



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH & CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

04 - Veterinary control programmes

SANCO/10259/2010

REPORT OF THE

**“Sheep & Goat and Bovine Brucellosis”
TASK FORCE SUB-GROUPS**

Meeting held in

Nicosia

Cyprus

02- 03 December 2009

**REPORT OF THE
MEETING OF THE SHEEP & GOAT AND BOVINE BRUCELLOSIS SUB-GROUPS OF THE
TASK FORCE FOR MONITORING DISEASE ERADICATION
HELD IN NICOSIA, CYPRUS, 02- 03 DECEMBER 2009**

1. PARTICIPANTS: see Annex I

2. AGENDA: see Annex II

Location: Nicosia, Cyprus.

3. DAY 1

3.1. Presentation of the Veterinary Services in Cyprus

P. Toumazos (Acting Director of Veterinary Services of Cyprus)

The meeting was held at the headquarters of the Veterinary Services of Cyprus in Nicosia. Dr. Pavlos Toumazos, Acting Director of Veterinary Services of Cyprus, gave a short overview on the organisation of the Veterinary Services, the history of the Island and of the brucellosis eradication in Cyprus.

The Veterinary Services of Cyprus include 2 main Divisions, the Animal Health and the Public Health Division. Also, there are two main Sections, the "Veterinary Laboratory Section" and the "Drugs and Supplies Section". In 2006, a new Section for "Internal Audits" was established. Furthermore, a European Union and International Organisation Section was created for development of the cooperation and relations with the EU, OIE, WHO and other international organisations.

In Cyprus, the territory is divided in 5 District Veterinary Offices (DVO). In each district, 2-3 private veterinarians are under contract for the clinical treatment of animals. The work of the vets is free of charge for farmers; drugs must be paid by the farmer.

The total staff of the Veterinary Services in Cyprus is composed of 443 operators. This includes 68 permanent and 18 temporary Veterinary Officers (VO), 12 Veterinary Pharmacists, 72 permanent and 45 temporary Veterinary Inspectors (VI), 8 permanent Veterinary Assistants, 10 temporary Veterinary Clerks and 188 accounting, clerical and auxiliary staff. Furthermore 22 private veterinarians are engaged on yearly contract.

3.2. Bovine and Sheep & Goat Brucellosis eradication programme - outcome

G. Bargouli (Vet. Off., Animal Health & Welfare Division, coordination of Brucellosis programme)

The brucellosis eradication scheme restarted in Cyprus in 2001, after reappearance of the disease in 1998. Following a peak between 2001 and 2003 and after intensification of the programme, a significant reduction at prevalence and incidence was reported after 2005.

The evolution of herd and flock prevalence and incidence, as well as the geographical distribution of the disease over the last three years, could be summarized in the following figures:

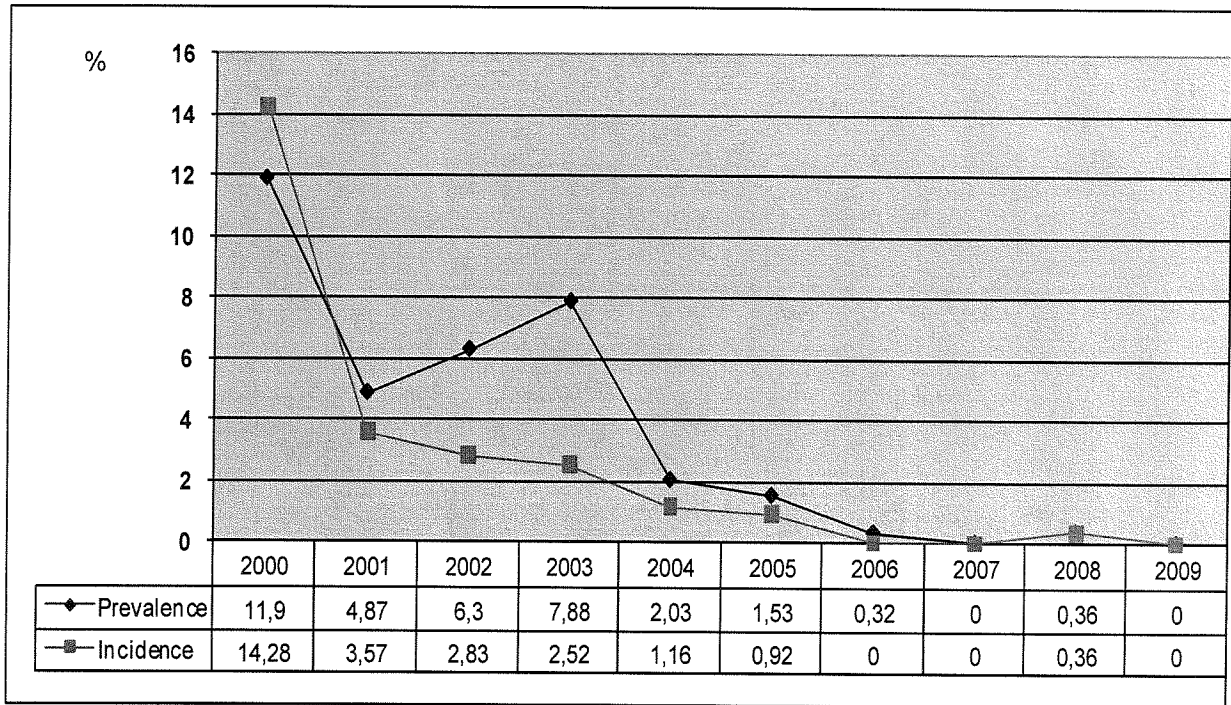


Figure 1: Evolution of herd prevalence and incidence of Bovine Brucellosis in Cyprus (2000-2009)

Prevalence: Number of positive herds/Number of herds checked

Incidence: Number of new positive herds/Number of herds checked

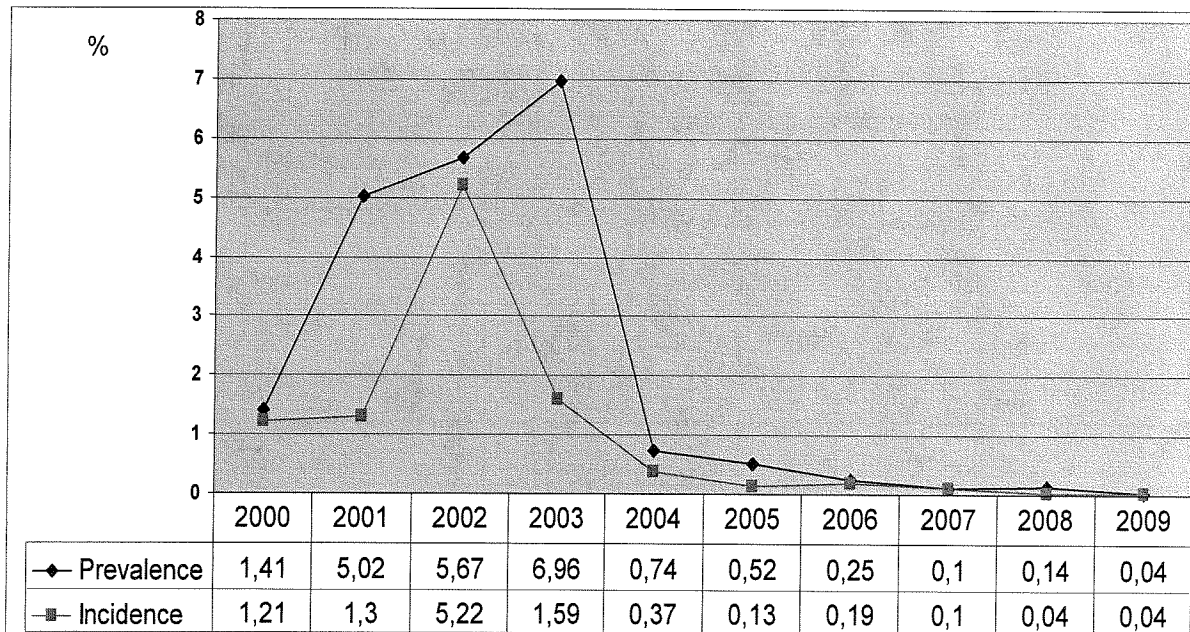


Figure 2: Evolution of flock prevalence and incidence of Ovine and Caprine Brucellosis in Cyprus (2000-2009)

Prevalence: Number of positive flocks/Number of flocks checked

Incidence: Number of new positive flocks/Number of flocks checked

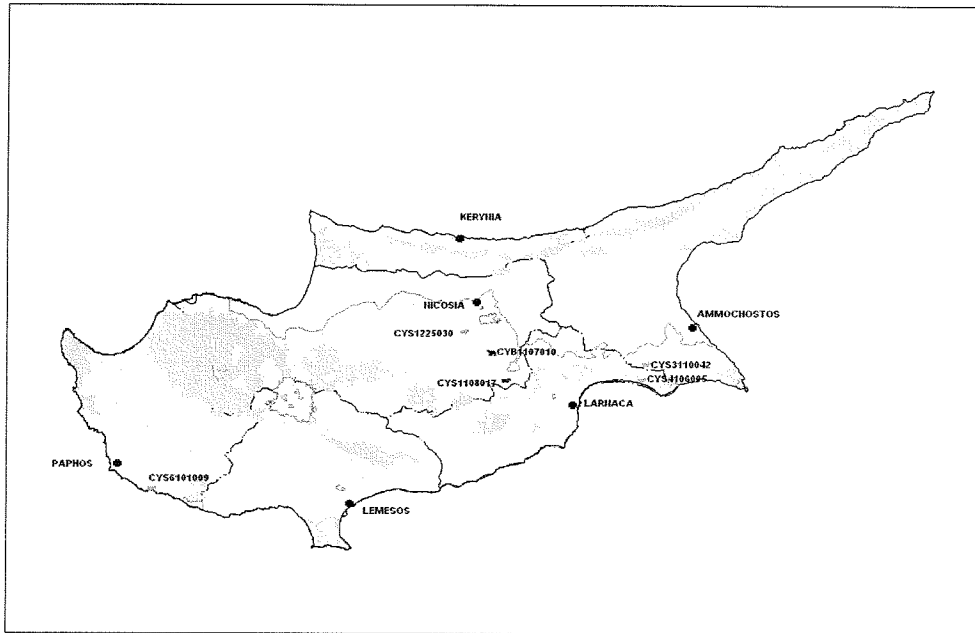


Figure 3: Geographical distribution of outbreaks of Bovine and Ovine & Caprine Brucellosis from 2006 onwards.

An investigation of the outbreaks from 2006 onwards shows that no real infection was found for both bovine and sheep & goats (only seropositive herds/flocks with no *Brucella* isolation), until November 2009, when two positive goats were found (with *Brucella* isolation). The outbreaks were scattered, with no epidemiological link between them.

The majority of bovine herds have been declared Officially Brucellosis Free (OBF) (90.4%). Concerning sheep and goats, the percentage of flocks that have been declared OBF has remained almost stable for the last three years (60-70%). The major drawbacks of the progress for sheep and goat brucellosis programme have been the following:

- Other priorities of Veterinary Services, mainly Scrapie;
- Lack of motivation for both personnel and farmers;
- Not obvious advantage for farmers and economy.

3.3. Animal population – farming areas and impact on epidemiology of disease

P. Neocleous (*Active Head, Animal Welfare Division*)

Prior to 1974 (year of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus), farming practices in Cyprus were managed on an extensive system: farms were dispersed among extensive pastures, herd size was small to medium (150 – 250) and there was a low risk of between-herd contact through common pastures or shared pathways. Following the invasion, livestock farming became highly intensive, with up to 70% of farms concentrated in government-provided farming “areas” or “zones”, herd size increased significantly (250 to > 500). Therefore, pasture was limited and contact between herds increased.

Cyprus has a bovine population of 55,135, distributed among 322 holdings, and 560,374 small ruminants across 3,269 holdings.

“Farming areas” are government-owned land parcels rented out to farmers each year, usually separated by a road or wall. They are supervised by the Department of Agriculture. There are 60 farming areas containing 895 farms, *i.e.* 25% of farms are located in farming areas, with a livestock density of 23 700 animals per square kilometre. “Farming zones” are government- or privately owned land zoned for farming. They are less concentrated than farming areas but are still intensively managed and account for 30% to 40% of farms.

The farming areas and zones present a significant epidemiological risk due to the high concentration of farms and animals in very small areas and associated high risks of direct contact (common pathways, shared boundaries) or indirect contact (movement of personnel, vehicles, rodents and run-off of manure and fluids after heavy rains). Another major risk arises from the Turkish-occupied northern part of the island, from which there is very little information about the animal-health status, no apparent Brucellosis eradication programme but with a 200-km long buffer-zone, through mountainous terrain.

3.4. Identification and registration system, movement control

Y. Lacovou (*Vet. Off., Nicosia District, in charge of Brucellosis programme*)

The distribution of cattle and sheep and goats population in Cyprus is given in tables 1 and 2 respectively.

SHEEP AND GOATS: in April 2004, Regulation 21/2004/EC has been transposed into the National Legislation by the national Law 149(I) 2004 for the implementation of EU Regulations in the Veterinary Sector. Detailed procedures were laid down with the National Order Κ.Δ.Π. 507/2004.

A revision of the National Order will be ready by the end of the first semester of 2010.

BOVINES: from April 2004 Regulation 1760/2000/EC has been transposed into the National Legislation by the Law 149(I)2004, and detailed procedures were laid down with the National Order Κ.Δ.Π. 508/2004.

All bovine and sheep and goat holdings in Cyprus are registered by the central authority with a unique farm code.

All bovines older than 14 days and all sheep and goats over 6 months of age are tagged with an individual identification mark.

The Veterinary Services of Cyprus run and maintain an operational centralized computer database for the registration of bovine, sheep and goats, which is in accordance to Regulations 1760/2000 and 21/2004/EC. The Cypriot database has been in place since October 2002. Official recognition of the fully functional character of the bovine database has been given in April 2004 by the Commission.

Table 1: Distribution of Bovine population in Cyprus

District	Total No. of holdings	Total No. of animals	
		Total	Animals > 12 m. old
Nicosia	100	17,202	12,221
Larnaca	100	23,866	17,186
Famagusta	48	9,915	6,795
Limassol	33	3,030	2,084
Paphos	41	1,122	797
Total	322	55,135	39,083

Table 2: Distribution of Sheep & Goats population in Cyprus

District	Total No. of holdings	Total No. of animals	
		Total	Animals > 6 m. old
Nicosia	682	135,439	114,648
Larnaca	728	140,905	116,397
Famagusta	463	64,198	58,270
Limassol	738	125,539	111,725
Paphos	658	94,293	88,999
Total	3,269	560,374	490,039

Conventional identification system in sheep and goats is carried out with two plastic ear tags bearing the same individual code. Around 5% of total population (mainly goats) cannot be ear tagged because of the very small size of the the pinna of the animal's ears (in Paphos and Limassol districts).

Electronic identification system (EID) in small ruminants consist in identifying the animals with one intra-ruminal bolus and one plastic ear tag bearing the same individual code.

- Sheep: EID has started in sheep in September 2005, in combination with the sheep genotyping programme for Scrapie. In all reproduction sheep herds, animals are genotyped at the age of approximately 35 days.
- Goats: from November 2009 within the framework of the Scrapie eradication programme, EID has started in goats using intra-ruminal boluses in combination with the goat genotyping programme. By the end of February 2010 all goat population will be electronically identified.

Sheep: EID has started in sheep in September 2005, in combination with the sheep genotyping programme for Scrapie. In all reproduction sheep herds, animals are genotyped at the age of approximately 35 days.

Goats: from November 2009 within the framework of the Scrapie eradication programme, EID has started in goats using intra-ruminal boluses in combination with the goat genotyping programme. By the end of February 2010 all goat population will be electronically identified.

The notification of movements within 5 working days from the movement date is compulsory. The notification of slaughtered animals must be carried out on the date of slaughter, the notification of deaths within 5 working days from the death.

3.5. Brucellosis eradication programme

P. Constantinou (*Vet. Off., Larnaca District, in charge of Brucellosis programme*)

The brucellosis eradication programme is implemented in all the area controlled by the Veterinary Service of the Republic of Cyprus. The Director of Veterinary Services is responsible for the coordination of the whole programme.

The five DVOs with six District Veterinary Stations are responsible for the collection and transport of the samples to the laboratories, informing the farmers of the results, the epidemiological investigation of new outbreaks, the slaughter of seropositive animals and the compensations and disinfections of the infected farms

The programme is based on a test-and-slaughter of positive animals. A central committee considers declarations of holdings as infected or non infected, depopulations (none since 2006) and assessment of laboratory results in conjunction with the DVOs. Vaccination is prohibited in Cyprus. The notification of abortions to the veterinary services is obligatory

Disease control measures on infected holdings

- Restriction of all farm movements;
- Animal population count on the day of the implementation of the restricted measures;
- Epidemiological investigation to identify possible source of infection forward/backward tracing, proximity with other infected farms, as well as the use of common grazing;
- Collection of milk from infected farms in separate milk tanks;
- Serological examination of dogs and other susceptible animals found on infected farms;
- Confiscation, slaughter and compensation of seropositive animals;
- Serological re examination of all cattle over 12 months old and sheep/goats over 6 months old, at least one month after the slaughter of positive animals using the RBT for screening and CFT for confirmation;
- Cleaning and disinfection of infected farms under the supervision of SVS;

- Collection and burial/disinfection of manure in a place far from establishments;
- Bacteriological examination of milk samples from new outbreaks;
- Bacteriological examination of aborted fetuses and placentas.

Withdrawal of restrictive measures

- Declaration of a holding as brucellosis non infected and withdrawal of restrictive measures after 4 consecutive negative tests over a period of 6 months
- In case of depopulation, restocking not allowed for 6 months.

3.6. Surveillance programme

Georgia Aparin (*Vet. Off., Famagusta District, in charge of Brucellosis programme*)

SHEEP AND GOATS BRUCELLOSIS

The declaration of OBmF sheep and goats flocks is based on tests carried out on all animals in the holding over 6 months old, twice a year (6-12 months maximum interval) with negative results. Furthermore, all the animals must have been free from clinical signs of brucellosis for at least 12 months.

Sheep and goats flocks maintain the OBmF status if re-examined with negative results on an annual basis. This check includes a representative number of animals to be tested in each holding, consisting of the following: (1) all non-castrated male sheep and goats over six months old, (2) all sheep and goats brought into the holding since the previous test and (3) 25 % of the females > 6 months old, with a minimum of 50 per holding, except in holdings where there are fewer than 50, in which case all females must be tested. As well all sheep and goats entering in a new holding must come from brucellosis officially free flocks.

The surveillance programme is based on tests carried out on all animals over 6 months old in the holding twice a year (6-12 months maximum interval) with negative results. Regarding reacting animals, these are removed from the farm (in a maximum of 30 days) and compensated. The flock is put under temporary movement restriction and one month later (from the date of the animal is removed) a re-examination of all animals older than 6 months must be done. If the result is negative, the flock is no longer under restrictions but if the result is positive, the flock is considered infected and remain under full restriction. All the animals over 6 months must be submitted to a pre-movement test (RBT negative during the last 30 days) with negative results, before their introduction into a new holding. In the flocks with a non-officially free status, all animals must be sampled, whatever the number of animals to be moved.

BOVINE BRUCELLOSIS

The declaration of OBF status in dairy herds is based on 3 negative tests performed on bulk milk samples (ELISA) at an interval of 3 months. These samples must represent at least 30% of the animals from the herd and will be supported by a list of ear-tags. It is also necessary to perform a RBT

on all animals older than 12 months of age, at least 6 weeks later. Furthermore, all animals must have been free from clinical signs of brucellosis for at least 6 months. In herds with local cattle or with less than 10 animals, two serological tests should be done on all animals older than 12 months with intervals of 3 and 12 months to obtain the OBF status.

A dairy herd will maintain the OBF status if 3 tests are applied on samples of bulk milk (ELISA) at an interval of 3 months. These samples must represent at least 30% of the animals from the herd and will be supported by a list of ear-tags. As well all animals entering into a new holding must come from an OBF herd. In herds with local cattle or with less than 10 animals, one serological test must be done on all animals older than 12 months once a year to maintain the OBF status. Also all animals entering in a new holding must come from an OBF herd.

The surveillance programme of dairy herds is based on tests carried out on bulk milk samples at an interval of 3 months. Animals older than 12 months of age can move, if a serological test with negative result is performed (30 days pre-movement test). While in an OBF herd only the animal(s) to be moved must be serologically tested, in a non-officially brucellosis free herd, all animals must be sampled.

3.7. Laboratory tests and results, quality assurance, organisation in a local DVO

M. Liapi (*Vet. Off. Head of Bacteriology and Serology Laboratory, Nicosia*)

In Cyprus, there are 4 state laboratories dealing with the diagnosis of *Brucella* spp. infection. The National Reference Laboratory (NRL) belongs to the State Veterinary Laboratories section of the Veterinary Services of Cyprus. The NRL is sited in Nicosia and among its responsibilities are the control of antigens and kits used for serological diagnosis (RBT, CFT and bulk milk iELISA) as well as the distribution of RBT antigens to district laboratories. The 3 other laboratories are situated in the districts of Larnaca, Limassol and Paphos and perform only the routine testing of sera by the RBT for the corresponding area (the NRL plays that role for the district of Nicosia). The NRL is also in charge of testing in CFT the sera originated from district laboratories that gave positive results in the screening RBT, as well as routine testing of dairy cattle farms by the bulk milk iELISA and follow-up of the suspect or infected flocks and herds by parallel RB-CF testing. Finally, the bacteriological culture and identification of *Brucella* from milk, abortion material or lymph nodes has been implemented in the NRL since the last Task Force visit in 2005.

All batches of diagnostic antigens and kits used in the frame of the programme have been previously certified by an EU NRL, mainly VLA (UK) and the EU CRL in AFSSA (France).

Tests are performed according to the EU regulations and CRL recommendations and include systematic internal controls. The personal has been trained in the past years in the EU CRL in AFSSA, France as well as in other EU MS NRLs (Germany, Greece, UK) and in the University of Pamplona (Spain). The NRL works under quality assurance has been accredited for Brucellosis serology according to EN/ISO/IEC 17025 by the Greek accreditation body (ESYD) in 2008 and has participated

with full satisfactory results to the 3 proficiency ring-trials organised by the EU CRL since 2007. Finally the NRL has been organising itself an annual ring-trial to evaluate the quality of tests performed in the satellite laboratories, with satisfactory results in terms of positive/negative segregation.

3.8. Administration measures for the protection of public health from brucellosis

P. Papasomenos

MEASURES IN RELATION TO THE CONTROL OF MILK

In infected bovine, sheep and goats farms, restrictive measures are applied. Milk produced by positive animals must be heated at the farm, to temperatures above 75°C for 5 minutes, and given to young animals. Excesses must be destroyed. This is supervised by the VO and registered daily until the infected animals are removed for slaughter.

Dairy industries are notified of the infected farms and milk is collected from these farms only by the 4 dairies equipped with pasteurizers (8 smaller factories boil milk for cheese production (Halumi and Anari cheese) and do not have pasteurizers). Circuits for milk collection are organised so that infected farms are visited at the end and their milk is not mixed with the rest. When raw milk cannot be delivered to a dairy with a pasteurizer, the infected farms are obliged to heat the milk at the farm up to temperatures above 75°C, for 5 minutes. In the case of sheep and goats milk, procedures are similar but transport is made either by farmers or by the industry.

At the dairy industries, processing is also under supervision of the Veterinary Services. Phosphatase test is performed daily by the industry to ensure pasteurization (and monthly by the Veterinary Services), and data loggers from pasteurizers are also kept and checked by the Veterinary Inspector.

MEASURES IN RELATION TO THE MEAT CONTROL

Sanitary slaughter of brucellosis positive animals is performed at the end, followed by disinfection of abattoir premises. Offal's are confiscated and carcass is inspected for human consumption.

MEASURES TO PROTECT INFECTION THROUGH DIRECT CONTACT WITH ANIMALS

The VO explains the transmission of brucellosis at the first visit to implement restrictions on a positive farm. Leaflets are given to the farmers explaining the procedures for human health protection.

3.9. Presentation of the latest brucellosis outbreak

T. Cristofidou (*Vet. Off., Nicosia District, Nisou Vet. Station, in charge of Brucellosis programme*)

The last outbreak was diagnosed in a farm with 335 goats. In a routine test two goats were positive to RBT and CFT, and, the animals were removed for slaughter. The serological positive results were confirmed by a positive *Brucella* culture.

The farm data showed the existence of two farms managed by the same family unit. The positive farm, and another sheep flock, were managed together. Moreover, this family owned another livestock farm with 902 animals that were removed for slaughter in 2005 because of *B. melitensis* infection.

After the detection of the outbreak, tests were made on all herds and flocks of susceptible species within 1 km of the positive one. All results were negative.

During the epidemiological investigation on the positive farm 15 un-identified animals were found, which included, the two positive goats. The origin of these animals could not be ascertained.

The veterinary authorities decided to put these two jointly managed farms under the same holding register. In a later examination of all animals over six months old, after one month, no seropositive samples were detected by the RBT & CFT parallel testing.

All control measures were carried out under the direction of the Brucellosis Committee, who decided not to depopulate the flock despite the *Brucella* positive culture.

3.10. Improvement of legislation and policy concerning compensations

P. Neocleous (*Active Head, Animal Health and Welfare Division*)

The eradication programme comprises of removal of seropositive animals as soon as possible, slaughtering or euthanasia and compensation 100% of the reproductive value.

The surveillance programme for sheep and goats includes that, in case of reacting animals, they are removed for slaughter within 30 days of the positive results and compensated. Temporary movement restrictions are placed on the flock.

The bovine programme includes that, after a serologically confirmed positive result, the Committee evaluates the new case; seropositive bovines are isolated from the other animals and are slaughtered in the designated slaughterhouse.

These animals are valued before slaughter and 100% compensation is paid to the owners. These animals include those giving a positive result either to RBT or to CFT or to both of them or, in case of depopulation, all the animals of the flock.

The five DVOs in Cyprus have the responsibility of informing the owners of the results of the test, the epidemiological report, the slaughter of the seropositive animals and the compensations of the infected farms (under the direction of the Brucellosis Committee).

The costs for the authorities include the money for the compensations and transportation of the confiscated animals. The Cyprus authorities think that 100% compensation avoids conflicts with the authorities and other farmers and that they are necessary to lead the regular application of the programme.

4. DAY 2

4.1. Farm visits

VISIT TO THE SHEEP AND GOATS FARM

This organic farm was located SW of Nicosia, at Pera Orinis, in a farming zone. Visit was accompanied by the owner. Two persons work on the farm (the owner and an employee).

Sheep (124 females and 4 males) and goats (113 females and 3 males) are housed separately. Sheep are mainly from Chios breed while goats are Damascus (meat), Alpine (milk) and Saanen.

Feeding is both from grazing and concentrates (barley, corn, soya, carob). Electric fencing is used for grazing.

Females are given selenium and vitamins and mated from October to December (young females are mated in February-March) and parturitions are concentrated in time. Ewes lamb in premises and after disinfection, goats are brought in for parturition season.

Lambs and kids are weaned at 45 days. Males are sold for meat, sheep at 4 months (18-20 kg) and goats at 5 months (15 kg). Replacement animals are rarely bought and only from State farms. Sheep are milked before goats, (10 minutes per 24 animals), and milking is carried out twice a day. Production is in average 320 litres per female per lactation for sheep, while goats produce 600-700 litres. Animals are vaccinated against different *Clostridium* enterotoxins. There is one dog, restrained at the farm. Levels of environmental hygiene are very high and pest control is carried out. There are no problems with birds, spraying is used for insect control and baits are applied for mice. Houses are cleaned 1-2 times a week and bed removed mechanically 1-2 times a year. The farm has no close neighbours and no rented pastures.

VISIT TO THE DAIRY FARM

The farm is located at a farming area with a high density of cattle farms (10,000 animals). Visit was guided by the owner.

The farm has 240 Holstein-Frisian cows and heifers. Cows are milked 3 times a day, producing an average of 10,000 litres per lactation. Cows are reared to 4-5 lactations, with an interval between parturitions of 400 days.

Electronic heat detection and AI is used. Females are placed in the same group for calving. Calves are separated half hour after birth and are raised in a calf house, caged individually.

Unifeed is prepared at the farm; 40-50% of hay is purchased from other farmers. Water is supplied by public services; water from rain is also retained for other uses.

Cows are vaccinated against IBR, BVD, Rota- and Coronavirus and *E. coli*. Feet problems are not frequent, the most important problems are low fertility, mastitis and the decrease in milk production in summertime when temperature is above 35°C.

Cows are blood sampled (at the tail) for brucellosis survey every year.

Yards have a covered and paved area and a non-covered sand area. Covered area is mechanically cleaned, and there are rubber mats for the resting of cows. Manure is sprayed in agriculture lands.

The neighbouring farm is very close, with only a corridor between yards and the access of cows to the milking parlour. At the other side of the road there is a goat farm.

Several farms exist within a 1 km radius. No disinfection of wheels existed at the entrance.

4.2. Conclusions

POSITIVE POINTS

- continuing good progress in eradication, eradication almost achieved;
- implementation of most of the previous visit's recommendations;
- use of database for movement control and testing;
- animal identification, especially of all small ruminants and including the use of electronic identification, linked to animal health;
- comprehensive movement control system;
- incentive for flocks/herds to attain OBF status – non-OBF herds/flocks must have herd-level test prior to movement out of even individual animals;
- well-organised testing system;
- accreditation of the lab – use of parallel testing and use of bacteriology
- establishment of internal audit system at national level;
- a well-developed system for dealing with infected flocks and herds, including stamping out when appropriate;
- good level of involvement and cooperation of the farmers.

OBSERVATIONS

- In farming zones the density of susceptible livestock is extremely high with potential losses if the disease will ever be reintroduce;
- Despite the absence of the disease in the whole area, the proportion of holdings that gained the officially free status has not been improved for the last three years in sheep and goats.

4.3. Recommendations

- The objective of gaining the OBF/OBmF status for all herds and flocks should be paramount. It should be achieved as soon as possible, within the next two years at the latest. This will provide significant savings in the medium to long term;
- The incidence and epidemiology of brucellosis in those parts of the island not under the Veterinary Services` control remain unknown. This present a significant threat for reintroduction of the disease. A strategy should be developed to actively address this risk;
- The current compensation system is overly generous as farmers receive 100% of the full reproductive value for all animals removed, including seropositive or infected animals. Although no detrimental effect is apparent in respect of progress towards eradication, there is

little incentive for farmers to achieve officially free status or to reduce the risk of introducing infection. The system should therefore be reviewed and, as a minimum, linked to farmer compliance with animal disease and identification regulations;

- Electronic identification of small ruminants has a significant role in surveillance and eradication programmes, therefore the current system of identification inspection should be maintained;
- A standardised protocol to deal with false-positive reactions should be formalised.

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TASK FORCE FOR MONITORING DISEASE ERADICATION
HELD IN NICOSIA, CYPRUS, 02- 03 DECEMBER 2009**

PARTICIPANTS

Task Force Sub-Groups- members

▪ Dr. Bruno GARIN-BASTUJI, Chairman sheep/goat group	France
▪ Dr. Ernst STIFTER, Chairman bovine group	Italy
▪ Dr. Maria LIAPI	Cyprus
▪ Dr. Georgia BARGOULI	Cyprus
▪ Dr. Garry O'HAGAN	Ireland
▪ Dr. Antonio PINA-FONSECA	Portugal
▪ Pr. Yolanda VAZ	Portugal
▪ Dr. Olga MINGUEZ GONZALEZ	Spain
▪ Dr. Fernando CRESPO LEON	Spain
▪ Dr. Cesar FERNANDEZ SALINAS	Spain
▪ Dr. Darrell ABERNETHY	UK (N-IRL)
▪ Dr. James MOYNAGH	Commission

Cyprus Representatives

▪ Pavlos Toumazos	Acting Director of Veterinary Services of Cyprus
▪ P.Papasozomenos	Head of the Veterinary Public Health Division
▪ Giorgos Christofi	Senior VO, Nicosia District
▪ Charalambos Papamichael	Senior VO, Larnaca District
▪ Eleni Siaili	Senior VO, Famagusta District
▪ Stelios Stylianou	VO A', Paphos District
▪ Polyvios Neocleous	VO A', Active Head of Animal Welfare Division
▪ Michalis Ioannou	VO A', Nicosia District
▪ Christakis Ploutarchou	VO, Limassol District, in charge of Brucellosis programme
▪ Yiola Iakovou	VO, Nicosia District, in charge of Brucellosis programme
▪ Tatiana Christofidou	VO, Nicosia District, in charge of Brucellosis programme
▪ Panayiotis Constantinou	VO, Larnaca District, in charge of Brucellosis programme
▪ Georgia Aparin	VO, Famagusta District, in charge of Brucellosis programme
▪ Ioanna Sofroniou	VO, Famagusta District, in charge of Brucellosis programme
▪ Olga Perikenti	VO, Paphos District, in charge of Brucellosis programme
▪ Alkistis Ptochopoulou	VI., Nicosia District, in charge of Brucellosis programme
▪ Aggela Siambi	VI., Limassol District, in charge of Brucellosis programme
▪ Maria Liapi	VO A', Nicosia, Head of Bacteriology and Serology Laboratory
▪ Georgia Bargouli	VO, Animal Health & Welfare Division, responsible for coordination of Brucellosis eradication programmes

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AGENDA

Timing	Item	Presenters
DAY 1	Veterinary Services - Nicosia	
9:00- 9:15	1. Greetings, Presentation of the Veterinary Services	P.Toumazos
9:15- 9:30	2. Introduction	G. Bargouli
9:30-10:00	3. Animal population- farming areas and impact on epidemiology of diseases	P. Neocleous
10:00-10:30	4. Identification and registration System, movement control	Y. Iacovou
10: 30- 11:00	5. Eradication Programme procedures	P. Constantinou
11:00- 11:30	Coffee break	
11:30 -12:00	6. Surveillance programme	G. Aparin
12:00- 12:30	7. Laboratory tests and results quality assurance	M. Liapi
12:30- 13:00	8. Measures for the protection of public health from brucellosis	P. Papasosomenos
13:00- 14:30	Lunch	
14:30- 15:15	9. Results of the programmes- targets	G. Bargouli
15:15- 15:45	10. Presentation of the latest brucellosis outbreak	T. Christofidou
15:45- 16:15	11. Improvement of legislation and policy concerning compensations(P. Neocleous
16:15- 18:00	12. Discussion	
18.00 close		
20.00	Visit Dinner	
DAY 2	Farm visit	
9:00- 11:30	1. Visit to farms	
11:30- 12:00	2. Questions - discussion	
12:00- 13:30	3. Subgroups meeting	
13:30- 14:00	Lunch	
14:00- 15:00	4. Final conclusions and recommendations	
15.00 close		