



Reporting on SARS-CoV-2 as per CID 2021/788

PAFF – Section Animal Health and Welfare

13 January 2022

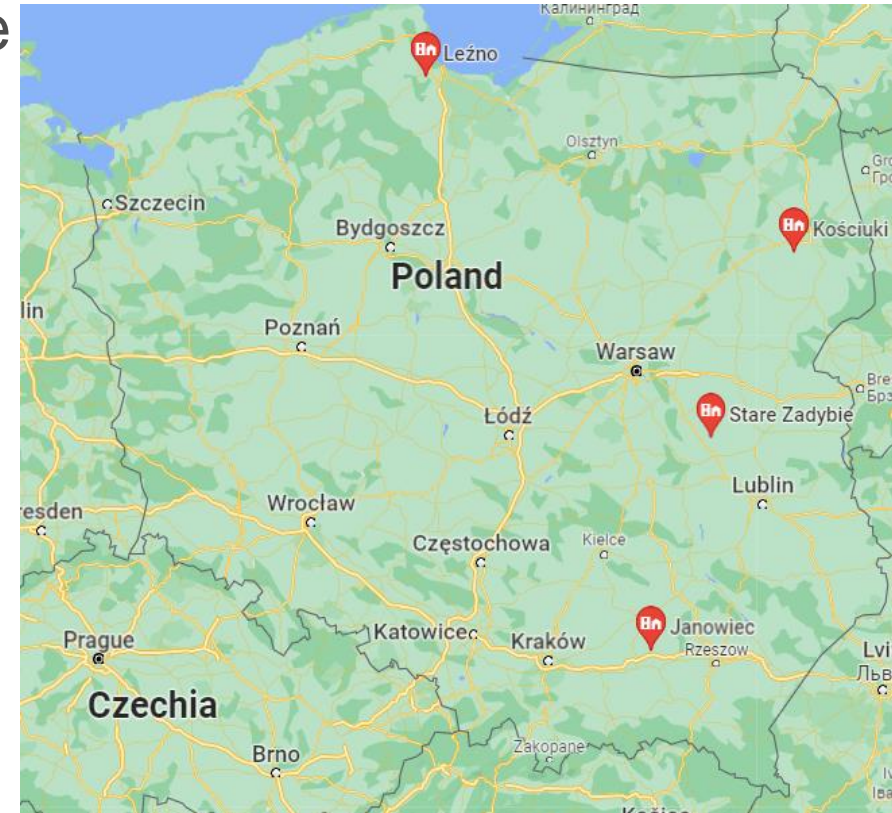
Unit G2 – Animal Health

Reporting on:

- SARS-CoV-2 in minks and other animals of the family *Mustelidae* and in raccoon dogs
- CID 2021/788 adopted on 12 May 2021
- Four outbreaks reported by Poland and further details on the 13 outbreaks reported by Lithuania
- Follow-up reports on previous outbreaks by Latvia and Poland

Poland

- **4 new SARS-CoV-2 outbreaks** in minks & raccoon dogs confirmed by RT-PCR:
- **2021/8 to 2021/11** located in voivodeship lubelskie, pomorskie, podkarpackie and podlaskie
- No clinical signs nor fatality in any outbreak (samples taken as a part of active surveillance)
- Origin of the virus: investigation ongoing
- Control measures include:
 - Isolation and observation,
 - ban on movement of animals,
 - official supervision for treatment of animal by-products, feed, bedding,
 - cleaning and disinfection
- Communication and coordination among **animal health and public health authorities**



Poland - 2021/8

- Location:
Janowiec village, powiat Mielec – podkarpackie voivodeship
- Confirmation date: 17.12.21 - samples taken as a part of active surveillance
- Farm with 1.408 minks

Poland - 2021/9

- Location: podlaskie voivodeship, powiat Białystok - Kościuki village
- Confirmation date: 20.12.2021 - samples taken as a part of active surveillance
- – minks (female 4000, male 1000)
- – **raccoon dogs** (female 200, male 100)

Poland - 2021/10

- Location:
Stare Zadybie village, powiat Ryki, lubelskie voivodeship
- Confirmation date: 23.12.2021 - samples taken as a part of active surveillance
- Farm with 3000 minks

Poland - 2021/11

- Location:
Leżno village, powiat Kartuszy, pomorskie voivodeship
- Confirmation date: 23.12.2021 - samples taken as a part of active surveillance
- Farm with 6000 females and 2000 males

Poland – update on 2021/3

- Location: Kraczki, powiat Nakło, kujawsko – pomorskie voivodeship
- Data on molecular epidemiology, significant mutations:
 - **Genetic characterization revealed that this strain belongs to clade 21J, Delta and the genetic line AY.43 (B.1.617.2.43).**
 - **The strain had 44 nucleotide mutations and 3 deletions (13 nucleotides) within the S gene were observed in positions: 22028 - 22034, 28248 - 28253 and 28270 – 28271**
- Other relevant information:
 - **Inspections carried out on the farm showed compliance with biosecurity procedures.**
 - **the killing of mink for pelts was completed, processing and storage of pelts are on the farm**

Poland – update on 2021/4 – 5 – 6

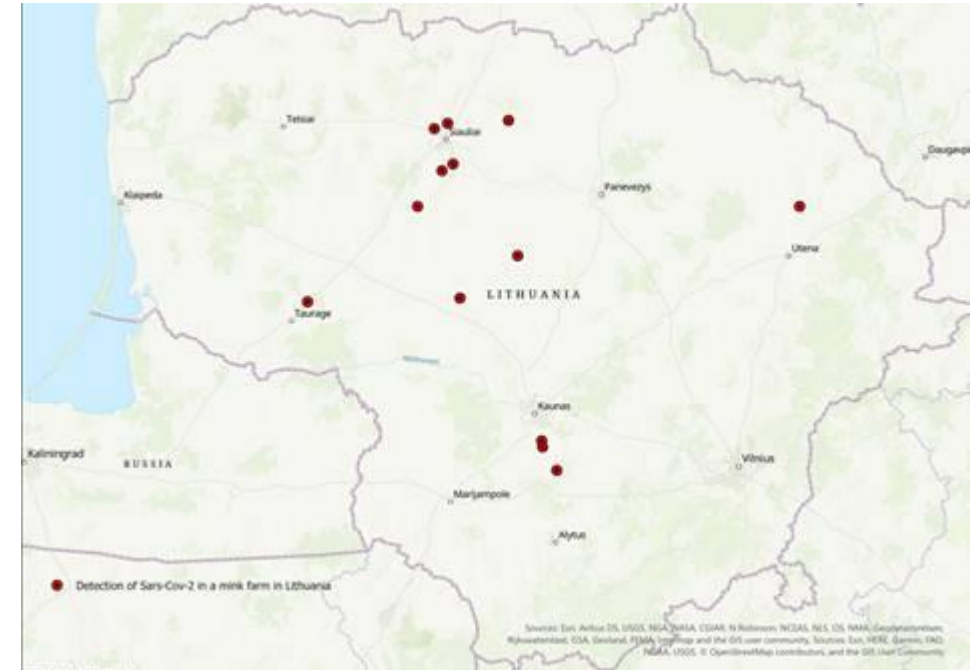
- Location: Zachodniopomorskie voivodeship, powiat Kołobrzeg (cluster)
- Mortality: there were no deaths in mink in the period from 7 December 2021
- Non-personal epidemiological data on human cases in the Member State directly related to animal outbreaks: investigation ongoing, the relevant sanitary services were notified, **2 of the 3 owners vaccinated against Covid-19. The owners refused to test for Covid-19.** They are under the epidemiological supervision of the sanitary authorities

Poland – update on 2021/7

- Location:
Biadki village, powiat Krotoszyn, wielkopolskie voivodeship
- **possible introduction of the virus to the farm: by the family friend who helped with the animals on 10-14 November 2021.**
- Other relevant information:
 - There are **3 fur farms in the risk zone**, which have been subject to increased surveillance in relation to SARS-CoV-2. **No increased deaths were found on these farms.** Samples for SARS-CoV-2 were collected in 2 farms. In the case of first farm, negative results were obtained. Testing of samples from second farms - in progress.

Lithuania – update

- **13 infected herds with SARS-CoV-2** in minks during the mink pelting season: outbreaks 2021/4 to 2021/16
- Confirmation by RT-PCR between 12/11/2021 to 7/12/2021
- mortality and morbidity are not increased over the normal
- disease is very mild and it has been detected only through intensified targeted sampling
- all workers were vaccinated or at least tested on the weekly basis



Lithuania – update

- Infected farms are under restrictions and official supervision:
 - stricter requirements for biosecurity measures in the infected mink farm,
 - ban on movement of animals into and from the infected mink farms,
 - slaughter of all COVID-19-infected and potentially infected minks in infected mink farms
 - disinfection of the cages containing COVID-19-infected and potentially infected minks with authorized biocidal products containing SARS-COV-2 virus,
 - placement of killed or dead minks and their fur in separate containers which must be clearly marked, liquid-tight and sealed, stored safely until further instructions by the SFVS or handed over to an approved animal by-products establishment for processing as Category 2 animal by-products,
 - performance of passive monitoring in infected mink farms by sampling dead minks for SARS-COV-2 virus, testing by the polymerase chain reaction method at the National Institute for Food and Veterinary Risk Assessment (NMVRVI).
- Source of the virus: investigation ongoing

Latvia – update on outbreak **Confirmed on 10/04/2021**

- Epidemiological investigation: virus was **introduced in the mink farm by infected farm worker** in early spring this year
- Mortality and morbidity have not been increased as well as clinical signs of disease have not been observed in the affected mink farm, thus suggesting **asymptomatic course of the infection in minks.**
- All weekly PCR tests in dead and alive mink since 10th December 2021 have showed negative results.

Latvia – update on outbreak **Confirmed on 10/04/2021**

- Molecular epidemiology:
 - Sequencing results from infected workers showed 8 cases in which virus mutations were related with results from previously infected minks, **indicating the transmission of the virus from the mink to the human in the affected holding**
 - However, the circulating type of SARS-CoV-2 virus detected in the mink population **has not been detected in humans in vicinity of the farm nor other people elsewhere in Latvia**
 - **None of the infected farm workers has been hospitalized**
 - The genome sequences belong to the Pangolin lineages B.1, B.1.177, B.1.177.60 (SARS-CoV-2 Alpha variant), which were the dominant lineages and circulated in the Latvian human population at the beginning of 2021

Thank you



© European Union 2020

Unless otherwise noted the reuse of this presentation is authorised under the [CC BY 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) license. For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders.

Slide xx: [element concerned](#), source: [e.g. Fotolia.com](#); Slide xx: [element concerned](#), source: [e.g. iStock.com](#)

