



State of play of the situation on BTV and EHD measures

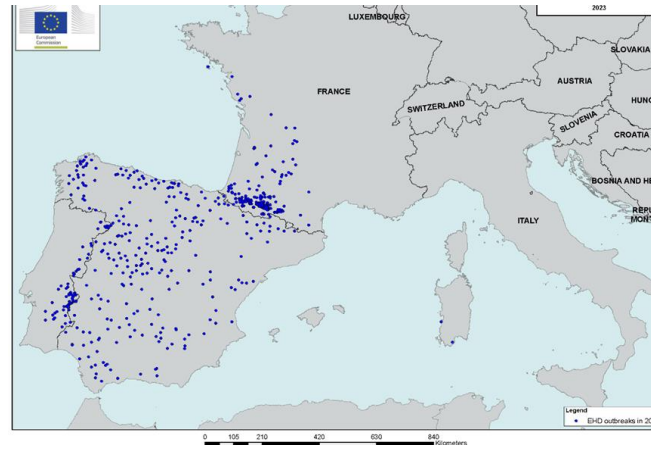
AHAC 20 November 2024

DG SANTE/G2

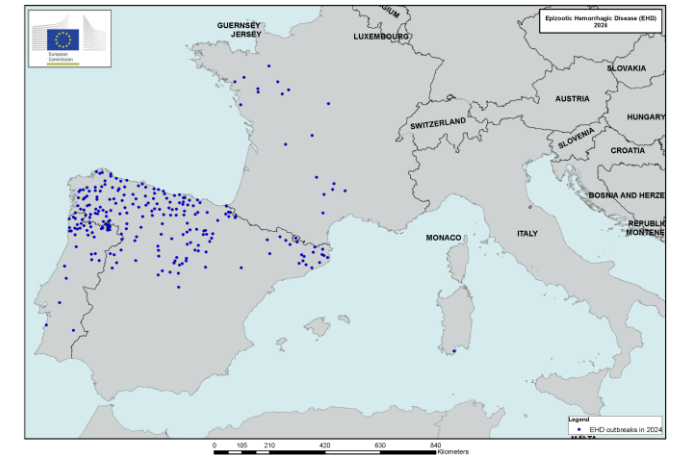
EHD-epidemiological situation



2022



2023



2024

Some relevant aspects for EHD

1. Vaccination

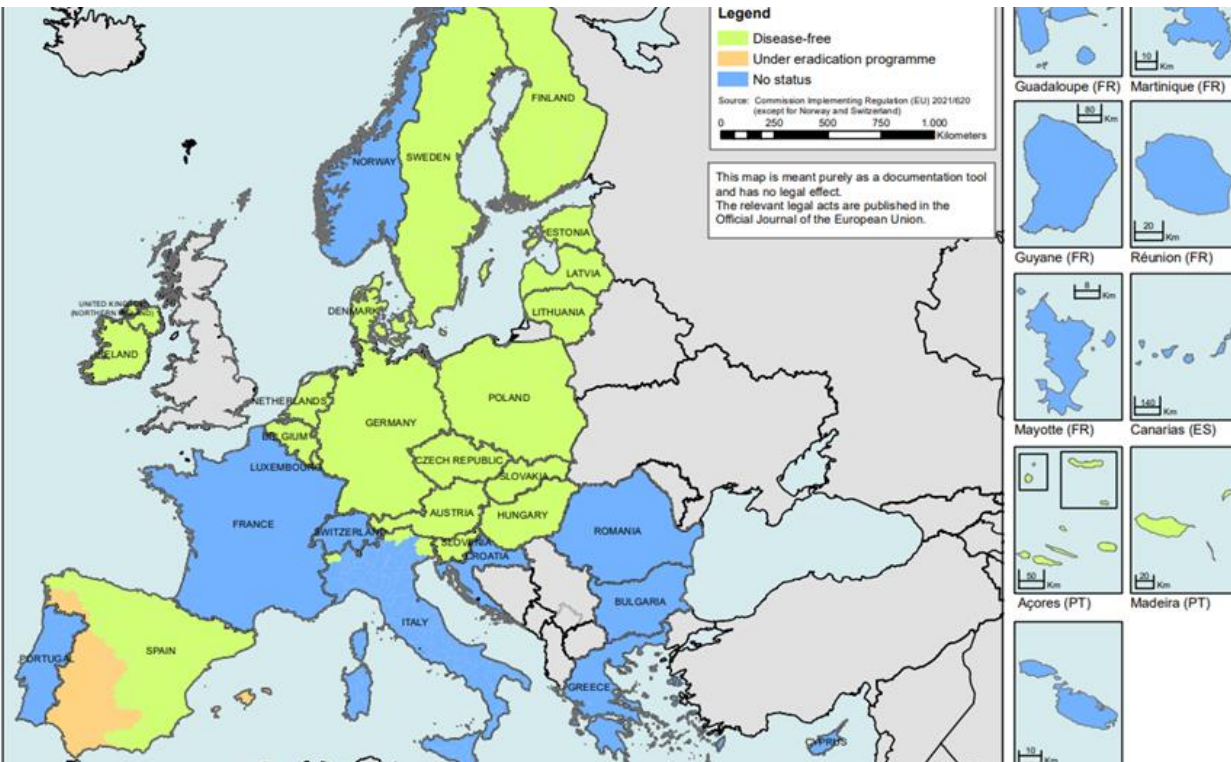
- Vaccination, might be a tool to prevent the disease from spreading on account of movements

2. Funding

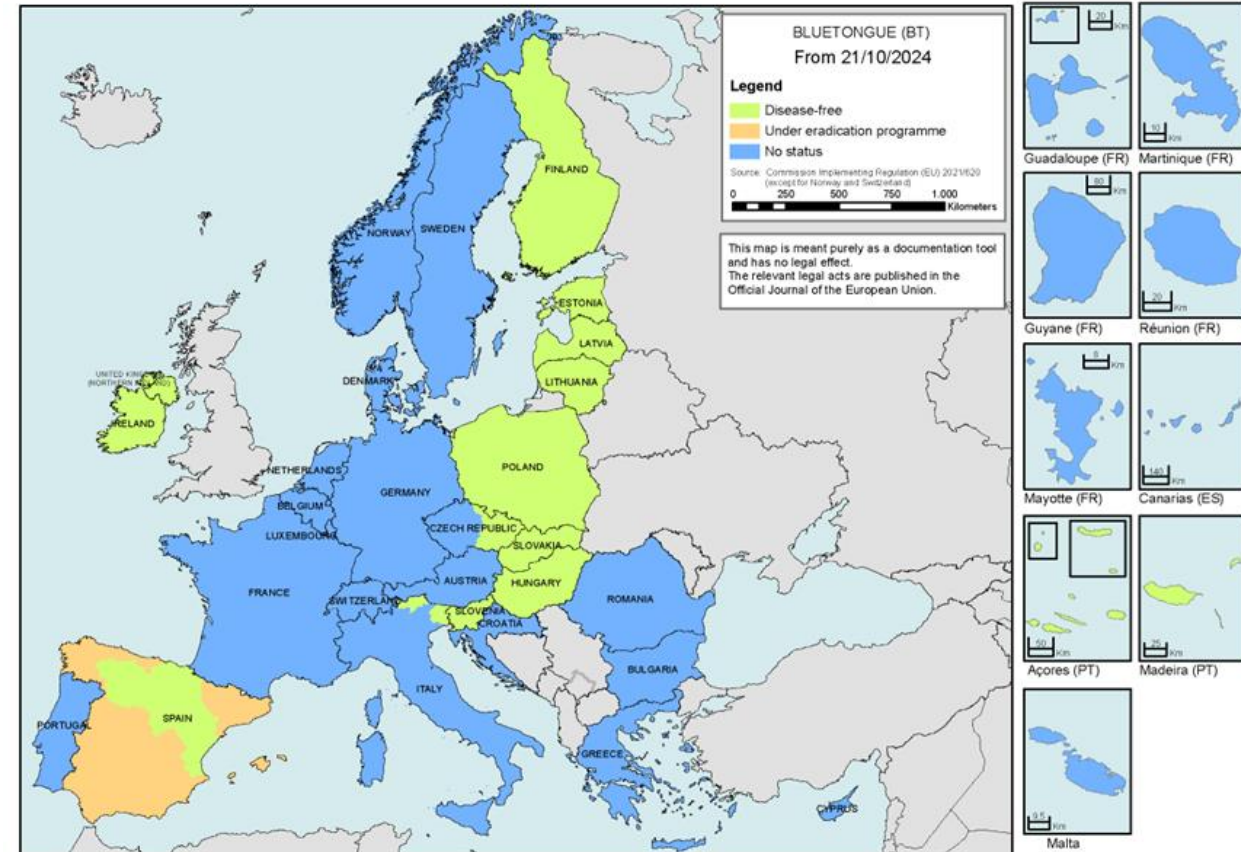
- No legal base to co-finance **veterinary measures**

BTV-epidemiological situation: CIR (EU) 2021/620: BTV free areas/areas with an approved eradication programme

September 2023, before BTV 3



October 2024, BTV-3, BTV-4 and BTV-8 evolution



Infection with BTV (serotypes 1-24)

- **Legal background**

- BTV is a **Category C disease** in CIR (EU) 2018/1882
 - that **partially changes the previous approach** from a disease of immediate eradication (**no „restricted zones” in EU rules**) to a disease that may be subject to **optional** eradication programmes with the objective of gaining the disease-free status
- BTV surveillance, eradication programmes and freedom criteria are laid down in CDR (EU) 2020/689
- Member States or zones thereof with a BTV free status (**freedom must be from all serotypes**) or with an approved programme are listed in CIR (EU) 2021/620
- BTV is also **listed as Cat D** in CIR (EU) 2018/1882: EU rules to prevent its spread by movements between Member States (CDR (EU) 2020/688)

EU baseline rules for movements

Movement of animals to other MS

- Main rule: animals must fulfil one of the requirements set out in points 1 to 3 of Section 1 of Chapter 2 of part II of Annex V to CDR (EU) 2020/689
 - **Point 1:** Freedom at origin
 - **Point 2:** eradication programme at origin and
 - seasonally free zone (period/testing regime) or
 - vector protected establishment (period/testing regime) or
 - vaccination: the animals have been vaccinated against all serotypes 1-24 of BTV reported during the past 2 years in that Member State or zone and the animals are within the immunity period guaranteed in the specifications of the vaccine (period/testing regime)
 - naturally immunised
 - **Point 3:** no status at origin and vector protected establishment or vaccination or natural immunisation (period/testing regime and provided prior surveillance is implemented)

Movements under derogation 1.

Movement of animals to other MS (BTV free areas or under eradication)

Derogations

- MS of destination must inform the Commission and other MS that movements under derogation into their territory are authorized
- MS must accept animals regardless of the Member State or zone of origin
- Type of movements under derogations: animals must fulfil one the requirements set out in points 5 to 8 of Section 1 of Chapter 2 of part II of Annex V to CDR (EU) 2020/689
 - **Point 5:** no status at origin and seasonally free zone (period/testing regime)
 - **Point 6:** eradication programme or no status at origin and insecticides/repellents + PCR
 - **Point 7:** specific animal health requirements ensuring sufficient immunological protection
 - **Point 8:** the animals comply with any of the requirements provided for in points 2, 3 5, 6 or 7 only for the serotypes of BTV reported for the past 2 years in the Member State or zone of origin and not in the Member State or zone of destination during the same period

Movements under derogations 2.

Movement of animals to other MS without status

Derogations

- MS of destination must inform the Commission and other MS that movements under derogation into their territory are authorized
- MS must accept animals regardless of the Member State or zone of origin
- Type of movements under derogations:
 - Animals do not meet any BTV related conditions
 - Animals must fulfil one the requirements set out in points 5 to 8 of Section 1 of Chapter 2 of part II of Annex V to CDR (EU) 2020/689

Some other relevant EU rules

Notification-reporting (CIR (EU) 2020/2002)

- Article 3: Immediate notification of primary outbreaks in disease free areas
- Article 4: Annual reporting

Funding

- Veterinary programmes: BTV is **not an eligible disease for 2024 programmes nor for the 2025-2027**
- Emergency veterinary control measures: **Not a priority.** Priority is PPR, SGP... and of course ASF or HPAI

EU policy and state of play for BTV vaccination

- Vaccination is under the responsibility of MS
- Vaccination remains a **key tool** for BTV eradication and to ensure safe movement of animals (to other MS and to third countries)
- Efforts of the MSs with vaccine producers for quick vaccine development (BTV-3)
- Development problems for certain BTV-3 vaccines in 2024
- Vaccines already available

Existing EU transparency 1.

Commission's BTV dedicated website

https://food.ec.europa.eu/animals/animal-diseases/surveillance-eradication-programmes-and-disease-free-status/bluetongue_en

- Practical assistance by Comm to compile key information defined or required by EU rules
- Updated informations on derogations
- Map of MS and zones with status
 - In line with CIR (EU) 2021/620
 - No info on serotypes: lack of legal basis

Existing EU transparency 2.

Commission's website with links to MS lists

- Required by AHL and CIR (EU) 2020/2002
- Covers all Cat B and C diseases, not only BTV
- MS lists must be changed by MS within 2 working days

https://food.ec.europa.eu/animals/animal-diseases/surveillance-eradication-programmes-and-disease-free-status_en#disease-free-areas

Existing EU transparency 3.

Commission's public website for ADIS

- Not required by EU rules, additional assistance to MS
- Weekly ADIS summaries

https://food.ec.europa.eu/animals/animal-diseases/animal-disease-information-system-adis_en#animal-disease-information

Many strategic and technical exchanges

The Commission is always open and ready to exchange. Numerous examples:

- Ad hoc meetings over summer 2024
- AGRI Council meeting in September 2023, September 2024 and October 2024
- CVO meetings: February, September and November 2024
- PAFF meetings: October, November 2024 (to be continued regularly)
- AHAC meeting in November
- Several written questions from EP: as E-1819/2024, E-1845/2024, E-1850/2024, E-2019/2024, E-2156/2024/rev.1, E-2438/2024 and P-2410/2024 (last two months)
- EP COMAGRI meeting in December 2024
- FESASS event in EP in December
- Many bilateral exchanges (Member States, third countries, stakeholders, operators etc.)
- Considering and assessing submissions from Member States, stakeholders

Conclusions

- BTV rules are stable, very well known.
- COM always encourages flexibility making smart use of the derogations and lessons learnt from the past.
- The use of derogations is not a bilateral issue. Once a MS of destination accepts animals complying with a derogation, they must accept from all MSs.
- If the CA has grounds to ensure that “the animals have been vaccinated against all relevant BTV serotypes and the animals are within the immunity period guaranteed in the specifications of the vaccine” the animal can be moved to another MS. It is for the CA of origin to decide whether they can or cannot sign the certificate.
- Current situation may reoccur if other BTV serotypes spread (BTV-12?)
- The Commission is in constant contact with all concerned

Questions?