

Malta's 2010 Bovine Brucellosis Programme



DATA ON HERDS

Region	Total number of herds under the program	Number of herds checked	Number of new positive herds	Number of herds depopulated	% Herd Coverage	% new positive herds Herd incidence
Malta and Gozo	332	253	0	0	76.2 %	0%

Data on the number of herds and the number of animals refers to the 31st December 2010.

Even though it appears that 79 herds have not been tested, this is because these are non-milking herds with very few bovine animals kept for fattening.

DATA ON ANIMALS

Region	Total number of animals	Number of animals to be tested under the programme	Number of Animals tested	Number of animals tested individually	Number Of positive animals	Slaughtering		Indicators	
						Number of animals with a positive result	Total number of animals slaughtered	% coverage at animal level	% positive animals Animal prevalence
Malta and Gozo	16,172	13,529	13,299	13,299	0	0	0	98.22%	0%

Data on the number of herds and the number of animals refers to the 1st January 2010.

Diagnostic tests used:

Test	Type of sample	Type of test	Number of tests performed
RBT	Blood serum	Routine Test	26,865
ELISA	Blood serum	Routine Test	41
MRT	Milk	Routine Test	237

There is now a full check of animals present on farm and the National Veterinary Laboratory receives information on the animals not tested. Since there is also the food chain information connected to the animal registration database, cross reference is now taking place. Although some fattening animals may not be covered on the farm, these are tested at the slaughter house.

Conclusions / results of this programme:

- The prevalence of brucellosis is now at 0%.
- Particular effort is being made to include the young bulls or heifers that are restless and cannot be caught for testing.
- There were no human cases of Brucella reported in 2010.