



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH & CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Unit G5 - Veterinary Programmes

SANCO/10822/2012

*Programmes for the eradication, control and monitoring of certain
animal diseases and zoonoses*

Survey programme for Bluetongue

Approved* for 2012 by Commission Decision 2011/807/EU

Ireland

* in accordance with Council Decision 2009/470/EC

Standard requirement for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.1

1. Identification of the programme

Member state : IRELAND

Disease : Bluetongue in endemic or high risk areas

Species : Bovines and sheep and goats

This program is multi annual : no

Request of Community co-financing from beginning of : 2012

Standard requirement for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.1

1.1 Contact

Name : Sally Gaynor

Phone : +353 1 607 2338

Fax : +353 1 678 7360

Email : sally.gaynor@agriculture.gov.ie

2. Historical data on the epidemiological evolution of the disease

A concise description is given with data on the target population (species, number of herds and animals present and under the programme), the main measures (testing, testing and slaughter, testing and killing, qualification of herds and animals). The information is given for distinct periods if the measures were substantially modified. The information is documented by relevant summary epidemiological tables, graphs or maps.

(max. 32000 chars) :

Ireland is Bluetongue free as of April 2011 but in view of the epidemiological situation during 2010, is at risk of BTV incursion. In that event, and providing vaccines of the relevant serotype are available, Ireland will carry out emergency vaccination. Ireland commenced serological and virological surveillance in 2006. Entomological surveillance has been carried out over three consecutive vector seasons between 2007 and 2010. Entomological surveillance will only recommence in the event of BTV introduction.

3. Description of the submitted programme

A concise description of the programme is given with the main objective(s) (monitoring, control, eradication, qualification of herds and/or regions, reducing prevalence and incidence), the main measures (testing, testing and slaughter, testing and killing, qualification of herds and animals, vaccination), the target animal population and the area(s) of implementation and the definition of a positive case.

(max. 32000 chars) :

1. RANDOM SEROLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE IN CATTLE

Random serological surveillance has been carried out in cattle in Ireland since 2007. The random

Standard requirement for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.1

surveillance programme is based on the requirements for Bluetongue surveillance in Annex I, Section 2 of Commission Regulation 1266/2007. The samples used are those submitted under the annual Brucellosis Testing Scheme (i.e. females and male breeding animals over 2 years). The cELISA (VMRD, USA) test is used. A second ELISA (IDVET) is used on inconclusive samples. The sample size was estimated based on the following criteria:

- Test sensitivity of 83.9%
- Test specificity of 99%
- Minimal prevalence of 2%
- Confidence level of 95%
- Cattle population of 5 million

The sensitivity and specificity have been based on French performance evaluation of the VMRD test (Ref: Biteau-Coroller et al. *Veterinary Microbiology* 118 (2006) 57-66.). The estimated sample size was 607 animals. This was increased to 2000 to account for samples that might be missed for various reasons e.g. herds not tested at appropriate time or insufficient animals in the herd. The 2000 samples are randomly selected from 400 herds stratified in 57 geographical units (45 x 45 km grids) - see grid map in Annex 1 (attached). The number of animals tested per herd is 5. Sampling is carried out between January and April if possible, in order to detect animals that may have been exposed in the previous vector season.

2. RANDOM SEROLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE IN SHEEP

Random surveillance in sheep commenced in 2009. The samples are collected under the *Brucella melitensis* surveillance programme (for cost and logistical reasons). Random survey sampling was carried out in sheep in 2010, and will be carried out in 2011 and 2012. The sample size is estimated based on the following criteria:

- Test sensitivity of 83.9%
- Test specificity of 99%
- Minimal prevalence of 20%
- Confidence level of 95%
- Sheep population of 4 million
- Geographical unit being the whole country

The estimated sample size is 103. The sample of 103 flocks will be weighted according to the proportion of the sheep population in each county. Five samples will be taken from each flock, giving a total of 515 samples. The cELISA (VMRD, USA) test is used. A second ELISA (IDVET) is used on inconclusive samples.

3. POST-IMPORT SEROLOGICAL AND VIROLOGICAL TESTING

Ireland has been post-import testing all ruminants imported from BT affected regions and destined for breeding or further production since August 2006. The following tests are used on post import samples: cELISA (VMRD, USA) and RT-PCR. The number of animals imported each year from the different Member States has been affected by the disease status e.g. BSE, FMD. It is estimated that 10-20,000 cattle and 300,000 sheep will be imported in 2012. The estimated number of post-import tests on breeding and production animals from BTV restricted regions is 5,000 (with each animal receiving a serological and a virological test = 10,000 tests).

4. PASSIVE SURVEILLANCE FOR BLUETONGUE INFECTED ANIMALS

It is estimated that Ireland will carry out up to 1,000 serological and 500 virological tests for BT in clinical

Standard requirement for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.1

samples submitted under passive surveillance for screening at the CVRL. The numbers are expected to increase if the disease spreads closer to Ireland. The following tests are used on passive surveillance samples: cELISA (VMRD, USA), ELISA (IDVET) and RT-PCR.

5. VECTOR MONITORING PROGRAMME

A 3-year national BTV vector surveillance programme was carried out in Ireland between April 2007 and April 2010. The programme was designed in accordance with Commission guidelines for Bluetongue monitoring and surveillance (SANCO/10581/2006 Rev 4) and Annex I, Section 2 of Commission Regulation 1266/2007. Entomological sampling protocols were similar to those adopted in other EU Member States. The objective was to provide better knowledge of the Irish Culicoides species (especially BTV vector forms), to establish their geographical distribution in the country and to record their seasonal and between year population dynamics.

In the event that BTV is confirmed in Ireland in 2011 or 2012, vector monitoring will be required in the Restricted Zone (Annex 1. Section 1.2 of Commission Regulation 1266/2007):

- Traps would be operated at key sites representative of the epidemiologically relevant area i.e. the whole country.
- Specially designed Undersport-type UV light traps would be used.
- Traps would be operated 1 night per week from mid March until the start of the vector season and 1 night per week from the start of November until the end of the vector season (up to 6 weeks at the start and 6 weeks at the end of the season).
- Traps would be operated 1 night per month during the vector season (7-8 months).
- This would total approximately 200 samples (Up to 150,000 midges).

6. BLUETONGUE VACCINATION PLAN

Ireland will only carry out vaccination for BT in 2012 in the event that BTV is introduced in 2011. In this case, an emergency vaccination plan would be submitted in 2011, under Article 3 of Council Decision 2009/470/EC. The full details of the vaccination plan would be included in the emergency vaccination plan that will be drafted and submitted in the event of BT being confirmed in Ireland.

4. Measures of the submitted programme

4.1 Summary of measures under the programme

Duration of the programme : 2012 _____

First year :

- Control
- Testing
- Slaughter and animals tested positive

Standard requirement for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.1

- Killing of animals tested positive
- Vaccination
- Treatment
- Disposal of products
- Eradication, control or monitoring

4.2 Organisation, supervision and role of all stakeholders involved in the programme

Describe the authorities in charge of supervising and coordinating the departments responsible for implementing the programme and the different operators involved. Describe the responsibilities of all involved.

(max. 32000 chars) :

1. Entomological Surveillance:

In the event of bluetongue introduction in 2011 or 2012, entomological traps will be set by DAFF staff at selected sites. The entomological samples will be submitted to the Vector Monitoring Unit at National University of Ireland, Galway for identification, counting and speciation.

2. Serological Surveillance:

a. All ruminant imports from BT affected regions are post-import tested by DAFF staff and samples submitted to the DAFF Central Veterinary Regional Laboratory (CVRL)

Standard requirement for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.1

b. Random samples are selected from the blood samples taken from cattle over 2 years of age for Brucellosis testing (by private veterinary practitioners) and tested in the CVRL. In addition samples from sheep are selected from samples taken by DAFF staff under the sheep surveillance programme.

3. Virological Surveillance:

All imported ruminants from BTV affected regions and suspect animals are sampled by DAFF staff and samples submitted to the CVRL for testing. Additional diagnostic samples for bluetongue screening are submitted by private veterinary practitioners.

4.3 Description and demarcation of the geographical and administrative areas in which the programme is to be implemented

Describe the name and denomination, the administrative boundaries, and the surface of the administrative and geographical areas in which the programme is to be applied. Illustrate with maps.

(max. 32000 chars) :

The programme is implemented in all areas of the country. The country is divided into 57 geographical units (45 x 45 km grids). The grids are shown in the map in Annex I (attached). Random surveillance is carried out throughout the country.

4.4 Description of the measures of the programme

A comprehensive description needs to be provided of all measures unless reference can be made to community legislation. The national legislation in which the measures are laid down is mentioned.

4.4.1 Notification of the disease

(max. 32000 chars) :

Compulsory notifiable disease under Regulation 3 of the European Communities (Bluetongue) Regulations, 2008 (S.I. No. 133 of 2008).

4.4.2 Target animals and animal population

(max. 32000 chars) :

Cattle: 7 million.

Standard requirement for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.1

Sheep: 4 million.

4.4.3 Identification of animals and registration of holdings

(max. 32000 chars) :

Cattle are individually tagged and the herds and individual tag numbers are registered on the Animal Health Computer System (AHCS). Sheep flocks are registered on AHCS. Sheep tag numbers are recorded in the farm's flock register.

4.4.4 Qualifications of animals and herds

(max. 32000 chars) :

Not applicable.

4.4.5 Rules of the movement of animals

(max. 32000 chars) :

Not applicable.

4.4.6 Tests used and sampling schemes

(max. 32000 chars) :

Antibody ELISA (VMRD, USA and IDVET) and RT-PCR

4.4.7 Vaccines used and vaccination schemes

(max. 32000 chars) :

In the event that BTV is introduced into Ireland in 2012, inactivated BTV vaccines will be used if available for the relevant serotype. Doses will be as specified by the manufacturer.

Standard requirement for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.1

4.4.8 Information and assessment on bio-security measures management and infrastructure in place in the holdings involved.

(max. 32000 chars) :

Advice will be given regarding vector protection and treatment of vector sites where applicable.

4.4.9 Measures in case of a positive result

A short description is provided of the measures as regards positive animals (slaughter, destination of carcasses, use or treatment of animal products, the destruction of all products which could transmit the disease or the treatment of such products to avoid any possible contamination, a procedure for the disinfection of infected holdings, the therapeutic or preventive treatment chosen, a procedure for the restocking with healthy animals of holdings which have been depopulated by slaughter and the creation of a surveillance zone around infected holding)

(max. 32000 chars) :

In the event of animals being found positive on post-import testing or on random sampling, follow-up testing in the herd/flock (and if necessary in other herds/flocks in the surrounding area) will be carried out.

4.4.10 Compensation scheme for owners of slaughtered and killed animals

(max. 32000 chars) :

Not applicable.

4.4.11 Control on the implementation of the programme and reporting

(max. 32000 chars) :

The National Disease Control Center (NDCC) and Veterinary International Division of DAFF is responsible for the implementation of the programme and reporting results.

5. Benefits of the programme

A description is provided of the benefits for farmers and society in general

(max. 32000 chars) :

Serological and virological surveillance is carried out to ensure early detection of any serotype infected animals.

Standard requirement for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.1

Entomological surveillance will be carried out to determine the presence of competent vectors and collect data for relevant analysis (e.g. for determination of the vector-free period) in the event of BTV introduction.

Vaccination will be carried out in order to control and eradicate BTV in the event of BTV introduction.

6. Data on the epidemiological evolution during the last five years

Data already submitted via the online system for the years 2006 - 2009 :

no

6.1 Evolution of the disease

Evolution of the disease : Not applicable Applicable...

6.2 Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests

6.2.1 Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests for year :

2010

Region	Animal Species	Test Type	Test Description	Number of samples tested	Number of positive samples
Whole territory	Bovine	serological test	ELISA	2 638	557
Whole territory	Bovine	microbiological or virological test	RT-PCR	764	0
Whole territory	Sheep	serological test	ELISA	1 237	375
Whole territory	Sheep	microbiological or virological test	RT-PCR	444	0
Total				5 083	
				ADD A NEW ROW	

6.2.1 Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests for year :

2009

Region	Animal Species	Test Type	Test Description	Number of samples tested	Number of positive samples
Whole territory	Bovine	serological test	ELISA	1 787	290
Whole territory	Bovine	microbiological or virological test	RT-PCR	1 672	0
Whole territory	Sheep	serological test	ELISA	234	120

Standard requirement for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.1

Whole territory	Sheep	microbiological or virological test:	RT-PCR	219	0	X
Whole territory	Goats	serological test	ELISA	2	0	X
Whole territory	Goats	microbiological or virological test:	RT-PCR	1	0	X
Whole territory	Exotic species	serological test	ELISA	42	0	X
Whole territory	Exotic species	microbiological or virological test:	RT-PCR	21	0	X
Whole territory	Culcoïdes species	other test	Vector identification and	500	0	X
Total				4 478		
				ADD A NEW ROW		

6.2.1 Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests for year : **2008**

Region	Animal Species	Test Type	Test Description	Number of samples tested	Number of positive samples
Whole territory	Ruminant	serological test	ELISA	7 041	221
Whole territory	Ruminant	microbiological or virological test:	RT-PCR	5 383	19
Total				12 424	
				ADD A NEW ROW	

6.2.1 Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests for year : **2007**

Region	Animal Species	Test Type	Test Description	Number of samples tested	Number of positive samples
Whole territory	Ruminant	serological test	ELISA	3 269	0 X
Whole territory	Ruminant	microbiological or virological test	RT-PCR	27	0 X
Total				3 296	
				ADD A NEW ROW	

6.2.1 Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests for year : **2006**

Region	Animal Species	Test Type	Test Description	Number of samples tested	Number of positive samples
Whole territory	Ruminant	serological test	ELISA	1 408	0 X
Total				1 408	
				ADD A NEW ROW	

6.3 *Data on infection*

Data on infection

Not applicable

Applicable...

6.4 *Data on the status of herds*

Data on the status of herds :

Not applicable

Applicable...

Standard requirement for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.1

6.5 *Data on vaccination or treatment programmes*

Data on vaccination or treatment programmes is *Not applicable* *Applicable...*

6.6 *Data on wildlife*

Data on Wildlife is: *Not applicable* *Applicable...*

Standard requirement for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring version : 2.1

7. Targets

The blocks 7.1.1, 7.1.2.1, 7.1.2.2, 7.2, 7.3.1 and 7.3.2 are repeated multiple times in case of first year submission of multiple program.

7.1 Targets related to testing (one table for each year of implementation)

7.1.1 Targets on diagnostic tests for year : **2012**

Region	Type of the test	Target population	Type of sample	Objective	Number of planned tests	
Whole territory	Antibody ELISA	Imported ruminants	blood	Targeted post-import testing of ruminants	5 000	X
Whole territory	RT-PCR	Imported ruminants	blood	Targeted post-import testing of ruminants	5 000	X
Whole territory	Antibody ELISA	Cattle sampled under the	blood	Random surveillance	2 000	X
Whole territory	Antibody ELISA	Sheep sampled under the	blood	Random surveillance	515	X
Whole territory	Antibody ELISA	Diagnostic samples in run	blood	Diagnosis	1 000	X
Whole territory	RT-PCR	Diagnostic samples in run	blood	Diagnosis	500	X
Whole territory	Speciation, counting and identification	Culicoides midges	insects	Vector monitoring if BTV introduced in 4	200	X

Standard requirement for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.1

		Total	14 215
		Add a new row	

7.1.2 Targets on testing herds and animals

7.1.2.1 Targets on testing herds Not applicable Applicable...

7.1.2.2 Targets on testing animals Not applicable Applicable...

7.2 Targets on qualification of herds and animals

Targets on qualification of herds and animals Not applicable Applicable...

Standard requirement for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring
version : 2.1

7.3 Targets on vaccination or treatment

7.3.1 Targets on vaccination or treatment is Not applicable Applicable...

7.3.1 Targets on vaccination or treatment for year: 2012

Region	Animal species	Total number of herds in vaccination or treatment programme	Total number of animals in vaccination or treatment programme	Targets on vaccination or treatment programme					
				Number of herds expected to be vaccinated or treated	Number of animals expected to be vaccinated or treated	Number of doses of vaccine or treatment expected to be administered	Number of adults expected to be vaccinated	Number of young animals expected to be vaccinated	
Whole territory	Bovines	115 600	7 000 000	115 600	7 000 000	7 000 000	0	0	X
Whole territory	Sheep	34 400	4 000 000	34 400	4 000 000	4 000 000	0	0	X
Total		150 000	11 000 000	150 000	11 000 000	11 000 000	0	0	
Add a new row									

Standard requirement for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.1

7.3.2 *Targets on vaccination or treatment of wildlife is* *Not applicable* *Applicable...*

8. Detailed analysis of the cost of the programme for year: 2012

The blocks are repeated multiple times in case of first year submission of multiple program.

1. Testing							
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Community funding requested	
Cost of analysis	Elisa (serum antibody detection)	Individual animal sample/test	8 515	5.05	43000,75	yes	X
Cost of analysis	PCR (animal samples)	Individual animal sample/test	5 500	20	110000	yes	X
Cost of analysis	Speciation, counting and identification of Culcoïdes	Pooled sample test	200	250	50000	yes	X
					Add a new row		
2. Vaccination or treatment							
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Community funding requested	
Purchase of vaccine/treatment of animal pro	BT inactivated vaccine	Vaccine dose	11 000 000	0.6	6600000	no	X
Administering costs	To be administered by farmers to bovines	Animal vaccinated	7 000 000	3	21000000	no	X
Administering costs	To be administered by farmers to ovines	Animal vaccinated	4 000 000	1.5	6000000	no	X
					Add a new row		

Standard requirement for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring
version : 2.1

3. Slaughter and destruction						
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Community funding requested
					Add a new row	
4. Cleaning and disinfection						
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Community funding requested
					Add a new row	
5. Salaries (staff contracted for the programme only)						
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Community funding requested
					Add a new row	
6. Consumables and specific equipment						
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Community funding requested
Consumables and specific equipment	Trap maintenance and containers. Community fund ⁺	N/A	1	5000	5000	yes
					Add a new row	X
7. Other costs						
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Community funding requested
					Add a new row	
	Total				33808000.75	

Standard requirement for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

version : 2.1

Attachments

IMPORTANT :

- 1) The more files you attach, the longer it takes to upload them .
- 2) This attachment files should have one of the format listed here : [.zip](#), [.jpg](#), [.jpeg](#), [.tiff](#), [.tif](#), [.xls](#), [.doc](#), [.bmp](#), [.pna](#).
- 3) The total file size of the attached files should not exceed 2 500Kb (+- 2.5 Mb). You will receive a message while attaching when you try to load too much.
- 4) IT CAN TAKE **SEVERAL MINUTES TO UPLOAD** ALL THE ATTACHED FILES. Don't interrupt the uploading by closing the pdf and wait until you have received a Submission Number!
- 5) Zip files cannot be opened (by clicking on the Open button). All other file formats can be opened.