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HEALTH & CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Unit 04 - Veterinary Control Programmes

SANCO/12882/2010

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

Surveillance and Eradication programme of Bluetongue

Approved* for 2011 by Commission Decision 2010/712/EU

Estonia

* in accordance with Council Decision 2009/470/EC

Program for Eradication : PDF detail

Program for Eradication : ANNEX 1

Submission Date	Submission Number
26/04/2010	1272283194275-204

1. Identification of the programme

Member State	Disease	Species	Request of Community co-financing from beginning of	To end of
Estonia	Bluetongue in endemic or high risk areas	Bovines and sheep and goats	2011	2011

1.1 Contact

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2. Historical data on the epidemiological evolution of the disease

2. Historical data on the epidemiological evolution of the disease

Information on any routine Bluetongue testing programmes in Estonia: in accordance with the Infectious Animal Disease Control Act, the annual volume of Bluetongue testing is laid down by the State Program on Monitoring and Surveillance of Animal Infectious Diseases confirmed by the General Director of the Veterinary and Food Board. Instructions for Bluetongue monitoring have been confirmed by the Ministry of Agriculture by Regulation No. 25 of 17 February 2006, which also provides guidelines for the prevention and control of Bluetongue and for handling of products originating from suspected or infected animals. Bluetongue protection is a part of active control programmes called the National Infectious Animal Disease Control Programme. There have been no clinical or pathological signs of Bluetongue found in Estonia. In 2008 1000 bovine animals over 12 months old are subjected to Bluetongue testing in accordance with Commission Regulation (EC) No 12866/2007 of 26 October 2007.

An identification system making it possible to identify the herd of origin and route of transit for each bovine animal is in existence.

An official veterinarian subjects all bovine animals slaughtered to a post-mortem examination.

All suspected cases of Bluetongue will be fully investigated, including tracing and checking any herd of origin and route of transit and all appropriate laboratory examination will be carried out. In case all such examinations take place in the Bluetongue-free herd of origin, transit shall be suspended until clinical or laboratory examinations have ruled out the presence of Bluetongue.

3. Description of the submitted programme

The monitoring and surveillance in the field of animal health is performed on the basis of the State Programme on Monitoring and Surveillance of Animal Infectious Diseases. This is an annual programme adopted with the decree of Director General of VFB on the basis of Animal Infectious Disease Control Act, State Programme on Monitoring and Surveillance of Animal Infectious Diseases 2010.

According to the decision of the Veterinary Department based on the Law of Animal Diseases Bluetongue disease has never been notifiable in Estonia. In the current legislation the disease is notifiable according to the regulation on requirements for controlling Bluetongue approved by regulation of Minister of Agriculture No 23: 10.10.2010.

Minimum requirements for bluetongue surveillance programmes to be implemented by the Member States outside restricted zones. As Estonia is outside restricted zones, our Bluetongue surveillance programmes is aimed at the detection of virus circulation in Estonia and consist of at least the following elements:

1. Passive clinical surveillance:

- Consists of a formal and ongoing system aimed at detecting and investigating suspicions of bluetongue including an early warning system for reporting suspicious cases. Owners or holders of animals as well as veterinarians must report promptly any suspicion of bluetongue to the competent authority. All suspected cases of bluetongue will be investigated immediately.
- Will be especially reinforced during the season of vector activity, and in particular at its beginning.
- Ensures that awareness campaigns are organised and aimed, in particular, at enabling veterinarians and farmers in identifying clinical signs of bluetongue.

2. Serological surveillance:

- Consists of an active annual programme of serological testing of susceptible species populations, aimed at detecting evidence of the bluetongue virus transmission through random or targeted serological and/or virological testing proportional to the risk of infection of the Member State or epidemiologically relevant geographical area and performed in the period of the year when seroconversion is more likely to be detected.
- Is designed in such a way that the samples are representative of the bovine population in Estonia. The sample size has been calculated to detect a prevalence of 0,5 % with 95 % confidence in the bovine population of Estonia. Samples sizes are adjusted to the structure of the bovine population to be

3. Description of the submitted programme

sampled and for the use of targeted surveillance, focusing the sampling on the surveillance of high-risk populations in which specific commonly known risk factors exist. The design of the targeted surveillance ensures that seropositive animals from vaccinated or immunised populations referred to in points 5, 6 and 7 of Part A of Annex III do not interfere with the bluetongue surveillance programme (Commission Regulation (EC) No 1266/2007 of 26 October 2007).

4. Measures of the submitted programme

4.1 Summary of measures under the programme

Duration of the programme

beginning of 2011 to end of 2011

First Year :	
Control	X
Testing	X
Slaughter and animals tested positive	
Killing of animals tested positive	X
Vaccination	
Treatment	
Disposal of products	
Eradication, control or monitoring	

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Last Year :	
Eradication	X
Testing	X
Slaughter of positive animals	X
Killing of animals tested positive	
Extended slaughter of killing	
Disposal of products	
Other	

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

The Veterinary and Food Board, a governmental agency carrying out its tasks under the government of the Ministry of Agriculture, functions as a supervising body and sees to that the requirements stipulated by the legislation that governs veterinary, food safety, market regulation, animal welfare and farm animal breeding are followed and executes supervision over fulfilment of these requirements and applies enforcement by state pursuant to the procedures and in the amount prescribed by law. In addition to the mentioned acts, VFB adheres in its professional activities the Trade, Import And Export of Animals and Animal Products Act, the Import and Export Veterinary Control Act, the Animal Protection Act, the Farm Animals Breeding Act, the Organic Farming Act, the Medicinal Products Act, the Common Agricultural Policy Implementation Act, the Feeding Stuffs Act and other legislation laid down pursuant to these acts.

The broader objective of VFB is to ensure the consumers the production of safe, healthy and quality raw materials for food and food, to prevent and eradicate infectious animal diseases, to protect people from diseases common to both people and animals and diseases that are spread by animals, but at the same time to protect animals from human activity or inactivity endangering their health and welfare, to ensure productivity of farm animals and increase their genetic value, and to preserve genetic pool and profitability of keeping animals.

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

Bluestonque programme is active in all 15 counties

4.4 Description of the measures of the programme

4.4.1 Notification of the disease

Supervisory officials, authorised veterinarians, veterinarians, as well as veterinary laboratories and other persons shall promptly notify a local office of the Veterinary and Food Board (VFB) of suspicion or diagnosis of Bluetongue subject to notification pursuant to § 38 (1) of the Infectious Animal Disease Control Act. The Act provides for the obligation of notification within the country, notification of veterinary officials of neighbouring countries, Commission of European Union, Member States of EU and international veterinary organisations. The requirement extends to all persons aware or suspicious of the occurrence of an especially dangerous infectious animal disease.

4.4.2 Target animals and animal population

By adopting the Annex I p.2. Commission Regulation (EC) No 1266/2007 of 26 October 2007 the target animals and animal population consist of an active annual programme of serological testing of susceptible species populations.

4.4.3 Identification of animals and registration of holdings

All bovine animals, sheep and goats in Estonia are covered by State Programme on Monitoring and Surveillance of Animal Infectious Diseases and therefore also by the programme. All bovine animals, sheep and goats holdings in Estonia are registered in the Central register of Agriculture Animals (The Minister of Agriculture Regulation No 88, § 1, 18.12.2002).

4.4.4 Qualifications of animals and herds

A herd is considered as Bluetongue free, if there is no evidence, either clinical or as a result of laboratory tests, of any case of Bluetongue in the herd and no such has been confirmed in accordance with Annex I of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1266/2007 of 26 October 2007.

4.4.5 Rules of the movement of animals

4.4.5 Rules of the movement of animals

According Annex III of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1266/2007 of 26 October 2007 to the above mentioned rules, all animals suspected to be infected with bluetongue are not allowed to be moved neither in the holding or from the holding, until the disease is officially ruled out or confirmed. There is prohibition on trade in meat, meal products, semen, ova and embryos, animal feed, animal waste, and equipment, which could be the cause of the spread disease. Movements of the sick and injured animals to the slaughterhouse shall be carried out on the basis of a veterinary referral from only. The holder of animals shall obtain the prescribed veterinary referral from also for animals intended for transport to a slaughterhouse, from the stables with an unverified or suspect epidemiological situation.

4.4.6 Tests used and sampling schemes

Early detection of BTV incursions and BTV freedom demonstration, Passive clinical surveillance by routine passive surveillance and reporting for over the year but reinforced during the vector season activity. Targeted risk based active surveillance adjusted to the population defined at higher risk: i.g post movement sampling or other sampling strategies for over the year but reinforced during the vector season activity

4.4.7 Vaccines used and vaccination schemes

The Veterinary and Food Board is competent to organise the protective vaccination of animals against Bluetongue and their identification in the protection zone provided in § 45 point 3 of the Infectious Animal Disease Control Act, insofar as this is not provided by infectious animal disease rules. Guidelines for vaccination are provided by the infectious animal disease rules. The Veterinary and Food Board must notify the European Commission of any protective vaccination. Protective vaccination against Bluetongue shall be prohibited in the surveillance zone. Cattle from 30 days of age will be vaccinated twice with 4 weeks interval, while sheep and goats will be vaccinated once.

4.4.8 Information and assessment on bio-security measures management and infrastructure

While dispatched, animals must be accompanied with the veterinary certificate, where the basis of their state of health should be verified, certifying that the certain contagious animal diseases transmissible by the relevant animal species has not been detected in the place of the animals origin. On the basis of the Rules on the contagious animal diseases, the trade of bovine animals, sheep and goats and animal products and/or products of animal origin shall be possible only from a herd that is free of Bluetongue. Movements of the sick and injured animals to the slaughterhouse shall be carried out on the basis of a veterinary permission only.

4.4.9 Measures in case of a positive result

If Bluetongue is confirmed in a herd by laboratory testing, the head of the local agency of the Veterinary and Food Board suspends the status of a Bluetongue herd. According to the control and surveillance program the blood of all bovine animals, sheep and goats in a herd are subjected to laboratory investigation, aiming at retaining and/or restoring the Bluetongue free health status as ruled by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1266/2007 of 26 October 2007. Bovine animals and the calves of positive cows that are infected with Bluetongue that react positively to a serological test will be slaughtered immediately under the supervision of the veterinary authorities.

Holdings infected or suspected of being infected with Bluetongue are subjected under official restrictions with effective preventive methods against the spread of the disease. This includes strict prohibition of all movement and transportation of animals and persons other than official veterinarians and those concerned with the care of the animals.

It is prohibited to collect, for veterinary or medical purpose, the blood, endocrinological and other organs of bovine animals that are infected with Bluetongue and of bovine animals that react positively to a serological test.

On the basis of questionnaires prepared within the Contingency Plan for the case of an outbreak of Bluetongue, the veterinarian shall carry out the epidemiological investigation and presence and distribution of vectors concerning the suspect cases or outbreaks of Bluetongue.

4.4.10 Compensation scheme for owners of slaughtered and killed animals

Financing of infectious animal disease control and the procedure for compensation for damage caused by infectious animal disease are provided in §§ 65-68 of the Infectious Animal Disease Control Act.

Costs of prevention and control of especially dangerous infectious animal diseases are compensated for pursuant to Government of the Republic Regulation No. 260 (RT I 2000, 65, 420) "Conditions and procedure for compensation for costs related to prevention and control of especially dangerous infectious animal diseases".

Value of agricultural animals is detected according to Regulation of Minister of Agriculture No. 16 (RTL 2001, 39, 536) "Procedure for evaluating the cost of agricultural animals and conditions and procedure for compensation for damage caused by an infectious animal disease".

Salary of natural persons taken part in action of prevention and control of especially dangerous infectious animal diseases is compensated basis pursuant to Government of the Republic Regulation No. 45 of 25 February 1997 "Approval of the extent of and the procedure for compensation of remuneration paid to natural persons engaged in rescue work during emergency situation" (RT I 1997, 16, 274; 2000, 62, 398).

4.4.11 Control on the implementation of the programme and reporting

The Veterinary and Food Board shall keep a register of the bovine animals, sheep, goats and herds that are included in the Bluetongue control programme and other animals and herds or that are carriers of Bluetongue virus or are suspected of Bluetongue and infected by the Bluetongue virus over animals slaughtered at the request of the Veterinary and Food Board.

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5. Benefits of the programme

Random samples taken in the frame of brucellosis testing will be tested on BT as well (EU guidelines). All together 2000 blood samples are foreseen for 2011. AB ELISA 2000 samples, unitary cost 2,5. total amount 5000EUR
 Entomological investigations will be performed in line with the EU recommendations. One permanent trap per each region as defined in 64/432/EEC is foreseen. These regions also correspond to geographical areas. In addition 8 mobile traps will be used. It is foreseen that for 52 weeks, one sample per week will be taken.

Entomological 500 samples unitary cost 10,26. total amount 5130EUR

Total costs for BT testing in 2011 is 10130EUR.

Due to the State Program on Monitoring and Surveillance of Animal Infectious Diseases Estonia has applied for Bluetongue free status.

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

6.1 Evolution of the disease

6.1.1 Data on herds for year:

Year	Region	Total Nber of herds	Total number of herds under the programme	Number of herds checked	Number of positive herds	Number of new positive herds	Number of herds depopulated	Number of herds depopulated	% positive herds depopulated	% herds coverage	Indicators	% positive herds prevalence	% new positive herds incidence
2009	Estonia	5,622	5,622	205	0	0	0	0	0%	4%	0%	0%	0%
	Sum:	5,622	5,622	205	0	0	0	0	0%	4%	0%	0%	0%
2008	Estonia	6,144	6,144	118	0	0	0	0	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%
	Sum:	6,144	6,144	118	0	0	0	0	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%
2007	Estonia	7,224	7,224	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sum:	7,224	7,224	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
2006	Estonia	9,267	9,267	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Sum:	9,267	9,267	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
2005	Estonia	8,149	8,149	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	10%	0%	0%
	Sum:	8,149	8,149	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	10%	0%	0%

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

6.1 Evolution of the disease:

6.1.1 Data on herds for year:

Year	Region	Total Nber of herds	Total number of herds under the programme	Number of herds checked	Number of positive herds	Number of new positive herds	Number of herds depopulated	% positive herds depopulated	% herds coverage	Indicators	% positive herds prevalence	% new positive herds incidence
2005	Total:	36,406	36,406	323	0	0	0					

6.1.2 Data on animals for year:

Year	Region	Total number of animals	Number of animals to be tested under the programme	Number of animals tested	Number of animals tested individually	Number of positives animals	Number of animals with positive result slaughtered or culled	Total number of animals slaughtered	% coverage at animal level	% positive animals prevalence
2009	Estonia	233,415	2,000	1,885	1,885	0	0	0	94%	0%
	Sum:	233,415	2,000	1,885	1,885	0	0	0		
2008	Estonia	236,881	1,000	996	996	0	0	0	100%	0%
	Sum:	236,881	1,000	996	996	0	0	0		
2007	Estonia	242,462	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%
	Sum:	242,462	0	0	0	0	0	0		
2006	Estonia	252,717	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%
	Sum:	252,717	0	0	0	0	0	0		
2005	Estonia	253,223	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%
	Sum:	253,223	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Total:		1,218,498.00	3,000.00	2,881.00	2,881.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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6.2 Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests					
6.2.1 Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests for year :					
Year	Region	Test Type	Test Description	Number of samples tested	Number of positive samples
2009	Estonia	serological test	blood sera samples AB ELISA test	1,885	0
			Sum:	1,885	0
2008	Estonia	serological test	blood sera samples AB ELISA test	996	0
			Sum:	996	0
2007	Estonia	serological test	blood sera samples AB ELISA test	0	0
			Sum:	0	0
2006	Estonia	serological test	blood sera samples AB ELISA test	0	0
			Sum:	0	0
2005	Estonia	serological test	blood sera samples AB ELISA test	0	0
			Sum:	0	0
			Total:	2,881	0

6.3 Data on infection for year :			
Year	Region	Number of herds infected	Number of animal infected
		Sum:	

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6.3 Data on Infection for year :

Year	Region	Number of herds infected	Number of animal infected
Total:			

6.4 Data on the status of herds at the end of year

Year	NUTS Region	Total number of herds and animals under the programme		Not Free or not officially free from disease				Free or officially free from disease		Free or officially free from disease status suspended		Free from disease		Officially free from disease		
		Herds	Animals	Last check positive	Last check negative	Animals	Herds	Animals	Herds	Animals	Herds	Animals	Herds	Animals	Herds	Animals
Total:																

6.5 Data on vaccination or treatment programmes for year

Year	Region	Information on vaccination or treatment programme				Information on vaccination or treatment programme			
		Total number of herds	Total number of animals	Number of herds vaccinated or treated	Number of animals vaccinated or treated	Number of doses of vaccine or treatment administered	Number of adults vaccinated	Number of young animals vaccinated	
Total:									

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6.6 Data on wildlife

6.6.1 Estimation of wildlife population for year :

Year	Region	Species	Method of estimation	Estimation of the population
			Sum:	
			Total:	

6.6.2 Monitor of wildlife for year:

Year	Region	Species	Test Type	Test Description	Number of samples tested	Number of positive samples

6.6.3 Data on vaccination or treatment of wildlife for year:

Year	Region	Square km	Number of doses of vaccine or treatment to be administered	Number of campaigns	Total number of doses of vaccine or treatment to be administered
		Total:			

7. Targets

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7. Targets						
7.1 Targets related to testing (one table for each year of implementation)						
7.1.1 Targets on diagnostic tests for year:						
Year	Region	Type of the test	Target population	Type of sample	Objective	Number of planned tests
2011	Estonia	ELISA serological	Bovines	serum	surveillance	2,000
					Total:	2,000

7.1.2 Targets on testing herds and animals											
7.1.2.1 Targets on the testing of herds for year:											
Year	Region	Total number of herds	Total number of herds under the programme	Number of herds expected to be checked	Number of expected positive herds	Number of herds expected to be depopulated	Number of new positive herds expected to be depopulated	% positive herds expected to be depopulated	Expected % herd coverage	% positive herds Expected herd prevalence	% new positive herds Expected herd incidence
	Estonia	5,622	5,622	200	0	0	0	0%	4%	0%	0%
2,011,00	Sum:	5,622	5,622	200	0	0	0				
	Total:	5,622	5,622	200	0	0	0				

7.1.2.2 Targets on the testing of animals for year:										
Slaughtering										
Year	Region	Total number of animals	Number of animals under the programme	Number of animals expected to be tested	Number of animals to be tested individually	Number of expected positive animals	Number of animals with positive result expected to be slaughtered or culled	Total number of animals expected to be slaughtered	Expected % coverage at animal level	% positive animals (Expected animal prevalence)
2011	Estonia	233,415	233,415	2,000	2,000	0	0	0	1%	0%

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7.1.2.2 Targets on the testing of animals for year:

Year	Region	Total number of animals	Number of animals under the programme	Number of animals expected to be tested	Number of animals to be tested individually	Number of expected positive animals	Number of animals with positive result expected to be slaughtered or culled	Total number of animals expected to be slaughtered	Target indicators		
									Expected % coverage at animal level	% positive animals (Expected animal prevalence)	
2011	Sum:	233,415	233,415	2,000	2,000	0	0	0			
	Total:	233,415	233,415	2,000	2,000	0	0	0			

2 Targets on qualification of herds and animals for year :

Year	Region	Total number of herds and animals under the programme	Expected unknown		Last check positive		Last check negative		Expected free or officially free from disease status suspended		Expected free from disease		Expected officially free from disease	
			Herds	Animals	Herds	Animals	Herds	Animals	Herds	Animals	Herds	Animals	Herds	Animals
2011	Sum:													
	Total:													

7.3 Targets on vaccination or treatment

7.3.1 Targets on vaccination or treatment for year :

Targets on vaccination or treatment programme	

Program for Eradication : PDF detail

7.3 Targets on vaccination or treatment

7.3.1 Targets on vaccination or treatment for year :

Year	NUTS Region	Targets on vaccination or treatment programme									
		Total number of herds in vaccination or treatment programme	Total number of animals in vaccination or treatment programme	Number of herds in 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		
2011	Estonia	317	1,677	317	317	1,677	3,354	0	0		
	Estonia	1,701	65,357	1,701	1,701	65,357	130,714	0	0		
	Estonia	5,622	233,415	5,622	5,622	233,415	466,830	0	0		
	Sum:	7,640	300,449	7,640	7,640	300,449	600,998	0	0		
Total:	7,640	300,449	7,640	7,640	300,449	600,998	0	0			

7.3.2 Targets on vaccination or treatment of wildlife for year

Year	NUTS Region	Square km	Targets on vaccination or treatment programme	
			Number of doses of vaccine or treatments expected to be administered in the campaign	Expected number of campaigns
			Total number of doses of vaccine or treatment expected to be administered	
			Sum:	
			Total:	

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

Year	Cost Category	Specification	Cost related to	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Community funding request
2,011	1. Testing	Determination of vectors	Cost of analysis	500	10.26	5,130.00	yes

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Detailed analysis of the cost of the programme for year

Year	Cost Category	Specification	Cost related to	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Community funding request
	1. Testing	Test/ELISA	Cost of analysis	2,000	2.5	5,000.00	yes
	1. Testing		Sum:	2,500		10,130.00	
		Bovine animals	Purchase of vaccine/treatment of animal products	233,415	1.5	350,122.50	yes
	2. Vaccination or treatment	Caprine animals	Purchase of vaccine/treatment of animal products	1,677	.65	1,090.05	yes
		Ovine animals	Purchase of vaccine/treatment of animal products	65,357	.65	42,482.05	yes
	2. Vaccination or treatment		Sum:	300,449		393,694.60	
	3. Slaughter and destruction						
	3. Slaughter and destruction		Sum:				
	4. Cleaning and disinfection						
	4. Cleaning and disinfection		Sum:				
	5. Salaries (staff contracted for the programme only)						
	5. Salaries (staff contracted for the programme only)		Sum:				
	6. Consumables and specific equipment						
	6. Consumables and specific equipment		Sum:	302,949		403,824.60	
	1,011.00		Total:	302,949		403,824.60	