



# The EU "Animal Health Law" and bee health

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# EU Animal Health Law (AHL)

- *Regulation (EU) 2016/429 on transmissible animal diseases ("Animal Health Law")\**
- *Framework Regulation: to be complemented by more detailed rules*

\*Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on transmissible animal diseases and amending and repealing certain acts in the area of animal health ('Animal Health Law') ([Text with EEA relevance](#))

# AHL adoption process

- *Regulation (EU) 2016/429 adopted by the European Parliament and the Council: 9 March 2016*
- *Official Journal publication: 31 March 2016*
- *Regulation in force: 21 April 2016*
- *It will apply as of: 21 April 2021*
- *Delegated and implementing acts*
  - **COM to adopt "key" DA and IA 24 months before the date of application of the Regulation**
    - "Key" acts determined by the EP and the Council (AHL, Article 274)
  - **Other rules will be developed later (2019 onwards)**
- *Grouping of empowerments for DA and IA by "themes"*



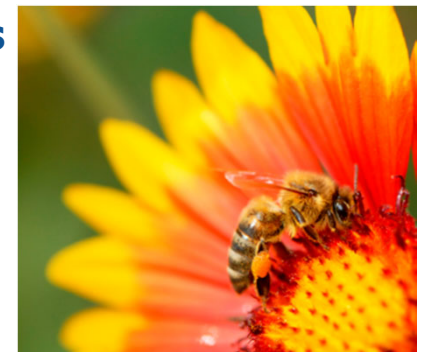


# AHL to replace existing animal health legal framework

- *Directives on trade (some incl. import):*
  - **Dir 64/432/EEC (bovines and pigs), Dir 91/68/EEC (sheep and goats), 92/65/EEC (other animals and some GP), Dir. 2009/156/EC (horses), Dir. 2009/158/EC (poultry), Dir. 90/429 (porcine semen), 2002/99 (PAO), etc.**
- *Import into the EU: e.g. Dir 2004/68/EC (ungulates)*
- *Regulations and directives for I&R of animals*
  - **e.g. Reg (EU) No. 1760/2000 (bovines), 21/2004 (sheep and goats), Dir 2008/71/EC (pigs);**
- *Disease control directives*
  - **Dir 2003/85/EC (FMD), 2001/98/EC (CSF), 2005/94/EC (AI), etc...**
- *But not: veterinary checks directives (Dirs 90/425/EEC, 89/662/EEC, 91/496/EEC and 97/78/EC)*

# What is AHL about?

- Principles and rules for **transmissible animal diseases** in:
  - Kept and wild animals and their products (incl. honey, etc.)
  - Terrestrial (incl. bees and bumble bees), aquatic and other animals (e.g. *amphibians, reptiles*)
- **Responsibilities** of operators e.g. animal keepers (incl. bee keepers), veterinarians, competent authorities, etc.
- Animal health rules for:
  - **Disease prevention**
  - **Disease control and eradication**
  - **Intra-EU movements and entry into the EU of animals animal products**
  - **Emergency measures**
- Detailed provisions in delegated and implementing acts





# Important (re)new(ed) elements

- **Rules and obligations now apply generally**, not only related / limited to trade
- **Responsibilities** of keepers, operators, veterinarians, laboratories, competent authorities, etc.
- More **prevention** (biosecurity, surveillance, improved knowledge on animal health, use of vaccines, emerging diseases, AMR)
- More **risk based approach** incl. prioritisation & categorisation of diseases for EU intervention (i.e. for disease specific rules)
- **Easy and safe** trade (e.g. compartmentalisation, flexibility)



# General obligations and disease specific rules

- **General rules and obligations**, e.g. responsibilities for animals, knowledge, disease awareness, preventive measures (biosecurity, surveillance), registration of establishments, I&R rules apply always
- A number of **disease specific rules** (e.g. disease control measures, trade measures or restrictions, specific disease-related surveillance, apply only where a disease is listed for certain listed animal species)

# General obligations - responsibilities

- *Operators (incl. bee keepers):*
  - **health of their animals, biosecurity, etc.**
  - **knowledge on animal health**
    - Animal diseases, biosecurity, interaction with animal welfare, good husbandry practices and antimicrobial resistance
  - **more preventive behaviour, better biosecurity**
    - Contribute to better overall husbandry
    - Result with healthier animals and possible lower use of veterinary medicines
- *Veterinarians to play a more active role in:*
  - **raising animal health awareness**
  - **awareness on interaction between animal health, animal welfare and human health and on resistance to treatments**
- *Competent Authorities to ensure resources, personnel, laboratories, etc.*





# Bee keepers: registration, records, traceability



- *Have to be registered*
  - **Approval not envisaged**
  - **Risk based possibility to exempt from registration obligation (if COM allows in an IA and MS apply that possibility)**
- *Keep records in the establishment*
  - **Risk based possibility to exempt from some or all record keeping obligation (if COM allows in an IA and MS apply that possibility)**
- *Animal identification & registration*
  - **No obligation for bees and bumble bees**
  - **Possibility exist to establish rules if necessary**



# Disease specific rules: risk based approach

- *EU limits its intervention and prioritise resources:*
  - **asses diseases as regards the added value for the intervention at EU level**
  - **prioritise diseases for the EU intervention**
- *Disease listing and prioritisation/categorisation:*
  - **listing of diseases requiring EU intervention (AHL: Article 5(1) and Annex II)**
  - **which measures to be applied for which diseases**
- *Listed diseases for:*
  - **disease preparedness, awareness and disease control measures**
  - **disease eradication & disease freedom**
  - **animal health requirements for movements and trade**
  - **disease notification & reporting, surveillance**



# Bee diseases

- *Under assessment:*
  - **SHB, Tropilaelaps sp., varroasis and American foulbrood**
- *Listing or non-listing of those will have impact on future disease specific rules with regard to:*
  - **Disease control**
    - immediate eradication or
  - **Eradication – either on "compulsory" or "voluntary" basis**
  - **Recognition of disease freedom**
  - **Intra-EU movements**
  - **Entry into EU**
  - **Disease specific surveillance incl. disease notification**



## Key messages

- *AHL a legal framework for transmissible animal diseases: applies for bees and bumble bees*
- *General disease prevention rules and obligation apply overall*
  - ➔ *some obligations for bee keepers*
- *Many measures apply only for listed diseases*
- *More detailed rules will come later – secondary acts (delegated and implementing acts)*
- *Now time to think what exactly we need in the future*

**More about the AHL and the process:**  
**[http://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/health/regulation/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/health/regulation/index_en.htm)**



***Thank you***