



MALTA

Ministry for Sustainable Development, Environment and Climate Change

Veterinary and Phytosanitary Regulation Department-

Veterinary Regulation Directorate

Bovine Brucellosis *and* **Bovine Tuberculosis**

Eradication programmes

Description of territory



Dairy farms

Description of bovine population

		Farms		<6m	6-12m	1-2y	>2y	Total
Dairy farms	MALTA	75	Males	465	305	430	105	8,518
			Females	723	649	1,485	4,356	
	GOZO	33	Males	406	275	200	35	5,034
			Females	443	357	815	2,503	
	Total	108	Animals	2,037	1,586	2,930	6,999	13,552

Fattening farms	MALTA	150	Animals	307	510	608	224	1,649
	GOZO	13	Animals	8	50	82	15	155
	TOTAL	163	Animals	315	560	690	239	1,804

TOTAL	271	Animals	2,352	2,146	3,620	7,238	15,356
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Bovine introduction into Malta

Origin	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	TOTAL
Czech Republic	314	157	153	0	6	226	140	92	222	187	1497
Estonia	0	0	0	656	209	0	0	0	0	0	865
Denmark	0	0	0	0	0	37	0	0	0	0	37
Ireland	0	0	0	225	87	210	0	0	0	0	522
Hungary	0	0	0	137	350	0	0	0	0	0	487
Poland	94	0	0	68	0	0	0	0	0	0	162
Latvia	0	0	0	106	0	0	0	0	0	0	106
Germany	91	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	91
France	69	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	69
Slovakia	0	0	0	0	33	0	0	0	0	0	33
Netherland	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
TOTAL	574	157	153	1192	685	473	140	92	222	187	3875

Movements to EU countries

From 2010: movement of 20 animals to Czech Republic in 2015

Key elements of the programmes

✓ **Identification and registration system**

- identification of herds
- identification of animals
- herd book
- database (I&R system recognised as fully operational 1.05.2004)

✓ **Rules for animal movements**

- no movements without official permit
- movements allowed according to the health status
- no movements from fattening farms to dairy farms

✓ **Legal basis → Control scheme and health status**

- according Dir. 64/432 and LN 314/2005 “measures for the eradication of TB, BR and EBL”

✓ **Notification of abortions (brucellosis)**

- compulsory, awareness campaign (leaflets + declaration for movements)
- Early Warning System

BOVINE BRUCELLOSIS

History

- Surveillance programme established in '60s
- Vaccination programme in early '80s
- Eradication programme in 1987
 - Compulsory registration of animals and farms
 - Awareness campaign
 - Control movement according to health status
 - Test and slaughter with depopulation if high prevalence
 - Compensation
 - Stop vaccination
- From 2005 more strict control programme

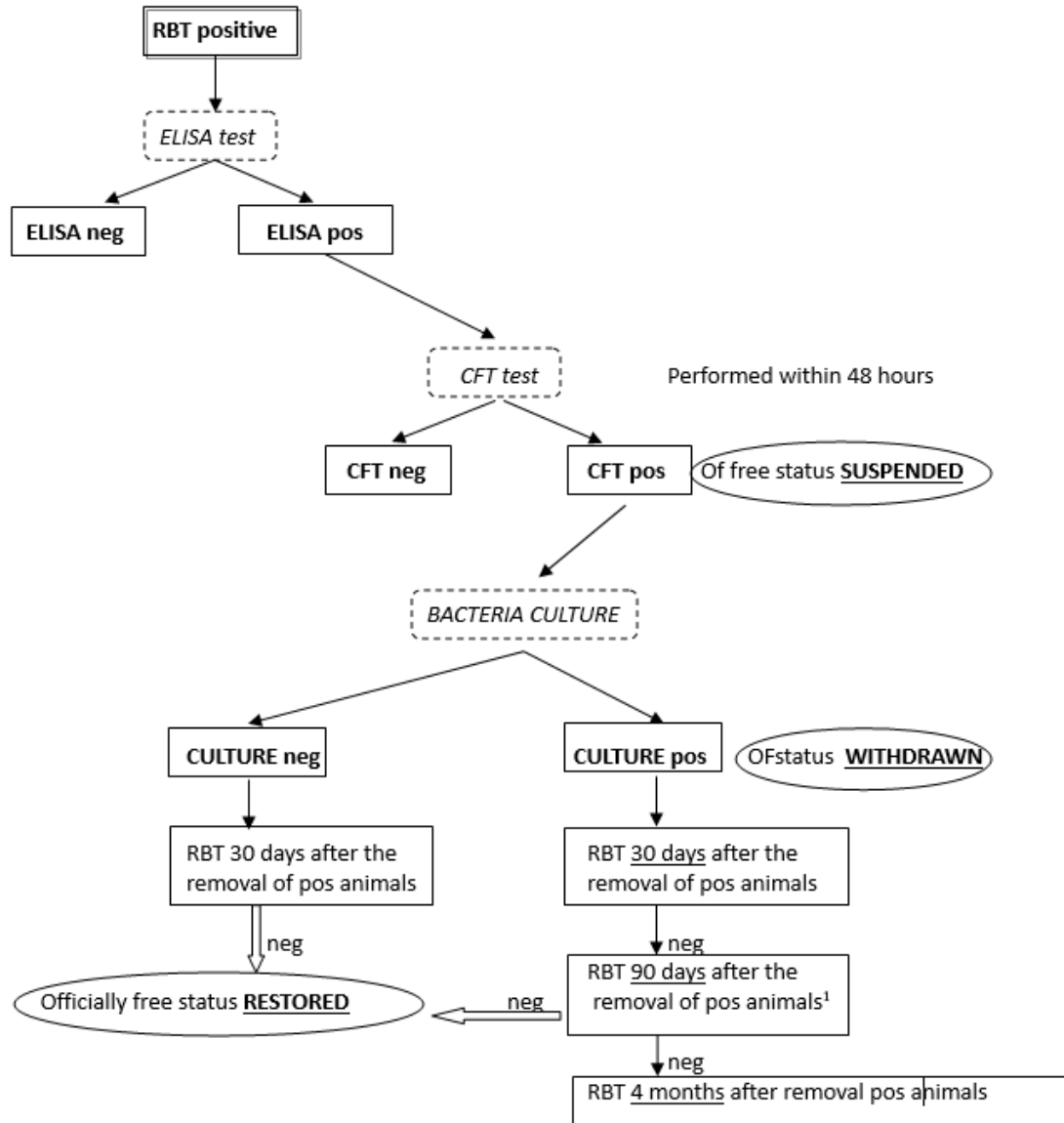
BOVINE BRUCELLOSIS

Regime of the controls

The testing regime according Council Directive 64/432

- The serological control every six months of all animals over 12 months old, with the exception of males for fattening (if dangerous)
 - In the years 2008-2014 the control was extended to all animals **over 6 months old**;
- The **serological control at the slaughterhouses** of all the bovine animals over 12 months old, including the males for fattening.
- Bulk milk test** performed three times a year, at an interval of at least three months, in the dairy herds

Protocol in case of positivity



¹ In case of presence of pregnant animals at the time of outbreak, control is carried out 30 days after the last animal has calved.

Controls and health status

Year	Bovine population		Dairy Herds		Controls		Positivity		Prevalence		Officially free herds (end of year)	
	N. Herds	N. Animals	N. Herds	N. Animals	N. Herds	N. Animals	N. Herds	N. Animals	Herds	Animals	N. Herds	% Herds
2015	271	15,356	108	13,552	108	13,894	0	0	0	0	108	100%
2014	283	15,420	114	13,708	114	15,426	0	0	0	0	114	100%
2013	289	15,805	118	14,555	118	12,019	0	0	0	0	118	100%
2012	324	15,628	121	14,004	121	13,938	0	0	0	0	121	100%
2011	324	15,545	125	13,912	125	12,748	0	0	0	0	125	100%
2010	327	15,120	128	13,328	128	12,816	0	0	0	0	128	100%
2009	327	16,291	128	14,186	128	12,251	1	1	0.78	0.008	128	100%



Test carried out

TESTS	Rosa Bengala test	Positive	ELISA	Positive	Complementary Fixation	Positive	Milk ring test
2015	16.024	2	2	0	0	0	304
2014	28.008	3	3	0	0	0	452
2013	28.707	7	7	3	3	0	358
2012	30.136	2	2	0	0	0	358
2011	26.454	6	6	0	0	0	239
2010	26.865	3	3	0	0	0	237
2009	21.514	9	0	0	9	1	326

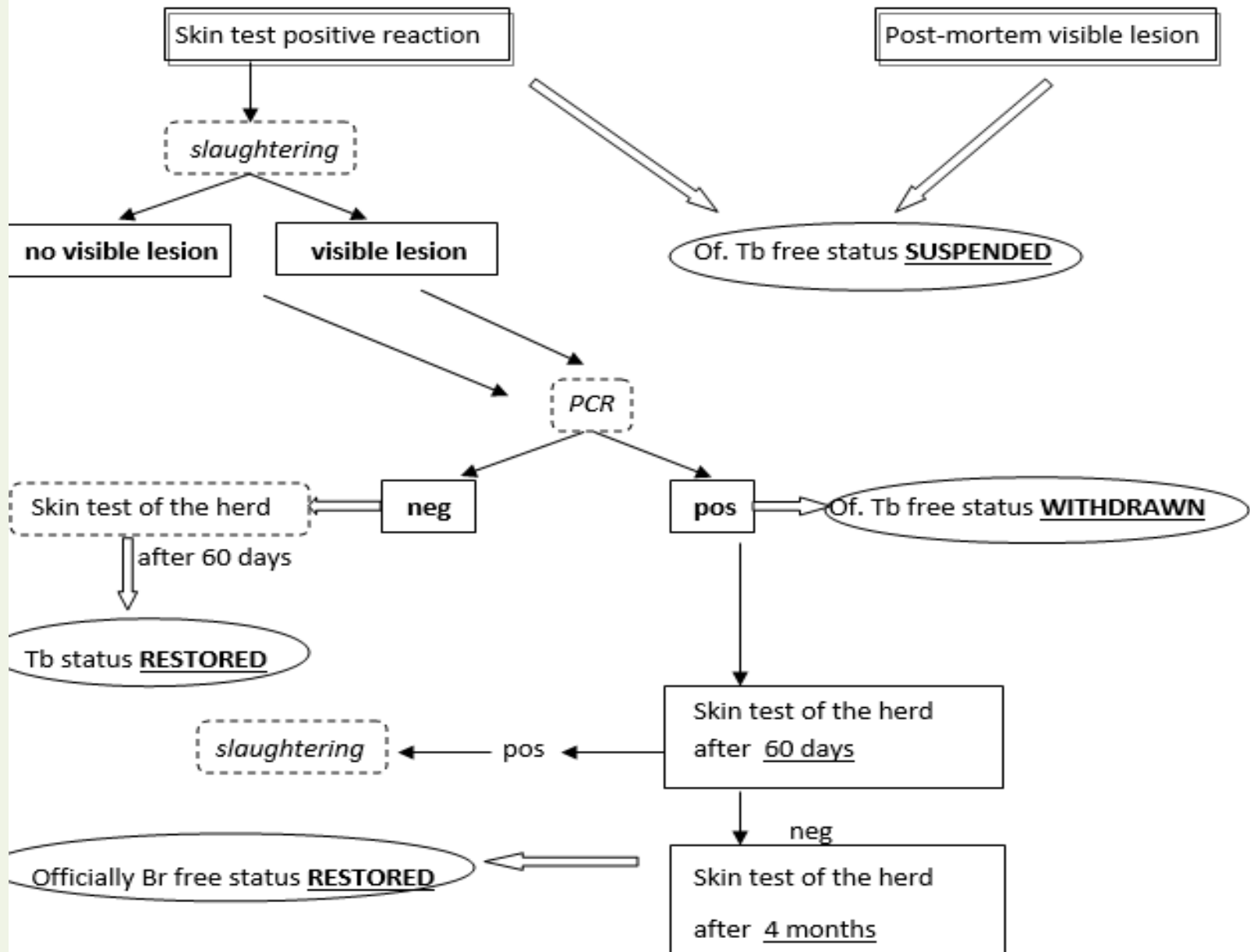
BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS

Regime of the controls

The testing regime according Council Directive 64/432

- The intradermal comparative tuberculin test performed every six months on all animals over 6 weeks old (with the exception of males for fattening);
- The post mortem inspection to detect the presence of tuberculosis visible lesions carried out at the slaughterhouse on all the bovine animals slaughtered, including males for fattening

Protocol in case of positivity



Controls and health status

Year	Bovine population		Dairy Herds		Controls		Positivity		Prevalence		Officially free herds	
	N. Herds	N. Animals	N. Herds	N. Animals	N. Herds	N. Animals	N. Herds	N. Animals	Herds	Animals	N. Herds	% Herds
2015	271	15,356	108	13,552	108	13,552	0	0	0	0	108	100%
2014	283	15,420	114	13,708	114	13,343	0	0	0	0	114	100%
2013	289	15,805	118	14,555	118	14,436	0	0	0	0	118	100%
2012	324	15,628	121	14,004	121	13,678	0	0	0	0	121	100%
2011	324	15,545	125	13,912	125	13,765	0	0	0	0	125	100%
2010	327	15,120	128	13,328	128	13,653	0	0	0	0	128	100%
2009	327	16,291	128	14,186	128	13,574	0	0	0	0	128	100%

In **November 2015** Malta has submitted to the Commission documentation demonstrating **compliance for the entire territory** with the conditions laid down in Directive 64/432/EEC for **officially tuberculosis-free and officially brucellosis-free** status as regards bovine herds.

Thank you