

A case of chronic wasting disease in a wild reindeer in Norway

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Facts

- 15. March a sick wild reindeer was detected in connection with tagging of animals in Southwest-Norway
- The animal had moved out of the flock, was moribund and died soon after the inspectors arrived at the spot
- The movement of the animal was normal to start with, but it soon got problems after being stressed by the helicopter

Facts

- The animal was sent to Norwegian Veterinary Institute for necropsy and laboratory examination
- It was a female animal below medium condition, not pregnant and about 2,5 years old
- Findings were:
 - Ruptures and bleeding in musculature
 - Pulmonary edema and circulation problems
 - No special findings concerning microbiology and parasitology
- Samples were taken for TSE

Facts

- Test for TSE carried out by the Norwegian Veterinary Institute (ELISA, WB and IHC)
- The animal tested positive for TSE, presumtiv CWD
- The Norwegian Food Safety Authority was informed
- The samples are sent to EU and OIE reference laboratory
- Both reference laboratories have come to the same conclusion, CWD diagnose confirmed

Wild reindeer population in Norway



- The wild reindeer population in Norway is about 30 000 animals
- The positive animal was from Southwest-Norway
- The population in this area is about 2 500 animals
- Norway has a population of about 250 000 semi-domestic reindeers
- The main population of semi-domestic reindeers is kept in the North of Norway

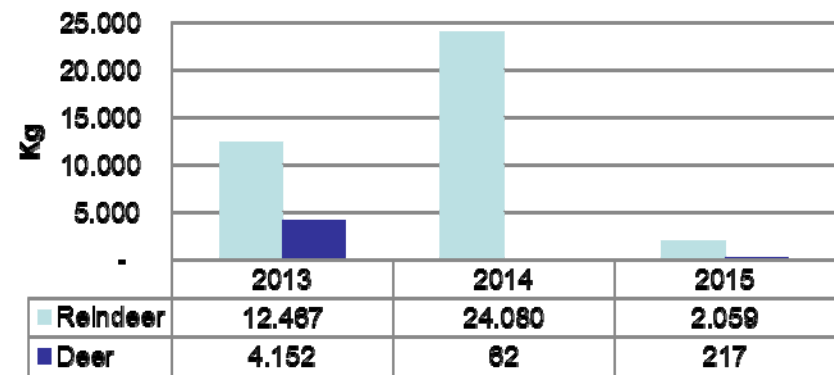
Food safety

- The Norwegian Food Safety Authority considers meat from wild reindeer to be safe to eat
 - This is based on:
 - International research has not been able to find any connection between CWD and disease in humans
 - Information from Norwegian Institute of Public Health
 - Information from WHO
 - Only healthy animals are slaughtered and animals going to human consumption undergo control prior to entering the food chain
 - No action is taken concerning the wild reindeer meat in the market
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Export

- Wild reindeer meat is not exported
- All export of meat is from semi-domestic reindeer from the north of Norway
- The export goes mainly to Iceland, Sweden and Denmark (99 %)
- The export in 2015 was 2059 kg

Export of meat from semi-domestic reindeer and deer



Surveillance from 2004-2015

Year	Farmed deer			Wild deer					Not specified		Total
	Fallow d.	Red d.	Reindeer	Moos	Red d.	Musk	Reindeer	Roe deer	Red d.	Reindeer	
2004 *				10		13		21	11	22	77
2005			618	14		10		17	10	94	763
2006		4		12	124	13		9	1	48	211
2007	8	32		35	570	1		34		30	710
2008		2	1	9	6	1	1	26	1		47
2009		2	1	11	7		1	31			53
2010		2		13	3	4	2	17			41
2011		11	1	11	2		1	12			38
2012	3	6		5	4			3			21
2013	1	4		1				4			10
2014		2		5	2			1			10
2015 *				4				8	4	1	17
Total	12	65	621	130	718	42	5	183	27	195	1998

- All together 1998 samples have been tested for CWD since 2004
- In Norway TSE (included CWD) is notifiable for all animals, included wild reindeers

Action taken immediately

- Increased monitoring of the wild reindeer population concerned
 - Sick animals will be taken out and tested
 - The population will be monitored during the calving season
 - A selection of bucks will be taken out and tested
- Increased monitoring of nearby wild reindeer population
- Increased monitoring of other cervides in the area
- Measures to avoid mix of wild and semi-domestic reindeer
- Risk assessment by Norwegian Scientific Comitee observed by EFSA

Action taken in the autumn

The hunting season for wild reindeer is in August

The slaughter season for semi-domestic reindeers starts in September

- A surveillance program will be carried to cover the wild reindeer population
- A surveillance program will be carried out for semi-domestic reindeer
- Working on cooperation with Sweden and Finland on surveillance of semi-domestic reindeer

Thank you for your attention!



Mattilsynet