

About this dossier

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Eradication: Final report for Bovine Brucellosis 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.

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Country code: PT

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.

The bovine brucellosis eradication programme (BBEP) carried out in 2019 for the non-officially free region of Portugal (4 regions of the mainland area and 3 islands of the Autonomous Region of Açores) resulted in a positive evolution on herd apparent prevalence and herd incidence.

MAINLAND

Compared to 2018, in 2019 herd apparent prevalence decreased from 0.17% to 0.12% and herd incidence decreased (from 0.13 % to 0.10%). The percentage of positive animals had a slight increase (from 0.036% to 0.06%). All regions are below 0.4% in herd prevalence.

The BBEP was implemented as foreseen, reaching a coverage at herd level of 96,34%, varying from 90,38% in the LVT region to 98,5% in the Centro region.

There were only 31 herds with at least one positive animal and 24 were new positive (77,4%). Infection was confirmed by bacteriology in 10 herds out of 28 herds investigated (35,7%).

Positive animals were subjected to sanitary slaughter and those coming from newly infected herds were subjected to organ collection for bacteriology. The percentage of slaughtered animals sampled with isolation of *B. abortus* was 39.17% (38/97). From these total, 14 isolates are from Norte region and 24 from Alentejo region.

Regarding vaccination, please see graph in the annex, concerning the evolution over time of vaccinated

herds and animals.

The implementation of BBEP is very important regarding the advantages of the eradication not only due to the positive impact of the safety of products of animal origin but also on the market position of the national herds. The programme is advancing in a pre-eradication phase.

By the end of 2019, there were 2 counties with infected herds in the Norte region and 3 counties in the Alentejo region.

Autonomous Region of Açores (3 ISLANDS)

Herd apparent prevalence and herd incidence increased from 0,15% in 2018 to 0,251% in 2019. The percentage of positive animals also increased from 0.003% to 0,007%. There were no seropositive animals at Terceira island and there were 9 seropositive animals at S. Miguel island. None of these animals were confirmed as infected.

The BBEP was implemented as foreseen, reaching a coverage of 79,16%.

There were 8 herds investigated by bacteriology and no *B. abortus* was confirmed. Vaccination with RB51 was carried out in S. Miguel island at 870 herds and 13.990 animals were vaccinated (13.302 young cattle and 688 adults).

Autonomous Region of Madeira

It was not possible to implement in 2019 all the actions foreseen in the programme for the autonomous region of Madeira, so that a representative view of the real situation in that autonomous region could be shown.

For that reason we decided not to consider the developed actions in this report, namely for reimbursement purposes.

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

MAINLAND

The herd apparent prevalence of BBEP implemented in 2019 decreased from 0.17% to 0.12% and there was also a reduction of the herd incidence (0.13% to 0.10%). The percentage of positive animals had a slight increase (from 0.036% to 0.06%).

The variation of herd apparent prevalence by region, from 2018 to 2019, was the following:

- Norte - decrease from 0.18% to 0.10%
- Centro - remained 0,00%
- LVT - increase from 0.07% to 0,08%
- Alentejo - decrease from 0,38% to 0.35%

The percentage of free (B3) and officially free (B4) herds is 99,7%. The main reasons for attributing a suspended status (B3S/B4S) are: non negative serology (12,2%); delays in regular sampling (59%); irregularities on animal movement (18,7%). Brucellosis suspicion accounts for only 10,1% of the suspensions of free and non-free status.

At 31st December 2019, 8 herds had an infected status. These herds were located only in 2 regions: 2 at Norte and 6 at Alentejo.

Autonomous Region of Açores (3 ISLANDS)

The herd apparent prevalence and the herd incidence of BBEP implemented in 2019 resulted in an increase from 0,15% to 0.251%. The percentage of positive animals increased from 0,003% to 0.007% with no *B. abortus* isolation.

The variation of herd apparent prevalence by Island from 2018 to 2019 was the following:

- S. Miguel - increase from 0,26% to 0.57%.
- Terceira - reduction from 0,09% to 0,0%
- S. Jorge - remained 0.0%

The percentage of free (B3) and officially free (B4) herds are 99.9% as happened in 2018. The main reasons for attributing a suspended status are non-negative results to serology (66,7%) and delays in regular sampling (33,3%), at S. Miguel.

At 31st December 2019 (RAA) no herds had an infected status.

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.

MAINLAND

By the end of 2019, 1 county, in the Alentejo region, had more than 3 infected herds.

The BBEP foresees the investigation of positive and infected herds in order to access the origin of infection. For this evaluation a specific data collection questionnaire is used (epidemiological enquiry). These enquiries are implemented with the objective to establish possible links to other farms (trace-back and trace-forward) and characterize possible risk factors and sources of infection. There were 20 epidemiological inquiries carried out of newly infected herds.

The main probable reasons were introduction of animals and contacts with animals of other herd. In 2019 there were no cases of infection in the Centro Region. At this Region, an "epidemiological inquiry was carried out on a farm with a false seropositive animal submitted to Brucelin skin test, with negative results.

There were no notified abortions regarding bovine.

According to the Directorate-General of Health (DGS), 30 human cases of brucellosis (provisional data) were notified in 2019, all laboratory confirmed and were distributed by the following districts:

1 case - Aveiro, Braga, Guarda, Leiria;

2 cases - Vila Real

3 cases - Castelo Branco, Porto, Santarém

4 cases - Setúbal

11 cases - Lisboa

Compulsory pre-movement testing has been applied to avoid the entrance of infected bovine in free and officially-free herds, with the following data registered at 2019 for the mainland: 19.393 holdings/84.791 animals.

Autonomous Region of Açores (3 ISLANDS)

There were no cases of Brucellosis infection but 24 epidemiological inquiries were carried out in S. Miguel, all due to false positive reactors.

There were 19 notified abortions tested for Brucellosis (6 from S. Miguel and 13 from Terceira), all with negative results.

One human case of brucellosis (provisional data) was notified at S. Miguel (according to the Directorate-General of Health (DGS)).

2. TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION ON RUMINANT DISEASES 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

Region	Animal species	Total number of herds	Total number of herds under the programme	Number of herds to be checked under the programme this year	Number of herds checked	Number of positive herds	Number of new positive herds	Number of herds depopulated
DSAVRN	Cattle	16,337	15,821	14,647	14,249	14	11	3
		21.43 %		97.28 %		0.1 %		0.08 %
DSAVRC	Cattle	6,529	6,271	5,504	5,150	0	0	0
		%		93.57 %		0 %		0 %
DSAVRLVT	Cattle	1,839	1,719	1,393	1,259	1	1	0
		0 %		90.38 %		0.08 %		0.08 %
DSAVRALT	Cattle	4,700	4,661	4,612	4,543	16	12	0
		0 %		98.5 %		0.35 %		0.26 %
RAA	Cattle	4,304	3,518	3,518	2,785	7	7	0
		0 %		79.16 %		0.25 %		0.25 %
Total		33,709	31,990	29,674	27,986	38	31	3
		7.89 %		94.31 %		0.14 %		0.11 %

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 this year	Number of animals tested	Number of animals tested individually	Number of positive animals	Number of animals with positive result slaughtered or culled	Number of animals slaughtered
DSAVRN	Cattle	301,950	299,221	174,315	171,125	135,274	100	92	269
					98.17 %				0.06 %

DSAVRC	Cattle	153,201	150,730	92,514	90,150	70,349	0	0	0
		97.44 %				0 %			
DSAVRLVT	Cattle	185,709	179,577	63,771	66,698	55,283	1	2	2
		104.59 %				0 %			
DSAVRALT	Cattle	693,234	684,785	440,775	435,378	426,129	291	283	328
		98.78 %				0.07 %			
RAA	Cattle	211,294	138,707	138,707	127,390	124,910	9	10	11
		91.84 %				0.01 %			
Total		1,545,388	1,453,020	910,082	890,741	811,945	401	387	610
		97.87 %				0.05 %			

Table C - DATA ON VACCINATION PROGRAMMES

Region	Animal species	Total number of herds	Total number of animals	Number of herds in vaccination programme this year	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)
DSAVRN	Cattle	16,337	301,950	700	698	1,536	1,537	319	1,217	0
DSAVRALT	Cattle	4,700	693,234	6	4	707	707	574	133	0
RAA	Cattle	4,304	211,294	1,390	870	13,990	14,009	688	13,302	0
Total		25,341	1,206,478	2,096	1,572	16,233	16,253	1,581	14,652	0

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

	Region	Animal species	Total number of herds and animals under the programme	Unknown	Not free or not officially free from disease		Free of officially free-disease status suspended/withdrawn	Free from disease	Officially free from disease
					Last check positive	Last check negative			
herds	DSAVRN	Cattle	15,821	0	1	1	61	1,822	13,936
animals	"	"	299,221	0	7	2	786	22,796	275,630
herds	DSAVRC	Cattle	6,271	0	0	0	29	0	6,242
animals	"	"	150,730	0	0	0	886	0	149,844
herds	DSAVRLVT	Cattle	1,719	0	0	0	36	0	1,683
animals	"	"	179,577	0	0	0	445	0	179,132
herds	DSAVRALT	Cattle	4,661	0	1	6	14	12	4,628
animals	"	"	684,785	0	518	1,217	1,428	5,148	676,474
herds	RAA	Cattle	3,518	0	0	0	3	2,156	1,359
animals	"	"	138,707	0	0	0	788	127,121	10,798
Total - herds			31,990	0	2	7	143	3,990	27,848
Total - animals			1,453,020	0	525	1,219	4,333	155,065	1,291,878

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

Region	Animal species	Status	Reason	Number of herds
DSAVRN	Cattle	Suspended	Non-negative result in diagnostic test	12
DSAVRN	Cattle	Suspended	Does not fulfil the routine testing frequency	29
DSAVRN	Cattle	Suspended	Entering animals in the herd with insufficient status	6
DSAVRN	Cattle	Suspended	The disease is suspected	14
DSAVRC	Cattle	Suspended	Non-negative result in diagnostic test	0
DSAVRC	Cattle	Suspended	Does not fulfil the routine testing frequency	19
DSAVRC	Cattle	Suspended	Entering animals in the herd with insufficient status	9
DSAVRC	Cattle	Suspended	The disease is suspected	0
DSAVRLVT	Cattle	Suspended	Non-negative result in diagnostic test	1
DSAVRLVT	Cattle	Suspended	Does not fulfil the routine testing frequency	24

DSAVRLVT	Cattle	Suspended	Entering animals in the herd with insufficient status	11
DSAVRLVT	Cattle	Suspended	The disease is suspected	0
DSAVRALT	Cattle	Suspended	Non-negative result in diagnostic test	4
DSAVRALT	Cattle	Suspended	Does not fulfil the routine testing frequency	10
DSAVRALT	Cattle	Suspended	Entering animals in the herd with insufficient status	0
DSAVRALT	Cattle	Suspended	The disease is suspected	0
RAA	Cattle	Suspended	Non-negative result in diagnostic test	2
RAA	Cattle	Suspended	Does not fulfil the routine testing frequency	1
RAA	Cattle	Suspended	Entering animals in the herd with insufficient status	0
RAA	Cattle	Suspended	The disease is suspected	0
Total				142

Table F - STRATIFIED DATA ON SURVEILLANCE AND LABORATORY TESTS

Region	Animal species	Test type	Number of samples	Number of tests	Number of positive tests
DSAVRN	Cattle	Rose Bengal test	145,302	145,302	203
DSAVRN	Cattle	Complement fixation test	21,531	21,531	83
DSAVRN	Cattle	ELISA test	1,499	1,499	8
DSAVRN	Cattle	Bacteriological test	23	23	14
DSAVRC	Cattle	Rose Bengal test	74,314	74,314	46
DSAVRC	Cattle	Complement fixation test	10,925	10,925	1
DSAVRC	Cattle	ELISA test	831	831	1
DSAVRC	Cattle	Bacteriological test	0	0	0
DSAVRLVT	Cattle	Rose Bengal test	61,344	61,344	15
DSAVRLVT	Cattle	Complement fixation test	17,008	17,008	1
DSAVRLVT	Cattle	ELISA test	149	149	0
DSAVRLVT	Cattle	Bacteriological test	2	2	0
DSAVRALT	Cattle	Rose Bengal test	460,521	460,521	427
DSAVRALT	Cattle	Complement fixation test	65,149	65,149	275
DSAVRALT	Cattle	ELISA test	177	177	1
DSAVRALT	Cattle	Bacteriological test	72	72	24
RAA	Cattle	Rose Bengal test	129,562	129,562	95
RAA	Cattle	Complement fixation test	9,487	9,487	39
RAA	Cattle	ELISA test	8,536	8,536	129
RAA	Cattle	Bacteriological test	99	99	0
Total			1,006,531	1,006,531	1,362
		Methods of laboratory analysis		Total number of tests	
		Total - Bacteriological test		196	
		Total - Complement fixation test		124,100	
		Total - ELISA test		11,192	
		Total - Rose Bengal test		871,043	

COMMENT / ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION

This claim :

- did not considered tests for pre-movement under Directive 64/432;
- deducted salvage value at Compensation item