

Eradication: Final report for Bluetongue 2018

For each approved annual or multi-annual programme Member States shall submit to the Commission by the 30 April each year an annual detailed technical and financial report covering the previous year. That report shall include the results achieved and a detailed account of eligible costs incurred (Art 14 of Regulation (EU) No 652/2014).

This form is for information only, no submission possible.

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Country code: RO

Reporting period

From: 2018

To: 2020

Year of implementation: 2018

1. Technical implementation of the programme

1.1 Description and evaluation of the evolution of the epidemiological situation, the technical implementation of the activities foreseen under the programme and the cost-effectiveness of the programme.

BTV never occurred in Romania until 2014. First case was confirmed on 23rd of August 2014 in South-East of Romania, Buzau county. The BTV serotype identified was BTV 4 and it was confirmed by the Pirbright European Reference Laboratory on 01.09.2014.

The measures applied were according to the provisions of the Council Directive 2000/75/EC laying down specific provisions for the control and eradication of bluetongue and the Commission Regulation (EC) No 1266/2007 on implementing rules for Council Directive 2000/75/EC as regards the control, monitoring, surveillance and restrictions on movements of certain animals of susceptible species in relation to bluetongue, as follows:

- census of susceptible animals;
- clinical inspections of holdings with susceptible animals;
- recommended the destroying the favorable biotopes for Culicoides and treatments with insecticides and repellents;
- passive and active surveillance (sampling for serological and virological testing for BT);
- entomological surveillance;
- movement control of all susceptible ruminant animals according to the legislation in force;
- closing the markets and fairs until the October 5th, 2014 on the entire Romanian territory and checks of compliance;

- approval of the voluntary BTV vaccination from the commercial farms of bovines and ovines at requested of the farmers.

During the year 2014, 1885 outbreaks were confirmed in 34 of 42 counties. The affected animals (6.691) and the mortality (2849 animals) were low compared with the number of ruminants present in Romania at that time (around 16.000.000).

During the year 2015, there were confirmed 43 cases in cattle and 30 outbreaks were registered. The outbreaks were registered in four counties in North-West of the country, as follows: Botoşani, Suceava, Iaşi and Vaslui. All affected animals were recovered, and no mortalities were registered. In sheep and goats there were no registered bluetongue cases in 2015.

During the year 2016, 2017 and 2018 no cases of bluetongue were confirmed.

As a consequence of evolution of bluetongue, on the Romanian territory it is applied a monitoring programme designated to prove the absence of the viral circulation for BTV 4 and the detection of the new viral serotypes incursions on the Romanian territory. The monitoring programme is applied on sentinel animals depending on the vector activity. The testing methods are: competitive/blocking ELISA, virus neutralisation, real time RT-PCR and PCR typing.

Compared with 2014, in 2015 it was noticed the regress of the infection and also the number of affected animal decreased, but there was evidence of viral circulation on the Romanian territory.

During the years 2016 and 2017 it was registered seroconversion in sentinel animals tested in June, September and November, but no any positive PCR was registered. The same situation also for 2018. In 2018, 11 clinical suspicions were registered in ruminants (1 in bovine, 3 in sheep and 7 in goats), but they were infirmed by PCR test.

In Romania, the monitoring programme of bluetongue was applied in the frame of:

- Grant Decision Number SANTE/VP/2018/RO/SI2.774145 APPROVING NATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND ASSOCIATED FUNDING;

- Order no. 35/2016 for the approval of the Strategic programme for the surveillance, prevention and control of transmissible animal diseases from animals to humans, animal protection and environment, of identification and registration of, bovines, swine, sheep, goats and equidae, with subsequent amendments

- Order no. 32/2006 for the approval of the Sanitary Veterinary Norm that establishes specific provisions for the control and eradication of bluetongue as transposed from the Directive 2000/75/EC, with subsequent amendments;

- Commission Regulation 1266/2007 on implementing rules for Council Directive 2000/75/EC as regards the control, monitoring, surveillance and restrictions on movements of certain animals of susceptible species in relation to bluetongue, with subsequent amendments.

- In accordance with Government Decision no. 1156/2013, the cost of the blood samples per domestic animal is 9.1 RON for cattle and 8.45 RON for sheep and goats. The official sampling is performed by the authorized private vets empowered by the county sanitary veterinary and food safety directorates and the municipality of Bucharest for this activity and they are paid by state budget.

1.2 Details on the level of achievement of the targets set in the approved programme and technical difficulties.

Compared with the target figures established prior to the implementation of the 2018 monitoring program, regarding the sentinel animals to be tested, the actual figures at the end of the year show a difference in the sense that the latter are consistently higher than the former. The number of PCR tests were much lower than estimated.

The causes for this situation are as follows:

- finding sentinels in one target locality (CSVA) was harder than expected, because of decreasing of animals population from one year to another;
- during the testing period there were often situations when sentinel animals were sold/slaughtered, and as a consequence additional animals were tested for filling the gaps; in certain cases, the number of the sold/slaughtered animals was higher than the additional animals initially selected in the BTV vector free period; so the number of ELISA tests was lower;
- the number of PCR tests was lower because the clinical manifestation of the disease in 2018 were significantly reduced compared with previous years, the majority of PCR tests being performed on seroconverted sentinels.

1.3 Epidemiological maps for infection and other relevant data on the disease/activities (information on serotypes involved,...) (Please attach files of data using the PDF attachment feature) Use the textbox below to provide clarifications for the maps you attach, if needed.

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2. TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION ON BLUETONGUE PROGRAMMES

VERY IMPORTANT: Please fill out the following tables with figures corresponding to measures performed during the implementing period (1/1 to 31/12).

Table A - DATA ON HERDS

Table A is not to be filled in for Bluetongue

Table B - DATA ON ANIMALS

Region	Animal species	Total number of animals	Number of animals under the programme	Number of animals to be tested under the programme	Number of animals tested	Number of animals tested individually	Number of positive animals	Number of outbreaks
Romania	Cattle	1,928,877	1,928,877	6,445	8,512	8,512	0	0
Romania	Sheep	11,773,209	11,773,209	251	340	340	0	0
Romania	Goats	1,686,147	1,686,147	30	137	137	0	0
Total		15,388,233	15,388,233	6,726	8,989	8,989	0	0

Table C - DATA ON VACCINATION PROGRAMMES

Region	Animal species	Total number of herds	Total number of animals	Serotype	Number of herds in vaccination programme	Number of herds vaccinated	Number of animals vaccinated	Number of doses of vaccine administered	Number of adults vaccinated	Number of young animals vaccinated	Number of animals with primary vaccination (initial+ booster)
Total		0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table D - DATA ON STATUS OF HERDS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD

Table D is not to be filled in for Bluetongue

Table E - SUSPENSION/WITHDRAWAL OF THE FREE OR OFFICIALLY FREE STATUS

Table E is not to be filled in for Bluetongue

Table F - STRATIFIED DATA ON SURVEILLANCE AND LABORATORY TESTS

Region	Animal species	Number of samples	Test type	Number of tests	Number of positive tests
Romania	Cattle	23,879	Elisa test	25,789	543
Romania	Cattle	0	PCR test	209	0
Romania	Sheep	902	Elisa test	1,025	4
Romania	Sheep	0	PCR test	6	0
Romania	Goats	379	Elisa test	400	2
Romania	Goats	0	PCR test	2	0
Total		25,160		27,431	549
			Methods of laboratory analysis	Total number of tests	
			Total - Elisa test	27,214	
			Total - PCR test	217	

COMMENT / ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION

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