



**Occurrence of *Brucella suis* in a bovine
in a Brucellosis free area
District of Castelo Branco**

PAFF Committee meeting 16-17 January 2023

Regular surveillance survey in Holding A (9/6/2022)

Total number of animals tested: 250 (beef cows)

Positive animals: **1** (RBT-Positive and CFT 267 IU/mL) (CF is positive if ≥ 20 IU/mL)

→ Slaughter of animal (1) at 05/07/2022 and sampling for NRL

Bacteriology: negative

Suspended
Status B4S

Reinspection of Holding A (13/8/2022)

Total number of animals tested: **249**

Positive animals: **1** (RBT-Positive and CFT 1707 IU/mL)

→ Slaughter of animal (2) at 26/08/2022 and sampling for NRL

Bacteriology: **positive - *Brucella suis biovar 2***

Serology: **RBT-Pos and FCT-1707**

Infected
Status B2.1

Epidemiological enquiry

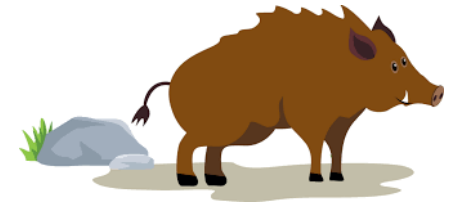
→ **Attribution of infected status to 2 holdings** (B and C - same county) because:

- They received animals from Holding A
- Some bovines have shared the same pastures
- They were sampled by the same vet team, at the same date (9/6/2022).

→ **Tracing of bovines that exit from Holding A** - period since 30/05/2021 (last 12 months)
228 animals

→ **Investigation on the origin of the infection**

- No history of *Brucella* infection on the farm
- No entry of animals or contacts with risk holdings
- No domestic pigs on the farm
- **Extensive production system / high density of deer and wild boar**



Follow-up of animals that exit from Holding A

→ Testing of all 228 animals that exit, at the holdings of destination → all results were **negative**

At the county level (Idanha-a-Nova)

Bovine holdings selected for surveillance - 183 holdings → all **negative**

Other measures in Holding A

- Reinforce biosecurity / extensive production system with use of natural pastures
- Foetuses, still-born animals and placentae shall be collected and correctly disposed of
- Sampling of wild boars and cervids for *Brucella* sp testing under the big game surveillance programme (no results available yet / previous knowledge of *B. suis* in wild boar)

Sanitary decision (in accordance with Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689, Annex IV, part 1, chapter 1, section 4, point 4)

*"4. By way of derogation from point 3, where the **infection with B. suis biovar 2 was confirmed in a single bovine, ovine or caprine animal kept in the establishment, the status may be regained after negative testing was obtained on samples taken in accordance with the requirements set out in point 1(c)(i) of Section 1.***

- Serological control to all animals > 6 months of Holding A at 26/11/2022 (90 days after the slaughter of the positive animal) → all **negative**
- Serological controls to connected Holdings B and C to recover the status → all **negative** / 387 bovine tested → 386 negative, 1 not suitable to analysis for CF
- Surveillance programme applied in Castelo Branco District in 2022 – 241 holdings/15.477 animals were tested
- **Present status of holdings A, B and C – B4 (free without vaccination)**



Thank you

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