



Maintenance of disease freedom in Regulation (EU) 2020/689

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Background

- The annexes to Regulation (EU) 2020/689 lay down the specific criteria to maintain the disease free status for category B and C diseases in free Member States or zones thereof.
- It is possible for Member States and zones thereof free from certain category B and C diseases of terrestrial animals to switch from a strict testing regime to maintain disease free status to a more flexible regime or to a risk based regime if several condition are met:
 - The conditions that led to the granting of the disease free status are maintained
 - A certain period of time have elapsed

A certain period of time have elapsed. How to calculate *the certain period of time*?

- The date when the status was granted by means of a legal act for
 - infection with *Brucella abortus*, *B. melitensis*, *B. suis*
 - infection with MTBC
 - EBL
 - IBR/IPV
 - Infection with ADV

Particular case of infection with BTV

- Maintenance of disease free status in DR (EU) 2020/689:
 - Following the achieving of the status:
 - surveillance to detect, with a 95 % level of confidence, the infection in the targeted animal population at a target prevalence rate of 5 %
 - After two years of freedom
 - surveillance to detect, with a 95 % level of confidence, the infection in the targeted animal population at a target prevalence rate of 20 %, or
 - Risk based annual surveillance

A certain period of time have elapsed. How to calculate *the certain period of time*?

- For infection with Bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24): there was no BTV free status before 21 April 21
- If the disease was never detected, the switch to a more flexible regime or risk based approach can already be done
- If the disease was detected, two possibilities to calculate the period (to be chosen by the MS):
 - On the day the restricted zones were lifted in accordance with Article 6(2) of Regulation (EC) no 1266/2007 based on the information available for the competent authority (subject to easy monitoring)
 - On the day the free status was granted under the AHL rules (IR (EU) 2021/620)

Thank you



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