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HEALTH & CONSUMER PROTECTION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Directorate F - Food and Veterinary Office

DG (SANCO)/7619/2005 – MR Final

FINAL

REPORT OF A MISSION

CARRIED OUT IN HUNGARY

FROM 7 TO 18 NOVEMBER 2005

IN ORDER TO REVIEW THE UP-GRADING OF CERTAIN CLASSES OF FOOD PROCESSING ESTABLISHMENTS, CONTROLS OVER CERTAIN PRODUCTS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN INTENDED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION, CERTAIN LIVE ANIMAL CONTROLS, AND CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR EPIZOOTIC DISEASES

Please note that factual errors in the draft report have been corrected. Clarifications provided by the Hungarian Authorities are given as footnotes, in bold, italic, type, to the relevant part of the report.

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ABBREVIATIONS & SPECIAL TERMS USED IN THE REPORT

ABP	Animal by-products as defined in the ABP Regulation
AHFCS(s)	Animal Health and Food Control Station(s) (County level)
AM	Ante-mortem inspection
AI	Avian Influenza
CA	Competent Authority (of the Member State)
CCA	Central Competent Authority
CDB	Central Data Base
CP(s)	Contingency Plan(s)
CSF	Classical Swine Fever
CRL	Community Reference Laboratory
CVI	Central Veterinary Institute
CVO	Chief Veterinary Officer
DVO	District Veterinary Office
EU	European Union
FMD	Foot and Mouth Disease
FVO	Food and Veterinary Office of the European Commission
HACCP	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point
HC	High Capacity establishment
LC	Low Capacity establishment
LDCC	Local Disease Control Centre
MARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
EA	Environmental Authority (of the Ministry for Environmental Protection and Water Management)
ND	Newcastle Disease
NDCC	National Disease Control Centre
NRL	National Reference Laboratory
OF	Officially Free status for the disease concerned
OV	Official Veterinarian
PM	Post-mortem inspection
TB	Bovine Tuberculosis
TP	Transitional period establishment

1. INTRODUCTION

The mission took place in Hungary from 7 to 18 November 2005. The mission team comprised 4 inspectors from the Food and Veterinary Office (FVO) in the first week of the mission and 5 inspectors and 1 national expert from a Member State during the second week of the mission.

The mission was undertaken as part of the FVO's planned mission programme.

The inspection team was accompanied during the mission by representatives from the Central Competent Authority (CCA), the Animal Health and Food Control Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD).

An opening meeting was held on 7 November 2005 in Budapest with the CCA. At this meeting, the objectives of, and itinerary for, the mission were confirmed by the inspection team, and additional information required for the satisfactory completion of the mission requested.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE MISSION

The objectives of the mission were to review:

- the follow-up action taken by the CCA with regard to the up-grading of certain classes of food-processing establishments (red meat and milk);
- the operation of controls over certain products of animal origin intended for human consumption (fresh meat, meat products, minced meat and meat preparations, milk and milk products, farmed game and wild game);
- holding registration, animal identification and movement controls;
- certain animal health controls (tuberculosis, brucellosis, classical swine fever);
- the contingency plans for epizootic diseases, in particular Classical Swine Fever (CSF), Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD), Avian Influenza (AI), Newcastle Disease (ND).

In pursuit of these objectives, the following sites were visited:

COMPETENT AUTHORITY VISITS			COMMENTS
Competent authority	Central	7	SVA for the opening, closing, and two intermediary meetings, the National Disease Control Centre, the Central Veterinary Institute and the animal Central Database (CDB).
	Regional	6	Animal Health and Food Control Station (AHFCS) and Local Disease Control Centres (LDCC).
	District	2	District office
	Local	24	At the 16 (14 meat and 2 milk) establishments, 6 farms, 2 assembly centres

FOOD PROCESSING ESTABLISHMENTS		COMMENTS
Slaughterhouses	7	6 High capacity + 1 Low capacity
Game meat premises	2	1 Collection Centre + 1 Processing House
Cutting premises	2	2 High Capacity
Meat product premises	10	6 High capacity and 4 Low capacity
Milk processing premises	2	High capacity
Laboratories	2	National Reference Laboratory (NRL) and 1 county laboratory
Animal by-products	1	1 Animal by-product processing plant Category 1
Live animal control sites		
Farms	6	2 cattle, 1 sheep, 1 pigs, 2 poultry
Assembly centre for live animals	2	1 approved assembly centre, 1 market
Cleaning / disinfection point	1	

3. LEGAL BASIS

The mission was carried out under the general provisions of Community legislation and, in particular:

Article 12 of Council Directive 64/433/EEC, Article 12 of Council Directive 77/99/EEC, Article 15 of Council Directive 91/495/EEC, Article 12 of Council Directive 92/45/EEC, Article 17 of Council Directive 92/46/EEC, Article 9 of Council Directive 94/65/EC, Article 10 of Council Directive 77/391/EEC, Article 14 of Council Directive 93/119/EC of 22 December 1993, Article 22 of Regulation (EC) No. 1760/2000 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Article 21 of Council Directive 2001/89/EC, Article 7 of Council Directive 91/494/EEC, Article 18 of Council Directive 92/40/EEC, Article 22 of Council Directive 92/66/EEC, Commission Decision 98/139/EC of 4 February 1998.

References to relevant Community legislation in the framework of this mission are listed in an Annex to the report.

4. MAIN FINDINGS

4.1. Competent authority performance

The Animal Health and Food Control Stations (AHFCSs) are the main operative units in the system, responsible for the implementation and enforcement of legislation on their territory, having a high level of autonomy.

The mission team was informed that the prioritisation of controls of food business is risk based.

Observations:

- The flow of information from lower to higher level (i.e. from the District (DVO), the County (AHFCS) and to the CCA) consisted mostly of providing

figures reflecting the activities carried out. Detailed information on findings that could have consequences for approval or food safety were not forwarded to the CCA;

- The frequency of inspections in all the establishments visited was fixed and uniform: 2 visits per year by the AHFCS, 4 times per year by the DVO;

- In one upgraded meat establishment, recently removed from the Transitional Period (TP) list, a cellar and four chilling containers, used for the storage of unlabelled products, were discovered by the mission team in the vicinity of the premises. Following a request for clarification on the spot, the representative of the AHFCS stated that he was not "an investigator". In another case, the Official Veterinarian (OV) denied knowing of the existence of illegal products storage whereas a previous inspection report, signed by him, had referred to it, but no effective action had been taken by the AHFCS. In several other establishments, storage of products without health marking and identification were found, sometimes under inappropriate hygiene conditions;

- In five meat establishments where serious structural and maintenance deficiencies were found, documented evidence of actions wase received by the end of the mission, consisting of fixing deadlines for the correction of deficiencies, limiting production, imposing fines and confiscating illegally stored goods, suspending or withdrawing approval and dismissal of OVs;

- In meat product establishments, reconciliation between input and the amount of final products was not considered as a controlling tool.

4.2. Holding registration, animal identification and movement controls.

The control of animal movement is based on movement notification to the relevant CDB, the farm register, the veterinary health certificate and on-the- spot inspection. For cattle, the document for the notification of movement both by the seller and the buyer are contained in the "domestic" passport. In case of trade or export, a special cattle passport is issued. For sheep, goats and pigs, a special form must be sent to the relevant CDB, both by the seller and the buyer.

The movement control for sheep and goats is carried out either by the inspector of the Regional Sheep Association (who has mainly an information role) or by the AHFCS during normal animal health checks.

Observations:

- A Hungarian Decree (99/2002) on bovine identification defines "holding" and "site of keeping" for animals. During a visit to an AHFCS, the definition of "holding" explained by the officials was found not to be in line with that laid down in Council Directive 92/102/EEC, Council Regulation (EC) N° 21/2004 and EU Parliament and Council Regulation (EC) N° 1760/2000;

- Dealers are only registered in the Central Database (CDB) if they keep animals; otherwise they are listed at the AHFCSs;

- The CCA stated that, after 1 January 2006, all transporters approved by AHFCS have to notify all animal movements to the relevant CDB;

- Animals found without identification can be slaughtered and destroyed without compensation, but no such case has been recorded in 2004. Subsidies given to the farmers can also be suspended in case of an absence of movement notification[1], but that sanction has not yet been applied;

- In case of a lost ear tag, the replacement tag does not contain any indication of its number or version[2] in addition to the required information (Art 1, point 6 of Commission Regulation (EC) N° 911/2004; Art 4, point 6 of Council Regulation (EC) N° 21/2004);

- During the visit to the cattle and sheep farms, the animals were generally properly identified with two approved ear tags. Pigs must be identified before leaving the holding by either an approved yellow ear tag, when destined for breeding, or with an approved white ear tag when destined for slaughter. However, during the visit to a pig farm, breeding pigs seen were identified by cuts in the ears.

4.2.1. Inspection of holdings

Observations:

Cattle holdings:

- The health history of the herd and the increase in the amount of premium aid given to the farmer are not considered in the selection of the 10% of cattle farms to be inspected. Therefore, "para-allergic" holdings (see 4.6.1.2) are not controlled more frequently with regard to animal identification and registration;

- For 2004, statistic showed an average of 21% of late notification (births, off and on movements 27 days after the event) and 20,5% of "floating animals";

- In one "independent cattle farm" visited, the electronic farm register did not contain all the information requested by EU legislation, (e.g. code of the holding and/or name, address of the keeper, to/from, whom/which the animal is being transferred, as well as the date of departure/arrival). These deficiencies were not detected during the last inspection carried out two years ago by inspectors of National Institute for Agricultural Quality Control;

- Shortcomings in the register of an assembly centre and market visited, for incoming and outgoing movement, were ascertained (see point 4.7.4.2.);

- In 2004, 1900 cattle holdings had infractions concerning identification and registration detected by the CA but only 85 animal movement restrictions were issued and no fines were imposed.

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[1] ***In their response to the draft report the Hungarian Authorities indicated that movement restrictions in such cases can be imposed by the AHFC Authorities. Such measures were applied in 2004.***

[2] ***In their response to the draft report the Hungarian Authorities indicated that since November 2004 for bovine and since January 2006 for ovine, the version number should be mentioned on the replaced eartag.***

Sheep and goat holdings:

- The situation remained the same as described in Report DG (SANCO)/7178/2004. A financial problem has slowed down the up-grading of the database. Full access at all levels of control of the CA is not yet effective;

- In one sheep farm visited, the farm register issued by the Sheep Association was found to be in compliance with Part B of the Annex to Council Regulation (EC) N° 21/2004. The CCA confirmed the obligation, after 9 July 2005 to mention the holding code and address of the origin and/or destination holding in the allocated place.

Pigs holdings:

- The pig CDB provides information on holding number, address and name of the keeper, movement between holdings (farm, market, SH). The pig database is still not fully operational or fully accessible at all CA levels of control;

- The farm register was found not to be in compliance with Art 4 § 1 a) of Council Directive 92/102/EEC (up-to-date number of animals present on the farms). The mission team indicated the lack of consistency between the number of births recorded and the potential number of births expected for the breeding farm visited. During the last inspection, the OV did not detect these shortcomings.

4.3. Establishment upgrading and approval

All meat and milk establishments, with the exception of establishments in TP (Commission Decisions 2005/662/EC and 2005/665/EC) had, on the day of Hungary's accession to EU, to comply with the relevant Community legislation or be closed. For Low Capacity establishments (LC), an "operational licence" is granted, after a satisfactory inspection carried out by the AHFCS. For high capacity establishments (HC), an "EU approval" is granted by the AHFCS after two consecutive inspections, one carried out by the AHFCS and a second carried out in cooperation with the National Food Investigation Institute. Concerning establishments in TP, the CCA informed the Commission[3] that, when the up-grading had been completed and checked, they were approved, but when the up-grading was not performed properly in due time, either their approval was withdrawn or their production capacity was reduced.

Observations:

- The reduction of the production capacity was also imposed on HC meat establishments that did not comply, by the date of accession, with the EU legislation. None of the 4 LC establishments visited were fully in compliance, although two of them had up-graded a large part of their premises;

- In some counties visited, the "operational licence" or the "approval" did not reflect the current activities of the establishments and, in addition, referred to Hungarian legislation in place before Community rules had been transposed.

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[3] Document entitled "Present situation of establishments in transitional establishments", forwarded to the mission team via e/mail before the beginning of the mission.

This was also valid for establishments for which the production outputs had been reduced, with the exception of one TP establishment visited, where appropriate documents were available;

- Twelve out of 13 meat establishments visited (including those removed from the TP list) did not fully comply with all structural requirements as laid down in the relevant EU legislation (Council Directives 64/433/EEC, 94/65/EC and 77/99/EEC), e.g. inadequate layout and ventilation, insufficient chilling capacities, absence of cleaning/disinfection facilities (for means of transport either used for livestock or for meat). For example, in one pig SH visited the disinfection point proposed was not located in the vicinity of the establishment, was not approved, no record was available and its full access to the mission team was refused. In addition several deficiencies with regard to meat hygiene requirements and veterinary supervision (see point 4.4.) were noted in five establishments;

- Based on Commission Decision 2005/665/EC, the TP meat establishments listed have deficiencies with regard to Annex I Chapter I of Council Directive 64/433/EEC or are establishments having only fresh meat (slaughter and/or cutting) activities. However, the mission team noticed that at least one establishment producing meat products only was on the TP list. The CCA stated that it was a mistake, knowing that such establishments were not eligible to apply for TP in Hungary. They stated also that when the operator of an integrated plant decided to stop the fresh meat activities but to keep the meat product activities, the establishment was automatically removed from the TP list. Moreover, when an integrated establishment benefited from TP, the fresh meat part only was covered by the upgrading plan;

- None of the ten meat product establishments visited (of which four had benefited from a TP as independent or integrated establishments) was fully in compliance with Council Directive 77/99/EEC. Serious deficiencies were found in four of them (e.g. inadequate layout, excessive production compared to the storage capacity, use of buildings in an unacceptable state of hygiene not covered by the approval);

- Two dairy establishments visited were found to be satisfactory in terms of structure, lay-out, maintenance, own checks (especially on the quality of raw material received) and veterinary supervision. One of these establishments has benefited from a TP and managed to upgrade successfully. However, in both cases, storage facilities not covered by the approval were used.

4.4. Food safety controls

4.4.1. Inspection tasks

Observations:

- In one HC pig slaughterhouse an auxiliary technician decided on the result of the ante-mortem inspections. No record for the results of these inspections was available. In the same slaughterhouse, the number of officials performing post-mortem inspections was too low in view of the speed of the line, and the auxiliary inspecting the red offal had no time to disinfect his knife;

- In one bovine slaughterhouse visited, no post-mortem findings had been recorded, except in case of seizure of a whole carcase. The OV declared that no cases of fasciolosis, cysticercosis or pneumonia occur in the cattle slaughtered in this plant. It was also noted that, in the post-mortem register, no space existed to record the findings;

- Concerning Trichinella examination, it was found that the equipment used across the country, called "Trichotele", allows a maximum magnification of 50 X (instead of 80 X as required by Annex II, Chapter III of Council Directive 77/96/EEC). The pepsin used did not have any expiry date indicated on the box, and was stored at ambient temperature, higher than the 15°C required;

- The requirements of Regulation (EC) N° 1774/2002 concerning marking and/or labelling of containers used for disposal of animal by-products were neither implemented nor enforced in any of the establishments visited;

- In a number of establishments, products with no health marks or identification labels were found. Only in one of 16 establishments visited, could a system of verification of the use of pre-printed health mark labels be demonstrated.

4.4.2. Hygiene requirements

Observations:

Meat hygiene requirements were only partly complied with in the establishments visited. The following deficiencies, not detected by the OVs, were observed in a number of cases:

- inadequate maintenance;
- inadequate working space to allow for the hygienic performance of all operations. This, in combination with congestion of products in production areas, presented a risk of cross-contamination;
- inadequate construction and design which does not allow for easy cleaning, disinfection and durability; insufficient cleaning of facilities and equipment; no cabinets for sterilizers for carcass-splitting saws;
- insufficient protection against rodents and insects;
- excessive use of suspended hoses during the slaughter process;
- mixing of warm and chilled carcasses; several crossing flows of heat treated meat products and intermediate non-heated meat products;
- inadequate procedures for defrosting of packaged meat with a lack of appropriate separation of the packaging material, wooden pallets and the exposed meat.

4.4.3. HACCP and own check controls

HACCP-based procedures have been developed in collaboration with the CA and were available in all establishments visited.

Observations:

The following deficiencies were found in fresh meat establishments:

- The provisions of Commission Decision 2001/471/EC on bacteriological checks on carcases were only implemented in 2 HC slaughterhouses out of 6

visited. In addition, records of the last 13 weekly results were only available in one slaughterhouse;

- The above Commission Decision was not implemented in the low throughput establishment visited.

4.4.4. Health marking and traceability

A system of traceability of products was in place in most of the establishments visited.

Observations:

- In one meat product establishment, the operator failed to provide clear reconciliation between the input and the quantity of final products produced;

- In certain cases, a comprehensive system of traceability within food businesses visited was not always ensured e.g.: crates, racks containing meat, meat products and composite products without any supporting identification and where the origin of the different parts were difficult to trace back.

4.5. Animal Welfare

The mission team checked the supervision of the pre-slaughter handling of animals and of the installations for restraining and stunning and the bleeding time of slaughtered animals.

Observations:

- Out of 6 HC slaughterhouses visited, shortcomings were found in 2 of them. In one HC pig slaughterhouse, electrical goads were brutally applied to the head of the pigs In addition, the layout of the lairage area for pigs adjacent to stunning was not properly designed in order to facilitate movement and prevent fear. In the same slaughterhouse, the docking bay for unloading of pigs was not properly designed, resulting in a large gap through which the pigs were brutally forced to move. In another slaughterhouse, the bleeding of pigs took place before the electrical stunning of the animals was completed. However, in that case the CA informed the mission team that immediate action would be taken in order to rectify the situation;

- In one LC establishment approved for slaughter of bovine animals, the animals were said to be stunned with a "knock" to the head. However, only an unused captive bolt could be shown to the mission team;

- In one pig farm visited, the breeding animals were identified by cuts in the ears.

4.6. Animal health controls

4.6.1. Eradication Programmes

An "epidemiological subsystem" to register information on animal health controls is under construction. This system will be linked with the CDB. Not all AHFCSs have been connected yet.

Where breaches in the animal health programmes occur, sanctions and penalties are either imposed by the Director of the AHFCS or the District Chief inspector and the fines depend on the gravity of the deficiency. Out of 20 AHFCSs, only 4 have imposed fines. (See observations of point 4.2.1.).

4.6.1.1. Brucellosis and Leucosis

In 2005, the testing regime for bovine brucellosis consists, in the case of large-scale holdings, of a serological investigation of 10 % of all cows and, for small-scale holdings a serological investigation of all cattle over 2 years of age, every three years. In addition, investigation of reported abortion is carried out. For bovine leucosis, officially free herds (OF), the testing regime consists of an investigation of all cattle over two years of age, every three years.

Observations:

- The testing regime for bovine brucellosis assumes that the country is recognised as OF, but no Commission Decision has yet been published;

- In one large-scale farm visited, the selection of cows to be sampled for bovine brucellosis was carried out by the private veterinarian permanently employed and paid for by the farmer himself. The OV of the District stated that in such a case, the presence of an OV was needed in order to validate the sampling procedure and that it was common practice in Hungary. However, it is difficult for the mission team to exclude conflict of interest in the sampling procedure;

- The new Ministerial Decree on the bovine brucellosis testing regime has not yet been published (see response to recommendation 7.7 of DG (SANCO)/7178/2004 report);

- In 2004, out of 182 292 animals sampled for bovine leucosis, 1 667 gave positive serological results and none of them were found to be virologically positive. For the first half of 2005, 552 sero-positive results were detected.

4.6.1.2. Bovine tuberculosis (TB)

In 2005, the testing regime for TB consists of a yearly single intra-dermal tuberculin testing on all cattle over 6 weeks of age and when animals move between farms. The Director of the AHFCS can mandate a veterinary practitioner to carry out the TB test. In such a case, the District Chief veterinary officer notifies the veterinary practitioner designated, of the schedule of the TB campaign. In turn, the practitioner concerned informs the DVO of the exact date of the test. Random checks are carried out by the DVO. An animal slaughtered in the framework of TB eradication is compensated on the basis of the market value of the animal.

In June 2005, a guideline for monitoring the testing of the bovine population has been issued by Department of Animal Health and Food Control of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD).

Observations:

- The new guideline mentioned above was not always well understood by the OV and, contains several non conformities with Council Directives 64/432/EEC and 92/46/EEC[4], for instance:
  a) Besides the normal definition of officially tuberculosis-free bovine herd (OF TB) status and (non OF TB) status laid down in EU legislation, a concept of "Para-allergic" herd status/situation is described and can be allocated to a herd with a yearly recurrence of reaction to the TB test (deemed by the District Chief Veterinary officer not to be due to Mycobacterium bovis). However, Council Directive 64/432/EEC in Annex A point I.1 lays down the requirements to be fulfilled before considering a herd as OF TB and Annex B point 2.2.5.3.1.[4] refers only to interference of TB reaction in individual animals;
  b) Herds located in holdings having a capacity of more than 50 animals can legally be classified as "Para-allergic" even if the keeper has only one animal;
  c) Non-reactor animals of "Para-allergic" holdings can move without any restriction in the domestic market to another holding OF TB, with the possibility to be exported later (after a negative TB test);
  d) Milk originated from a "Para-allergic" herd can be marketed without any restriction.

- In 2004, out of 1 043 large-scale holdings listed, 227 were reported to be "Para-allergic" (data acccumulated since 1998) for which 19 had "Para tuberculosis" cases. In one "Para-allergic herd", with 10 animals with inconclusive reaction in 2002, 7 of them reveal the presence of Johne's Bacillus. At that time the comparative test was not used. Animals with inconclusive reactions and slaughtered, were not sampled at the slaughterhouse for TB analysis assuming that the inconclusive reactions were provoked only by Mycobacterium Paratuberculosis. The follow up of that case, both by the OV of the District and the AHFCS, was found to be insufficient;

- In one case, one animal having an inconclusive reaction to the single TB test was slaughtered, following a decision by the farmer, and sampled by the OV at slaughterhouse. The anatomo-pathological analysis revealed typical lesions of chronic bovine tuberculosis (presence of several calcified granulomas nodes) and the bacteriological analysis confirmed the presence of Mycobacterium Bovis only after a 3 month period. The herd was retested several times and revealed animals with a recurrence of positive or inconclusive results to the single and comparative TB test. The epidemiological enquiry carried out failed to detect the traceability of the positive animal during its entire life. Reconciliation of the movement information contained in the farm register and the CDB was not considered. Mycobacterium bovis was not detected in the samples collected from other animals slaughtered;

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[4] ***In their response to the draft report the Hungarian Authorities expressed their disagreement on the interpretation provided by the FVO experts***.

- In a dairy farm visited and considered as "Para-allergic" since 1992, the reactors detected during the last test were isolated from the rest of the herd. Female reactors at the end of pregnancy were kept on the farm until the birth and then sold after the weaning of the calf. Transmission of TB to the offspring by the milk was not considered;

- Milk originating from non-reactors of a "Para-allergic herd" can be sold to a milk processing plant. However, in one case, the restriction warning letter sent to the farmer did not specify that the milk has to be heat treated. Milk processing plants were not notified in writing of the modification of the health situation of the dairy holding. Hence, evidence of measures taken in order to comply with the requirements laid down in Article 3 point 2 of Council Directive 92/46/EEC could not be demonstrated;

- In general, the record of the measurement of the skin-fold thickness was incomplete or absent. During a visit to an AHFCS, the OV was not aware of that requirement, contained in Annex B point 2.2.5.1 of Council Directive 64/432/EEC;

- The possibility of modifying the criteria for the interpretation of the test in order to achieve improved test sensitivity as laid down in Annex B point 2.2.5.3.5. of Council Directive 64/432/EEC had not been foreseen[5]. In addition, the gamma interferon test, paid for by the farmer, was not always used in order to enable detection of the maximum number of infected and diseased animals in a herd (Annex B point 3 of Council Directive 64/432/EEC).

4.6.1.3. Information on Rabies

The number of rabies cases in all species included has dropped considerably since 2003. Only 6 cases have been registered during the first half of 2005. Vaccination takes place both in spring and autumn with a density of 20 baits/km².

4.6.2. Surveillance Programme

The CCA stated that no specific budget was allocated for the yearly surveillance programme for list A diseases issued by the MARD. For FMD and Swine Vesicular Disease, the programme foresees a fixed number of samples independently of the animal population of the AHFCS.

For CSF, the monitoring programme in domestic pigs followed Commission Decision 2002/106/EC for suspected zones, which goes beyond what is expected for a free country. The CCA stated that due to lack of financial resources, the planned programme achieved only 25 % of the expected plan in 2004 and will not achieve the objectives in 2005. Moreover, due to difficulties at Central level, to know the exact number of pigs present in the small holdings, the CCA could not demonstrate how they properly supervised the proposed monitoring programme sent to the AHFCSs. In one pig slaughterhouse visited, it was stated that no sample for monitoring of CSF in domestic pigs had been taken.

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[5] ***In their response to the draft report the Hungarian Authorities did not consider the possibility provided by the EU legislation, as a realistic solution.***

Observations:

The mission team checked in particular the CSF monitoring programme in wild boars and found the following observations:

- For 2005, the monitoring programme determines the number of samples to be taken by each AHFCS in relation to the number of sampling areas and the density of population. In addition, wild boar cadavers are sent to the Veterinary Institute of Budapest where sero and virological tests are carried out. The hunters must notify each dead animal to the AHFCS. Along 2O km of the border of the Slovak Republic, all wild boars shot are serologically analysed. However since February 2005 virological investigations of shot feral pigs have stopped in Hungary[6];

- During the visit to an AHFCS located at the border with the Slovak Republic, the mission team was informed that 8 samples had been found serologically positive (July, August, September). All these cases originated from the same hunting area located close to the domestic CSF case found in the Slovak Republic in August 2005. Despite potential risk in this specific area, the CA did not carry out virological tests on wild boars which were shot. Moreover the epidemiological survey did not succeed in determining the age of the 8 sero-reactors.

4.7. Contingency plans

4.7.1. Plan Documentation

4.7.1.1. Diseases covered

Contingency plans (CP) for FMD, CSF, AI and ND have been approved by Commission Decisions.

Observations:

- Despite the recommendation made in the DG(SANCO)/7178/2004 report, the CPs for African Swine Fever and Blue Tongue have not yet been sent to the Commission for approval.

4.7.1.2. Content of the plans

The content of the plans were found to be in compliance with the respective EU Directives or Decisions. The CCA informed the mission team that the CP for AI and FMD were being revised based on risk assessment for AI and on Council Directive 2003/85/EC for FMD and will be submitted to the Commission by the end of 2005.

Observations:

- Some errors were found in the English version of the CPs sent to the Commission services;

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[6] ***In their response to the draft report the CCA indicated that rules had changed in order to increase the number of virological tests.***

- The CPs were available at all AHFCSs and Districts visited. However, the up-to-date operations manual for handling a CSF / FMD outbreak, in order to ensure a rapid and effective campaign, as required under Annex VII point e. of Council Directive 2001/89/EC and Annex XVII point 9 of Council Directive 2003/85/EC, was not available at all risk sites (e.g. slaughterhouses, assembly centres…). Nevertheless, the CPs for AI / ND had in general been adequately adapted to the local situation.

4.7.2. Legal provisions and emergency powers

The AHFC Authority of the MARD is the competent authority. Legal provisions are in place in order to deal with emergency situations. The AHFCS, designated as Local Disease Control Centre (LDCC) can oblige private companies to participate in the eradication of list A diseases (e.g. rendering plant, slaughterhouses), without any preliminary contract.

Observations

- The Chief Veterinarian of the District has many responsibilities with regard to implementation of measures (e.g. disinfection control, animal appraisal, coordination, etc).

4.7.3. Organisation (suspicion and following confirmation of disease)

Two main chains of command / flow of communication exist in parallel, and are horizontally and vertically inter-connected at both county and national level:

- The first one, dealing with the management of the control measures is under the responsibility of AHFC Authority and is well described in the CPs;

- The second one, not described in the CPs, deals with the involvement of other official services and is under the responsibility of the Ministry of Interior. It is made up of a "Protection / Defence Committee" comprising representatives from AHFC, Security Unit of the Legal Department of MARD, Police force, Civil Defence and the Hungarian Army. This Committee can instruct or use their resources (e.g. personal, logistic, specific meteorological software for disease spreading simulation, mobile labs) in order to provide aid at the request of the National Disease Control Centre (NDCC);

- The NDCC has detailed maps of all the Hungarian counties and several dedicated phone and fax lines. In case of an outbreak, the AHFCSs will be used as LDCCs. Communication with the public will be performed either by the Director of the NDCC (CVO) or the Director of the LDCC.

Observations:

- During the visit to the NDCC, the computers available were not connected. Although a technician was called in and connected one of the computers, the later did not have all appropriate software installed. Lists of contacts for the relevant persons or institutions were not available in the NDCC;

- In general, the basic equipment and products were available in the majority of the LDCCs visited. In some cases, equipment and chemical products (disinfectant, euthanasia drugs) were absent or in insufficient quantities;

- Based on the visits to LDCCs, in the event of a worst case scenario (FMD / CSF), it is doubtful that enough qualified staff could be available for dealing with appraisal of animals to be killed;

- The complete composition of the expert group is not determined in advance, but will be set up entirely at the time of an outbreak;

- The present rendering capacity of five animal by-products state processing plants (category 1 and 2) was considered by the CCA to be sufficient to deal with a normal outbreak. Regarding the inclusion of burial sites, the CCA did not consider an authorisation from the Environmental Authority (EA) as necessary, although national legislation provides for a preliminary opinion of the EA and Article 72, points 1 and 4 of Council Directive 2003/85/EC requires that all necessary arrangements should be made in order to prevent any avoidable damage to the environment. In one AHFCS visited, a request for an opinion had been sent to the EA which was not the case in another one;

- For poultry, stamping out equipment is available in the form of a mobile unit capable of handling up to 300 poultry per cycle. The killing is done with a carbon dioxide and argon mix. The mission team was informed that the necessary killing time varied from 5 to 15 minutes. For holdings of a higher capacity birds, kept inside, are covered with a plastic sheet and carbon dioxide is pumped in;

- Despite a recommendation made in DG(SANCO)/7178/2004 report, no guideline on supervision of cleaning/disinfection has yet been issued (see point 4.4.2). However, a list of disinfectants was available.

4.7.4. Provision of resources

The CCA stated that an "Emergency Management Fund" exists and could be used for the control of an outbreak. Total compensation for farmer (animals, feedstuff, damage to building, crops lost), cost of public works and cost of emergency vaccination are foreseen. Criteria for the appraisal of the value of the animals are described in the Hungarian legislation.

4.7.4.1. Laboratories

Observations:

A cooling chain for all types of sample collection and storage points, and refrigerated transport vehicles is in place throughout the country.

Samples that are taken due to suspicion of AI or ND are sent always to the National Veterinary Institute which is the National Reference Laboratory (NRL) for these diseases. At the moment all the AI testing of samples submitted by the general public is paid for out of the government's budget. In the case of dead birds brought in by the general public, the two regional laboratories perform egg inoculation and, should a haemaglutinating agent be detected, the allantoic fluid is sent to the NRL for viral identification. With the exception of this particular case the regional laboratories would not be involved in AI/ND virus isolation until the first such outbreak is confirmed by the NRL. After the initial confirmation the regional laboratories would also be involved in further diagnostics testing connected to the outbreak.

At presently, to accomplish virus isolation SPF eggs are used for virus isolation and the NRL has a contract in place to be supplied with 1500 SPF eggs per week

For serological surveillance the haemagglutination inhibition test is used, both for ND and AI viruses. In case of AI virus H5 and H7 antigens are used. A positive result may be given within 24 to 48 hours. To declare a test result to be negative it takes approximately fifteen days.

Viral detection with molecular biology methods (real time RT-PCR) has been put in place since November, which reduces considerably the time needed to confirm a negative result.

In recent weeks the NRL had a major increase in the number of samples to be tested for AI virus isolation. The mission team was informed that if required the laboratory could handle up to 1000 samples per week for AI/ND virus isolation.

Adequate resources with qualified staff, equipment and reagents, are in place. All reagents for viral identification are supplied by the Community Reference Laboratory (CRL).

The testing methodology for AI and ND complies with that required in Council Directives 92/40/EEC and 92/66/EEC.

All test results are stored in an Intranet database accessible to the 3 official laboratories. For these laboratories, the maximum weekly capacity for FMD serology is 12,000 tests plus 860 virology tests; for CSF, 18,100 for serology plus 4,560 for virology; for AI, 8,000 for serology plus 285 for virology and for ND, 10 600 for serology plus 230 for virology.

The NRL has participated in inter-laboratory comparison tests for AI and ND organised by the CRL with overall satisfactory/suitable results. For CSF, the antibody detection test result (December 2004) was satisfactory. However for the virus detection, out of 6 samples tested, one gave an unsatisfactory result. No ring tests for FMD were carried out in 2004 and 2005. Moreover the Buffer solution supplied to the LDCC visited did not bear an expiry date.

4.7.4.2. Animal tracing – pre and post outbreak

Observations:

In addition to the observations described in point 4.2.1, the following findings must be added:

- In one approved assembly centre visited, the "incoming/outgoing register" kept was not in compliance with Article 11 of Council Directive 64/432/EEC and Article 8 of Commission Regulation (EC) N° 911/2004 (lack of date of birth, sex, breed, name and address of holding of origin/destination, date and signature of the official who has carried out the inspection). Moreover, inspections in order to ensure that approval conditions are fulfilled were not regularly carried out, and the mission team ascertained several structural shortcomings (e.g. absence appropriate facilities for watering and feeding the animals, for cleaning and disinfection of lorries, absence of adequate housing for healthy and sick animals). The AHFCS concerned took immediate actions and suspended the approval;

- In one live animal market visited and used weekly by several dealers, the conditions for registration as laid down in Article 13 paragraph 2 of Council Directive 64/432/EEC were not fulfilled. The market side was in fact an agricultural field. The mission team expressed concerns for the animal health and safety of such a facility used for gathering animals from different origins, intended for trade;

- In general, the geographical location of the cattle farms and the large pig/sheep farms were available from either the AHFCSs and/or District level. However, in one AHFCS visited, the geographical location of small scale sheep, pigs and poultry holdings is only available after enquiry to the local veterinarian.

4.7.5. Provisions for emergency vaccination

The MARD can order the vaccination of the animals, after approval of the vaccination plan by the Commission services.

Observations:

The necessary equipment to undergo vaccination was available in all LDCCs visited.

Vaccination against ND is obligatory in Hungary. Two millions doses of ND vaccine and 50000 doses of CSF vaccines are maintained by the Institute for Veterinary Medicinal Products.

An AI vaccine stock does not exist; contracts to have such a vaccine supplied have not been established. The CCA does not intend to use emergency vaccination for AI, although that possibility exists in the CP, and an estimate of the quantity of AI vaccine needed has not been made. This does not comply with point 9 Annex VI of Council Directive 92/40/EEC.

The FMD CP does not give accurate indications of the quantity of vaccine considered necessary in the event of worst case scenario as required by Article 72 of Council Directive 2003/85/EC. No national stock of FMD vaccine exists (previous contract expired).

4.7.6. Training and awareness of programmes, simulations

Training is provided mainly by the AHFCSs. The role of the CCA is mainly to gather the data on the training provided by the AHFCSs.

Observations:

- The CP for AI and ND requires AHFCSs to provide training for veterinarians twice a year on epidemiological related matters. The mission team was informed that this training does not have to be necessarily on AI or ND; other infectious diseases could be covered. However, a national simulation exercise on AI was carried out in 2004. In one AHFCS visited a simulation exercise on AI was performed in 2005. This exercise, although organised at county level, had the participation of veterinarians from the CCA and neighbouring counties (North-Eastern part of Hungary), police officers, local and national government and media representatives, public health representatives, Romanian veterinarians from the neighbouring region, and officers from civil

defence, environmental protection, disaster management, customs, the national park in that county, hunting associations and others. Awareness of disease symptoms possibly indicative of AI and/or ND was high. In addition poultry farm staff are currently required to be given the seasonal human flu vaccination;

- Some AHFCSs did not organised or participate in simulation exercises or training since 2002;

- No FMD / CSF simulation exercises with neighbouring countries have yet been organised. However, permanent close contacts with Border Guard Service (e.g. Slovak Republic) are in place;

- The Hungarian Army, Hungarian Meteorological Service and Civil Defence did not yet participate in simulation CSF / FMD exercises organised by AHFC Authority;

- The web site of the MARD, the Veterinarian Hungarian Chamber, the Inspectorate of the Hunting and Fishing Department of the MARD and newspapers are used for the dissemination of information. In one sheep farm visited, the farmer's awareness of the situation was found to be satisfactory. Lectures had been provided by both the AHFCS and the District and leaflets issued by the Sheep Breeding Association were available.

4.8. Miscellaneous

4.8.1. Bio-security in poultry farms:

Bio-security measures have been increased in the farms visited mainly with regard to the use of protective clothing, including masks; prevention of entrance of non-authorised personnel, existence and state of fences surrounding farms. However inside-outside separation measures are still not fully available in all farms (windows unscreened), and access of vehicles that have not had their wheels disinfected to areas right beside the poultry houses is allowed. Farm ownership sometimes allowed staff to keep poultry at home.

4.8.2. Swill feeding

Swill feeding has been forbidden since 2002 for animals intended for food production, but a derogation can be granted for registered pet farms (information has been sent to the Commission services).

Observations:

- The CCA do not control permanently the ban on swill feeding. The control is left to the OV at local level and is focusing on registered pet animal holding, suppliers and transporters of swill feeding.
- During the visit to a pig farm, the OV used a check list which contains a specific part on animal feeding. However, it was stated that catering waste can be transported directly to a pet shelter under specific conditions.

5. CLOSING MEETING

A closing meeting was held on 18 November 2005 with the CCA. At this meeting, the main findings and preliminary conclusions of the mission were presented by the inspection team. The representatives of the CCA did not disagree with the main findings of the mission with regard to assembly centres and establishments. The CCA provided documentation concerning actions taken (withdrawal of approval, suspension, limitation of the production, seizure of illegally stored goods, action plan with deadlines, fines). Nevertheless, the CCA expressed their disagreement with regard to the bovine tuberculosis situation.

6. CONCLUSIONS

6.1. Competent authority performance

The supervision of food business is mainly carried out by the DVOs and the AHFCSs. Results of inspections are communicated in the form of figures that do not permit to the CCA to have a clear picture of the situation in the field. Prioritisation of controls has not yet been implemented and, in several cases, non-compliance known by the CA were overlooked and not followed up by effective corrective actions.

6.2. Holding registration, animal identification and movement controls

The definition of "holding" and its interpretation is not in line with EU legislation. Except for pigs, animal identification can be considered satisfactory in general. Movement control was found to be not fully satisfactory, in particular due to shortcomings in farm registers, pig, sheep and goat CDB, criteria used for the selection on cattle holdings to be inspected and a high percentage of "floating animal/late notification" on the cattle CDB.

6.3. Establishment upgrading and approval

The establishment upgrading programme has not been fully successful and the system in place for approval of food business did not give the guarantee that only compliant establishments are approved. Moreover, in several cases, the approval did not reflect the current activities and referred to Hungarian legislation in place before transposition of the EU legislation.

The upgrading plan of TP integrated meat establishments covers only the fresh meat production part of the premises, but that does not mean that the meat product parts are in compliance. The majority of structural problems were detected in LC establishments and meat processing plants (included establishments that were withdrawn from the TP list).

Corrective actions have been taken by the CA in five non-compliant establishments visited. Nevertheless, general instructions were not issued in order to establish a uniform level of compliance of the food business with EU standards.

6.4. Food safety controls

A system of food safety controls is in place, but some shortcomings were noted in the proper application of:

- certain meat hygiene, health marking, ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection requirements of Council Directive 64/433/EEC;

- Trichinella examination of pork as laid down in Annexes I and II of Council Directive 77/96/EEC (due, in some cases, to the use of non-complying laboratory equipment).

- certain elements of the HACCP system as laid down in Commission Decision 2001/471/EC, and in the traceability of foodstuffs as laid down in Council Regulation (EC) 178/2002;

- Labelling and marking of ABP requirements as laid down in Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002.

6.5. Animal Welfare

Some shortcomings with regard to animal welfare were detected during visits to several slaughterhouses and on one pig farm.

6.6. Animal health controls

Penalties for infractions of animal health and movement controls vary from county to county. The testing regime in place for bovine brucellosis is the one foreseen in the legislation for officially free countries although that recognition has not yet been granted to Hungary by an EC Decision. Bovine Leucosis sero-incidence still remains problematic.

Despite recommendations in several previous reports concerning Bovine tuberculosis testing, the mission team did not find any improvement, but rather a confusing situation. The possibility of animals being traded which had not been tested as required by EU legislation cannot be excluded.

The mission team concluded that instructions for the CSF monitoring programme were issued without taking into account the feasibility of controlling it and did not take into consideration a risk based approach mainly in relation to the type of laboratory test to be performed.

6.7. Contingency Plans

Apart from AI / ND CPs, the situation concerning the others CPs was not found to be completely satisfactory mainly due to their incompleteness with regard to the chain of command but also the lack of their availability, of their adaptation to all risk sites, lack of materials, and lack of training or simulation exercises in certain AHFCSs. The NDCC as seen was not capable of becoming immediately operational. An estimation of the amount of AI vaccine had not yet been established and no accurate indications of the quantity of FMD vaccine considered necessary in the event of a worst case scenario is mentioned in the relevant CP. Adequate transport means and rendering capacity in case of stamping out are available. However, during the visits to AHFCS, different procedures with regard to the determination of potential burial sites were used. Legal and financial provisions and laboratory capacity are in place. Awareness of AI and ND clinical signs was high.

Approvals of the assembly centres visited were not in compliance with EU legislation in relation to structure and documentation. Deficiencies in supervision of cleaning and disinfection were found. In case of an outbreak of an epizootic disease, the traceability of pigs and cattle can be compromised due to the deficiencies identified in the animal movement registers.

6.8. Miscellaneous

Bio-security in poultry farms can be improved.

Control of swill feeding, authorised for pet farms, is left to the OV at local level.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COMPETENT AUTHORITIES OF HUNGARY

(1) To review the food business control system and provide the officials of the AHFC Authority with appropriate training in order to improve both the efficiency of the supervision along the chain of command, and the effectiveness and consistency of the corrective actions taken. Improve the flow of information and ensure the recording of the results of inspection activities and their follow up.

(2) To ensure correct implementation of the definition of "holding" as laid down in EU Parliament and Council Regulation (EC) N° 1760/2000, Council Directive 92/102/EEC and Council Regulation (EC) N° 21/2004; full implementation of Articles 11 and 13 of Council Directive 64/432/EEC and Article 4 § 1 a) of Council Directive 92/102/EEC, Article 8 of Commission Regulation (EC) N° 911/2004 and Commission Decision 2000/678/EC with regard to assembly centres, dealer and bovine/porcine farm register and ensure direct access of the official services to sheep/pig databases.

(3) To ensure that all criteria laid down in Commission Regulation (EC) N° 1082/2003 are taken into account for the selection of bovine holdings to be inspected. To ensure full implementation of Commission Regulation (EC) N° 494/98 and EU Parliament and Council Regulation (EC) N° 1760/2000 and in particular with regard to the harmonisation of the penalties imposed in the whole territory.

(4) To review the food business approval system, including update of the existing approvals, in order to establish an accurate and uniform level of compliance of the food business with the EU standards across the country.

(5) To take necessary actions in order to correct the shortcomings described in the report with regard to food safety control, in particular:

- Health marking and Trichinella examination as laid down in the EU legislation in force;
- Operational hygiene as laid down in the EU legislation in force;
- HACCP control system, in particular Commission Decision 2001/471/EC;
- Traceability as laid down in Council Regulation (EC) N° 178/2002;
- Labelling and marking of ABP as laid down in Regulation (EC) N° 1774/2002.

(6) To ensure that animal welfare rules are respected, in particular for pig identification and at the time of slaughter.

(7) To issue instructions concerning the tuberculosis testing regime, consistent epidemiological enquiry, health classification of holdings and health rules for placing on the market of milk, in order to be fully compliant with Annexes A and B of Council Directive 64/432/EEC and Article 3 of Council Directive 92/46/EEC

(8) To implement a testing regime for Bovine Brucellosis, and strengthen the Bovine Leucosis eradication programme, in accordance with Council Directive 64/432/EEC and ensure full independence of the veterinarian in charge of the sampling procedure.

(9) To review the CPs for FMD, CSF, AI and ND in light of the findings described in the report in order to bring them fully into line with Council Directives 2003/85/EC, 2001/89/EC, 92/40/EEC and 92/66/EEC and establish CPs for the remaining epizootic diseases. To ensure the implementation of requirements laid down in Annex VII point e. of Council Directive 2001/89/EC and Annex XVII point 9 of Council Directive 2003/85/EC in all risk sites, ensure a full and immediate operation of the NDCC, take the necessary provisions in order to ensure the availability of AI vaccine and, indicate the quantity of FMD doses necessary in the event of a worst case scenario in the CP.

(10) To ensure that all necessary arrangements are made in advance in order to prevent any avoidable damage to the environment in particular if it is necessary to bury the carcasses of dead or killed animals on site in case of an outbreak.

(11) To review the surveillance and monitoring programmes for former OIE list A diseases in order to take into account a risk based approach and its controllability.

(12) To ensure in all cases a correct cleaning and disinfection of vehicles used for the transport of live animals in order to fully comply with Council Directives 64/432/EEC and 64/433/EEC.

(13) Additional measures should be taken to correct the bio-security shortcomings seen in the poultry farms visited and to verify, and correct them, if they are also present in other poultry farms in Hungary.

8. ADDENDUM

The CCA provided in the comments to the draft report, a preliminary action plan for recommendation (4). A complete action plan has been requested to address the others.

ANNEX – LEGAL REFERENCES

Community legislation cited in this report

Legal acts cited in this annex refer, where applicable, to the last amended version.

European legislation	OJ	Title
Council Directive 64/432/EEC	L 121, 29.07.1964, p. 1977	Council Directive 64/432/EEC of 26 June 1964 on animal health problems affecting intra-Community trade in bovine animals and swine
Council Directive 64/433/EEC	L 121, 29.07.1964, p. 2012	Council Directive 64/433/EEC of 26 June 1964 on health conditions for the production and marketing of fresh meat
Council Directive 77/96/EEC	L 026, 31.01.1977, p. 67	Council Directive 77/96/EEC of 21 December 1976 on the examination for trichinae (Trichinella spiralis) upon importation from third countries of fresh meat derived from domestic swine
Council Directive 77/99/EEC	L 026, 31.01.1977, p. 85	Council Directive 77/99/EEC of 21 December 1976 on health problems affecting the production and marketing of meat products and certain other products of animal origin
Council Directive 77/391/EEC	L 145, 13.06.1977, p. 85	Council Directive 77/391/EEC of 17 May 1977 introducing Community measures for the eradication of brucellosis, tuberculosis and leucosis in cattle
Council Directive 91/494/EEC	L 268, 24.09.1991, p. 35	Council Directive 91/494/EEC on animal health conditions governing intra-Community trade in and imports from third countries of fresh poultry meat
Council Directive 91/495/EEC	L 268, 24.09.1991, p. 41	Council Directive 91/495/EEC of 27 November 1990 concerning public health and animal health problems affecting the production and placing on the market of rabbit meat and farmed game meat
Council Directive 92/40/EEC	L 167, 22.06.1992, p. 1	Council Directive 92/40/EEC introducing Community measures for the control of avian influenza
Council Directive 92/45/EEC	L 268, 14.09.1992, p. 35	Council Directive 92/45/EEC of 16 June 1992 on public health and animal health problems relating to the killing of wild game and the placing on the market of wild-game meat
Council Directive 92/46/EEC	L 268, 14.09.1992, p. 1	Council Directive 92/46/EEC of 16 June 1992 laying down the health rules for the production and placing on the market of raw milk, heat treated milk and milk-based products
Council Directive 92/66/EEC	L 260, 05.09.1992, p. 1	Council Directive 92/66/EEC introducing Community measures for the control of Newcastle disease
Council Directive 92/102/EEC	L 355, 05.12.1992, p. 32	Council Directive 92/102/EEC of 27 November 1992 on the identification and registration of animals
Council Directive 93/119/EC	L 340, 31.12.1993, p. 21	Council Directive 93/119/EC of 22 December 1993 on the protection of animals at the time of slaughter or killing
Council Directive 94/65/EC	L 368, 31.12.1994, p. 10	Council Directive 94/65/EC of 14 December 1994 laying down the requirements for the production and placing on the market of minced meat and meat preparations

European legislation	OJ	Title
Commission Decision 98/139/EC	L 038, 12.02.1998, p. 10	Commission Decision 98/139/EC of 4 February 1998 laying down certain detailed rules concerning on-the-spot checks carried out in the veterinary field by Commission experts in Member States
Council Directive 2001/89/EC	L 316, 01.12.2001, p. 5	Council Directive 2001/89/EC of 23 October 2001 on Community measures for the control of classical swine fever
Council Directive 2003/85/EC	L 306, 22.11.2003, p. 1	Council Directive 2003/85/EC of 29 September 2003 on Community measures for the control of foot-and-mouth disease repealing Directive 85/511/EEC and Decisions 89/531/EEC and 91/665/EEC and amending Directive 92/46/EEC
Commission Regulation (EC) No. 494/98	L 060, 28.02.1998, p. 78	Commission Regulation (EC) No 494/98 of 27 February 1998 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 820/97 as regards the application of minimum administrative sanctions in the framework of the system for the identification and registration of bovine animals
Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council (EC) No. 1760/2000	L 204, 11.08.2000, p. 1	Regulation (EC) No. 1760/2000 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 July 2000 establishing a system for the identification and registration of bovine animals and regarding the labelling of beef and beef products and repealing Council Regulation EC No. 820/97
Regulation (EC) No 178/2002	L 31, 01.02.2002, p. 1	Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety
Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1082/2003	L 156, 25.06.2003, p. 9	Commission Regulation (EC) No 1082/2003 of 23 June 2003 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the minimum level of controls to be carried out in the framework of the system for the identification and registration of bovine animals
Commission Decision 2001/471/EC	L 165, 21.06.2001, p. 48	Commission Decision 2001/471/EC of 8 June 2001 laying down rules for the regular checks on the general hygiene carried out by the operators in establishments according to Directive 64/433/EEC on health conditions for the production and marketing of fresh meat and Directive 71/118/EEC on health problems affecting the production and placing on the market of fresh poultry meat
Commission Regulation (EC) No 911/2004	L 163, 30.04.2004, P; 65	Commission Regulation (EC) No 911/2004 of 29 April 2004 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards eartags, passports and holding registers
Council Regulation (EC) No 21/2004	L 5, 09.01.2004, p. 8	Council Regulation (EC) No 21/2004 of 17 December 2003 establishing a system for the identification and registration of ovine and caprine animals and amending Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 and Directives 92/102/EEC and 64/432/EEC

European legislation	OJ	Title
Commission Decision 2000/678/EC	L 281, 07.11.2000, p. 16	Commission Decision 2000/678/EC of 23 October 2000 laying down detailed rules for registration of holdings in national databases for porcine animals as foreseen by Council Directive 64/432/EEC
Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council (EC) No 1774/2002	L 273, 10.10.2002, p. 1	Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council (EC) No 1774/2002 of 3 October2002 laying down health rules concerning animal by-products not intended for human consumption
Commission Decision 2004/402/EC	L 123, 27.04.2004, p. 111	Commission Decision 2004/402/EC of 26 April 2004 approving contingency plans for the control of avian influenza and Newcastle disease
Commission Decision 2004/431/EC	L 189, 27.05.2004, p. 31	Commission Decision 2004/431/EC of 29 April 2004 approving certain contingency plans for the control of classical swine fever
Commission Decision 2004/435/EC	L 189, 27.05.2004, p.45	Commission Decision 2004/435/EC of 29 April 2004 approving certain contingency plans for the control of foot-and-mouth disease
Commission Decision 2004/840/EC	L 361, 08.12.2004, p. 41	Commission Decision 2004/840/EC of 30 November 2004 approving programmes for the eradication and monitoring of certain animal diseases and of checks aimed at the prevention of zoonoses presented by the Member States for the year 2005 and fixing the level of the Community's financial contribution
Commission Decision 2005/464/EC	L 164, 24.06.2005, p. 52	Commission Decision 2005/464/EC of 21 June 2005 on the implementation of survey programmes for avian influenza in poultry and wild birds to be carried out in the Member States