

Eradication: Final report for Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies 2018

For each approved annual or multi-annual programme Member States shall submit to the Commission by the 30 April each year an annual detailed technical and financial report covering the previous year. That report shall include the results achieved and a detailed account of eligible costs incurred (Art 14 of Regulation (EU) No 652/2014).

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Country code: IE

Reporting period

From: 2018

To: 2018

Year of implementation: 2018

1. Technical implementation of the programme

1.1 Description and evaluation of the evolution of the epidemiological situation, the technical implementation of the activities foreseen under the programme and the cost-effectiveness of the programme.

Scrapie: A total of 205 sheep flocks were restricted from October 2003 to end of 2018 with 191 of these flocks derestricted at the end of 2018. There were 3 new flock restrictions in 2017 (2 classical and 1 atypical), and 11 new flock restrictions in 2018 (1 classical and 10 atypical). The 2018 goat population in Ireland is estimated at 9,000 (the 2018 goat census is not yet fully completed). To date Ireland has not had a positive TSE rapid test in a goat, thus we have had no goat herds under restriction for classical or atypical scrapie.

BSE: The first case of BSE in Ireland was reported in 1989. To date, 1661 cases have been identified. Since 1989, it is a legal requirement for any person observing an animal with clinical signs consistent with BSE to inform DAFM. Initially, herds with positive BSE cases were completely depopulated of all bovine animals on the holding. Depopulation was accompanied by full tracing of all cohorts and progeny who were subsequently killed and disposed of outside of the food chain. In 2006, the policy was changed to a policy of partial depopulation whereby all of the cohorts and progeny animals were traced, killed and disposed of outside of the food chain. All of the BSE cases confirmed between 2007 and 2018 were born in Ireland. Some of the cases confirmed between 1989 and 1996 were born in other European countries (United Kingdom 11 cases, Netherlands 3 cases, France 3 cases and Denmark 1 case

1.2 Details on the level of achievement of the targets set in the approved programme and technical difficulties.

Scrapie: In 2018, the surveillance programme for Scrapie involved the testing of 11,035 sheep over 18 months of age at slaughter plants and 10,802 fallen sheep at knackeries. 57 sheep were depopulated in classical scrapie flocks. 151 fallen goats were tested in knackeries, and 0 goats were tested in abattoirs. Measures in Ireland have been effective as evidenced by a statistically significant decreasing trend in classical cases from 2012 to 2018.

BSE: In 2018 the surveillance programme for BSE involved testing of 69542 bovines at knackeries, 493 casualties, 11 at Local Authorities, 233 at other locations.

Technical Implementation: Since 1989 Ireland has implemented many controls to deal with BSE. A ban on the feeding of animal protein, excluding milk and dicalcium phosphate, to ruminants was introduced in 1990 in Ireland (the initial feeding ban). Enhanced controls on the production, sale or supply of mammalian MBM were introduced in 1996. These controls were aimed at eliminating the risk of cross-contaminating ruminant feed with mammalian MBM that could be legally manufactured for feed for other species including pigs, poultry and pets. These control measures were referred to as the reinforced feed ban. On January 1st, 2001, EU Directive 2000/766 came into effect to ban all processed proteins in farm animal feed.

Fallen stock and materials condemned as unfit for human consumption are classified under the ABP Regulations as Category 1 material if they contain SRM and Category 2 ABP if not. It is a statutory requirement that SRM is completely removed at the appropriate point, collected hygienically and disposed of in accordance with Regulation (EC) 1069/2009. In Ireland, there are three rendering plants processing Category 1 ABP into MBM and tallow with the bulk of the material coming from slaughter houses and knackeries. All 3 rendering plants use processing Method 1 and the parameters used in relation to time, temperature, pressure and particle size are 133°C at 3 bar pressure for 20 consecutive minutes at a particle size of <50mms. This is the most stringent ABP processing method and gives a 3 log reduction in relation to inactivation of the BSE prion.

Obligation to report animals suspected of being affected with BSE in Ireland (passive surveillance)

1990 Depopulation of herds with BSE positive cases

August 1990 Ban on feeding animal proteins to ruminant "the initial feed ban"

1996 Testing of animals in BSE positive herds (targeted surveillance)

October 1996 Enhanced controls on production and supply of mammalian meat and bone meal (MMBM) and on the use of MMBM in non-ruminant feed (the reinforced feed ban)

February 1997 Controls in place for specified risk materials

April 1997 Requirement to process mammalian animal waste at 133 °C, 3 bar for 20 min using a particle size of 50 mm

January 2001 Ban on processed animal protein in farmed animal feed

Requirement to test a random sample of emergency slaughter and fallen animals over 24 months of age (targeted surveillance)

July 2001 Ban on animal protein in farmed animal feed with limited exceptions

July 2001 Requirement to test all casualty, emergency slaughter and fallen animals over 24 months of age and all healthy animals slaughtered for human consumption over 30 months of age (targeted surveillance)

January 2009 Age threshold for testing in all categories raised to 48 months of age (targeted surveillance altered)

July 2011 Age threshold for testing of healthy slaughter animals raised to 72 months of age. Age threshold for testing of casualty, emergency slaughter and fallen animals remains at 48 months of age

March 2013 Ireland, along with 15 other EU member states, discontinued testing healthy slaughter animals. The effectiveness of the controls used for BSE in Ireland is very clear, with a huge decline in the incidence of BSE with no cases in 2014, only one in 2015, no case in 2016, one atypical case in 2017 and no cases in 2018. 1996 was the year of birth of the largest number of BSE cases to date. This highlights the effectiveness of the reinforced feed ban and the other measures that were put in place in Ireland initially.

1.3 Epidemiological maps for infection and other relevant data on the disease/activities (information on serotypes involved,...) (Please attach files of data using the PDF attachment feature) Use the textbox below to provide clarifications for the maps you attach, if needed.

none

2. Tables for TSE monitoring outcome of the year

VERY IMPORTANT: Please fill out the following tables with figures corresponding to measures performed during the implementing period (1/1 to 31/12).

NB: the Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 is thereafter quoted as the TSE Regulation.

Table A

	Total positive cases detected during the implementing period
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	Classical cases	Atypical cases	Unknown
TSE	1	8	0
Scrapie (ovine animals)	1	8	0
Scrapie (caprine animals)	0	0	0

Table B

RAPID TESTS ON BOVINE ANIMALS		
	Age limit applied (in months)	Number of tests cases
Risk bovine animals from MSs listed in Annex to Decision 2009/719/EC	48	70,239
Risk bovine animals from MSs NOT listed in Annex to Decision 2009/719/EC	24	0
Healthy slaughtered bovine animals from MSs listed in Annex to Decision 2009/719/EC	48	0
Healthy slaughtered bovine animals from MSs NOT listed in Annex to Decision 2009/719/EC	30	20
Suspect animals and confirmatory tests		20
Total		70,279

Table C

Population of ewes and ewe lambs put to the ram in the Member State

2700000

RAPID TESTS ON OVINE ANIMALS	
	Number of tests
Healthy slaughtered ovine animals	10,580
Dead ovine animals	10,791
In the context of measures of control/eradication on holdings affected by TSE as described in Annexes III and VII of the TSE regulation	
Ovine animals from holdings affected by classical scrapie	201
Ovine animals from holdings affected by atypical scrapie	322
Ovine animals from holdings affected by BSE	0
Suspect animals	0
Total number of tests	21,894

Table D

Population of goats which have already kidded and goats mated in the Member State

6000

RAPID TESTS ON CAPRINE ANIMALS	
	Number of tests
Healthy slaughtered caprine animals	0
Dead caprine animals	151
In the context of measures of control/eradication on holdings affected by TSE as described in Annexes III and VII of the TSE regulation	
Caprine animals from holdings affected by classical scrapie	0
Caprine animals from holdings affected by atypical scrapie	0
Caprine animals from holdings affected by BSE	0
Suspect animals	0
Total number of tests	151

Table E

Confirmatory and discriminatory tests	
	Number of tests
Confirmatory tests other than rapid tests on bovine animals	20
Confirmatory tests on ovine and caprine animals	9
Discriminatory tests on bovine animals	0

Discriminatory tests on ovine and caprine animals	1
Total number of confirmatory tests	29
Total number of discriminatory tests	1

Table F

Genotyping tests	
	Number of tests
Positive TSE case	9
Randomly selected ovine animals	0
Animals in scrapie infected flocks	280
Breeding programme - ewes	0
Breeding programme - rams	0
Total of number of tests	289

Table G

COMPENSATION FOR ANIMALS In the context of suspicion, control and eradication of TSEs	
Animals culled and destroyed	Number of animals compensated
Bovine animals	0
Ovine animals	191
Caprine animals	0
Animals slaughtered	Number of animals compensated
Ovine animals	0
Caprine animals	0
Total Bovine	0
Total Ovine + Caprine	191

COMMENT / ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION

Rapid tests on bovine animals born in MSs listed in CD 2009/719 | Risk animals
total number of tests = 70279 less suspects of 20, less tests not invoiced and paid 240, less underage 279
= 69740 eligible for claim

Rapid Tests - ovine

Total number of tests = 21894. Total number of tests invoiced and paid = 21,801. A maximum of 20,000 is allowable as per regulation plus SPF testing = 20,000 + 523 = 20,523

Rapid Tests - caprine = 151. Maximum allowable for claim as per regulation = 100

Genotyping test - TSE cases 9 cases but only 8 invoiced and paid

191 sheep and lambs eligible for compensation but 57 sheep over 18 months were tested and eligible for claim