



*Ministero della Salute*

# EHDV in Italy

**Directorate General for Animal  
Health and veterinary medicinal  
products**



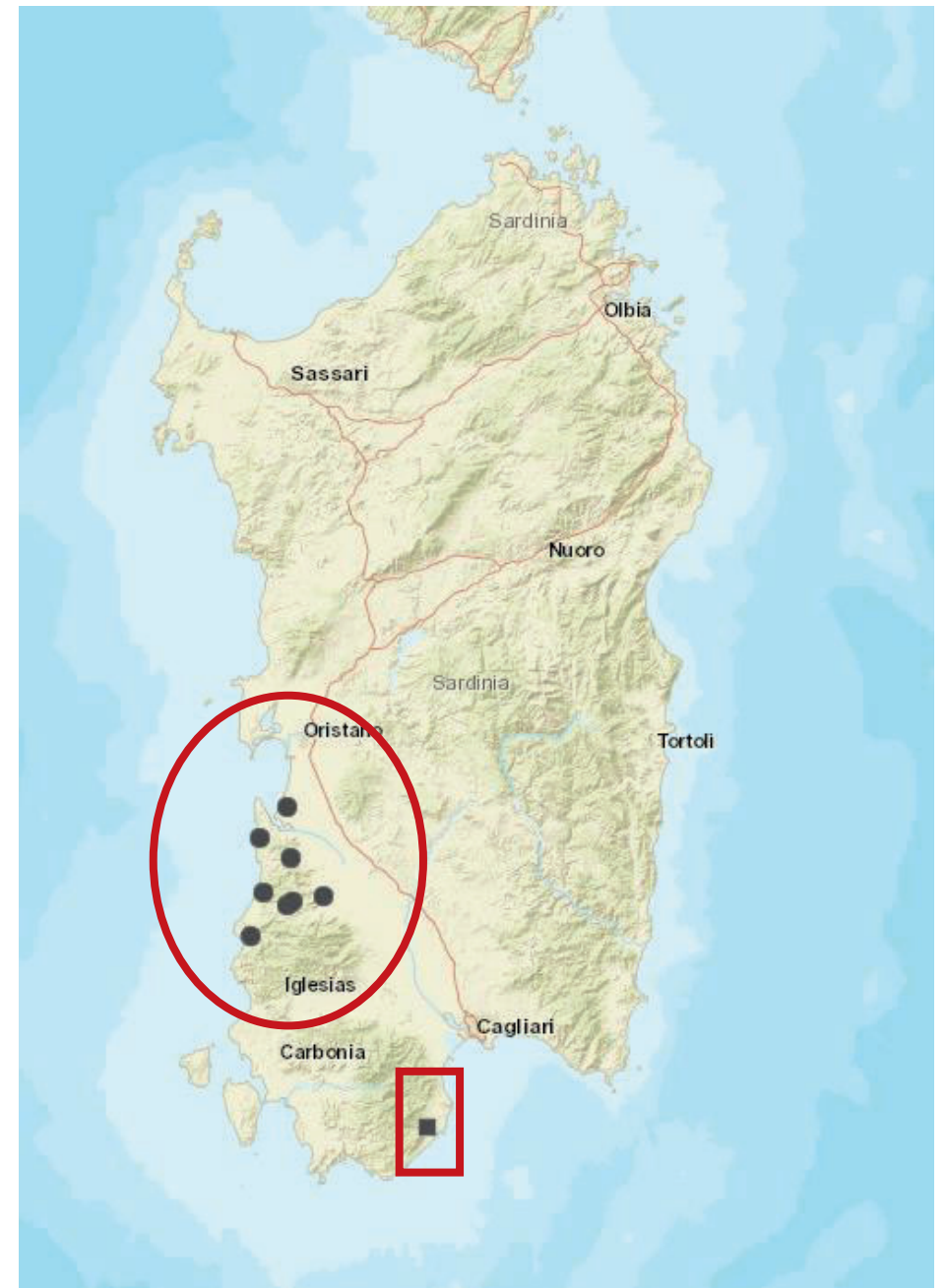
# Outbreak map



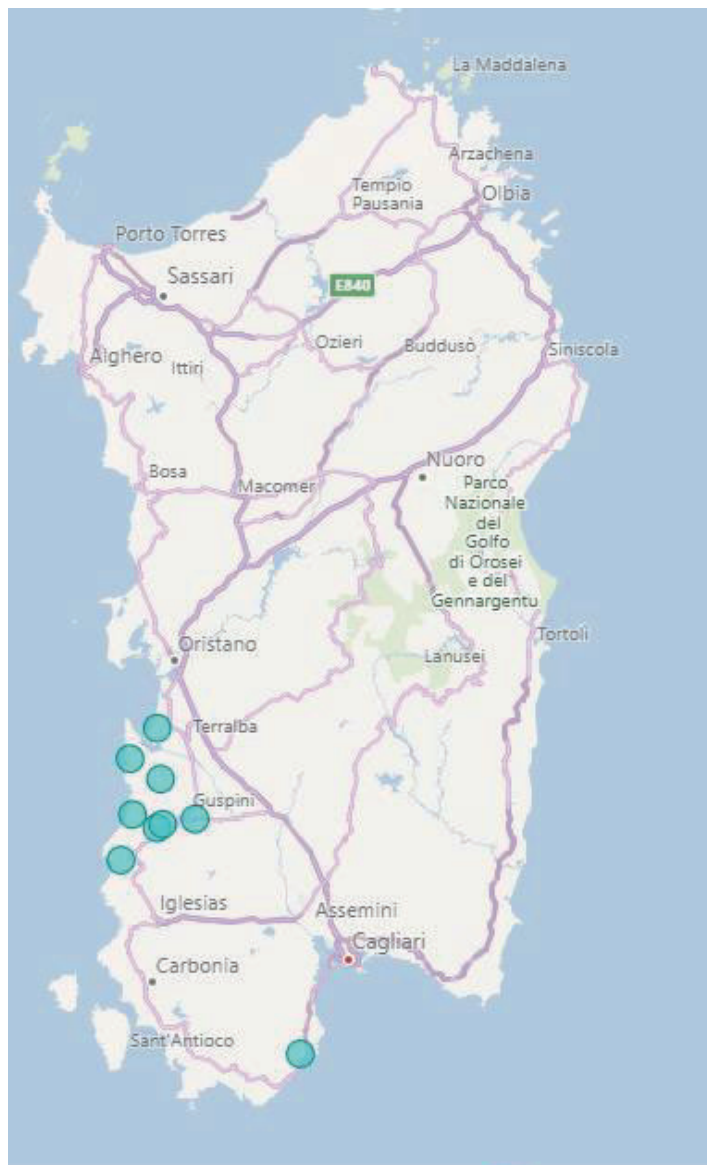


# Sardinia

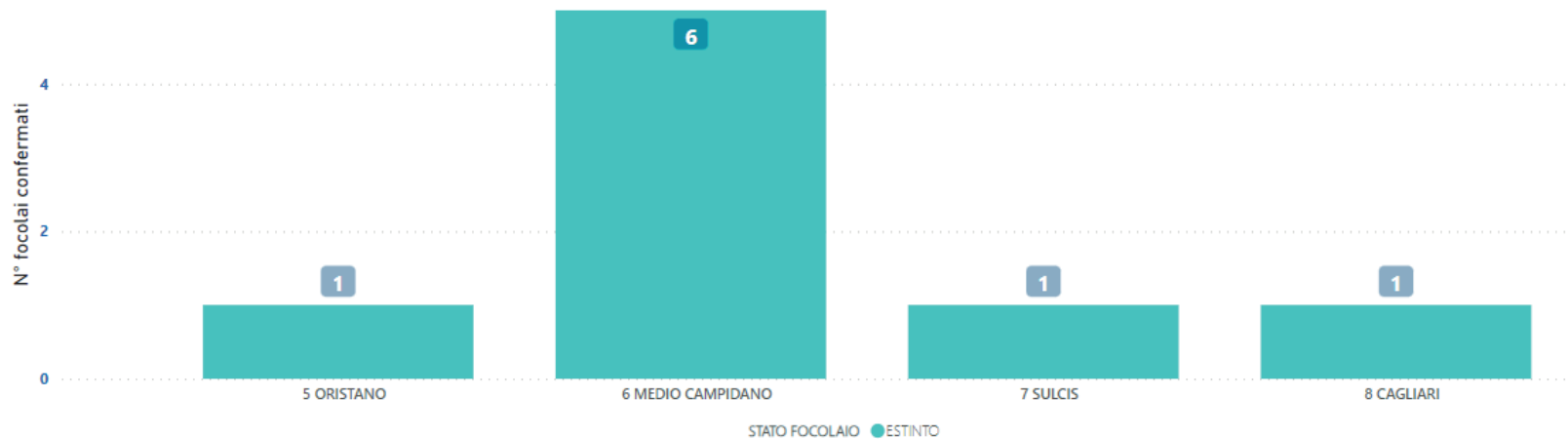
- 8 November 2022: EHDV was detected and identified in a bull showing severe clinical signs.
- It was the first evidence of EHDV circulation in Europe. It was typed as EHDV-8
- Up today, 9 holdings were affected by EHD
- The EHDV strain responsible for the outbreaks was the same that circulated in Tunisia in 2021-2022
- Wild animals: 15/11/2022 a blood sample from a deer caught in Pula (Cagliari Province) was positive to RT-PCR. As the spleen and lymph nodes were RT-PCR negative, it was hypothesised a recent infection
- Last outbreak confirmed on 09/03/2023 and closed on 02/05/2023. Farm with 55 bovines. 1 PCR positive probably an of infection because PCR positivity should be maintained for 4-6 months



# Outbreaks in Sardinia



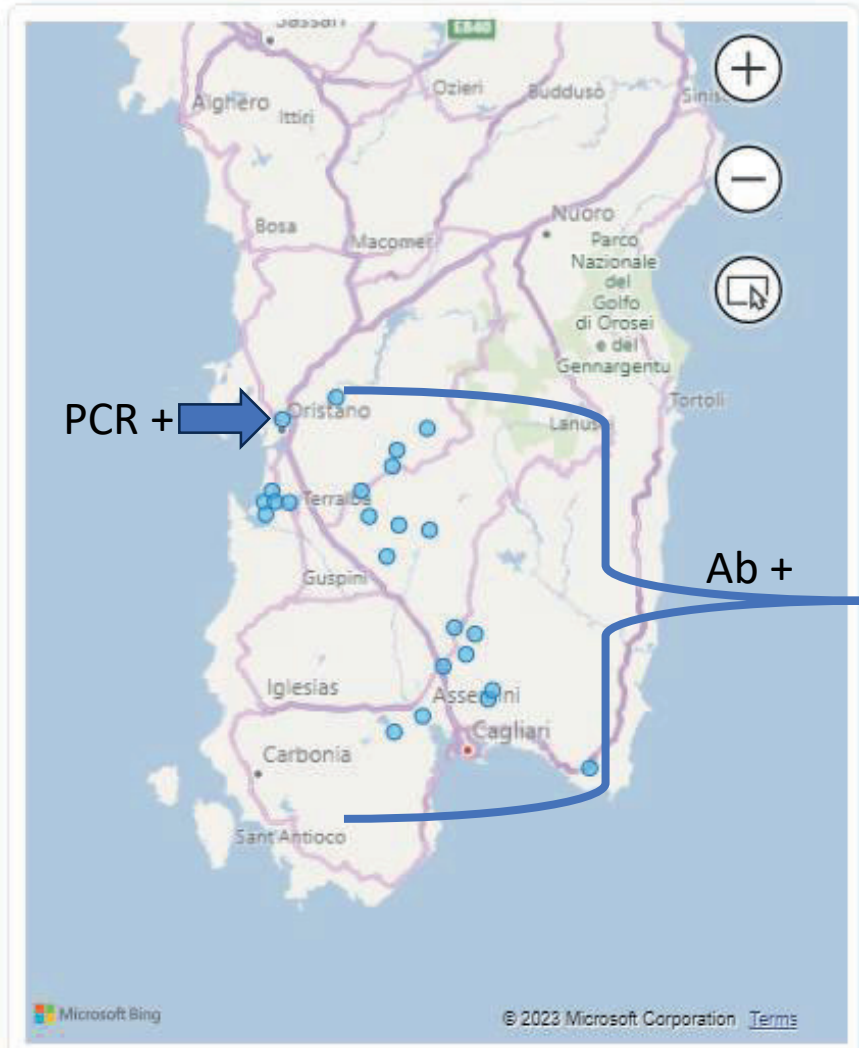
FOCOLAIO ● ESTINTO



Asl	ESTINTO
5 ORISTANO	1
6 MEDIO CAMPIDANO	6
7 SULCIS	1
8 CAGLIARI	1

Local Health Unit	Outbreak 's number	Species	Municipality	Suspect date	Confirmation date	Closing date	N. of animals	Positive	Dead	reason for suspicion
6 MEDIO CAMPIDANO	5	BOVINO	ARBUS	08/11/2022	17/11/2022	03/02/2023	11	5	0	Focolaio clinico
6 MEDIO CAMPIDANO	3	BOVINO	ARBUS	03/03/2023	07/03/2023	02/05/2023	55	1	0	Positività diagnostica
6 MEDIO CAMPIDANO	1	BOVINO	ARBUS	28/10/2022	08/11/2022	07/02/2023	15	5	1	Focolaio clinico
6 MEDIO CAMPIDANO	3	BOVINO	ARBUS	04/11/2022	08/11/2022	04/04/2023	30	13	4	Focolaio clinico
5 ORISTANO	10	BOVINO	ARBOREA	20/12/2022	20/12/2022	20/02/2023	413	1	0	Positività diagnostica
7 SULCIS	16	OVINO	FLUMINIMAGGIORE	08/12/2022	08/12/2022	29/06/2023	111	67	0	Positività diagnostica
6 MEDIO CAMPIDANO	17	BOVINO	GONNOSFANADIGA	18/11/2022	09/12/2022	15/02/2023	87	5	5	Focolaio clinico
6 MEDIO CAMPIDANO	2	BOVINO	GUSPINI	31/10/2022	08/11/2022	17/01/2023	21	1	1	Focolaio clinico
8 CAGLIARI	6	CERVO SARDO	PULA	09/11/2022	15/11/2022	04/04/2023	1	1	1	Positività diagnostica
<b>Totale</b>							<b>744</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>12</b>	

# Surveillance Plan in Sardinia until April 2023



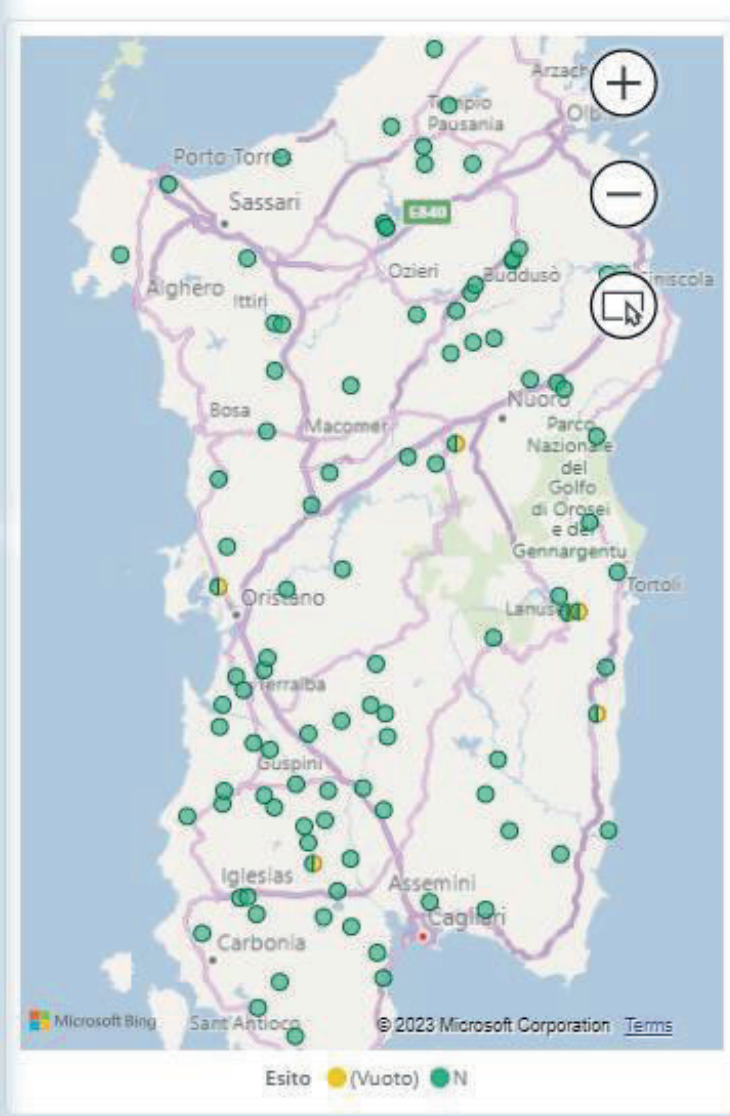
As soon as first outbreaks were confirmed, Regional Authority, in accordance with the Ministry of Health and with the scientific support of NRC for exotic diseases, provided a Surveillance Plan to understand the spread of the disease.

It started at the beginning of December until the end of April. All positive animals were tested sero+, with the exception of one case in Oristano that tested PCR+

Local Health Unit	Municipality	Holding code	N. animals	Animal to be tested *	Positive animals	Long.	Lat.
8 CAGLIARI	Assemini		7	TUTTI	1		
5 ORISTANO	Ales		26	20	1		
6 MEDIO CAMPIDANO	Barumini		119	86	1		
5 ORISTANO	Arborea		125	92	5		
5 ORISTANO	Arborea		411	213	1		
5 ORISTANO	Arborea		176	101	3		
5 ORISTANO	Arborea		153	97	2		
5 ORISTANO	Assolo		55	48	1		
8 CAGLIARI	Donori'		2	TUTTI	1		
8 CAGLIARI	Donori'		35	30	2		
8 CAGLIARI	Monastir		3	TUTTI	1		
5 ORISTANO	Oristano		6	TUTTI	1		
8 CAGLIARI	Pimentel		10	TUTTI	2		
5 ORISTANO	Villa Sant'Antonio		31	30	1		
5 ORISTANO	Simala		31	30	2		
5 ORISTANO	Terralba		20	TUTTI	1		
<b>Totale</b>			<b>1810</b>		<b>35</b>		

\*TUTTI means all

# Second phase of Surveillance Plan in Sardinia – sentinel species



Schema per Asl **Schema per Province**

Province	Sentinel tested	Sentinel ser-tested	Sentinel Sero +	Sentinel PCR tested	Sentinel PCR+
NUORO	394	394			
ORISTANO	219	219			
SASSARI	371	371			
SUD SARDEGNA-AREA METROP.CA	543	536			
<b>Totale</b>	<b>1526</b>	<b>1519</b>			

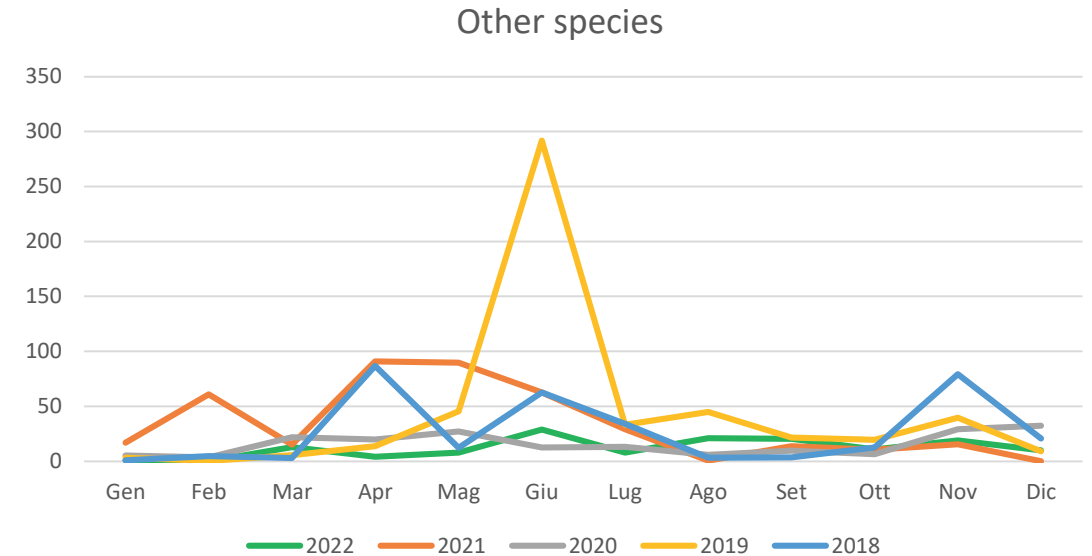
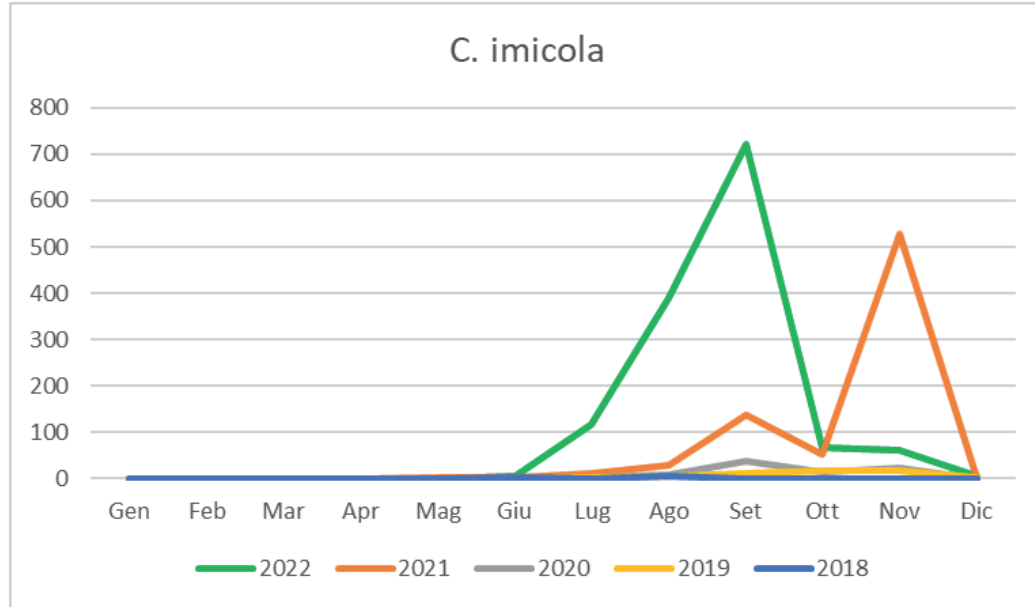


In the whole Region, cattle and sheep were selected as sentinel animals, to be tested both serologically and virologically (RT-PCR).  
 Selection was based on the criteria used for Bluetongue surveillance → EHD Screening → if sero-negative, were included as sentinel and monthly tested. In 2023, all animals tested so far were negative.



# Entomological surveillance

- Surveillance on stocked vectors



- In 2023, surveillance on vectors collected in outbreak-farms every 2 weeks ➡ Negatives

# Sicily

- 2 farms involved
- The first outbreak (2022/4) occurred in November 2022 with 8 infected animals (3 with symptoms, one of which died) RT-PCR and ELISA
  - On 26/01/2023 2 other animals, not previously tested, were positive to RT-PCR and ELISA.
  - Check in May 2023, all animals PCR negative but ELISA positive
  - Outbreak closed 26/05/2023
- Outbreak 2022/18: 2 cattle PCR+ confirmed on 21/12/2023, in a farm with 11 bovines in total. Outbreak closed 06/06/2023





# Movements of live animals

- **In Sicily** on 02/12/2022, the Regional Authority has authorized movements of live animals from the area within a radius of 150 km from the outbreak, provided the following criteria are met:
  - Movements are directly to slaughterhouse
  - cattle to be moved do not show any clinical signs of disease. Clinical examinations of bovine may be carried out by the competent veterinary service at slaughterhouses
  - transport must be carried out during daylight hours;
  - vehicles must be treated with insecticides
- **In Sardinia:** until June, all animals should be tested by RT-PCR before moving.



Thanks for your kind attention