

About this dossier

Output on: 2021/02/01 11:45
(Europe/Luxembourg)

Status: closed (submitted)

Created: 2020/05/18 10:57

Last updated: 2020/05/26 11:51

Eradication: Final report for Bluetongue 2019

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).

This form is for information only, no submission possible.

ID: 20200518-UUIDCIU5

Country code: IT

Reporting period

From: 2019

To: 2019

Year of implementation: 2019

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.

The bluetongue (BT) surveillance programme in Italy is based on serological and entomological surveillance activities, carried out all over the country.

In the last five years BTV-1, BTV-3 and BTV-4 circulation was confirmed.

BTV-1 circulation started in 2013 and continued in the following years with a decreasing number of outbreaks, thanks to the vaccination campaigns carried out. In late autumn 2014, BTV-4 was detected in Apulia region then spread in southern part of Italy and in 2016 reached the north across Veneto, Friuli, Lombardy regions and Trento province. In 2017 more than 2000 outbreaks of BTV-4 were confirmed in Sardinia region. In November 2017, a BTV-3 outbreak was confirmed in a farm in Sicily region, Trapani province, with a total number of 40 clinical cases and 1 dead animal. The viral circulation of BTV-3 was delimited to the sole farm where it was confirmed. In 2018 the BTV3 was also notified for the first time in Sardinia region. Similarly to what was done in 2017 on the occasion of the first survey in Sicily, or in any case as foreseen on the occasion of the notification of a new serotype in a territory, extraordinary monitoring and control activities were promptly arranged around the farm in which it was found the positive head, which allowed to detect the circulation of BTV3 in 25 companies all located in the Southern Sardinia Province. Restriction zones and control of animal movements have been established as required by current legislation.

BTV-1

Year 2014: 1,387 outbreaks, 12,434 cases, 6,159 dead animals.

Year 2015: 121 outbreaks, 293 cases, 3 dead animals.

Year 2016: 88 outbreaks, 180 cases (of which 10 showing clinical signs), no dead animals.

Year 2017: 50 outbreaks, 123 cases (of which 9 showing clinical signs), 4 dead animals.

Year 2018: 29 outbreaks, 56 cases (of which 2 showing clinical signs), 0 dead animals.

Year 2019: 13 outbreaks, 52 cases (of which 1 showing clinical signs), 1 dead animals.

BTV-4

Year 2014: 25 outbreaks, 19 cases, 2 dead animals.

Year 2015: 162 outbreaks, 3,646 cases, 1,005 dead animals.

Year 2016: 939 outbreaks 5,713 cases (of which 2,481 showing clinical signs), 1,103 dead animals.

Year 2017: BTV-4 continued circulating all over the country with overall 2,576 outbreaks confirmed in new regions (Abruzzi, Basilicata, Calabria, Campania, Emilia Romagna, Lazio, Liguria, Molise, Apulia, Sardinia, Sicily, Tuscany, Umbria) compared to the regions affected in 2016. Of these outbreaks, 94.6% were confirmed in Sardinia, with 123,106 cases (of which 101,426 showing clinical signs) and 35,023 dead animals.

Year 2018: 73 outbreaks, 294 cases (of which 114 showing clinical signs), 25 dead animals.

Year 2019: 61 outbreaks, 397 cases (of which 128 showing clinical signs), 1 dead animal.

BTV-3

Year 2017: 1 outbreak in Sicily, 40 clinical cases, 1 dead animal.

Year 2018: 26 total outbreaks, 1 in Sicily, 1 case, and 25 in Sardinia, 376 cases (of which 298 showing clinical signs), 125 dead animals.

Year 2019: 1 outbreak in Sicily, 1 case.

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

The BT Italian surveillance system includes a passive surveillance of all possible BT cases, suspected on the basis of the clinical signs and a serological programme based on sentinel animals. All suspected and confirmed cases of BT are registered in the National Information System of Animal Diseases (SIMAN). In June 2019, a new surveillance plan was put in place, in compliance with the Commission Regulation (EC) No 1266/2007.

The entire Italian territory has been divided in grids of 45 x 45 square km and in each square 59 seronegative animals are selected and used as sentinel animals (the chosen sample size is able to detect a prevalence of 5%, with 95% of confidence), in compliance with the Annex I, point 3 of the Commission Regulation (EC) No 1266/2007.

Sentinels are serologically negative animals, preferably bovines, but in some cases also sheep are selected. They are quarterly (on following months: March, June, September, December) bled and serum samples tested for the presence of BTV antibodies by c-ELISA. Positive results are confirmed by virus neutralization assay against 10 serotypes (BTV-1, BTV-2, BTV-3, BTV-4, BTV-6, BTV-8, BTV-9, BTV-14, BTV-15, BTV-16). From serologically positive animals, EDTA blood samples are also collected and tested by RT-PCR for the presence of BTV RNA. Virus isolation and typing is also performed in all RT-PCR positive sentinels and animals showing clinical signs.

The new surveillance plan is able to demonstrate the absence of viral circulation of one or more serotypes, to detect the incursion of new serotypes and to monitor the circulation of the virus in zones already infected.

Following the application of new surveillance plan, the number of sentinel animals and the total number of planned test is changed. Until June the total number of animals under the programme was 12,258, while for the second semester the same number was 8,796.

In 2019 the surveillance system in place in Italy has been able to monitor BTV-1, BTV-4 and BTV-3 circulation and spread in the zones already infected.

The spread of the virus was successfully controlled to through the prompt and strict application of veterinary measures on animal movements from restricted zones.

The entomological surveillance based on more than 300 Culicoides Onderstepoort black-light suction traps was used to define the seasonal dynamics of main vector species for the annual identification of seasonally free areas and periods, in compliance with the Annex V of Regulation (EC) No 1266/2007.

Considering the financial, the organizational limitations and the cost-benefit analyses made by the regional veterinary authorities, the vaccination against the circulating BTV serotypes of farmed animals belonging to the susceptible species (cattle, buffaloes, sheep, goats) with the sole exception of sentinel animals, was carried out in compliance with regional plans.

Vaccination against BTV-4 of all restocking sheep was performed only in Sardinia in order to reduce the impact of the disease due to sheep mortality.

The other Italian regions limited the vaccination of the susceptible animals to those to be moved toward free territories or areas under restriction for different serotypes.

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.

BTV 2019 outbreaks map

2. TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION ON BLUETONGUE PROGRAMMES

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

Table A - DATA ON HERDS

Table A is not to be filled in for Bluetongue

Table B - DATA ON ANIMALS

Region	Animal species	Total number of animals	Number of animals under the programme	Number of animals to be tested under the programme	Number of animals tested	Number of animals tested individually	Number of positive animals	Number of outbreaks
ABRUZZO	Cattle	62,028	278	278	654	654	0	0
BASILICATA	Cattle	96,637	165	165	379	379	3	3
CALABRIA	Cattle	111,501	193	193	895	895	0	0
CAMPANIA	Cattle	454,402	339	339	704	704	49	7
EMILIA ROMAGNA	Cattle	571,569	587	587	2,462	2,462	0	0
FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA	Cattle	77,653	229	229	786	786	2	1
LAZIO	Cattle	269,995	233	233	432	432	0	0
LIGURIA	Cattle	11,651	108	108	256	256	0	0
LOMBARDIA	Cattle	1,529,942	697	697	3,815	3,815	1	1
MARCHE	Cattle	48,434	195	195	355	355	0	0
MOLISE	Cattle	38,975	127	127	283	283	2	1
PIEMONTE	Cattle	807,677	745	745	2,647	2,647	0	0
PUGLIA	Cattle	183,869	562	562	1,155	1,155	1	1
SARDEGNA	Cattle	261,979	82	82	300	300	3	3
SICILIA	Cattle	339,977	566	566	3,175	3,175	86	26
TOSCANA	Cattle	89,074	291	291	586	586	0	0
TRENTINO - ALTO ADIGE (BZ)	Cattle	125,944	216	216	407	407	0	0
TRENTINO - ALTO ADIGE (TN)	Cattle	45,209	181	181	307	307	0	0
UMBRIA	Cattle	55,832	169	169	280	280	0	0
VALLE D'AOSTA	Cattle	33,112	96	96	125	125	0	0
VENETO	Cattle	764,896	536	536	1,798	1,798	2	2
ABRUZZO	Sheep and Goats	198,520	37	37	88	88	0	0
BASILICATA	Sheep and Goats	263,192	126	126	290	290	1	1
CALABRIA	Sheep and Goats	373,560	247	247	1,148	1,148	283	16
CAMPANIA	Sheep and Goats	237,247	56	56	116	116	5	2
EMILIA ROMAGNA	Sheep and Goats	74,583	68	68	283	283	1	1
FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA	Sheep and Goats	31,379	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAZIO	Sheep and Goats	732,927	268	268	497	497	1	1
LIGURIA	Sheep and Goats	23,160	51	51	120	120	0	0
LOMBARDIA	Sheep and Goats	196,451	0	0	0	0	0	0
MARCHE	Sheep and Goats	147,221	79	79	145	145	1	1
MOLISE	Sheep and Goats	71,504	3	3	7	7	0	0
PUGLIA	Sheep and Goats	289,748	2	2	5	5	0	0
SARDEGNA	Sheep and Goats	3,326,279	625	625	2,283	2,283	9	8
SICILIA	Sheep and Goats	972,764	183	183	1,028	1,028	0	0

TOSCANA	Sheep and Goats	398,217	379	379	762	762	0	0
TRENTINO - ALTO ADIGE (BZ)	Sheep and Goats	49,134	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRENTINO - ALTO ADIGE (TN)	Sheep and Goats	47,249	0	0	0	0	0	0
UMBRIA	Sheep and Goats	115,925	77	77	128	128	0	0
VALLE D'AOSTA	Sheep and Goats	6,649	0	0	0	0	0	0
VENETO	Sheep and Goats	83,031	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		13,619,096	8,796	8,796	28,701	28,701	450	75

Table C - DATA ON VACCINATION PROGRAMMES

Region	Animal species	Total number of herds	Total number of animals	Serotype	Number of herds in vaccination programme	Number of herds vaccinated	Number of animals vaccinated	Number of doses of vaccine administered	Number of adults vaccinated	Number of young animals vaccinated	Number of animals with primary vaccination (initial+ booster)
SARDEGNA	Sheep and Goats	15,037	3,326,279	BTV1-4	15,037	5,296	288,588	300,842	0	288,588	288,588
Total		15,037	3,326,279		15,037	5,296	288,588	300,842	0	288,588	288,588

Table D - DATA ON STATUS OF HERDS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD

Table D is not to be filled in for Bluetongue

Table E - SUSPENSION/WITHDRAWAL OF THE FREE OR OFFICIALLY FREE STATUS

Table E is not to be filled in for Bluetongue

Table F - STRATIFIED DATA ON SURVEILLANCE AND LABORATORY TESTS

Region	Animal species	Number of samples	Test type	Number of tests	Number of positive tests
ABRUZZO	Cattle	2,286	Elisa test	2,286	358
BASILICATA	Cattle	2,381	Elisa test	2,381	150
CALABRIA	Cattle	2,281	Elisa test	2,281	1,380
CAMPANIA	Cattle	3,469	Elisa test	3,469	106
EMILIA ROMAGNA	Cattle	12,184	Elisa test	12,184	23
FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA	Cattle	749	Elisa test	749	4
LAZIO	Cattle	2,992	Elisa test	2,992	16
LIGURIA	Cattle	1,499	Elisa test	1,499	0
LOMBARDIA	Cattle	20,856	Elisa test	20,856	130
MARCHE	Cattle	2,324	Elisa test	2,324	31
MOLISE	Cattle	1,112	Elisa test	1,112	119
PIEMONTE	Cattle	15,067	Elisa test	15,067	5
PUGLIA	Cattle	5,173	Elisa test	5,173	121
SARDEGNA	Cattle	1,449	Elisa test	1,449	11
SICILIA	Cattle	9,633	Elisa test	9,633	1,529
TOSCANA	Cattle	3,231	Elisa test	3,231	20
TRENTINO - ALTO ADIGE (BZ)	Cattle	407	Elisa test	407	3
TRENTINO - ALTO ADIGE (TN)	Cattle	306	Elisa test	306	0
UMBRIA	Cattle	1,683	Elisa test	1,683	19
VALLE D'AOSTA	Cattle	747	Elisa test	747	0
VENETO	Cattle	1,812	Elisa test	1,812	38
ABRUZZO	Cattle	4	PCR test	4	0
BASILICATA	Cattle	19	PCR test	19	0
CAMPANIA	Cattle	45	PCR test	45	10
EMILIA ROMAGNA	Cattle	393	PCR test	393	0
FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA	Cattle	20	PCR test	20	4
LOMBARDIA	Cattle	17	PCR test	17	2

MARCHE	Cattle	17	PCR test	17	0
PIEMONTE	Cattle	12	PCR test	12	0
SARDEGNA	Cattle	13	PCR test	13	2
SICILIA	Cattle	783	PCR test	783	80
TOSCANA	Cattle	2	PCR test	2	0
TRENTINO - ALTO ADIGE (BZ)	Cattle	15	PCR test	15	2
UMBRIA	Cattle	6	PCR test	6	0
ABRUZZO	Sheep and Goats	268	Elisa test	268	34
BASILICATA	Sheep and Goats	1,557	Elisa test	1,557	109
CALABRIA	Sheep and Goats	3,694	Elisa test	3,694	1,005
CAMPANIA	Sheep and Goats	427	Elisa test	427	6
EMILIA ROMAGNA	Sheep and Goats	1,277	Elisa test	1,277	19
LAZIO	Sheep and Goats	2,890	Elisa test	2,890	17
LIGURIA	Sheep and Goats	541	Elisa test	541	0
LOMBARDIA	Sheep and Goats	2	Elisa test	2	2
MARCHE	Sheep and Goats	795	Elisa test	795	19
MOLISE	Sheep and Goats	39	Elisa test	39	1
PUGLIA	Sheep and Goats	10	Elisa test	10	0
SARDEGNA	Sheep and Goats	11,772	Elisa test	11,772	34
SICILIA	Sheep and Goats	3,590	Elisa test	3,590	79
TOSCANA	Sheep and Goats	4,398	Elisa test	4,398	3
UMBRIA	Sheep and Goats	882	Elisa test	882	20
CALABRIA	Sheep and Goats	62	PCR test	62	17
CAMPANIA	Sheep and Goats	10	PCR test	10	4
EMILIA ROMAGNA	Sheep and Goats	140	PCR test	140	0
LOMBARDIA	Sheep and Goats	2	PCR test	2	1
MARCHE	Sheep and Goats	15	PCR test	15	0
SARDEGNA	Sheep and Goats	107	PCR test	107	2
SICILIA	Sheep and Goats	6	PCR test	6	0
UMBRIA	Sheep and Goats	56	PCR test	56	0
LAZIO	Cattle	7	PCR test	7	0
VENETO	Cattle	22	PCR test	22	9
Total		125,556		125,556	5,544
			Methods of laboratory analysis	Total number of tests	
			Total - Elisa test	123,783	
			Total - PCR test	1,773	

COMMENT / ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION

1. CATTLE DATA: cattle data include also buffalo data
2. The number of ANIMALS TO BE TESTED UNDER THE PROGRAMME. According to the Italian definition of sentinel animals, "sentinels are serologically negative animals, preferably bovines, but in some cases also sheep are selected". Each Region can decide the number of cattle or sheep to be selected as sentinel animals, in order to reach the total number of animals to be tested under the programme. For this reason, the number ANIMALS TO BE TESTED UNDER THE PROGRAMME for the selected species group has been calculated by applying the percentage of the number of animals examined in the species group (sheep and goats or cattle and buffaloes) to the total number of animals examined, compared to the total number of animals examined.