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Food & Veterinary Office

**Programme of Inspections 2004
July - December**

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1. INTRODUCTION

This paper sets out the Food and Veterinary Office's (FVO) inspection programme for the second half of 2004. It updates the outline presented in the initial annual programme (DG(SANCO)/660003/2003-rev.1) and introduces a detailed inspection programme for July to December 2004.

There is always a degree of uncertainty attached to any FVO inspection plan. Of necessity, it must remain flexible to enable it to respond to emergencies and unforeseen circumstances (e.g. suspected irregularities, infringement procedures). As in previous years, adjustments to the plan will be required as the year progresses. Inspections in response to emergencies can only be made by cancelling or postponing planned missions.

2. BALANCE OF INSPECTIONS ON FOOD SAFETY, ANIMAL HEALTH, ANIMAL WELFARE AND PLANT HEALTH

A total of 121 inspections are planned for the second half of 2004. Inspections in the food safety area make up over three quarters of the programme. Following the “farm to fork” approach outlined in the White Paper on Food Safety, a large number of food safety inspections also cover animal health and welfare elements.

Table 1: Breakdown of inspections by main areas of responsibility (2nd semester 2004)

Area	Total inspections	%
Food Safety and Animal Health	104	86
Animal Welfare	5	4
Plant Health	12	10
Total	121	100

3. GEOGRAPHICAL BALANCE

A breakdown of inspections between Member States and third countries during the second semester of 2004 is given in Table 2.

Table 2: Geographical breakdown of inspections by region – second semester 2004

Country	Inspections	
	No.	%
EU-25	84	69
EFTA	2	2
Candidate Countries	11	9
Other Third Countries	24	20
Total	121	100

4. INSPECTIONS IN MEMBER STATES

As stated, 69% of the planned inspections will be in Member States. An overview of these inspections categorised by product/sector is given in Table 3 below. A full list of inspections categorised by Member State and subject, is shown in Annex 1. With accession for ten states completed on 1 May, a number of inspection series will be extended to the new Member States while other inspections will follow-up on the series of monitoring inspections completed prior to accession, or monitor transitional arrangements.

Table 3: Overview of Inspections in Member States – second semester 2004

Area	Mission subject	Member States to be inspected	No. of insp./ reports
Food Safety/ Animal Health	Animal By-Products - Food unfit for human consumption (<i>joint inspection</i>)	LU, AT, NL, FR, BE, DE, IE, UK, IT, ES	10
	Establishments (red meat); Animal identification; Animal Health	EE, LT, LV, PL, HU, CZ, SK, SI, MT, CY	10
	Food Hygiene	CY, SI, SK, LT	4
	Residues and Contaminants (live animals and animal products)	IT, SE, BE, NL, LU	5
	Pesticide Residues	IT, ES, EL, EE, CY	5
	Fish Products/Live Bivalve Molluscs	BE, DK, DE, IE, SE, NL, UK, IT	8
	Eradication Programmes incl. Brucella melitensis and tuberculosis	PT, FR, UK	3
	Animal Nutrition (follow-up)	IT, EL, PT	3
	Import Controls for animals and products of animal origin: - Illegal Imports / BIPs - Approval of BIPs (incl illegal imports)	NL, PT, FR SK, SI, LV	6
	Import controls for food of plant origin	PL, HU, CZ, SK, LT ¹	5
	Traceability	ES	1
	National Systems for the Audit of Controls by CAs in MS (<i>provisional</i>)	<i>Member States to be confirmed following desk analysis</i>	6
Animal Health	Artificial Insemination/Embryo and semen collection centres	DE, FR, PL	3
	Rabies	DE, FI	2
	Classical Swine Fever (Wild Boar)	LU	1
Animal Welfare	Animal Welfare at slaughter and during transport	EL	1
	General assessment of Animal Welfare Controls	HU, CZ	2
Plant Health	Application of plant passport requirements	NL, UK, PT ²	3
	Application of community legislation in potato sector	PL, SK	2
	Outbreak of harmful organisms- diatrotica - pinewood nematode	UK ³ , NL, BE PT	4

1 Import control missions (SK & LT) and food hygiene missions (SK & LT) to be combined

2 Pinewood nematode mission to PT will be combined with the plant passport mission

3 Diatrotica mission to UK will be combined with the plant passport mission

5. INSPECTIONS IN EFTA COUNTRIES

FVO staff will also visit Iceland and Norway to inspect Border Inspection Posts there. These missions will be carried out in conjunction with the EFTA Surveillance Authority. Table 4 and Annex 2 give an overview of the inspections in EFTA countries planned.

Table 4: Overview of Inspections in EFTA Countries –July to December 2004

Area		Country	No. of insp./ reports
<i>Food Safety</i>	Border Inspection Posts – joint inspections with EFTA Surveillance Authority (ESA)	Norway, Iceland	2

6. INSPECTIONS IN CANDIDATE COUNTRIES

In anticipation of further accession to the EU in 2007 the FVO works steadily to contribute to the readiness of candidate countries. The second semester of 2004 will see a continuation of the monitoring missions to Romania and Bulgaria as well as inspections to Turkey, for which a decision is expected in December this year on the possible opening of accession negotiations.

Table 5: Inspections in CANDIDATE COUNTRIES

COUNTRY	Establishments (red meat); animal identification; animal health	Establishments (poultry, fish); and/or Live bivalve molluscs	Residues and contaminants (animals and animal prod.)	Animal Welfare	Import Controls/ Border Inspection Posts	TSEs and Feeding-stuffs	Food Hygiene; Pesticides; Plant Protection Products & Contaminants	Plant health
Bulgaria	X			X	X		X	
Romania	X			X	X		X	X
Turkey	X*	X**						

* Milk products. Inspection will be carried out subject to guarantees to be received from Turkey

** Live bivalve molluscs – Animal and public health

A full list of inspections in candidate countries categorised by country and subject can be found in Annex 2.

7. INSPECTIONS IN OTHER THIRD COUNTRIES

Table 6 below gives an overview of the inspections in other third countries. Of the 24 planned inspections, nearly half will focus on fishery products (public health aspects mainly) and live bivalve molluscs (public and/or animal health). As regards fishery products, additional inspections on animal health listing will be undertaken depending on available resources. Around

one third of inspections will cover meat and meat products and the animal health situation, and the rest on food of plant origin and plant health.

A full list of inspections categorised by third country and subject is in Annex 3.

Table 6: Inspections in other third countries

Reason	Proposed inspections	No.
<p><u>First assessment for approval of export of:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Live horses - Live bivalve molluscs (animal health) - Live bivalve molluscs (public health) - Ratite meat (first approval) - Sheep meat (boneless) 	<p>Libya Morocco*, Croatia, Uruguay, Albania*, Croatia, Albania*, Uruguay Uruguay South Africa</p>	7 ¹
<p><u>Reassessment of export approvals:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fishery Products list I countries (rapid alerts a/o no. of approved establishments/vessels) - Bivalve molluscs (rapid alerts/ no. of approved establishments) - Red meat/meat products - Poultry meat - Poultry meat: animal health aspects (HPAI²) - Bovine and sheep meat 	<p>Singapore, Senegal, India, Yemen, Philippines* Philippines* Uruguay Brazil China South Africa</p>	9 ⁴
<p><u>Veterinary Agreements:</u>³</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poultry meat: animal health aspects (HPAI) - Live bivalve molluscs (animal health) - Live bivalve molluscs (public health) - Bovine semen & embryos 	<p>Canada USA, Canada USA USA</p>	4 ¹
<p><u>First or re-assessments in the area of residues and contaminants:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Animals, animal products 	<p>Argentina</p>	1
<p><u>Approval for inclusion in Equivalency List for Organic Farming</u></p>	<p>India</p>	1
<p><u>Plant Health: citrus fruits (EU emergency measures)</u></p>	<p>Argentina, Brazil</p>	2

* Inspections to be carried out subject to certain conditions

1 Inspections on live bivalve molluscs animal health to be combined with public health mission to same country

2 Highly pathogenic avian influenza virus

3 It should be noted that if it becomes necessary to revisit the USA on milk/milk products and meat/meat products in the light of the follow-up to the inspections which took place in 2003 (ref. 9107/2003 and 9121/2003) that these inspections will replace other programmed inspections.

4 Bovine and sheep meat mission to South Africa will be combined with mission for first assessment for approval of boneless sheep meat.

ANNEX I: FVO Inspection Programme July – December 2004: Member States

BELGIQUE/BELGIË (BELGIUM)

- Animal by-products/Food unfit for human consumption
- Residues and contaminants (live animals and animal products)
- Fish products/live bivalve molluscs
- Outbreak of harmful organisms - Diabrotica

ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA (CZECH REPUBLIC)

- Establishments (red meat); animal identification; animal health
- General assessment of animal welfare controls
- Import controls for food of plant origin

DANMARK (DENMARK)

- Fish products/live bivalve molluscs

DEUTSCHLAND (GERMANY)

- Animal by-products/Food unfit for human consumption
- Fish products/live bivalve molluscs
- Artificial insemination/ embryo/ semen collection centres
- Rabies

EESTI (ESTONIA)

- Establishments (red meat); animal identification; animal health
- Pesticide residues

ELLÁDA (GREECE)

- Animal nutrition
- Pesticide residues
- Animal welfare at slaughter and during transport

ESPAÑA (SPAIN)

- Animal by-products/Food unfit for human consumption
- Pesticide residues
- Traceability

FRANCE

- Animal by-products/Food unfit for human consumption
- Eradication programmes incl. Brucella melitensis and tuberculosis

- Import controls for animals/products of animal origin: illegal imports
- Artificial insemination/ embryo/ semen collection centres

IRELAND

- Animal by-products/Food unfit for human consumption
- Fish products/live bivalve molluscs

ITALIA (ITALY)

- Animal by-products/Food unfit for human consumption
- Fish products/live bivalve molluscs
- Residues and contaminants (live animals and animal products)
- Pesticide residues
- Animal nutrition

KYPROS/KIBRIS (CYPRUS)

- Establishments (red meat); animal identification; animal health
- Pesticide residues
- Food hygiene

LATVIJA (LATVIA)

- Establishments (red meat); animal identification; animal health
- Import controls for animals/products of animal origin: approvals of BIPs incl. illegal imports

LIETUVA (LITHUANIA)

- Establishments (red meat); animal identification; animal health
- Food hygiene
- Import controls for food of plant origin

LUXEMBOURG (LUXEMBOURG)

- Animal by-products/Food unfit for human consumption
- Residues and contaminants (live animals and animal products)
- Classical Swine Fever (wild boar)

MAGYARORSZÁG (HUNGARY)

- Establishments (red meat); animal identification; animal health
- Import controls for food of plant origin
- General assessment of animal welfare controls

ANNEX I: FVO Inspection Programme July – December 2004: Member States

MALTA

- Establishments (red meat); animal identification; animal health

NEDERLAND (NETHERLANDS)

- Animal by-products/Food unfit for human consumption
- Residues and contaminants (live animals and animal products)
- Import controls for animals/products of animal origin: illegal imports
- Application of plant passport requirements
- Outbreak of harmful organisms - Diabrotica
- Fish products/live bivalve molluscs

ÖSTERREICH (AUSTRIA)

- Animal by-products/Food unfit for human consumption

POLSKA (POLAND)

- Establishments (red meat); animal identification; animal health
- Import controls for food of plant origin
- Artificial insemination/ embryo/ semen collection centres
- Application of community legislation in potato sector

PORTUGAL

- Eradication programmes incl. Brucella melitensis and tuberculosis
- Animal nutrition
- Import controls for animals/products of animal origin: illegal imports
- Application of plant passport requirements
- Outbreak of harmful organisms – pinewood nematode

SLOVENIJA (SLOVENIA)

- Establishments (red meat); animal identification; animal health
- Import controls for animals/products of animal origin: approvals of BIPs incl. illegal imports
- Food hygiene

SLOVENSKO (SLOVAKIA)

- Establishments (red meat); animal identification; animal health
- Import controls for animals/products of animal origin: approvals of BIPs incl. illegal imports
- Food hygiene
- Application of community legislation in potato sector
- Import controls for food of plant origin

SUOMI (FINLAND)

- Rabies

SVERIGE (SWEDEN)

- Residues and contaminants (live animals and animal products)
- Fish products/live bivalve molluscs

UNITED KINGDOM

- Fish products/live bivalve molluscs
- Animal by-products/Food unfit for human consumption
- Eradication programmes incl. Brucella melitensis and tuberculosis
- Application of plant passport requirements
- Outbreak of harmful organisms – Diabrotica

ANNEX II: FVO Inspection Programme July – December 2004: EFTA Countries and Candidate Countries

EFTA COUNTRIES:

ICELAND

- Border inspection posts (joint inspections with EFTA Surveillance Authority (ESA))

NORWAY

- Border inspection posts (joint inspections with EFTA Surveillance Authority (ESA))

CANDIDATE COUNTRIES:

BULGARIA

- Establishments (red meat); animal identification; animal health
- Animal welfare
- Import controls/border inspection posts
- Food hygiene; pesticides and contaminants

TURKEY

- Live bivalve molluscs – public* and animal health
- Milk products

ROMANIA

- Establishments (red meat); animal identification; animal health
- Animal welfare
- Import controls/border inspection posts
- Food hygiene; pesticides and contaminants
- Plant health and plant protection products

*** subject to certain conditions**

**ANNEX III: FVO Inspection Programme July – December 2004:
Third Countries**

VETERINARY AGREEMENT COUNTRIES:

CANADA

- Live bivalve molluscs (animal health)
- Poultry meat (avian influenza)

USA

- Live bivalve molluscs (public health and animal health)
- Bovine semen & embryos

THIRD COUNTRIES

ALBANIA

- Live bivalve molluscs (public health and animal health)*

- Fishery products (public health)*

ARGENTINA

- Residues: animals, animal products
- Plant health: citrus fruits

SENEGAL

- Fishery Products

BRAZIL

- Poultry meat
- Plant health: citrus fruits

SINGAPORE

- Fishery Products (including AH aspects)

CROATIA

- Live bivalve molluscs (public health and animal health)

SOUTH AFRICA**

- Boneless sheep meat (first approval)
- Bovine and sheep meat (reassessment)

CHINA

- Poultry meat (avian influenza)*

URUGUAY

- Ratite meat
- Live bivalve molluscs (public health and animal health)
- Red meat/meat products

INDIA

- Fishery products
- Organic Farming

YEMEN

- Fish/fishery Products

LIBYA

- Live horses

MOROCCO

- Live bivalve molluscs (animal health)*

* **subject to certain conditions**

PHILIPPINES

- Bivalve molluscs (public health)*

** **two missions to be combined**