



Ministry of Agriculture
Veterinary and Food Safety Directorate

Recognition of Croatia as officially free from bovine brucellosis

Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, food and Feed (SCoPAFF)

March 2021

Historical overview

- ✓ Croatia has a long history of brucellosis control
- ✓ Vaccination was never performed
- ✓ Last case of bovine brucellosis in Croatia involving *B. abortus* was confirmed in 1965

2007 - 2011

- ✓ blood sampling of 20 % cows in all herds with more than 10 animals and blood samples of all heifers, before first lactation
- ✓ premovement testing for all breeding cattle older than 12 months
- ✓ blood sampling of all breeding bulls, twice per year

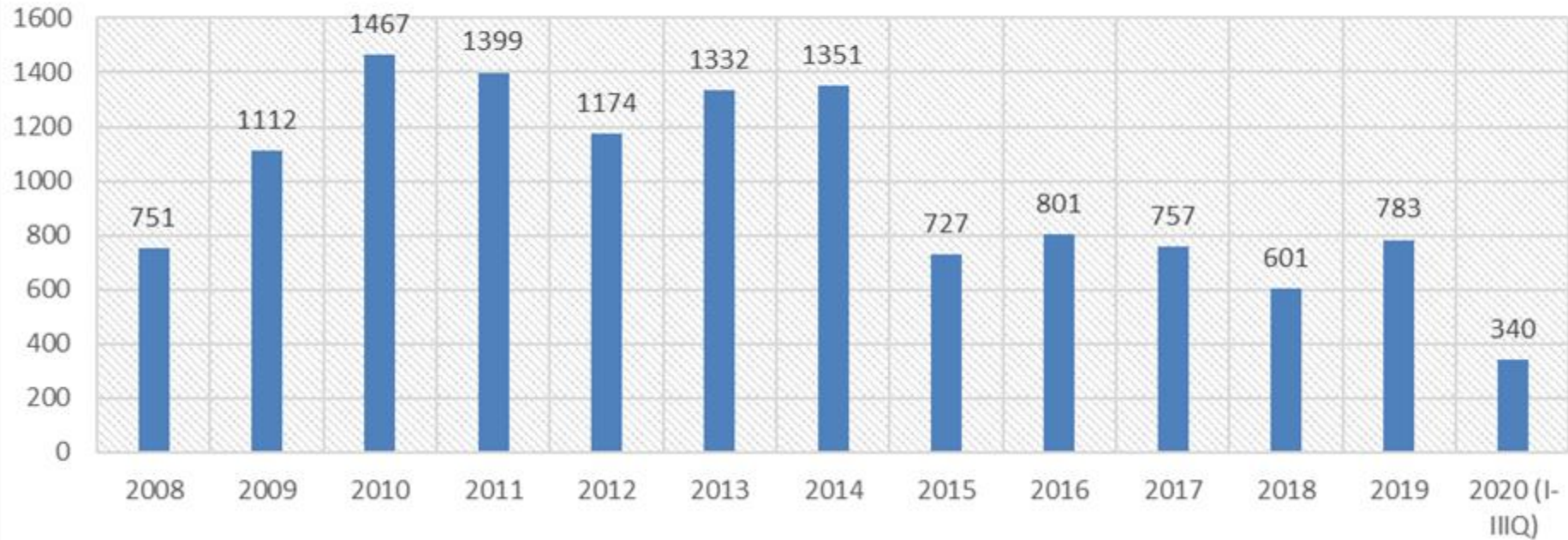
2011

- ✓ program aligned with Directive 64/432 (designation of OBF herds)

Annual routine screening of bovine animals with RBT 2011 - 2020 (individual blood test)

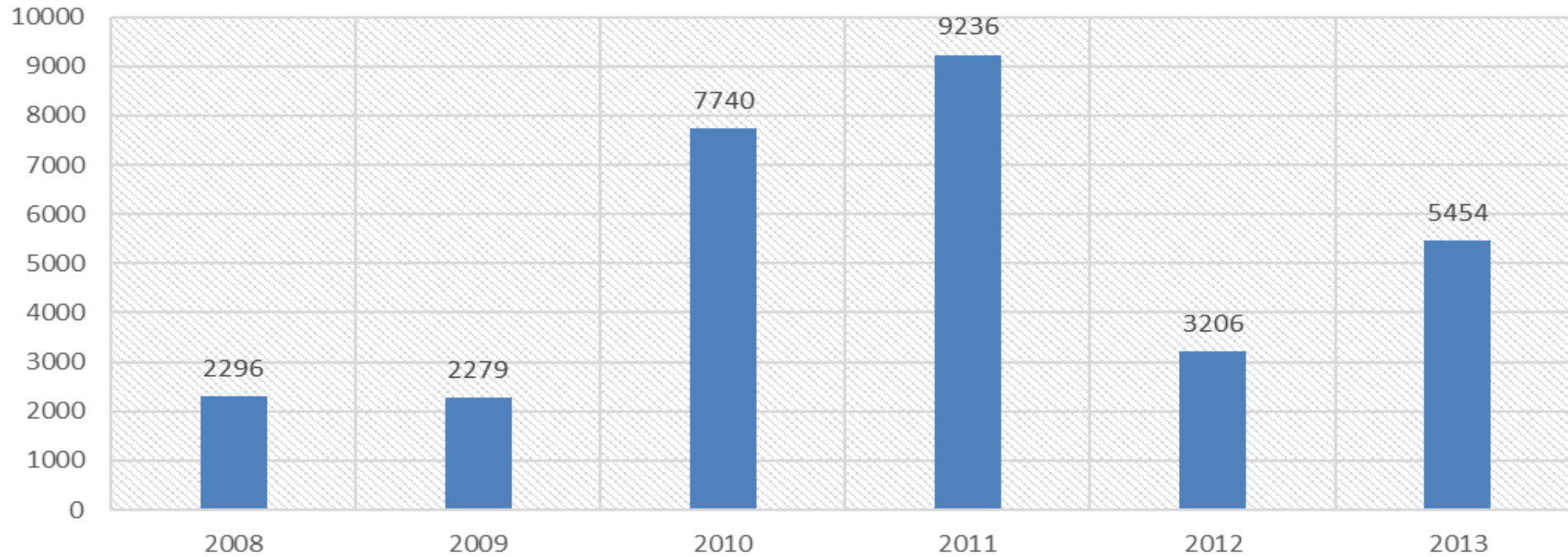
Year	Eligible herds	Tested herds
2011	36047	35314 (98 %)
2012	34899	34899 (100 %)
2013	31345	30753 (98 %)
2014	30198	29686 (98 %)
2015	28546	27306 (96 %)
2016	26305	25441 (97 %)
2017	23772	22991 (97 %)
2018	21721	20412 (93 %)
2019	19804	17828 (90 %)
2020	18026	16474 (91 %)

Laboratory investigation of abortions 2008-2020

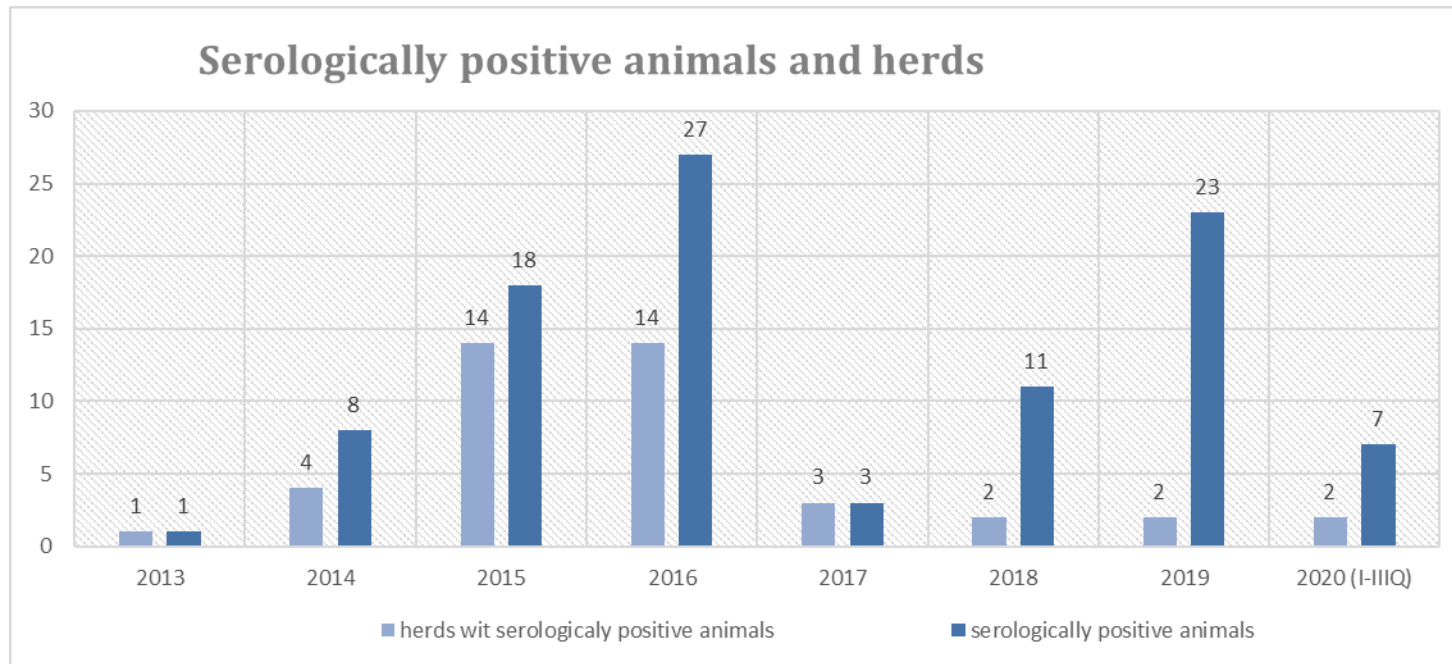


- ▶ Notification of abortion is mandatory
- ▶ Figure represents notified abortions – **all samples negative**
- ▶ No case of abortion in bovine animals due to brucella infection was confirmed

Premovement tests 2008-2013



Serologically positive animals



All RBT positive animals were tested again with:
CFT, iELISA and cELISA in parallel

Animal positive either on CFT and/or cELISA and/or
iELISA is considered suspicious on bovine brucellosis

a) Retesting after 35 – 45 days

b) BST

c) Slaughtering and sampling for bacteriological
investigation and isolation and identification of disease
agent – after positive BST or if risk factors involved

Last case of bovine brucellosis involving *B.abortus*
1965

In the last 10 years period *B.melitensis* confirmed in 2
herds (2018, 2019)

Year	Officially free herds
2015	99,8
2016	99,8
2017	99,8
2018	99,8
2019	99,8
2020	99,8

Croatia has fulfilled requirements of Annex A, Part II, point 7 of Directive 64/432

- ▶ no case of abortion due to brucella infection and no isolation of *B. abortus* has been recorded for at least three years and at least 99,8 % of herds, excluding some new herds, have achieved officially brucellosis-free status each year for five consecutive years
- ▶ each bovine animal is identified in accordance with Community legislation
- ▶ notification of cases of abortion is mandatory and they are investigated by the CA

Future measures

2021

- ✓ All bovine animals older than 24 months are tested

2022

- ✓ Mandatory notification and investigation of each abortion in bovine animals
- ✓ Testing according to Section 2, Chapter 3, Part I, Annex IV of DR 2020/689

„the first 2 consecutive years following granting of the status, annual surveillance based on a representative sample of all establishments keeping bovine animals has been carried out that must allow at least for the detection, with a 95 % level of confidence, of infection with *Brucella abortus*, *B. melitensis* and *B. suis*, at a target prevalence rate of 0,2 % of the establishments keeping bovine animals or a target prevalence rate of 0,1 % of the bovine population”

- ✓ Regular assesment and quick adjustment of measures when necessary

Thank you!

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. These shapes are primarily located on the right side of the frame, with some extending towards the center. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern.