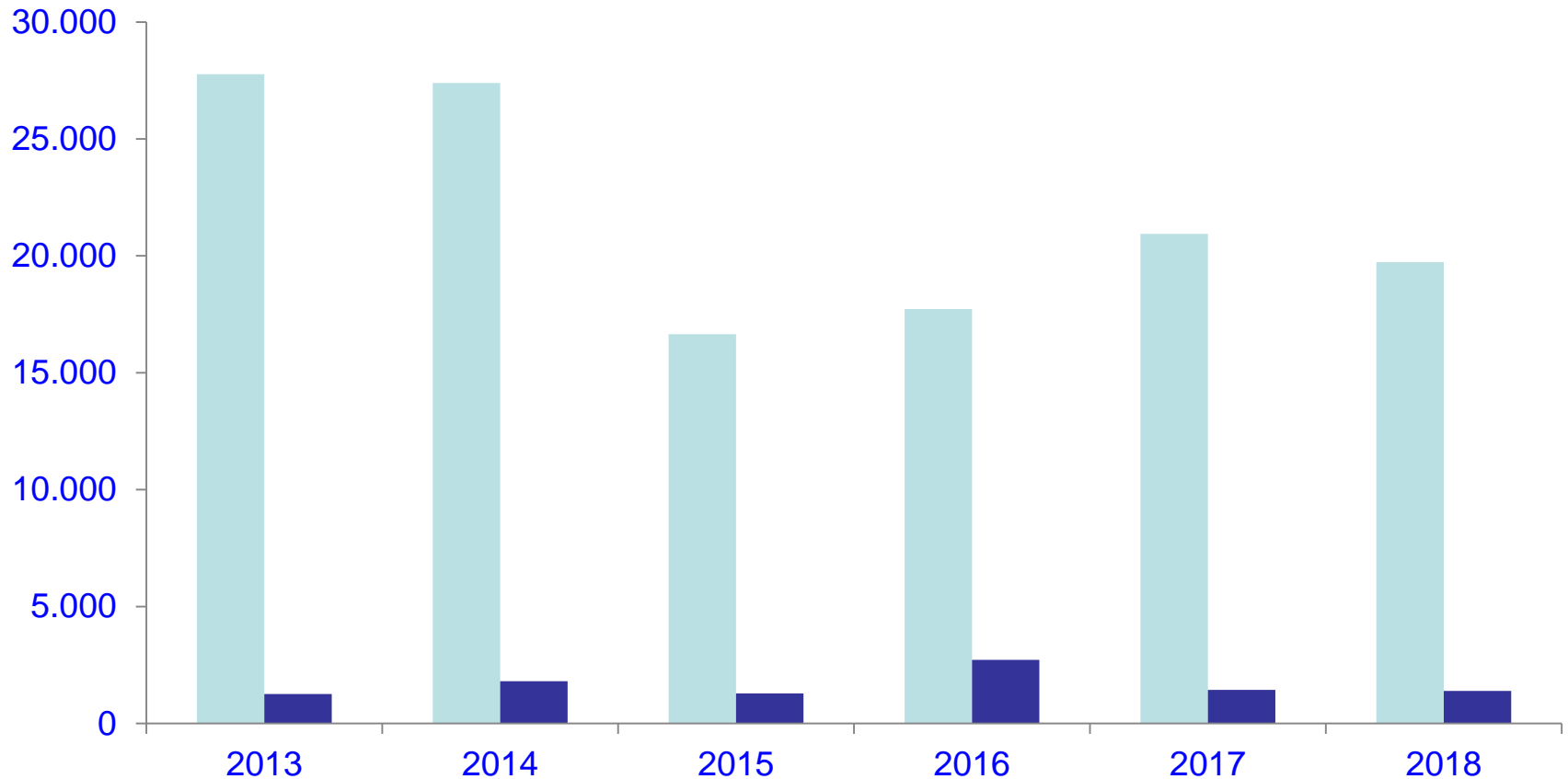
2018 target 2,000,000 vaccinated animals

≈750,000 animals were vaccinated- VC was 38%

1.595 positive animals in 701 herds

Blood testing coverage (herds)

Eradication zone



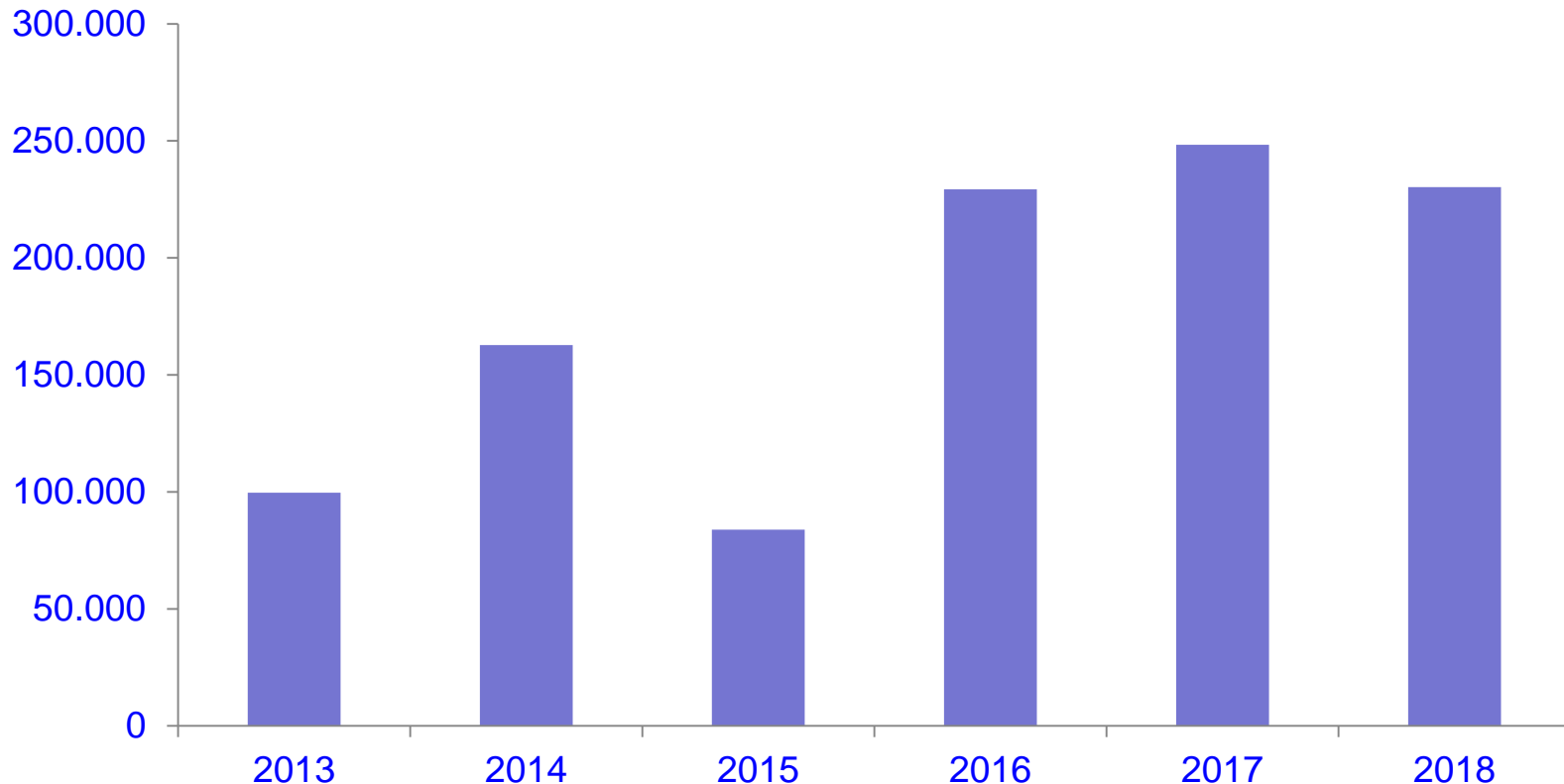
2018 target 15,000 tested herds

≈1,390 herds were tested

PAFF meeting 13 June 2019

Blood testing coverage (animals)

Eradication zone



2018 target 4,000,000 sampled animals
≈230,000 animals were sampled

Prevalence and incidence

Eradication zone

Prevalence: 2.6%

Incidence: 0.6%

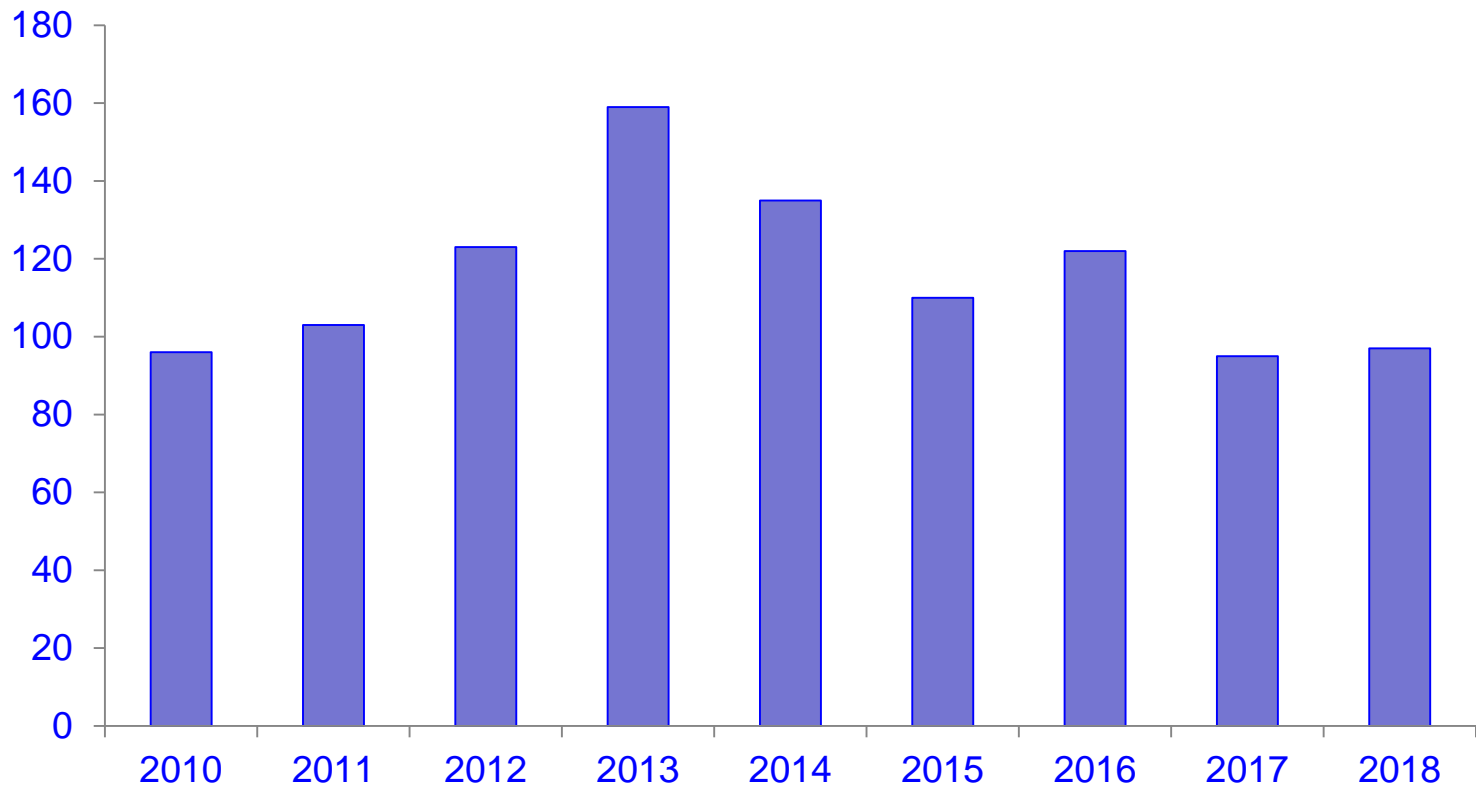
At least one positive animal AB testing

Estimated in herds tested (10%)

Collocation overestimates incidence/prevalence

Under testing overestimates the prevalence

Human brucellosis cases



2018: 97 cases (including work related cases)

Source: Hellenic Center for Disease Control and Prevention

Conclusions

- Vaccination coverage the **same** level although
 - Official veterinary staff has been further decreased
 - Financial resources have been limited
 - Legal framework was problematic for private vets
- **Legal framework**- clarified / Active involvement of private veterinarians
- Dissemination activities- stakeholders
- Frequent **training** of official veterinary surgeons
- All involved **labs** are **accredited** in RBT, NRVL has already started testing **aborted embryos**

Conclusions

- **Supervision** in the **central** level improved
 - Data quality, timeliness, quantity, validation
- **Cooperation** with **regional** level authorities improved
- **Pilot project in progress** together with the School of Veterinary Medicine – *estimation of the true incidence of the disease*
- Cooperation with other institutes (NAGREF)
molecular typing of the isolated strains- vaccine associated brucellosis

Problems

- **Other animal disease emergencies:**
 - Rabies, BT, Sheep Pox, Lumpy Skin Disease, Avian Influenza
- **Administrative issues:**
 - Delays in the tender for the procurement of vaccines
- **Other issues:**
 - capital controls
 - massive retirements of official vets >50% during the last 10 years
 - shortage of resources

To summarize:

The coverage of the programme for both
Vaccination & Eradication Zone

remains at low level

What to do next...

1. **Plan a study** for programme evaluation
2. **Re-estimate** nominators and denominators regarding the numbers of animals and the numbers of the herds
3. Estimate the **true incidence** (wild strain)
4. Set **feasible targets** for vaccinations and blood testing according to validated data
5. **Active involvement of the Private vets** under the new legal frame
6. **Place resources** in line with the evaluation report

Thank you for your attention!

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