



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH & CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Unit 04 - Veterinary Control Programmes

SANCO/10252/2009

*Programmes for the eradication, control and monitoring of certain
animal diseases and zoonoses*

Surveillance and Eradication programme of Bluetongue

Approved* for 2010 by Commission Decision 2009/883/EC

Slovakia

* in accordance with Council Decision 2009/470/EC

Standard requirements for the submission of national programmes of eradication and monitoring of BT ⁽¹⁾

I. Identification of the programme

Member State: Slovak Republic

Disease(s): Bluetongue serotype virus 8

Request of Community co-finance for ⁽²⁾: 2010

Reference of this document: BT SR /2010

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⁽¹⁾ Bluetongue serotype virus 8 (BT)

⁽²⁾ Indicate the year(s) for with co-financing is requested

2. Historical data on the epidemiological evolution of the disease(s):

In Slovakia, there was not confirmed any BT outbreak in the holding in the year 2008 and moreover was not confirmed circulation of BT – virus on the area of the Slovak Republic.

The State Veterinary and Food Administration of the Slovak Republic informed Standing Committees European Commission on 18.9.2008 with regard to bluetongue case in Hungary reported by Hungarian veterinary authority and by the European Commission on 10 September 2008, the SVFA of the SR demarcated the protection zone and surveillance zone on 12 September 2008 in the territory of the Slovak Republic in accordance with the Council Directive 2000/75/EC. The restriction zone, which consists of the protection and surveillance zone includes the following districts by regions in the territory of the Slovak Republic:

- Region Nitra: District Levice
- Region Banská Bystrica: Districts: Krupina, Zvolen, Detva, Banská Bystrica, Veľký Krtíš, Poltár, Lučenec, Brezno, Rimavská Sobota, Revúca
- Region Žilina: District: Liptovský Mikuláš
- Region Prešov: Districts: Humenné, Vranov nad Topľou, Prešov, Sabinov, Bardejov, Kežmarok, Poprad, Levoča, Stropkov, Svidník
- Region Košice: Districts: Košice, Košice-okolie, Michalovce, Sobrance, Rožňava, Spišská Nová Ves, Gelnica, Trebišov.

Within the restriction zone the SVFA of the SR ordered measures in accordance with Article 9 and 10 of the Council Directive No 2000/75/EC and movements of the animals are allowed only in accordance with Commission Regulation No 1266/2007. Information had been presented also during SCoFCAI meeting on 16. September 2008.

From 2.8.2008 to 9.8.2008 132 mated and highly pregnant heifers were imported from France. All animals were following import placed into isolation premises.

On 1.9.2008 the blood was taken in the quarantine from 13 highly pregnant heifers for laboratory examination prior their movement to the farm. In 5 animals bluetongue was confirmed by ELISA method and also PCR method. Subsequently the repeated examinations by ELISA method and also PCR method were performed in positive animals and bluetongue was repeatedly confirmed in these animals. Immediately, the veterinary measures were issued, including the repeated treatment of animals in quarantine with repellent preparations and larage premises with insecticide preparations. On 10.9.2008 the blood was taken from all animals imported from France. In addition to previous 5 animals further 19 animals were serologically positive and virologically positive further 5 animals. Further it was confirmed that it concerns bluetongue virus serotype 8.

On 19.9.2008 the National Disease Control Centre at the State Veterinary and Food Administration of the Slovak Republic ordered the killing of 5 infected animals which were positive for virus (PCR) and at the same time serologically negative (ELISA), and ordered emergency vaccination of all susceptible animals in the quarantine and on the farm. The vaccination was performed by approved inactivated vaccine on 26.9. and 29.9. 2008. totally 1052 animals were vaccinated.

On 17. 9. 2008 the blood was taken for serological examination of bluetongue for detection of 2% prevalence with a 95% confidence (137 samples) from animals originally kept on the farm to which the animals from the quarantine should have been moved. All examined samples were serologically negative for bluetongue. Taking into account this finding, we are of the opinion that the disease agent was imported with animals from France.

From 8.11.2008 to 11.11.2008 the sampling was performed, ordered by the National Disease Control Centre in pursuance of the Direction of the SVFA of the SR No 2427/08-225 in the zone of a 20 km radius of BT occurrence for detection of **10% prevalence with 95% confidence**. Totally 19 cattle farms, 4 sheep farms and 2 goat farms were examined. Numbers of examined animals: 144 cattle, 50 sheep, 4 goats. Since the beginning of the quarantine till 31.12.2008 totally 75 calves were born, out of these 8 calves were stillborn. One stillborn calf was PCR positive. Until 7.1.2009 totally 74 calves were examined, out of these 11 animals were PCR positive. 7 positive calves originated from the positive mother /according to laboratory examination from 10.9.2008/. 4 positive calves were born to negative heifers / according to laboratory examination from 10.9.2008/. All PCR positive calves were destroyed without any delay or died until obtaining the results. Calved heifers prior to movement from the quarantine stable to production facilities of the farm are serologically examined for BTV antibody level. Only heifers with a sufficient BTV antibody level co-called positive were moved to production facilities of the farm. Serologically negative heifers were re-vaccinated by the vaccine BfV 8 and after further serological examination after 3 weeks, with a sufficient antibody level they were moved from the quarantine stable to the production stable.

The State Veterinary and Food Administration of the Slovak Republic informed the European Commission on 12.1.2009 with regard to bluetongue case in Hungary since 12 September 2008 and with regard to 9-th outbreak of bluetongue in the Czech Republic since 13 November 2008, the SVFA of the SR **has demarcated the new restriction zones** in 100 km around the outbreaks on 12 January 2009 **in the territory of the Slovak Republic** in accordance with Council Directive 2000/75/EC, based on the information presented on SCofCAH meeting on 8 January 2009 by deputy of CVO of the SR.

The restriction zones include the following districts by regions in the territory of the Slovak Republic:

- **With regard to outbreak in Hungary:**
 - o DVFA Lučenec (comprising districts Lučenec and Poltár),
 - o DVFA Rimavská Sobota (comprising districts Rimavská Sobota and Revúca),

- o DVFA Rožňava (comprising only district Rožňava),
- o DVFA Spišská Nová Ves (comprising only district Gelnica),
- o DVFA Košice – surrounding (comprising only district Košice - surrounding),
- o DVFA Košice – city (comprising only district Košice - city),
- o DVFA Trebišov (comprising only district Trebišov).
- **With regard to outbreak in the Czech Republic:**
 - o DVFA Sence (comprising only district Malacky),
 - o DVFA Senica (comprising districts Skalica and Senica),
 - o DVFA Nové Mesto nad Váhom (comprising only district Myjava).

Within the restriction zones the SVFA of SR ordered measures in accordance with Article 9 and 10 of the Council Directive No 2000/75/EC and the movements of the animals are allowed only in accordance with Commission Regulation No. 1266/2007.

Fig. No.1 - Restriction zones in 100 km around the outbreaks of BT in Hungary and the Czech Republic

Fig. No. 2 – Districts included into restriction zones in the Slovak Republic

Fig. No.1 – Restriction zones in 100 km around the outbreaks of BT in Hungary and the Czech Republic



Fig. No.2 Districts included into restriction zones in the Slovak Republic

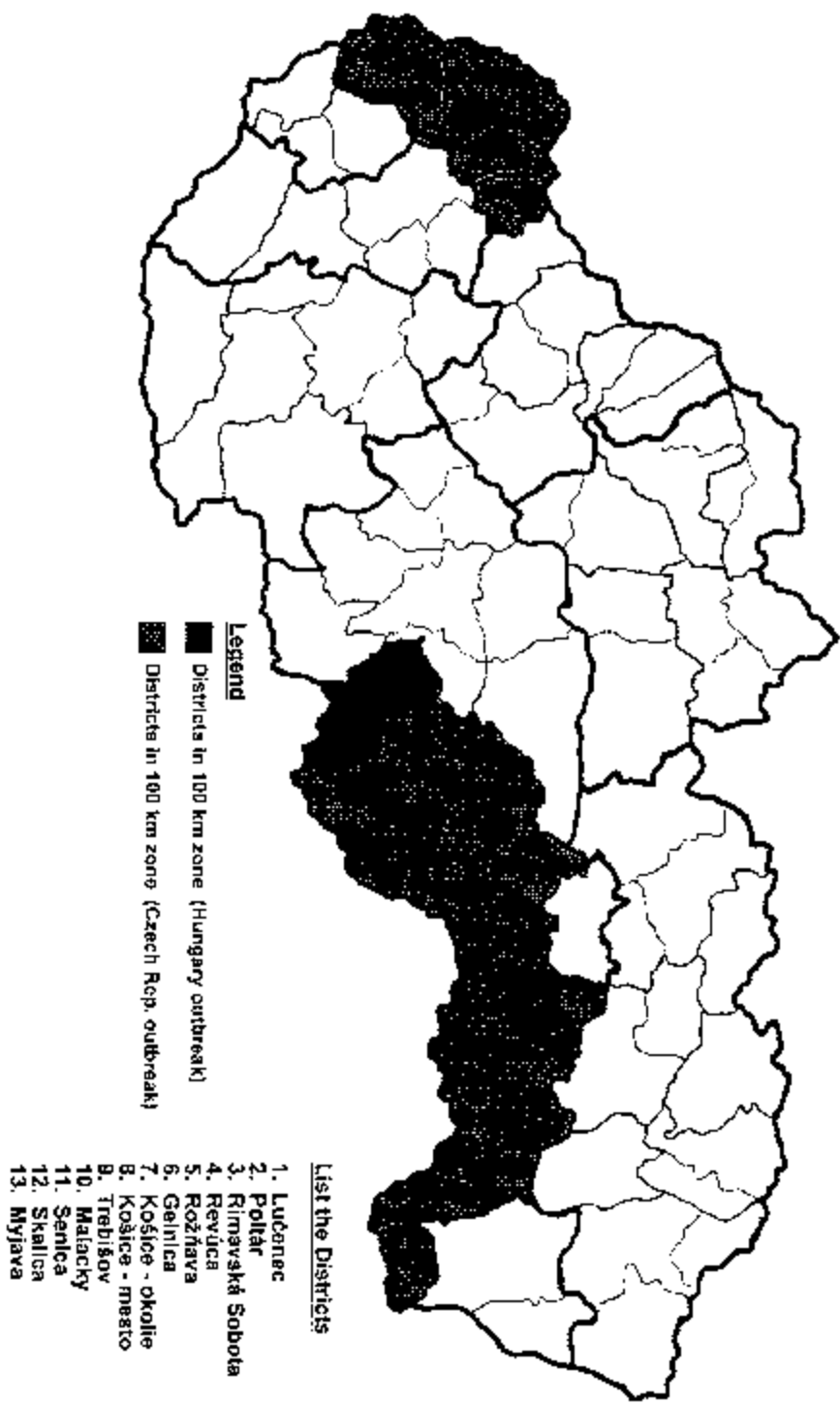
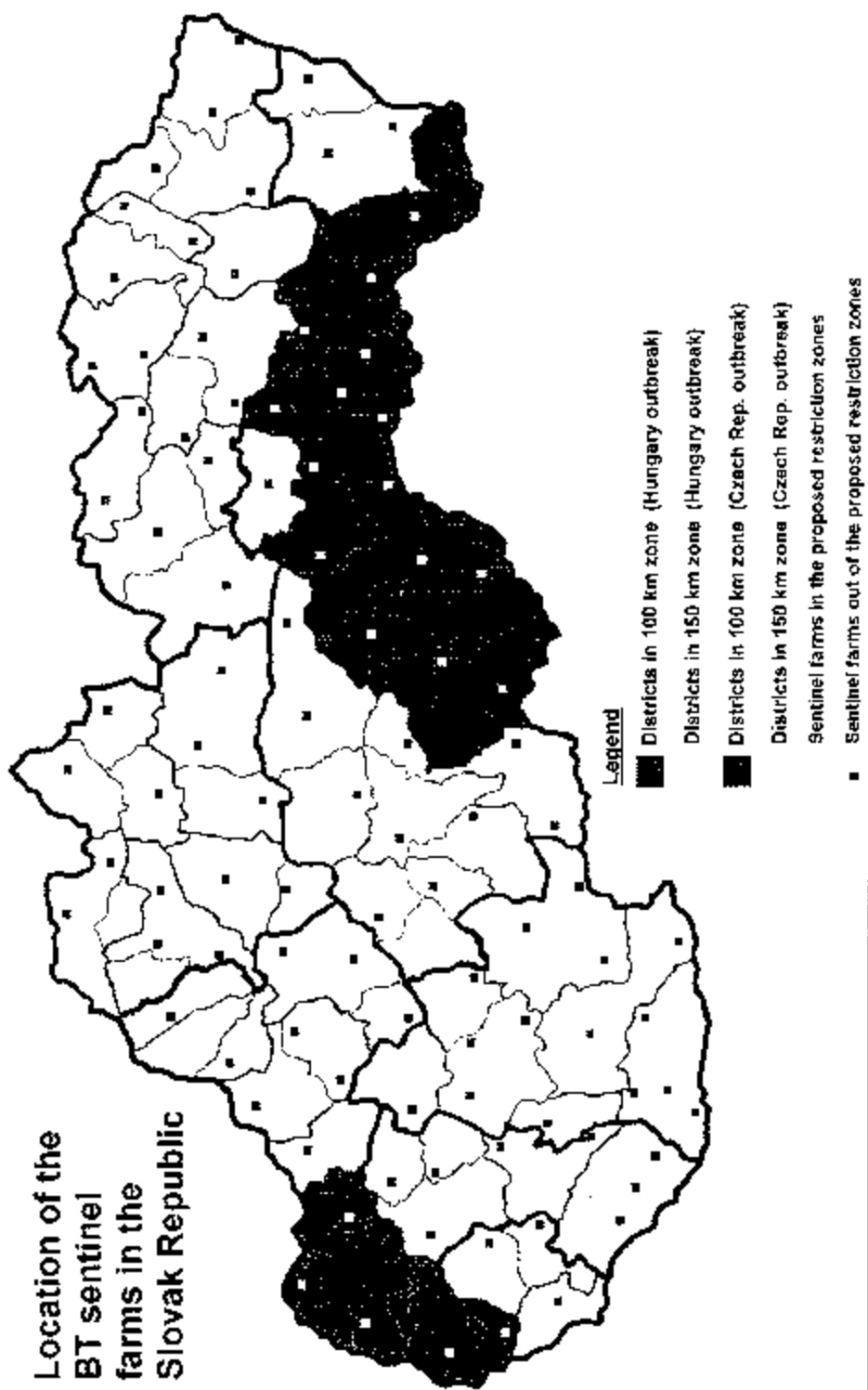


Fig. No. 3 – Location of the BT sentinel farms in the SR and Districts in 100 km zone and 150 km zone of BT in Hungary and the Czech Republic



Summing-up:

In Slovakia, there was not confirmed any BF outbreak in the holding until 27.4.2009, however in connection with disease occurrence in the neighbouring states – in the Czech Republic and Hungarian Republic it falls into restriction zones around disease outbreaks that had broken out in these states.

- On 12. 09. 2008, the extraordinary emergency measures were proclaimed in the Slovak Republic in connection with BT occurrence on the territory of Hungary and the demarkated part of the territory of the Slovak Republic was proclaimed as the prohibited BT zone and the extraordinary emergency measures were ordered
- In 2008, 2 BF cases in quarantine upon imports from other EU Member States were recorded on the territory of the Slovak Republic, there has not been confirmed any BF transmission into any holding on the territory of the Slovak Republic so far, however with regard to a possible transmission by the vector (Culicoides) the risk of BT transmission into our holdings is high

On 12. 01. 2009, in connection with the BT occurrence on the territory of Hungary and the Czech Republic, the extraordinary emergency measures were modified and they are applied in compliance with the Council Directive No 2000/75/EC and the movements of the animals are allowed only in accordance with Commission Regulation No. 1266/2007 (Fig. No. 1 and Fig. No. 2)

Total number of registered cattle farms in central database as to 15. 4. 2009 – 23 486

Total number of registered sheep farms in central database as to 15.4. 2009 – 5 805

Total number of registered goat farms in central database as to 15. 4. 2009 – 1 222

Fig. No. 4 Cattle farms involved in serological monitoring of Bluetongue in the National Monitoring Program of Bluetongue in Slovakia in 2008 (sentinel animals)

District	Farm	Code of farm	Land register	District	Samples investigated total/POSIT
Bratislava	PD Podunajské Biskupice	200001	Bratislava	BZ	90/0
Senec	Kráľová pri Senci	100076	Kráľová pri Senci	SC	90/0
	PD Budmerice	100055	PD Budmerice	PK	88/0
Malacky	Združenie stupavských vlastníkov pôdy a.s., Stupava, farma Mást	100032	Stupava, m.č. Mást	MA	90/0
	JAKOS a.s. Kostolište	100030	Kostolište	MA	90/0
Dunajská Streda	Polnohospodárske družstvo Holice na Ostrove družstvo	100095	Holice	DS	90/0
	ARVUM, Polnohospodárske družstvo	400123	Vrakúň	DS	90/0
	Nový Dvor	200147	Veľký Meder	DS	90/0
Galanta	Pusté Sady	200164	Pusté Sady	GA	90/0
	Agrostaar KB fa Porboka	100178	Kráľov brod	GA	90/0
Trnava	Žikovce	100195	Žikovce	HC	89/0
	Šterusy	300212	Šterusy	PN	90/0
Senica	Smolenická Nová Ves	400380	Smolenice	IT	90/0
	Smolinské	400265	Smolinské	SE	90/0

Senica	Skalica	200307	Skalica	SI	90/0
Nové M. n/V	Kamenec s.r.o. Bukovec	400527	Bukovec	MY	90/0
	Bošáca VKK	300658	Bošáca	NM	90/0
Trenčín	Horná Suča	400908	Horná Suča	TN	90/0
	MVL AGRO s.r.o. Bánovce nad Bebravou	400440	Dolné Družkovo	BN	80/0
	Stalina nad Bebravou	400425	Stalina nad Bebravou	BN	80/0
	Janova Ves	300835	Klátová Nová Ves	PE	90/0
Púchov	Lehotá pod Vláčnikom	300771	Lehotá pod Vláčnikom	PD	90/0
	Nitrianske Pravno	300758	Nitrianske Pravno	PD	90/0
	Bohunice	200509	Bohunice	IL	90/0
Prievidza	PD Dolná Marková	100678	Horné	PG	90/0
Šafa	RD Šafa – farma Dlhá nad Váhom	301345	Dlhá nad Váhom	SA	90/0
	RD Vrbová nad Váhom – farma Jobhagy	200983	Vrbová nad Váhom	KN	90/0
Kamárno	Pribela	400967	Pribela	KN	90/0
	Dedina Mládeže	201013	Dedina Mládeže	KN	90/0
	Veľké Kosihy	300979	Veľké Kosihy	KN	90/0
Levice	Selec	201138	Zembarovce	LV	90/0
	Nový Majer	301149	Vyškovce nad Ipľom	LV	90/0
	Nyrovce	301103	Nyrovce	LV	90/0

Nové Zámky	Družstvo agropodnikateľov Mužla - družstvo		201334	Mužla	NZ	90/0
	Dolný Ohaj		101267	Dolný Ohaj	NZ	90/0
Topoľčany	Behynce		301407	Behynce	TO	90/0
	Jelenec		201493	Jelenec	NR	90/0
Nitra	Farma RADAR Zbehy		301247	Zbehy	NR	80/0
	Vráble - Nový Majer		101202	Vráble	NR	70/0
	Tekovské Nemce		402922	Tekovské Nemce	ZM	90/0
	Banská Štiavnica		302097	Banská Štiavnica	BS	90/0
Ziar n/Hronom	Lovčica - Farma		102979	Lovčica - Trubin	ZH	90/0
	AGRO Poniky		302011	Poniky	BB	90/0
Banská Bystrica	Podkoreňová Farma		202106	Brezno	BR	90/0
	Hajpa		202144	Hajpa	BR	90/0
Zvolen	Budča		104953	Budča	ZV	90/0
	Kriváň		302191	Kriváň	DT	90/0
	PD Senohrad		302276	Senohrad	KA	90/0
Veľký Krtíš	Hrušov		402864	Hrušov	VK	90/0
	Dolná Strehová		302819	Dolná Strehová	VK	80/0
Lučenec	Agrodružstvo Rapovce		302319	Mužka	LC	86/0
	Veľká Suchá		402426	Hrnčiarska Ves	PT	80/0

Rimavska Sobota	Klenovec	402586	Klenovec	RS	90/0
	Roľnícka spoločnosť, a.s. - Botlovo	202561	Botlovo	RS	90/0
	AGRO - TUREC spol. s r.o.	402509	Skarešovo	RA	89/0
Martin	Blažovce - Poľnohospodárske družstvo	101867	Blažovce	TR	90/0
	K+M spol. s r.o. Jasenové	201976	Jasenové	ZA	90/0
	AGROFIN Poľnohospodárske družstvo Dolný Hričov družstvo	301943	Dolný Hričov	ZA	89/0
Martin	Poľnohospodárske družstvo "VÁH" družstvo	401950	Varín	ZA	90/0
	Dražkovce	201738	Dražkovce	MT	90/0
Čadca	Čierne	301846	Čierne	CA	90/0
	RD Stará Bystrica	201553	Stará Bystrica	CA	90/0
	Bziny	201574	Bziny	DK	90/0
	Rabča	101808	Rabča	NO	90/0
Dolný Kubín	PD Trsteník	301646	Trstená	TS	90/0
	Liptovská Osada	101848	Liptovská Osada	RK	90/0
Liptovský Mikuláš	PD Liptovské Hole so sídlom v Kvaččanoch družstvo	301647	Liptovské Kvaččany	LM	90/0
	Hybe	301845	Hybe	LM	90/0
Poprad	Hranovnica	403530	Hranovnica	PP	90/0

	Kežmarok		303361	Kežmarok		KK	90/0
Stará Lubovňa	Kamienka		303821	Kamienka		SL	90/0
	Kyjov		103826	Kyjov		SL	90/0
	Krásna Lúka		103720	Krásna Lúka		SB	90/0
Prešov	PD "Branisko"		403613	Vifaz		PO	90/0
	Záhradné		403617	Záhradné		PO	90/0
Svidník	EKO PD Nižná Oršava, s.r.o.		403911	Turany nad Ondavou		SP	90/0
Bardejov	Miková		103926	Miková		SP	90/0
	Hertník		303123	Hertník		BJ	90/0
	Gabolto		103045	Gabolto		BJ	90/0
Svidník	Vyšný Orník		403972	Vyšný Orník		SK	90/0
Vranov nad Topľou	Čierne		204005	Čierne nad Topľou		VT	90/0
	Lieskovec		203233	Lieskovec		HE	90/0
Humenné	Snina		103781	Snina		SV	80/0
	Ulič		303761	Ulič		SV	90/0
	Volica		203490	Volica		ML	90/0
Rožňava	Silice		104519	Silice		RV	90/0

	Rejdová	304510	Rejdová	RV	90/0
	Odorin	304714	Odorin	SN	90/0
Spišská N Ves	Agrodrúžstvo	304131	Jaklovec	GL	90/0
	Agrofarma spol. s r.o.	405131	Nálepokovo	GL	90/0
	AgroMOLD a.s., Moldava	304279	Rudník	KS	60/0
Košice - okolie	Turňa nad Bodvou	204266	Turňa nad Bodvou	KS	60/0
	Malá Veska	104195	Družstevná nad Homádom	KS	70/0
	Agro Slanec, s.r.o.	221457	Slanec	KS	60/0
Košice mesto	Šaca	404163	Šaca	K2	90/0
Trebíšov	Pardňovany	204847	Pardňovany	TV	90/0
	Farma Kysťa	127305	Kysťa	TV	90/0
	Veľké Kapušany	404369	Veľké Kapušany	MI	90/0
Michalovce	AGROSPOL s.r.o., Michalovce	104315	Čečehov	MI	90/0
	Korňuš	204820	Korňuš	SO	90/0

3. Description of the submitted programme:

The aim of the BT surveillance programme in Slovakia is to implement Commission Regulation (EC) No 1266/2007 of 26 October 2007 on implementing rules for Council Directive 2000/75/EC as regards the control, monitoring, surveillance and restrictions on movements of certain animal species susceptible to bluetongue, by fulfilling the following provisions:

1. disease surveillance in BT non-restricted zones or an early virus detection in these zones. The surveillance serves also for the declaration that the country is free of this disease.
2. BT surveillance I BT restricted zones
3. gathering of data on risk assessment – important for:
 - judgment of entry and/or probability of the virus spreading in BT non-restricted, or in restricted zones
 - increase of the prevention against the introduction of this disease into BT non-restricted zones,
 - implementation of measures adopted, including restrictions upon movement of animals through restricted zone and non-restricted zones.

The main objective of the programme is prevention and monitoring of epidemiological and entomological situation for appropriate risk assessment.

The programme is applied on the whole territory of the Slovak Republic.

4. Measures of the submitted programme

4.1. Summary of measures under the programme:

Duration of the programme:

Programme is elaborated for the year 2010 and subsequent years based on evolution of the health situation.

Surveillance plan of bluetongue in Slovakia in the year 2010 will be performed all the year round, in compliance with Council Directive No 2000/75/EC and in accordance with Commission Regulation No. 1266/2007 and with respect to the epidemiological situation in surrounding states.

In case of positive laboratory confirmation of BT occurrence on the territory of Slovakia, the Surveillance plan of bluetongue in Slovakia for the year 2009 will be substituted by the Programme of bluetongue eradication in Slovakia.

Duration of the programme: 4 years

First year: 2010

Last year: 2013

Control

- Testing
- Monitoring
- Vaccination (in case of need)
- Other measures (specify): Entomological monitoring
- Killing of positive animals (in case of need)

4.2. Organisation, supervision and role of all stakeholders involved in the programme:

Central authority with supervising and coordinating the department responsible for implementing the programme is the State Veterinary and Food Administration of the Slovak Republic.

Departments responsible for implementing the programme are regional (8) and district (40) veterinary and food administrations.

The Director General of the State Veterinary and Food Administration of the Slovak Republic yearly submits to the Minister of Agriculture of the Slovak Republic for approval the BT surveillance programme with validity from 1.1. of the calendar year. The programme is elaborated by the State Veterinary and Food Administration based on the valid European and national legislation and with regard to the current disease situation.

The Ministry of Agriculture of the Slovak Republic will publish the approved programme in publication organ of the ministry - Bulletin of the Ministry.

The State Veterinary and Food Administration of the Slovak Republic is responsible for organization of serological, virological, entomological and clinical surveillance, manages and controls the Regional Veterinary and Food Administrations and District Veterinary and Food Administrations.

BT diagnostics in compliance with the O.I.E. diagnostic manual includes:

- clinical examination
- serological examination

- virological examination

The reference laboratory for BF – The State Veterinary Institute in Zvolen is responsible for laboratory diagnostics associated with serological, virological and entomological surveillance. The National Reference Laboratory cooperates with the reference laboratory of the European Communities.

4.3. Description and demarcation of the geographical and administrative areas in which the programme is to be implemented:

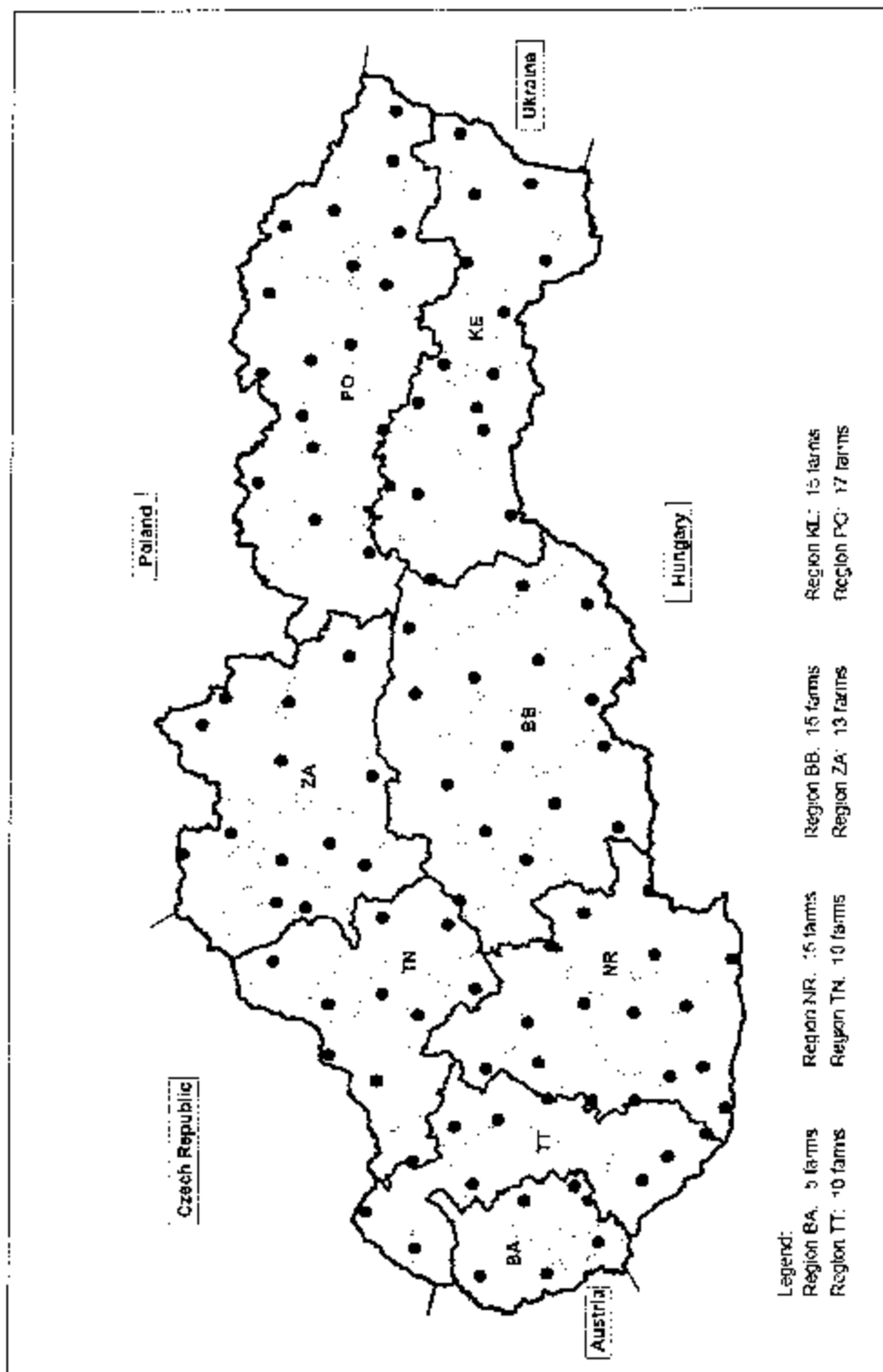
The programme will be applied in all territory of the Slovak Republic and will be modified during performing of the programme with respect to the present epidemiological situation.

Fig. No. 5 – District Veterinary and Food Administrations in the Slovak Republic



1	Bratislava	10	Nitra	19	Veľký Krtíš	28	Košova	37	Vranov nad Topľou
2	Senec	11	Topoľčany	20	Lučenec	29	Špišská Nová Ves	38	Bardejov
3	Dunajská Streda	12	Šaľa	21	Rimavská Sobotka	30	Košice – mesto	39	Svidník
4	Galanta	13	Nové Mesto n/V	22	Banská Bystrica	31	Košice – okolie	40	Humenné
5	Trnava	14	Trenčín	23	Martin	32	Trebišov		
6	Senica	15	Pochov	24	Liptovský Mikuláš	33	Michalovce		
7	Komárno	16	Prievidza	25	Žilina	34	Poprad		
8	Nové Zámky	17	Žiar n/Hronom	26	Čadca	35	Stará Ľubovňa		
9	Levice	18	Zvolen	27	Dolný Kubín	36	Prešov		

Fig. No. 6 – Geographical distribution of farms in Slovakia involved in serological monitoring of Bluetongue in years 2008 and 2009 (sentinel animals)



4.4. Description of the measures of the programme:

4.4.1. Notification of the disease:

As regards Act No. 39/2007 Coll. on veterinary care and amendment of some acts Article 37, an owner, keeper of animals shall be obliged to notify without any delay the veterinary administration authority of any suspicion of the disease and death of an animal and to allow examination of such animal.

As regards Regulation (EC) 1774/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 3 October 2002 laying down health rules concerning animal by-products, an owner, keeper or other natural or legal persons authorized to dispose of live animals or products of animal origin shall be obliged to notify without any delay the respective authority of each suspicion of bluetongue. After notification of the suspicion of the disease the respective authority shall order to perform official supervision over the holding.

Control on the implementation of the programme and reporting:

The competent authority responsible for performing of the control programme is the State Veterinary and Food Administration of the Slovak Republic and the competent authority confirms its commitment to submit a complete report on actions and expenditures in the framework of this programme and to provide additional information when they are request by the Commission.

4.4.2. Target animals and animal population:

The programme involves all herds of sensitive animals (bovines, sheep, goats and other farm ruminants) in all territory of the Slovak Republic.

4.4.3. Identification of animals and registration of holdings:

The basic condition at eradication is animal identification stipulated by the Act 39/2007 Coll. according to which animals must be identified and their identification data must be registered with the central register of animals - Central Database of Livestock - identification according to Regulation EC 1760/2000 - cattle, and according to 21/2004 - sheep and goats. Details on identification of cattle are indicated in the Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Slovak Republic of 29 Jul 2004 No. 372/2004 Z. z. on identification and registration of bovine and on keeping the central register of bovine.

Details on identification of sheep and goats are indicated in the Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Slovak Republic of 26. July 2007 No. 371/2007 on identification and registration of sheep and goats on keeping the central register of sheep and goats. In compliance with this decree the sheep and goats are identified with unique number.

4.4.4. Qualifications of animals and herds:

The animals on the farm are identified by self-registering ear-marks with a numbers of animal and holding.

4.4.5. Rules on the movement of animals:

In relation to Bluetongue, the movement of animals is according to EU legislation mainly Regulation (EC) 1266/2007/EC.

4.4.6. Tests used and sampling schemes:

A. Requirements for bluetongue monitoring to be implemented in restricted zones

Bluetongue monitoring programme in restricted zones shall be aimed at providing information on the dynamics of bluetongue in a zone already subjected to restrictions.

A grid of around 45 × 45 km (approximately 2000 km²) shall define the geographical unit of reference unless specific environmental conditions justify a different size. The designation of 40 geographical units by grids in the Slovak Republic you can find in Fig. No. 6 -- Geographical distribution of farms in Slovakia involved in serological monitoring of Bluetongue in years 2008 and 2009 (sentinel animals).

1.1 Serological monitoring with sentinel animals:

— consists of an active annual programme of serological testing of susceptible species of population, aimed at detecting evidence of the BTV transmission through random or targeted serological and/or virological testing proportional to the risk of infection spreading in Slovak Republic or epidemiologically relevant geographical area and which is performed in the course of the year when seroconversion is more likely to be detected,

— it must be proposed in such a manner that the samples are representative for cattle in respective Member State or in epidemiologically relevant

geographical area and that the sample size is calculated in such a manner that it reveals with 95 % confidence a 0,5 % prevalence in cattle population of the mentioned Member State or geographical area,

- must ensure, that the sample size is adjusted with regard to structure of cattle intended for sampling and for the usage of targeted surveillance, oriented for sampling of high-risk population, where exist specific generally known factors. The proposal of targeted surveillance must ensure that the seropositive animals from vaccinated or immune population are not included into B1 surveillance plan.

Targeted serological surveillance

Consists of in advance elaborated program of the SVFA of the SR for the respective calendar year, in which susceptible farm animal species are serologically tested for B1. It is focused for detection of B1V presence through targeted serological and/or virological tests and estimation of the risk of B1 infection presence in the country or in zone.

Sample characteristics for serological surveillance

- Number of samples taken must be adequate in respect of structure of cattle population within one geographical unit (area in territorial sphere of authority of RVFA), so that the greatest risk of B1V presence in cattle population in the given geographical unit is monitored
 - **Model B (Fig. No. 7)** – in case of a high risk of B1V introduction the monitoring is performed evenly distributed during the whole period of a high risk
 - monitoring within a region is coordinated by the respective RVFA
 - Animals which were vaccinated against the respective virus must not be included in a number of samples taken for B1V presence.
- Sentinel animals shall be tested at least every month during the period of activity of the vector involved, if known. In the absence of such information, the sentinel animals shall be tested at least monthly throughout the year. However, the testing frequency may be adjusted to the seasonal variations of the epidemiological situation during the year to establish the beginning and the end of the circulation of bluetongue virus within the restricted zones.
- Where possible, sentinel animals must be bovine animals.

Number of samples

Sampling must present detection of 0,5 % prevalence with 95% probability in geographical unit defined in a part „Characteristics of a sample for serological surveillance“ and in compliance with the national monitoring for the year 2009.

Test to be used:

Basic test: serological test for the monitoring is competitive ELISA (C-ELISA). C-ELISA test has the highest sensitivity and therefore it is the most suitable test used for surveillance.

Fig. No. 7 - Model B - monitoring in case of a high risk of BTV introduction

Name RVPS	Number farms HD	Total number animals	0,5 % prevalence with 95 % probability
Bratislava - Senec	114	16442	581
Dunajská Streda - Galanta	367	39995	598
Senica + Trnava	294	51713	598
Nové Mesto nad Váhom - Trenčín	272	28255	598
Púchov - Prievidza	339	24086	598
Komárno - Šafa	294	28141	598
Levice + Nové Zámky	362	32436	598
Nitra + Topoľčany	269	26751	598
Veľký Krtíš - Zvolen	1407	31570	598
Lučenec + Rimavská Sobota	1401	29935	598
Banská Bystrica - Žiar nad Hronom	504	21681	598
Martin + Žilina	402	15043	581
Čadca - Dolný Kubín	1991	26680	598

Liptovský Mikuláš – Poprad	880	38613	598
Prešov + Stará Ľubovňa	382	19657	581
RVPs Bardejov - Svidník	523	19230	581
Humené + Vranov nad Topľou	614	20677	598
Košice - mesto + Košice - okolie	295	16079	581
Michalovec + Trebišov	680	22502	598
Rožňava + Spišská Nová Ves	334	12494	581
Total	11724	522980	11858

In the Slovak Republic, the monitoring of BT has been performed since April 2008 in holdings of sentinel animals. Totally 100 farms had been selected and on each 10 animals from which the blood is taken once a month for serological examination. Serological examination for antibody proof is performed by the SVI Zvolen.

The number of sentinel animals examined and number of animals examined prior to transport is indicated in Fig. No 11. In all cases the examination was negative.

Targeted monitoring B in the SR is aimed at:

1. disease surveillance in BT non restricted zones, or an early detection of the virus in these zones, the surveillance serves also for a declaration, **that the country is free of this disease.**
2. gathering of data on risk assessment by judgement of entry, probability of virus spreading, increasing of prevention against the introduction of this disease and **application of restrictions upon animal movement through restricted and non-restricted zones.**

Preventive measures before disease entry:

- Control of imported susceptible animals
- Serological testing of animals in quarantine in vector free zones

- Import of semen from serologically negative bulls

Measures ordered upon disease entry:

- Prohibition of animal movement
- Slaughter and burning of infected herds
- Serological surveillance in zones around restricted zones
- Usage of insecticide with a long-lasting effectiveness for animals and premises
- Usage of repellents for animals
- Overnight stay of animals in lairages
- Reduction of places for reproduction of vectors or an effective dehydrating of marshes

In Slovakia, the serological monitoring of BT in holdings of sentinel (serologically negative) animals has been performed since 1. 04. 2008. Within the programme totally 100 farms had been selected and on each 10 animals which are once a month subject to a serological blood examination for BT. The breeders have also the duty to examine susceptible animals prior to movement from „the prohibited zone“.

1.2 Entomological surveillance:

Consists of an annual programme of an active vector catching through the use of traps in cattle holdings or in sheep holdings in case when sheep are accommodated in lairage premises (hereinafter „holdings“), aimed at gathering of information on the proven and potential vector species, their distribution and seasonal profiles on the whole territory of the Slovak Republic. Entomological surveillance will be performed in the year 2009 in each geographical unit of the Slovak Republic and from the organizational point of view is ensured by the respective RVFA. Entomological surveillance is performed:

- in case of a low risk of BTV introduction the monitoring is performed evenly distributed during the whole year
- in case of a high risk of BTV introduction the monitoring is aimed at a risk zone and the time

Characteristics of entomological surveillance

Entomological surveillance is based on a „vector catching“. In the Slovak Republic UV light insect traps are used for these purposes. The SVFA SR determines the traps equally to RVF as for purposes of entomological surveillance or appoints the respective veterinary administration authorities by a trap distribution in case of entomological surveillance.

Traps will be distributed into cattle holdings according to instructions of the respective RVFA and upon surveillance the following principles shall be complied with:

- during 1 year the trap is placed in one holding only once,
- taking of insect samples from traps shall be performed Insect sample for entomological examination within entomological surveillance is sent to the SVI Zvolen for identification of all strains of the genus *Culicoides*.

The aim of entomological surveillance is:

- to determine the population dynamics and to detect the place of *Culicoides* population overwintering
- to provide sufficient information on affiliation of the genus *Culicoides*

Usage of the test

The SVI Zvolen during the testing of trap contents determines from each sample the following data:

- The total number of gathered *Culicoides* spp. and out of these
 - number of *C. imicola*, if it exists
 - number of *C. obsolens* Complex, if it exists
 - nočet *C. Pulicaris* Complex, if it exists
 - nočet *C. Nubeculosus* complex, if it exists
 - nočet *C. dewulfi*, if it exists

Fig. No. 8

Dynamics of Culicoides population from April to December 2008 trap according locations

Population dynamics of Culicoides in Slovakia (21. April - 31. December 2008)

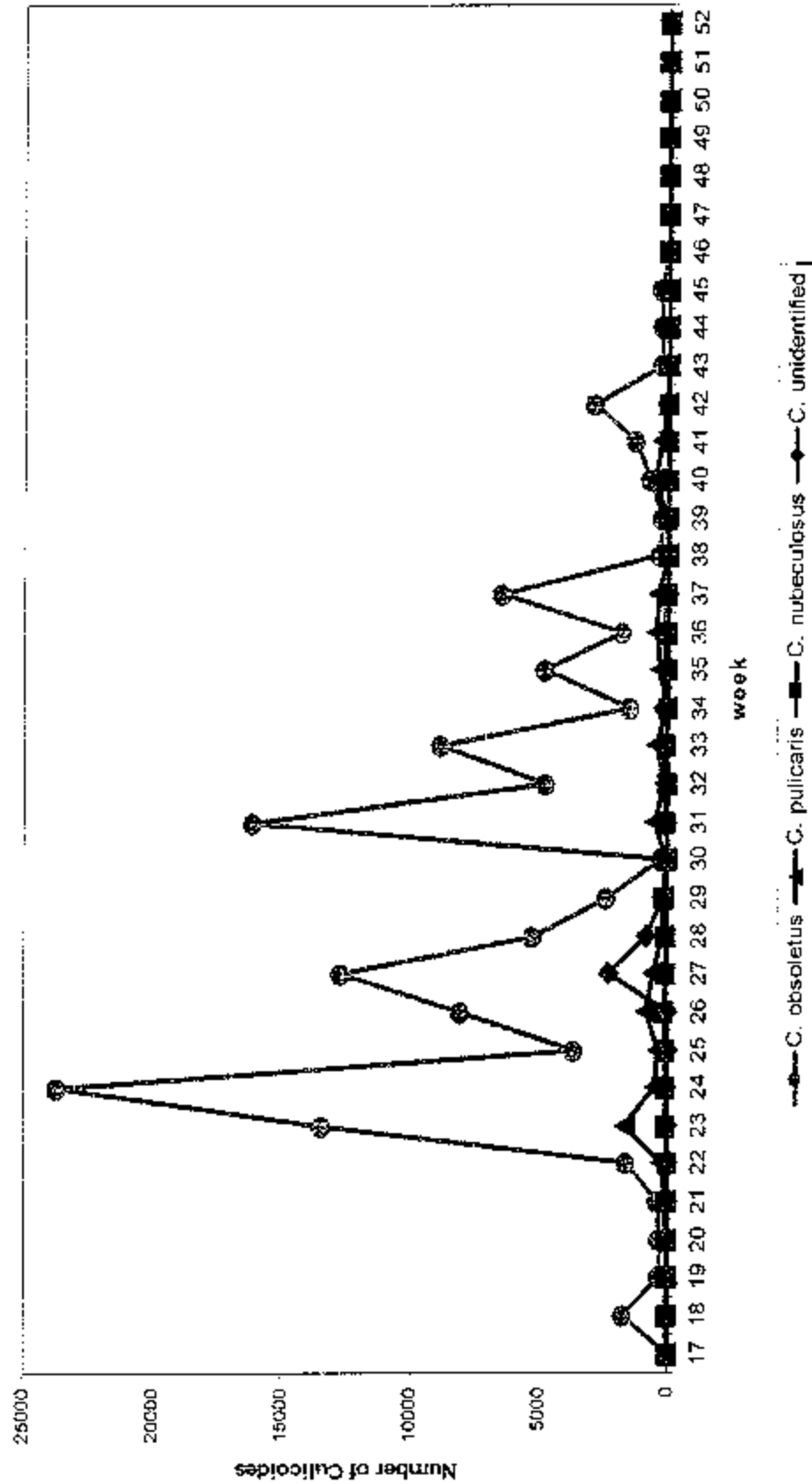
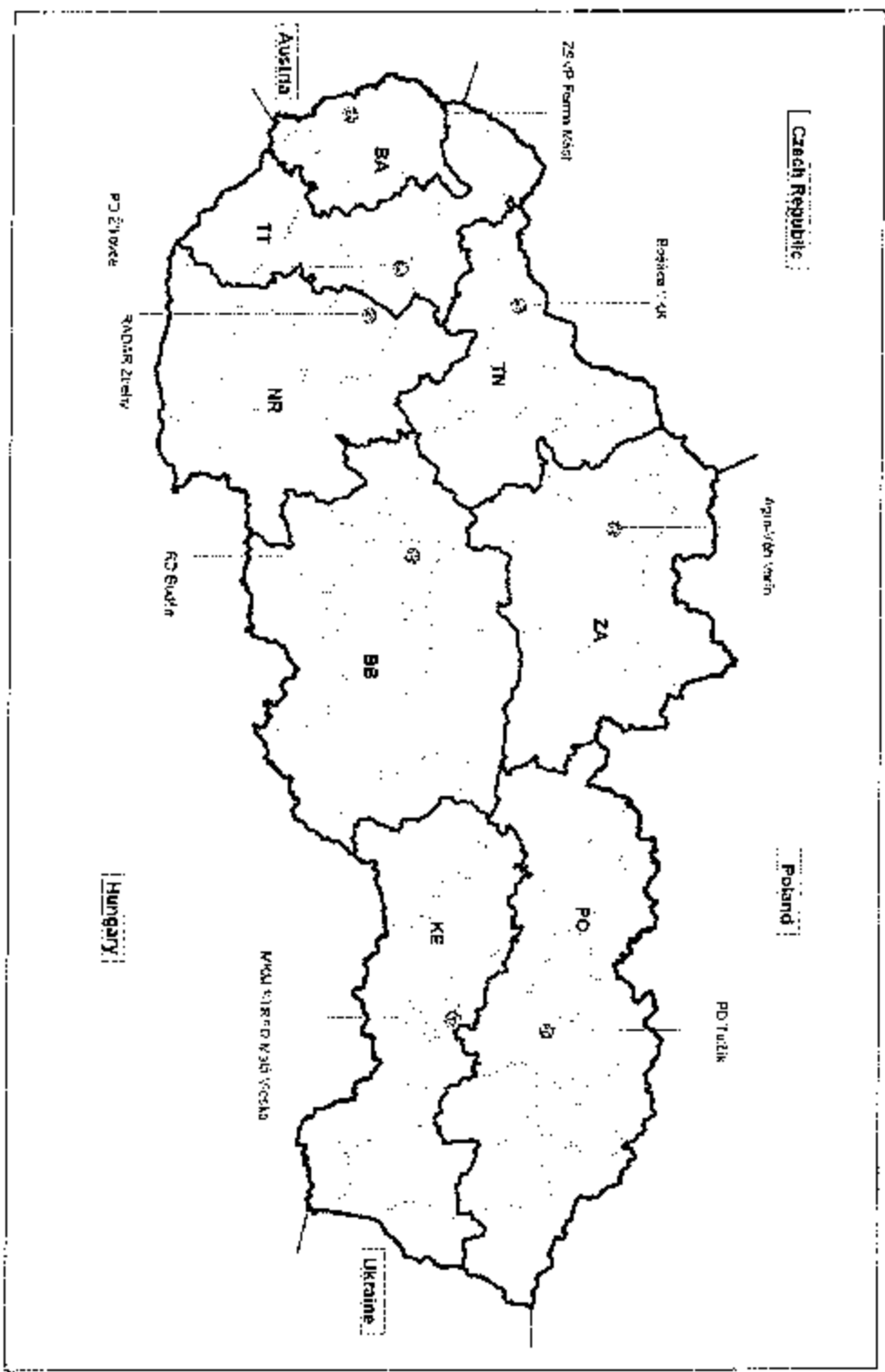


Fig. No. 9 – Entomological monitoring in Slovakia during 2008 – geographical distribution of traps



B. Requirements for bluetongue surveillance programme to be implemented outside restricted zones

Bluetongue surveillance programme outside restricted zones shall be aimed at the detection of virus circulation in epidemiologically relevant geographical area:

2.1. Passive clinical surveillance:

- shall consist of a formal and ongoing system aimed at detecting and investigating suspicions of bluetongue including an early warning system for reporting suspicious cases. Owners or holders of animals as well as veterinarians must report promptly any suspicion of bluetongue to the competent authority. All suspected cases of bluetongue must be investigated immediately,
- must be specially reinforced during the season of vector activity, and in particular at its beginning,
- must ensure that awareness campaigns are put in place and aimed, in particular, at enabling veterinarians and farmers in identifying clinical signs of bluetongue.

2.2. Serological surveillance:

- is the same as in the restricted zones.

2.3. Entomological surveillance:

- shall consist of active programme of vector catching aimed at gathering information on the proven and potential vector species in the Slovak Republic, their distribution and seasonal profiles,
One trap for the detection of vector (Culicoides) is placed on farms determined by the State Veterinary and Food Administration of the Slovak Republic (see Fig.10), farmers were trained and informed on installation and operation of the traps; veterinary inspectors were trained and informed on dispatch of samples to the NRL.

At present 8 aspiration traps are available in the Slovak Republic.

C. The following State Veterinary Institutes (SVI) shall carry out laboratory testing:

The laboratory diagnostics within surveillance plan is performed by the State Veterinary Institute Zvolen (hereinafter „SVI Zvolen“) as a National Reference Laboratory for Bluetongue. Laboratory diagnostics within BI surveillance plan includes:

- serological surveillance
- entomological surveillance

The samples sent for laboratory examination of BFT must be accompanied by Application form for BFT laboratory examination
 Sampling, packing and sending of samples for laboratory examination is regulated from the methodical point of view by the National Reference Laboratory for Bluetongue -- SVI Zvolen.

Tests to be used: Serological testing - ELISA
 Virological test - RT-PCR

4.4.7. Vaccines used and vaccination schemes:

Vaccination against BFT in other manner as it is allowed by EU legislation is prohibited. Because the Slovak Republic is at present without an active BFT virus circulation, vaccination is not performed on the territory of the Slovak Republic.

4.4.8. Measures in case of positive result:

All measures taken in case of positive results will be in compliance with EU legislation, mainly with **Council Directive 2000/75/EC** laying down specific provisions for the control and eradication of bluetongue and with **Commission Regulation (EC) No 1266/2007** on implementing rules for Council Directive 2000/75/EC as regards the control, monitoring, surveillance and restrictions on movements of certain animals of susceptible species in relation to bluetongue.

4.4.9. Compensation scheme

The farmers will be compensated by the Ministry of Agriculture of the Slovak Republic for costs and losses arisen in consequence with enforcement of emergency veterinary measures in accordance with the Act No. 39/2007 Coll. Article 45 concerning veterinary care and amending certain related laws, as amended (Veterinary Act).

4.4.10. Control on the implementation of the programme and reporting:

The competent authority responsible for performing of the control programme is State Veterinary Administration of the Slovak Republic and the competent authority confirms its commitment to submit a complete report on actions and expenditures in the framework of this programme and to provide additional information when they are request by the Commission.

5. Benefits of the programme:

Prevention of Bluetongue infection spreading in the Slovak Republic
 Reduction of economical losses caused by restriction of trade
 Reduction of economical losses caused by the disease

6. Data on the epidemiological evolution during the last five years

In Slovakia, the serological BT monitoring has been performed in holdings of sentinel animals since 1.04.2008

Fig. No. 10 Summary of samples investigated in the National Monitoring Program of Bluetongue in Slovakia in 2008 (sentinel animals)

Region	Number of districts	Number of farms	Samples investigated/POSIT
Bratislava	4	5	448/0
Trnava	7	10	899/0
Trenčín	8	10	880/0
Nitra	7	15	1320/0

Banská Bystrica	12	15	1325/0
Žilina	9	13	1169/0
Prešov	12	17	1520/0
Košice	8	15	1240/0
Total	67	100	8801/0

Fig. No. 11 Number of blood samples tested for bluetongue (1.4.2008 - 31.12.2008)

Number of tested animals	Serological test	Virological test
Sentinel animals *	ELISA	PCR
Animals before transport**	8 600	353
Total	17 401	353

*Annotation: * animals tested from 1. April 2008 to 31. December 2008*

*** animals tested from 12. September to 31. December 2008*

Fig. No. 12

Slovak Republic

Year: 2008

Situation on date: 31.12.2008

Dates of animals (a)

Disease: Bluetongue - BI

Animal species: cattle

District	2 Total number of animals	3 Number of animals under the programme	4 Number of animals tested	5 Number of animals tested individually	6 Number of positive animals	Slaughtering		Indicators	
						7 Number of animals with positive result slaughtered or culled	8 Total number of animals slaughtered	9 % coverage at animal level	10 % positive animals (animal prevalence)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Čadca	3 551	20	20	20	0	0	0	100	0
Matrná	16 366	20	20	20	0	0	0	100	0
Žilina	145	30	30	30	0	0	0	100	0
D. Kubín	22 398	30	30	30	0	0	0	100	0
L. Mikuláš	19 231	30	30	30	0	0	0	100	0
Komárno	15 981	40	40	40	0	0	0	100	0
Levice	12 842	30	30	30	0	0	0	100	0
Nitra	12 320	40	40	40	0	0	0	100	0
N. Zámky	15 204	20	20	20	0	0	0	100	0
Saša	8 499	90	90	90	0	0	0	100	0

Topoľčany	10 873	10	10	10	0	0	0	0	100	0
Rožňava	6 445	20	20	20	0	0	0	0	100	0
Spiš. N. Ves	6 013	30	30	30	0	0	0	0	100	0
Mičalovca	13 562	30	30	30	0	0	0	0	100	0
Trnbišov	7 124	20	20	20	0	0	0	0	100	0
Košice ok.	13 033	10	10	10	0	0	0	0	100	0
Košice m	486	30	30	30	0	0	0	0	100	0
B. Bystrica	13 296	30	30	30	0	0	0	0	100	0
Lučenec	11 901	20	20	20	0	0	0	0	100	0
Pr. Sobota	17 094	30	30	30	0	0	0	0	100	0
V. Kežmarok	9 353	20	20	20	0	0	0	0	100	0
Zvolen	20 679	30	30	30	0	0	0	0	100	0
Ziar nad T.	8 100	20	20	20	0	0	0	0	100	0
Senec	13 281	40	40	40	0	0	0	0	100	0
Bratislava	1 516	10	10	10	0	0	0	0	100	0
Trenčín	17 749	30	30	30	0	0	0	0	100	0
Nové M. n. V.	8 346	20	20	20	0	0	0	0	100	0
Prievidza	17 992	30	30	30	0	0	0	0	100	0
Púchov	7 015	20	20	20	0	0	0	0	100	0
Trnava	33 639	30	30	30	0	0	0	0	100	0

D. Sireďa	27 431	30	30	30	0	0	0	0	100	0
Galanta	0 187	20	20	20	0	0	0	0	100	0
Senica	17 334	20	20	20	0	0	0	0	100	0
Bardajov	11 638	20	20	20	0	0	0	0	100	0
Humené	14 817	40	40	40	0	0	0	0	100	0
Prešov	12 798	30	30	30	0	0	0	0	100	0
Poprad	18 510	20	20	20	0	0	0	0	100	0
Stará Ľub.	7 155	20	20	20	0	0	0	0	100	0
Svidník	8 483	30	30	30	0	0	0	0	100	0
Vranov n.T.	6 894	10	10	10	0	0	0	0	100	0
Total	488 351	1 070	1 070	1 070	0	0	0	0	100	0

^c Disease and animal species if necessary.

^d District as defined in the approved eradication programme of the Member State.

^e Total number of animals existing in the region including eligible herds and non-eligible herds for the programme.

^f Includes animals tested individually or under bulk level scheme.

^g Include only animals tested individually, do not include animals tested by bulk level samples (e.g. milk bulk tank tests)

^h Include all positive animal slaughtered and also the negative animals slaughtered under the programme.

Fig. No. 13

Slovak Republic

Year: 2008

Situation on date: 31.12.2008

Dates of herds (a)

Disease ^b: *Bluetongue - BT* Animal species: *cattle*

District ^c	Total number of herds ^d	Total number of herds under the programme	Number of herds checked ^e	Number of positive herds ^f	Number of new positive herds ^g	Number of herds depopulated	% positive herds depopulated $8 = (7/5) \times 100$	Indicators		
								% herd coverage $9 = (4/3) \times 100$	% positive herds period herd prevalence $10 = (5/4) \times 100$	% new positive herds herd incidence $11 = (6/4) \times 100$
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8 = (7/5) x 100	9 = (4/3) x 100	10 = (5/4) x 100	11 = (6/4) x 100
Čadca	108	2	2	0	0	0	0	100	0	0
Maltna	322	2	2	0	0	0	0	100	0	0
Zilina	145	3	3	0	0	0	0	100	0	0
D.Kubín	1 820	3	3	0	0	0	0	100	0	0
L. Mikuláš	345	3	3	0	0	0	0	100	0	0
Komárno	212	4	4	0	0	0	0	100	0	0
Levice	170	3	3	0	0	0	0	100	0	0
Nitra	143	4	4	0	0	0	0	100	0	0
N.Záhrady	147	2	2	0	0	0	0	100	0	0

Trnava	130	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0
D. Streda	243	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0
Galanta	83	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0
Senica	111	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0
Bardejov	180	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0
Humené	291	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0
Prešov	178	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0
Poprad	454	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0
Stará Ľub.	147	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0
Svidník	187	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0
Vranov n. T.	195	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0
Total	10 334	100	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	1000	0	0

^a Herds equal flocks, or holdings, as appropriate.

^b Disease and animal species, if necessary.

^c District as defined in the eradication programme of the Member State

^d Total number of herds existing in the region including eligible herds and non-eligible herds for the programme.

^e Check means to perform a herd level test under the programme for the respective disease with the purpose of maintaining, upgrading, etc., the health status of the herd.

In this column a herd should not be counted twice even if has been checked more than once.

^f Herds with at least one positive animal during the period independent of the number of the herd has been checked

^g Herds whose status in the previous period was unknown, not free-negative, officially free or suspended and have at least one positive animal in this period.

7. Targets

7.1. Targets related to testing

7.1.1. Targets on diagnostic tests

Disease (a): Bluetongue, virus serotype 8 Animal species: Bovine, ovine, sheep, goat, farmed deer

Fig. No. 14

Region	Type of the test	Target population	Type of sample	Objective	Number of planned tests
SR	ELISA test	Bovine	Blood	Monitoring	13 000
	RT-PCR test	Bovine	Blood	Monitoring, confirmation	1 000
	Entomological monitoring	Insekts-Culicoides	Animal	Monitoring	336
Total					14 336

**8. Detailed analysis of the cost of the programme
Fig. No 15**

Costs related to	Specification Test	Number of units	Unitary cost in €	Total amount in €	Community funding requested (years/no)
I. Testing					
1.1 Cost of the analysis	HIJSA serological	13 000	8,30	107 900	YES
	RT-PCR test	1 000	66	66 000	YES
	Entomological monitoring	336	50	16 800	YES
Cost on purchase of traps	Entomological surveillance	12	664	7 968	YES
Total				198 668	YES