



Prevention and control of contagious animal diseases in the EU

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What we do not want to see anymore in the EU

	Classical Swine Fever	Foot and Mouth Disease	Avian Influenza
Country	Netherlands	United Kingdom	Netherlands
Period	1997-98	2001	2003
Duration	16 Months	11 Months	6 Months
# infected farms	429	2030	241
# animals slaughtered (in million animals)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ On infected farms: 0.7 ➤ Pre-emptive slaughter: 1.13 ➤ Welfare slaughter: 9.2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ On infected farms: 1.28 ➤ Pre-emptive slaughter: 2.79 ➤ Welfare slaughter: 2.05 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 30.7 (poultry, including turkeys) Pet / non-commercial birds in 18.000 farms !!!
# human case	<i>Not applicable</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 83 cases (conjunctivitis, influenza like syndrome) ➤ 1 veterinarian died
Total costs and losses	2.1 billion €	12 billion €	510 million €
Cost to the EU	650 million € (mainly market measures)	565 million €	80 million €

Why all these problems?

- ◆ Changes in farming and trade practices
- ◆ Areas with high density of animals
- ◆ Changes in the ecosystems
- ◆ Disease agents in wild life
- ◆ Illegal introduction of animals / products

...and the human factor...

What have we learned

- ◆ More animal health problems than expected
- ◆ Animal health problems do have an impact on the whole society, not only on the farming Community
- ◆ Massive culling not acceptable, but it might still be necessary ...
- ◆ Keep the people informed
- ◆ High costs and losses for taxpayers, the farming Community and other sectors concerned

Is all of this sustainable?

Prevention of animal diseases what has already been done

- ◆ **Better controls on animal movements**
- ◆ **Ban of swill feeding**
- ◆ **Identification, registration and traceability**
- ◆ **Improved controls at Community borders**
- ◆ **Improved surveillance**
- ◆ **Training**

Control of animal diseases what has already been done (1)

- ◆ **New Community legislation on animal disease control:**

Foot and Mouth Disease-FMD, Classical Swine Fever-CSF, Avian influenza-AI

> emergency vaccination more viable option

- ◆ Vaccination is currently used:

- ◆ - in the wild boar against CSF in GER, LUX, FR (and SLK)

- against AI in IT (DIVA strategy)

- against Bluetongue in FR, IT, SP (and PT)

- against Newcastle disease in the vast majority of MSs

... but many people still think that “Brussels” policy for list A diseases is to forbid vaccination ...!!!

Control of animal diseases what has already been done (2)

- ◆ **Review of our approach to disease eradication programmes:**
 - **Task force on Brucellosis, Tuberculosis and rabies**
 - **More stringent criteria for financing control actions**
- ◆ **Multi-annual approach being launched**

... results have already been obtained ...

- ◆ **Rabies (in the old Member States)**
- ◆ **Classical swine fever**
- ◆ **Brucellosis (in certain areas)**
- ◆ **Aujeszky's disease**

... but there are questions still to be answered...

- ◆ **How to improve our tools for disease control such as vaccines and tests and prevent massive killing?**
- ◆ **How to face the problems linked to further EU enlargement (s)?**
- ◆ **How to facilitate trade with developing countries without posing unacceptable risks for the EU?**
- ◆ **How to better tackle animal disease financial risks?**

For a long term vision of animal health

- ◆ **Animal diseases do not only concern farmers and experts**
- ◆ **Public health impact (emerging zoonoses)**
- ◆ **Ethical issues**
- ◆ **International dimension and trade**
- ◆ **Financial consequences and responsibility**
- ◆ **Sustainability**



All this is much more complex than replying to the “simple” question:

¿vaccinate or not to vaccinate?

Two further major actions recently started

- ◆ **Insurance schemes studies**
- ◆ **External evaluation of the animal health policy**

**Your views on these topics
are very welcomed!**



Thank you for your attention!