



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH AND CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Director General

SANCO/10301/2014

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

Eradication and monitoring programme for Bluetongue

Bulgaria

Approved* for 2014 by Commission Decision 2013/722/EU

* in accordance with Council Decision 2009/470/EC

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.23

PROGRAMME for ERADICATION : ANNEX I

Member States seeking a financial contribution from the Union for national programmes for the eradication, control and monitoring of animal diseases and zoonosis listed below, shall submit applications containing at least the information set out in this form.

Bovine brucellosis, bovine tuberculosis, ovine and caprine brucellosis (*B. melitensis*), bluetongue in endemic or high risk areas, african swine fever, swine vesicular disease, classical swine fever, rabies.

The central data base keeps all submissions. However only the information in the last submission is shown when viewing and used when processing the data.

If encountering difficulties, please contact
SANCO-BO@ec.europa.eu

Instructions to complete the form:

1) In order to fill in and submit this form you must have **at least** the ADOBE version

Acrobat Reader 8.1.3

(example : 8.1.3, 8.1.4, 8.1.7, 9.1, 9.2,...), otherwise you will not be able to use the form.

Your version of Acrobat Reader is: **10.104**

2) Please provide as much information as possible. If you have no data for some fields then put the text "NA" (Not applicable) in this field or 0 if it is a numeric field. If you need clarifications on some of the information requested, then please contact SANCO-BO@ec.europa.eu.

3) To verify your data entry while filling your form, you can use the "verify form" button at the top of each page. If the form is not properly and completely filled in, an alert box will appear indicating the number of incorrect fields. Please use the "verify form" button until all fields are correctly filled in. **It is mandatory to fill in the box about Animal populations to make the rest of the questions visible.** If you still have any difficulties, please contact SANCO-BO@ec.europa.eu.

4) When you have finished filling the form, verify that your internet connection is active and then click on the "submit notification" button below. If the form is properly filled in, the notification will be submitted to the server and a submission number + submission date will appear in the corresponding field.

5) **IMPORTANT: Regularly save the pdf when you fill it out. After you have received the Submission number, DO NOT FORGET TO SAVE THE PDF ON YOUR COMPUTER FOR YOUR RECORDS!**

Monday, April 29, 2013 12:05:52

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1. Identification of the programme

Member state: BULGARIA

Disease: Bluetongue in endemic or high risk areas

Species: Bovines and sheep and goats

This program is multi annual: no

Request of Union co-financing from beginning of:

2014

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1.1 Contact

Name : Dr. Ilian Boykovski, Head of Department "Contagious diseases"

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2. Historical data on the epidemiological evolution of the disease

Provide a concise description on the target population (species, number of herds and animals present and under the programme), the main measures (sampling and testing regimes, eradication measures applied, qualification of herds and animals, vaccination schemes) and the main results (incidents, prevalence, qualification of herds and animals). The information is given for distinct periods if the measures were substantially modified. The information is documented by relevant summary epidemiological tables (point 6), complemented by graphs or maps (to be attached).

(max. 32000 chars) :

For the first time bluetongue (BT) disease was detected in Bulgaria in July 1999 in the region of Burgas. Until then the disease had never been registered on territories situated beyond the 42nd parallel. From 06.07.1999 until the middle of August the disease was spread in four regions – Burgas, Yambol, Haskovo and Kurdgali, which are situated along the south country border with the Republics of Turkey and Greece.

The National Veterinary Service of Bulgaria (NVS)*, under the direction of Dr. Philip Mellor from the Community Reference Laboratory for bluetongue in Pirbright, Great Britain, immediately implemented the following measures to eradicate the disease:

- Destruction of sheep with clinical signs of bluetongue through "stamping out" and burial. 975 sheep were destroyed.
- Smoking with hot and cold solutions through spraying from airplanes and special guns of a territory with radius 20 km around the affected settlements.
- Disinsection in the vector habitats.
- Disinsection in the infected animal holdings and in the holdings located within the protection and surveillance zones. .
- Ban on the movement of susceptible animals from the affected regions to the country inside.
- Ban on grazing ruminants in the hours of highest vector activity.
- Disinsection of all vehicles entering and leaving the protection and surveillance zones.

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- Washing the small ruminants in specially adapted baths using insecticide solutions with repellent action.
- The large ruminants were treated with insecticide solutions with repellent action using manual sprayers.
- Testing of blood samples from wild ruminants from the affected regions.

As a result of the measures taken the disease was limited to 20-30 km along the south border in the affected regions.

In 1999 a programme for surveillance of bluetongue in ruminants was launched along the southern border of the Republic of Bulgaria. The programme involved monthly testing (from May until October) of sentinel animals for detecting antibodies against the bluetongue virus.

In order to determine the bluetongue serotype samples were sent for typing to the Community Reference Laboratory for bluetongue in Pirbright, Great Britain. The laboratory analysis revealed presence of serotype No 9.

At the end of September 2001 bluetongue in ruminants was found for the second time in animals reared near the western border of the Republic of Bulgaria. The laboratory investigations again revealed serotype No 9. Twenty two sheep showing clinical signs of the disease were destroyed. To eradicate the disease NVS immediately took the steps described above.

At the beginning of October 2006 in the framework of the surveillance programme, bluetongue seropositive animals not showing clinical signs of the disease were detected in the region of Burgas near the border with the Republic of Turkey. However no virus was detected. Since then no sero-positive animals have been detected on the territory of the country.

There was no positive case of Bluetongue detected in the country during the surveillance period 2007-2011.

* Note: National veterinary service of Bulgaria (NVS) is as of 25th of January 2011 part of the Bulgarian food safety agency (BFSA)- State gazette 8/25.01.2011

3. Description of the submitted programme

Provide a concise description of the programme with its main objective(s) (monitoring, control, eradication, qualification of herds and/or regions, reducing prevalence and incidence), the main measures (sampling and testing regimes, eradication measures to be applied, qualification of herds and animals, vaccination schemes), the target animal population, the area(s) of implementation and the definition of a positive case.

(max. 32000 chars) :

The programme includes:

- Laboratory testing of blood samples from susceptible livestock and wild ruminants for detection of antibodies against the bluetongue virus;

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- Destruction of ruminants showing clinical signs of the disease;
- Payment of compensations to the owners of the compulsory killed or slaughtered animals;
- Catching culicoides for quantity and species determination in case of emergency situation (BTV outbreak);
- Emergency vaccination against the disease if necessary;

4. Measures of the submitted programme

4.1 Summary of measures under the programme

Duration of the programme : 2014

First year :

- Control
- Testing
- Slaughter and animals tested positive
- Killing of animals tested positive
- Vaccination
- Treatment
- Disposal of products
- Eradication, control or monitoring

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

Describe the authorities in charge of supervising and coordinating the departments responsible for implementing the programme and the different operators involved. Describe the responsibilities of all involved.

(max. 32000 chars) :

I. Department "Contagious diseases" within Directorate "Animal health and welfare" at the Headquarters of the Bulgarian food safety agency (BFSA) have the following responsibilities:

1. To draft the programme for surveillance of bluetongue in ruminants and to submit it for approval to the European Commission.
2. To control the implementation of the surveillance programme.
3. To collect and analyse the data on the sentinel animals tested for bluetongue.
4. In case of disease outbreak – to test the ruminants in the protection and surveillance zones.
5. To summarize the data on seropositive animals.
6. To summarize data on the costs of surveillance from the regions with sentinel animals.
7. To keep a register in the database of all holdings with ruminants free of bluetongue.
8. To send annual report to the European Commission containing the data referred to in points 1-7.

II. At regional level the Regional Food Safety Department (RFSD) and the heads of departments "Animal health" have the following responsibilities:

1. To control the implementation of the bluetongue surveillance programme at regional level.
2. To collect and analyse the data on the animals tested for bluetongue in the region.
3. To summarize the data on seropositive animals.
4. To summarize the data on seropositive wild animals.
5. To summarize the data on the bluetongue surveillance costs incurred at regional level.
6. To keep a register in the database of all holdings with ruminants free of bluetongue.
7. To collect and send samples for species and quantity determination of caught culicoides.
8. To send annual reports containing the data referred to in points 1-7 to Directorate "Animal health" at BFSA.

III. The municipal veterinarians have the following responsibilities:

1. To control the implementation of the programme for surveillance of bluetongue in the relevant municipality.
2. To control the sampling and the sending of samples from sentinel animals.
3. To collect and analyse the data on the animals tested for bluetongue in the veterinary units located on the territory of the relevant municipality.
4. To summarize the data on seropositive animals (domestic and wild) from the veterinary units located

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on the territory of the relevant municipality.

5. To summarize the data on the bluetongue surveillance costs incurred by the relevant municipality.

6. To keep a register in the database of all holdings with ruminants free of bluetongue.

7. To send annual reports containing the data referred to in points 1-6 to Directorate "Animal health" at the relevant RFSD.

IV. The veterinary private practitioners have the following responsibilities:

1. To take and send samples for bluetongue testing.

2. To collect and analyse the data on the tested ruminants for bluetongue from the animal holdings located on the territory of the relevant veterinary unit.

3. To summarize data on seropositive animals from the animal holdings located within the relevant veterinary unit.

4. To summarize the data on the bluetongue surveillance and eradication costs incurred at the level of the respective veterinary unit.

5. To create a list of registered ruminant holdings free of bluetongue.

6. To send annual reports to the municipal veterinarian containing the data referred to in points 1-5.

V. Diagnostics: performed only by the Reference Laboratory for exotic diseases at the National Diagnostic Research Veterinary Institute in Sofia. The National Diagnostic Research Veterinary Institute (NDRVI) in Sofia, Laboratory for Arachnoentomology is responsible for quality and quantitative determination of the vectors and vectors control.

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

Describe the name and denomination, the administrative boundaries, and the surface of the administrative and geographical areas in which the programme is to be applied. Illustrate with maps.

(max. 32000 chars) :

Surveillance of the health status of susceptible livestock

Blood samples for serological surveillance will be collected during the period 01.03.2014 – 30.11.2014 from sentinel animals bred in 30 villages in the 11 regions along the South and West borders of Bulgaria. The period between April and end of October is considered to have the highest vector activity. However sample collected in March will detect eventual earlier introduction of the virus and samples collected in November can detect Ab revealed during infection in late Oct or beginning of Nov. Active circulation of the vector in November is unlikely.

The sentinel animals should be bovines born after the last epidemics in 2001, which have never been in contact with BTV and have never been vaccinated against the disease (vaccination policy against BT has never been practiced in Bulgaria).

Passive surveillance of the health status of susceptible livestock will be carried out during the whole year during regular veterinary activities by official and private veterinarians for detection of clinical signs of BT

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particularly in sheep in the high risk areas. In case of suspicion blood samples will be taken for laboratory analysis to confirm or rule out the disease.

Depending on the epidemiological situation BFSA may order blood sampling for laboratory analysis of ruminants reared close to water reservoirs and quarantine stations, intended for intracommunity trade or export to third countries.

In case of unfavourable epidemiological situation in some member states it is possible BFSA to order collecting of blood samples from susceptible animals originating from affected counties. For control inside the country it is foreseen 500 samples to be taken from bovine animals bred within 20 km zone around holdings where BT susceptible animals coming from affected countries are kept.

Surveillance of the health status of the wild ruminant population

In case of emergency situation (outbreaks of BTV in Bulgaria or in neighbouring countries) and depending on the epidemiological situation BFSA may decide to carry out serological surveillance in susceptible wild ruminants (*Capreolus capreolus*, *Cervus elaphus*, *Dama dama*, *Ovis musimon*).

Vector /Culicoides spp/ control in case of outbreaks

In case of emergency situation (outbreaks of BTV in Bulgaria or in neighbouring country) and depending on the epidemiological situation BFSA may order collection in light traps of *Culicoides* spp. during the active vector period (mainly Apr-Oct) for species and quantitative determination. The light traps will be positioned in the high risk areas defined by risk analysis. The light traps will be placed per frequency defined by BFSA near animal holdings and water reservoirs, in 2 consecutive nights.

The vector samples will be sent to the laboratory of Arachnoentomology at the National Diagnostic Research Veterinary Institute (NDRVI) in Sofia for testing, accompanied by a letter containing all data (date of sampling, GPS coordinates of the light traps, temperature and location) recorded during the collection.

4.4 Description of the measures of the programme

A comprehensive description needs to be provided of all measures unless reference can be made to Union legislation. The national legislation in which the measures are laid down is mentioned.

4.4.1 Notification of the disease

(max. 32000 chars) :

Art. 124 of the Law on Veterinary Activities and Ordinance No 23 of 14.12.2005 laying down the terms and conditions for notification and registration of contagious diseases of animals implementing EU Directive No82/894. BT is s subject to mandatory notification in accordance with Art 50 of the Law on Veterinary Activities.

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4.4.2 Target animals and animal population

(max. 32000 chars) :

Bovines - 4550 animals in the regions defined as high risk areas like: Burgas, Yambol, Haskovo, Kargali, Smolyan, Blagoevgrad, Kjustendil, Pernik, Sofia region, Montana and Vidin. These bovines should be animals born after the last epidemics in 2001, which have never been in contact with BTV and have never been vaccinated against the disease (vaccination policy against BT has never been practiced in Bulgaria

In addition 500 blood samples will be taken from the bovines within 20 km zone around holdings or collection centers where BT susceptible animals coming from affected countries are kept. In this way control of the disease will be carried out in the inside parts of the country.

4.4.3 Identification of animals and registration of holdings

(max. 32000 chars) :

According to Art. 51 of the Law on Veterinary Activities the animals are subject to identification and the animal holdings – to registration by BFSa and Regulation 1760/2000 on the terms and conditions for identification of animals, registration of animal holdings and access to the database for animal identification and registration, implementing Regulation 21/2004. According to Art. 51 of the Law on Veterinary Activities the animals are subject to identification and the animal holdings – to registration by BFSa and Ordinance No 61 on the terms and conditions for identification of animals, registration of animal holdings and access to the database for animal identification and registration, implementing Directives 2001/84 and 92/102.

4.4.4 Qualifications of animals and herds

(max. 32000 chars) :

Measures are undertaken pursuant the Ordinance laying down the terms and conditions for spending the funds allocated to cover the epizootic risks. According to article 6, par. 1 and par. 2 of the same Ordinance a distinction is made between stock and pedigree breeding animals

4.4.5 Rules of the movement of animals

(max. 32000 chars) :

The Bulgarian Traceability database will be used for control of large and small ruminants' movement in the context of the BT programme. According to the Law on Veterinary Activities (LVA), owners of farm animals are obliged to:

- ensure availability of their animals to be identified /ear-tagged/, for vaccinations and for diagnostic test purposes;

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According to article 47, par. 2 of the Law on Veterinary Activities restrictive measures are imposed with regard to the movement of infected animals.

4.4.6 Tests used and sampling schemes

(max. 32000 chars) :

Description of the used serological tests: competitive ELISA

Serological surveillance of sentinel animals will be implemented in 30 villages in the regions defined as high risk areas like: Burgas, Yambol, Haskovo, Kargali, Smolyan, Blagoevgrad, Kiustendil, Pernik, Sofia region, Montana and Vidin (Fig. 1). In addition 500 blood samples will be taken from the bovines within 20 km zone around holdings or collection centers where BT susceptible animals coming from affected countries are kept. In this way control of the disease will be carried out in the inside parts of the country.

Passive surveillance will be carried out on the whole territory of Bulgaria through out the year to detect clinical signs of the disease. 100 blood samples are planned to be tested from susceptible livestock in case of suspicion of the disease.

4.4.7 Vaccines used and vaccination schemes

(max. 32000 chars) :

NA

4.4.8 Information and assessment on bio-security measures management and infrastructure in place in the holdings involved.

(max. 32000 chars) :

NA

4.4.9 Measures in case of a positive result

A short description is provided of the measures as regards positive animals (slaughter, destination of carcasses, use or treatment of animal products, the destruction of all products which could transmit the disease or the treatment of such products to avoid any possible contamination, a procedure for the disinfection of infected holdings, the therapeutic or preventive treatment chosen, a procedure for the restocking with healthy animals of holdings which have been depopulated by slaughter and the creation of a surveillance zone around infected holding)

(max. 32000 chars) :

Measures are undertaken pursuant to article 47, par. 1 of the Law on Veterinary Activities the BFSA defining the measures for prevention, control and eradication of diseases, including movement bans and pursuant to Art. 45, par. 3, p. 1 of ORDINANCE No 19 of 14.12.2005 for prevention, control and

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eradication of bluetongue in ruminants implementing Directive 2000/75/EC and Regulation (EC) 1266/2007.

4.4.10 Compensation scheme for owners of slaughtered and killed animals

(max. 32000 chars) :

Owners of slaughtered and killed animals are compensated according to the Ordinance laying down the terms and conditions for spending the funds allocated to cover the epizootic risks, compensations are paid to the owners of the emergency killed or slaughtered animals.

4.4.11 Control on the implementation of the programme and reporting

(max. 32000 chars) :

BFSa is the competent authorities for control of BT. The current programme is reported in accordance with Commission Decision 2008/940/EC. Two reports are performed: intermediate in July and final for the whole year.

5. Benefits of the programme

A description is provided of the benefits for farmers and society in general

(max. 32000 chars) :

1. Costs of sampling and transportation of samples for testing to the National Reference Laboratory for exotic diseases in Sofia.
2. Costs for purchase of necessary diagnostic kits.
3. Cost of compensations payable to the owners of emergency slaughtered and killed ruminants.
4. Costs of remunerations for the people implementing the programme.
5. Surveillance of the bluetongue disease and disease eradication in case of outbreak.
6. In case of vaccination – cost for vaccines and its application.

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

yes

6.1 Evolution of the disease

Evolution of the disease : Not applicable Applicable...

6.2 Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests

6.2.1 Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests for year : **2012**

Region	Animal Species	Test Type	Test Description	Number of samples tested	Number of positive samples	
Bulgaria	Bovine	serological test	Competitive ELISA	4 145	0	X
Total				4 145		
				ADD A NEW ROW		

6.3 Data on infection

Data on infection

Not applicable

Applicable...

6.4 *Data on the status of herds*

Data on the status of herds :

Not applicable

Applicable...

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6.5 *Data on vaccination or treatment programmes*

Data on vaccination or treatment programmes is *Not applicable* *Applicable...*

6.6 *Data on wildlife*

Data on Wildlife is : *Not applicable* *Applicable...*

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7. Targets

The blocks 7.1.1, 7.1.2.1, 7.1.2.2, 7.2, 7.3.1 and 7.3.2 are repeated multiple times in case of first year submission of multiple program.

7.1 Targets related to testing (one table for each year of implementation)

7.1.1 Targets on diagnostic tests for year : **2014**

Region	Type of the test	Target population	Type of sample	Objective	Number of planned tests	
Burgas	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	495	X
Yambol	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	405	X
Haskovo	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	405	X
Kardjali	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	405	X
Smolyan	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	405	X
Blagoevgrad	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	675	X
Kjustendil	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	315	X

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Pemik	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	135	X
Sofia region	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	270	X
Montana	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	270	X
Vidin	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	270	X
other	competitive ELISA	Bovines	blood	surveillance	500	X
Total					4 550	
Add a new row						

7.1.2 Targets on testing herds and animals

7.1.2.1 Targets on testing herds

Not applicable

Applicable...

7.1.2.2 Targets on testing animals

Not applicable

Applicable...

7.2 Targets on qualification of herds and animals

Targets on qualification of herds and animals Not applicable Applicable...

7.3 Targets on vaccination or treatment

7.3.1 Targets on vaccination or treatment is Not applicable Applicable...

7.3.2 Targets on vaccination or treatment of wildlife is Not applicable Applicable...

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8. Detailed analysis of the cost of the programme for year : **2014**

The blocks are repeated multiple times in case of first year submission of multiple program.

To facilitate the handling of your cost data, you are kindly requested to:

1. Fill-in the text fields IN ENGLISH
2. Limit as much as possible the entries to the pre-loaded options where available.
3. If you need to further specify a pre-loaded option, please keep the pre-loaded text and add your clarification to it in the same box.

1. Testing								
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested		
Cost of analysis	Elisa (serum antibody detection)	Individual animal sample/test	4 550	2	9100	yes	X	
Cost of analysis	Elisa (serum antibody detection)	Individual animal sample/test	100	2	200	yes	X	
Cost of analysis	Elisa (serum antibody detection)	Individual animal sample/test	50	2	100	yes	X	
Cost of analysis	PCR (animal samples)	Individual animal sample/test	100	10	1000	yes	X	
Cost of sampling	Domestic animals	Individual animal sample/test	4 700	0.2	940	yes	X	
					Add a new row			
2. Vaccination or treatment								
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested		
Purchase of vaccine/treatment of animal product	depending on...	Vaccine dose	140 000	0.45	63000	yes	X	

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Distribution costs	application of vaccine bovine	Vaccine dose	20 000	1.5	30000	yes	X
Distribution costs	application of vaccine sheep/goats	Vaccine dose	120 000	0.75	90000	yes	X
						Add a new row	
3. Slaughter and destruction							
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
						Add a new row	
4. Cleaning and disinfection							
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Community funding requested	
						Add a new row	
5. Salaries (staff contracted for the programme only)							
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
						Add a new row	
6. Consumables and specific equipment							
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
						Add a new row	
7. Other costs							
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
packaging and transportation of samples to the	packaging and transportation of samples to the laborat	individual sample	4 700	0.2	940	yes	X

Map of Republic of Bulgaria

