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FINAL REPORT OF A SPECIFIC AUDIT
CARRIED OUT IN
PORTUGAL
FROM 02 TO 11 DECEMBER 2009
IN ORDER TO EVALUATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CONTROLS FOR ANIMAL
WELFARE ON FARMS AND DURING TRANSPORT
IN THE CONTEXT OF A GENERAL AUDIT

Executive Summary

This report describes the outcome of a specific audit carried out by the Food and Veterinary Office (FVO) in Portugal, from 2 to 11 December 2009.

The objective of the mission was to verify that official controls are carried out in accordance with the multi-annual national control plan (MANCP) referred to in Article 41 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 and in compliance with Community law. In addition, the audit sought to specifically verify the implementation of EU animal welfare legislation applicable to pig, calf and laying hen farms and during transport and to follow up certain recommendations from previous FVO reports. Furthermore, the audit objective included the assessment of the implementation of the actions in response to a formal complaint introduced by a Non Governmental Organisation (NGO) regarding operations at a Portuguese assembly centre.

The report concludes that there have been improvements in official controls on the farm animal welfare sector since the last mission on this topic in 2005. However, reporting and enforcement action of non-compliances in farms is still insufficient and as a result shortcomings such as forced moulting in laying hens and insufficient care for sick animals, overstocking and lack of manipulable material in the pig sector are still present.

Regarding the transport of unfit animals seriously injured cows continue to be transported alive to slaughterhouses.

Concerning the assembly centre, which was the subject of an official complaint to the Commission services, improvements have been achieved through the involvement of the central level of the CA and NGOs. However, these improvements are very recent and could only be sustained by a strong and continuous involvement of the local and regional level of the CA.

The report makes a number of recommendations addressed to the Portuguese competent authorities, aimed at rectifying the identified shortcomings and further enhancing the control measures in place.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS USED IN THIS REPORT

CA	Competent Authority
CCA	Central Competent Authority
DG SANCO	Health and Consumer Directorate General
DGV	Directorate General for Veterinary Issues (<i>Direcção General de Veterinária</i>)
DSPA	Directorate for Animal Production (<i>Direcção de Servicos de Produção Animal</i>)
DSVR	Regional Veterinary Directorate (<i>Direcção de Serviços Veterinários Regionais</i>)
FBO	Food Business Operator
FVO	Food and Veterinary Office
MANCP	Multi-Annual National Control Plan
NGO	Non Governmental Organisation
OV	Official Veterinarian

1 INTRODUCTION

The specific audit took place in Portugal, from 2 to 11 December 2009 as part of the planned mission programme of the Food and Veterinary Office (FVO).

An opening meeting was held with the competent authorities (CAs) of Portugal on 2 December 2009. At this meeting, the objectives of, and itinerary for, the mission were confirmed by the mission team. The mission team comprised two inspectors from the FVO and was accompanied throughout the mission by representatives from the DGV (*Direcção General de Veterinária*), the Central Competent Authority (CCA).

The Specific Audit formed part of the FVO's planned mission programme and was carried out as a component of a General Audit, as prescribed in Article 45 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules.

This report focuses on the sector specific issues identified during the audit. It does not necessarily include aspects relating to Regulation (EC) No 882/2004; these aspects will be addressed in the subsequent General Audit report.

2 OBJECTIVES OF THE MISSION

As part of the General Audit, the main objective of each specific audit is to verify that official controls are carried out in accordance with the Multi-Annual National Control Plan (MANCP) referred to in Article 41 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 and in compliance with Community law. The more specific objectives of the mission were to evaluate the measures taken to implement the requirements for EU legislation for animal welfare on farms and during transport. Progress with the implementation of recommendations from previous FVO reports was also assessed. Furthermore, this mission assessed the implementation of the actions in response to a formal complaint by a Non Governmental Organisation (NGO) regarding animal welfare issues on an assembly centre for Intra-Community Trade.

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

Visits			Comments
Competent authority	Central	2	Opening and final meetings
	Regional	2	Regional Veterinary Directorates <i>Direcção de Serviços Veterinários Regionais</i> (DSVR) : DSVRLVT (<i>Direcção de Serviços Veterinários de Lisboa e Vale do Tejo</i>) and DSVRN (<i>Direcção de Serviços Veterinários Regionais do Norte</i>)
Farms/assembly centres/slaughterhouses.		2	Laying hen farms (cage systems). The sites were selected by the inspection team.
		2	Markets, one for cattle (approved for intra-Community trade), one for ruminants (local

Visits		Comments
		trade).
	2	Pig farms (breeding and fattening)
	1	Calf rearing premises (dairy farm)
	1	Red meat slaughterhouse

3 LEGAL BASIS FOR THE MISSION

The mission was carried out under the general provisions of Community legislation [1] and, in particular Article 45 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules.

[1] Legal acts quoted in this report refer, where applicable, to the last amended version.

4 BACKGROUND

The most recent previous missions concerning animal welfare in Portugal were carried out in 2003 and 2005, the results of which are described in reports DG (SANCO)/ 9039/2003 – MR Final and DG (SANCO)/ 7544/2005 – MR Final (hereafter referred to as report 9039/2003 and report 7544/2005, respectively).

Report 9039/2003 on animal welfare during transport and at slaughter concluded that overall there was a satisfactory system of controls to ensure the implementation of the requirements for animal welfare during transport and at slaughter. However, issues such as training for operators, transport of unfit animals, frequency and harmonisation of inspections (particularly at slaughter level), and lack of follow up actions needed to be further addressed.

Report 7544/2005 on animal welfare on farms and during sea transport concluded that although there was a system of control agreed between central level and the regions, a satisfactory methodology for inspections had not yet been fully adopted. The inadequate legal basis for requirements for pig farms in particular confounds the controls taking place and the system for imposing sanctions was not effective in ensuring that requirements are respected.

These reports are accessible at: http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/index_en.cfm.

A detailed description of the CAs can be found in the report country profile for Portugal which is accessible at: http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/country_profiles/CP_portugal.pdf) and in the MANCP of Portugal.

Several official complaints were introduced to the Commission Services by a NGO in relation to alleged infringements on the legislation on the protection of animals during transport in livestock marked approved as assembly centre for intra-Community trade.

5 FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

5.1 LAYING HENS

5.1.1 Registration of laying hen farms

Legal requirements

Commission Directive 2002/4/EC requires Member States to establish a system for registering every production site covered by the scope of Council Directive 1999/74/EC. The last paragraph of Point 1 of the Annex of this Directive requires the registration of the maximum capacity of an establishment in number of birds present at one time.

Findings

A procedure for the registration of laying hen farms is published on the CCA website; according to this procedure, the Food Business Operator (FBO) has to send an application form to the DGV. The DGV assigns a specific code (including the ones foreseen in Directive 2002/4/EC in relation with the type of farm). However, the mission team observed that for one of the laying hen farms visited, the national register had not been updated for the parameter of maximum capacity (despite the communication by the competent Regional Veterinary Office (DSRV) to the Directorate for Animal Production, DSPA (*Direcção de Serviços de Produção Animal*) on 6/11/2008). The national register overestimated the capacity of this farm by 27 %.

Conclusions

The procedure concerning the periodical updating of the list of laying hen is not always followed.

5.1.2 Inspections of laying hen farms

Legal requirements

Article 8(1) of Directive 1999/74/EC requires Member States to ensure that the CA carries out inspections to monitor compliance with the provisions of this Directive.

Findings

In accordance with the information supplied by the CCA, they have in total 98 holdings with more than 350 laying hens. Among these, 82 have unenriched cages and 12 have enriched cages. The CA informed the mission team that they have informed farmers of the ban of conventional cages from 1.12.2012 through meetings, and indicated that if producers do not make the necessary changes by this date they will have to close.

Official controls on animal welfare for farms are planned annually (*Plano do Bem Estar Animal*); inspections covered the different rearing systems, with the exception of one of the two regions visited, in which the only farm with enriched cages had not been visited.

The mission team observed that inspection targets foreseen in the plan 2008-2009 have been reached in the two regions visited.

In addition, the main specific findings were as follows:

- **Forced moulting** : in response to a recommendation in report 7544/2005 the CCA indicated that the regions received guidelines for checking possible moulting methods used by producers during the inspection procedure, as well as for providing advice on compliance with Council Directive 98/58/EC.

The CCA guidelines on laying hens include elements concerning the requirements for adequate feed supply and for the checks of mortality and productions records, but they don't clearly specify that these elements have to be assessed to rule out the prohibited practice of forced moulting.

In one of the farms, following the assessment by the mission team of production and mortality records which indicated a complete cessation of egg production for a number of weeks during the laying period, the farmer stated that this was the period he had carried out forced moulting. Although the CCA had made it clear to egg producers associations that this is a banned practice, local inspectors did not assess production records to investigate its possible occurrence.

In another farm visited , the lack of production records concerning mortality for a five month period, i.e. 11 to 16 months after the birds had been introduced meant that a suspicion of forced moulting could not be ruled out. CA inspectors did not carry out these investigations and did not include this assessment of production records to investigate the possible occurrence of forced moulting.

- **Claw shortening devices:** in both farms visited claw shortening devices were absent in unenriched cages (not in compliance with Article 5, Point 6 of Directive 1999/74/EC). In one of the farms, this shortcoming had already been reported in 2007 and 2009. In the other farm, a request of rectification with a deadline of 60 days had been issued on 07/10/2008. The CA explained that they accepted the situation because the farmer had a plan to phase out these conventional cages within the beginning of 2010. At the final meeting the mission team received a copy of a letter requesting the rectification of shortcomings for this farm.

Conclusions

The inspection activity performed by the CA does not provide adequate monitoring of compliance with the provisions of Directive 99/74/EC as shortcomings on laying hen farms, such as forced moulting, are either not recognised or not enforced.

5.2 INSPECTIONS OF PIG FARMS

Legal requirements

Article 8(1) of Council Directive 2008/120/EC requires the CA to carry out inspections on a representative sample of the different rearing systems for pigs.

Findings

The main findings were as follows:

- **Care for sick and injured animals:** in response to a recommendation in report 7544/2005 the CCA has indicated that all pig farms have a proper place for the separation of sick and injured animals and that guidelines have been given to the pig farmers concerning the procedures to be followed for sick animals. However, no specific guidelines on this issue have been delivered. During one of the two farm visits the mission team pointed out grossly inadequate care of three seriously sick and injured pigs. These animals had been moved to sick pens, but had subsequently not received appropriate care, contrary to Point 4 of Annex of Directive 98/58/EC.
- **Manipulable material** (Annex I, Chapter I, Point 4 of Directive 2008/120/EC): lack of

manipulable material was observed in both farms visited. Regarding manipulable material and the requirement of fibrous, high energy and bulky feed for sows and gilts (Article 3, Point 7 of Directive 2008/120/EC), the national legislation, Decree 135/2003, was amended in 2006 in response to a recommendation in report 7544/2005. A regional veterinarian had incorrectly interpreted these requirements as not applicable until 2013 as he had confused the dates of applicability. The CCA had not provided other levels of the CA with sufficient clarification on this issue.

- **Overstocking:** overstocking was present in both pig farms visited. In the pig farm in one region, overstocking in group housed sows and in weaners had been previously reported in July 2009, and a deadline of three months had been given to correct overstocking problems, which were outstanding at the time of the mission as these categories of pigs continued to be overstocked.

Conclusions

Significant animal welfare problems, including overstocking and insufficient care for sick or injured pigs, which was the subject of a recommendation to the CA in the previous FVO mission report, are either not identified or their remedial action not sufficiently enforced. The general lack of manipulable material was not identified due to insufficient guidance by the CCA on the amended legislation.

5.3 INSPECTIONS OF CALF FARMS

Legal requirements

Article 7(1) of Council Directive 2008/119/EC requires the CA to carry out inspections on a representative sample of the different rearing systems for calves.

Findings

- The Official veterinarian (OV) on the farm visited had received neither guidance nor training on animal welfare checks of this sector, but nevertheless identified significant animal welfare problems, such as insufficient bedding and several sick calves which needed attention.
- The OV accepted that 20 (out of about 150) calves were kept in individual stalls beyond eight weeks of age, although this is contrary to Article 3, 1, (a) of Directive 2008/119/EC.
- All levels of the CCA considered pens for calves with completely solid walls, but with a front opening for feeding, to comply with legal requirements. This is however contrary to Article 3, 1, a) of Directive 2008/119/EC which states that individual pens for calves (except those for isolating sick animals) must not have solid walls, but perforated walls which allow the calves to have direct visual and tactile contact.

Conclusions

Significant animal welfare problems were identified by the OV; however, some shortcomings, for which insufficient guidance was provided to OVs, were not identified by the CA.

5.4 ANIMAL WELFARE DURING TRANSPORT

5.4.1 *Authorisation of transporters*

Legal requirements

Article 10 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 lays down the requirements for authorising transporters carrying out journeys up to eight hours. In particular, the applicants must demonstrate that they have sufficient and appropriate staff, equipment and operational procedures to comply with this Regulation and that they do not have criminal records of infringements in relation to animal welfare.

Article 11 of Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 laying down the provisions for authorising transporters carrying out long journeys, in addition to the documentation mentioned in Article 10, requires further documents, such as the certificates of approval of vehicles, procedures to trace and record the movements of vehicles and to contact drivers, a contingency plan in the event of emergency, and the certificates of competence for drivers and attendants.

Article 18 of Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 lays down the requirements for CAs to grant certificates of approval of means of transport by road for long journeys.

Findings

The mission team assessed the files of three transporters: two long distance and one short distance.

- Authorisation of transporters is granted by the CCA in accordance with a procedure published on the DGV website; the CCA has a record of all previous infringements of animal welfare legislation and checks this as part of the authorisation procedure. Certificates of competence for drivers/attendants are issued after training, including for short distance journeys. For one of the two long distance authorisations assessed by the mission team the contingency plan lacked the details requested by the CCA procedure.
- Vehicles for the transport of animals for more than eight hours are subject to approval, using a comprehensive checklist supplied by the CCA. However, the local inspector was confused on the assessment of ventilation capacity for long distance means of transport and on the requirements for partitions (Regulation (EC) No 1/2005, Annex I, Chapter VI, point 3.2 and 1.7, respectively). In this regard, the mission team pointed out that the relevant national guidelines on the assessment of means of transport do not provide sufficiently detailed guidance; officials from the CCA commented that such assessment had been dealt with during training sessions for staff of the CA.

Conclusions

Although there is a good system in place for the authorisation of transporters including approval of means of transport, the assessment of vehicles is not completely satisfactory in particular because of insufficient guidance for the more technical aspects such as ventilation capacity.

5.4.2 *Checks on transport*

Legal requirements

Article 27.1 of Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 requires that the CA shall carry out non-discriminatory inspections of animals, means of transport and accompanying documents. Such inspections must be carried out on an adequate proportion of the animals transported each year within each Member State and may be carried out at the same time as checks for other purposes. Article 16 of Regulation

(EC) No 1/2005 specifies that CA staff are duly trained and equipped to check data recorded by the recording system for road transport and the navigation system referred to in Annex 1, Chapter VI, 4.1 of Regulation (EC) No 1/2005.

Findings

- **Fitness of animals for transport** (Annex I, Chapter I of Regulation (EC) No 1/2005): animals are delivered for emergency slaughter to slaughterhouses under a declaration, in line with the national guidelines and signed by a veterinary practitioner. Private veterinarians have not received specific training by the CA on fitness for transport. The CCA indicated that they could consult their website in order to receive the necessary information. The CA stated that they consider the transport of injured animals to slaughterhouses is acceptable, provided that the distance is less than 50 Km.

At the slaughterhouse visited the mission team saw documentary evidence of such animals delivered for emergency slaughter, e.g. five cases in July 2009. These cases included fracture at the shoulder joint and inability to stand following dystocia. The OV agreed that some animals were unfit for transport, but no action had been undertaken against the transporters, the veterinarian who had provided the declaration of fitness for transport or the owners of these animals. A similar pattern of non-ambulatory animals was noticed for each other month. In 2009, administrative actions were initiated against three transporters in relation to cases of delivery of several dead/injured animals in the same consignment. These actions had not been finalised yet.

The OV stated that no animal had ever been slaughtered outside the slaughterhouse in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 853/2004, Annex III, Chapter V; the CCA referred of two cases in which animals were slaughtered on the spot as per the rules of Regulation (EC) No 853/2004, Annex III, Chapter V. In both cases it was physically impossible to load the injured animals for transport due to the situations where these accidents occurred rather than as a decision to avoid unnecessary suffering.

- **Conditions of means of transport:** official controls on means of transport were assessed by the mission team at a slaughterhouse and at two markets. The general condition of vehicles for the transport of animals was satisfactory at the slaughterhouse visited, albeit in one of the trucks the ramp was not equipped with lateral protection (Regulation (EC) No 1/2005, Annex I, Chapter III, 1.3.a)).

Several small trucks seen by the mission team while unloading bovines at the markets visited: ramps were not equipped with lateral protection and unloading bays were also not appropriately equipped.

- **Checks at destination:** official controls on animal welfare during transport at farms of destination were assessed by the mission team in one of the two DSVR visited; the CA carries out random check on day old chicks for purposes other than animal welfare (*Salmonella* sampling). Checks of other consignments at unloading (e.g. bovines transported for long distances from other Member States such as Germany or France) or documentary checks (e.g. on journey logs) are not carried out. No training has been provided to staff performing official controls in order to ensure that data recorded on drivers' record sheets (tachographs) can be checked, as required by Article 16 of Regulation (EC) No 1/2005.

- **Official controls at markets/assembly centres:** concerning the local market visited, non-compliances were observed regarding poor maintenance and lack of lateral protection of unloading ramps, but no deadline had been set by the OV for structural deficiencies previously noted and several issues from inspection reports were still outstanding at the time of the mission.

At the market which had been object of a complaint the mission team noticed no major structural problems and only minor operational shortcomings on the day of the visit. Significant improvements have been achieved through the involvement of the central level of the CA, NGOs and by the replacement of the private veterinarian employed by the operator. However, documentary evidence indicated that severely injured animals have been repeatedly and recently delivered to this market up to one month before the mission (October 2009). Enforcement actions such as euthanasia of unfit animals by the veterinarian of the market and initiating of administrative procedures against the transporters involved have been recently adopted.

Conclusions

Official controls on means of transport have brought about improvements on the conditions of vehicles but have not put sufficient emphasis on the need of ramps to have lateral protection. No official controls on animal welfare are carried out at farms of destination. The transport of unfit animals to slaughterhouses is either tolerated by the CA or sanctions which have been initiated for very extreme cases have not been effective to dissuade operators from this practice.

The slowness of CA enforcement activity has allowed major operational problems to develop at the market which has been subject of a complaint, but these have been recently addressed through the involvement of the CCA and NGOs. Structurally this market is of a good standard. The lack of enforcement action by the CA has allowed poor structures to continue to be used in the case of the local market.

6 OVERALL CONCLUSIONS

The report concludes that there have been improvements in official controls on the farm animal welfare sector since the last mission on this topic in 2005. However, reporting and enforcement action of non-compliances in farms are still insufficient and as a result shortcomings such as forced moulting in laying hens and insufficient care for sick animals, overstocking and lack of manipulable material in the pig sector are still present.

Regarding the transport of unfit animals seriously injured cows continue to be transported alive to slaughterhouses.

In the assembly centre which was the subject of an official complaint to the Commission services, improvements have been recently achieved.

7 CLOSING MEETING

A closing meeting was held on 11 December 2009 with the CCA. At this meeting, the main findings and preliminary conclusions of the mission were presented by the FVO team. The representatives of the CCA commented on the findings and conclusions presented, and provided further documents and clarification on some of the issues discussed.

8 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Competent Authority of Portugal , within one month after receipt of the report, provide an action plan to address the following recommendations:

Nº.	Recommendation
1.	take measures to ensure that inspectors conducting checks in holdings of laying hens, calves and pigs, are able to verify and implement adequately the requirements of Directives 1999/74/EC, 2008/119/EC and 2008/120/EC respectively.
2.	take measures to ensure that as stipulated in Directive 1999/74/EC, farmers comply with the requirements for non-enriched cages to be equipped with claw shortening devices (Directive 1999/74/EC, Chapter II, Art. 5, 4).
3.	take measures to prevent forced moulting which does not meet the requirements of Article 3 of Directive 1999/74/EC and points 11, 14, 15 and 16 of the Annex to Directive 98/58/EC.
4.	take measures to ensure that changes concerning registered laying hen flock data are notified to the CA without delay and that the register is updated immediately when such information is received in accordance with Article 1(4) of Commission Directive 2002/4/EC.
5.	take measures to ensure that as stipulated in Directive 2008/120/EC, pig farmers comply with the unobstructed floor area requirements in Article 3(1a and b) and Chapter II(A) of Annex I); give manipulable material to all categories of pigs (Chapter I, point 4 of Annex I); pregnant sows and gilts are given a sufficient quantity of bulky or high fibre as well as high energy food (Article 3, point 7); and that sick or injured pigs are dealt with appropriately (point 4 of the Annex to Directive 98/58/EC).
6.	take measures to ensure that as stipulated in Article 3, 1, a) of Directive 2008/119/EC, individual pens for calves must not have solid walls, but perforated walls which allow the calves to have direct visual and tactile contact and that calves over eight weeks of age are not kept in individual stalls.
7.	take measures to ensure that where deficiencies are detected at initial visits performed under Article 8(1) of Directives 2008/120/EC, 8(1) of Directive 1999/74/EC or Article 7(1) of Directive 2008/119/EC, consistent enforcement and follow up inspections are scheduled and carried out as necessary.
8.	take measures to ensure that road vehicles for long journeys are approved after verification of all the requirements as laid down in Chapter II and Chapter VI of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 1/2005, including ventilation capacity (Chapter VI, point 3 of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 1/2005) and partitions (Regulation (EC) No 1/2005, Annex I, Chapter VI, point 1.7).

N°.	Recommendation
9.	take measures to ensure that targets of inspections on long journeys include checks at unloading at holdings, to verify that the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 have been complied with, as required by Articles 15(1) and 27(1) of the same Regulation.
10.	take measures to ensure that only animals which are fit for transport are transported and that animals which do not comply with the conditions of Annex I, Chapter I of Regulation 2005/1/EC are slaughtered or killed on the spot outwith slaughterhouses in order to be spared unnecessary suffering, as required by Article 12 of Council Directive 93/119/EC.

The competent authority's response to the recommendations can be found at:

http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/ap/ap_pt_2009-8242.pdf

ANNEX 1 - LEGAL REFERENCES

Legal Reference	Official Journal	Title
Dir. 2002/4/EC	OJ L 30, 31.1.2002, p. 44-46	Commission Directive 2002/4/EC of 30 January 2002 on the registration of establishments keeping laying hens, covered by Council Directive 1999/74/EC
Dir. 98/58/EC	OJ L 221, 8.8.1998, p. 23-27	Council Directive 98/58/EC of 20 July 1998 concerning the protection of animals kept for farming purposes
Dir. 2008/119/EC	OJ L 10, 15.1.2009, p. 7-13	Council Directive 2008/119/EC of 18 December 2008 laying down minimum standards for the protection of calves
Dir. 2008/120/EC	OJ L 47, 18.2.2009, p. 5-13	Council Directive 2008/120/EC of 18 December 2008 laying down minimum standards for the protection of pigs
Dir. 93/119/EC	OJ L 340, 31.12.1993, p. 21-34	Council Directive 93/119/EC of 22 December 1993 on the protection of animals at the time of slaughter or killing
Reg. 1/2005	OJ L 3, 5.1.2005, p. 1-44	Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 of 22 December 2004 on the protection of animals during transport and related operations and amending Directives 64/432/EEC and 93/119/EC and Regulation (EC) No 1255/97
Reg. 882/2004	OJ L 165, 30.4.2004, p. 1, Corrected and re-published in OJ L 191, 28.5.2004, p. 1	Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules
Dir. 1999/74/EC	OJ L 203, 3.8.1999, p. 53-57	Council Directive 1999/74/EC of 19 July 1999 laying down minimum standards for the protection of laying hens