



Federal Agency  
for the Safety  
of the Foodchain

# BLUETONGUE

## Belgium

FASFC – DG Control Policy

SCOFCAH Brussels, 03-04 March 2009



# Table of contents

- **Vaccination BTV8**
- **Entomological surveillance**
- **Winterscreening 2008-2009**
- **BTV11**



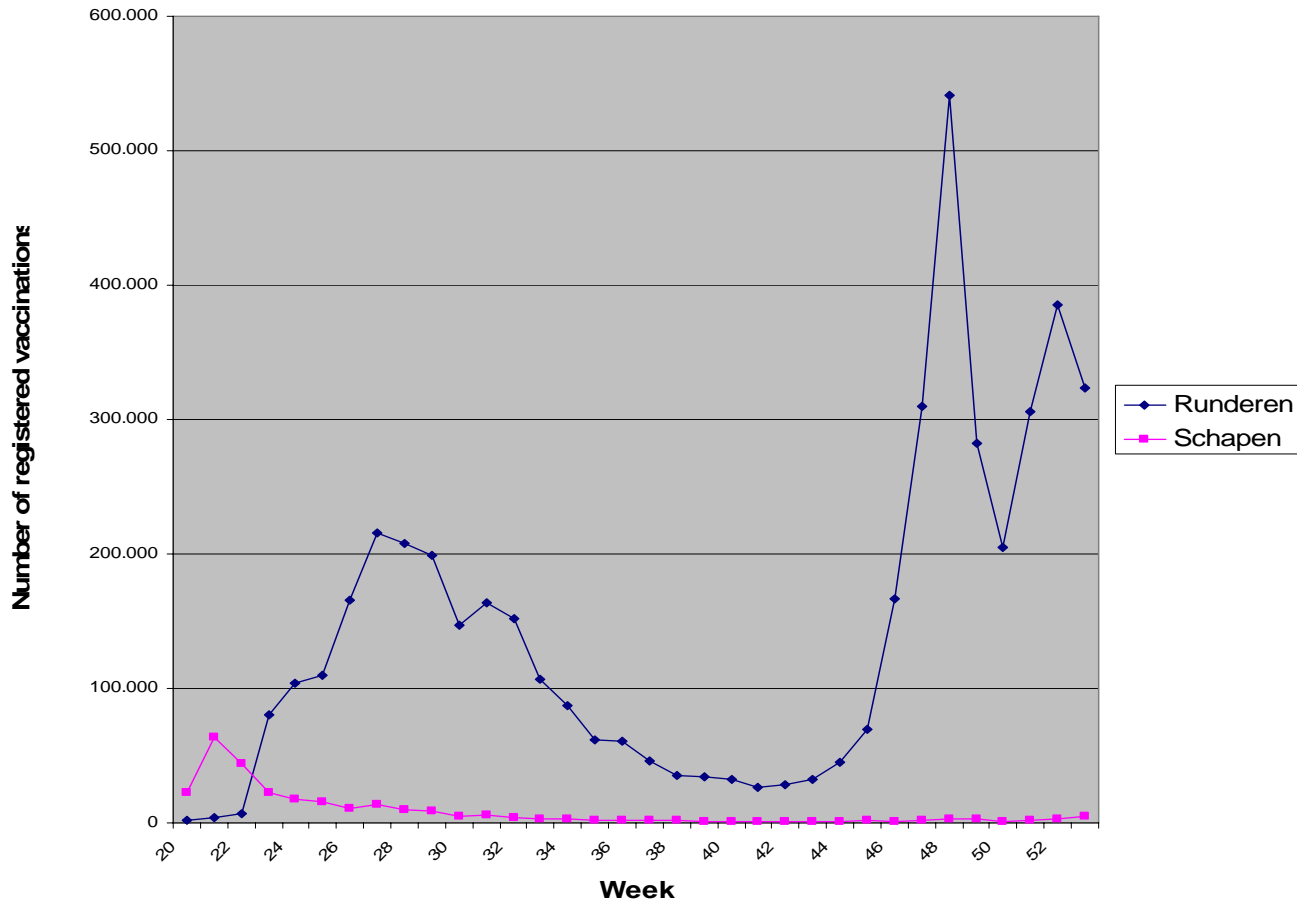
# Vaccination BTV8 - 2008

Veterinarians enter vaccination reports on line in a central database or send a written report

	Species				
Vaccination database	Cattle**	Sheep	Goat	Deer	Total
27 January 2009					
Vaccinated animals	2343163	283986	8887	175	2636211
Vaccine doses	4764234	283986	8887	175	5057282
Population*	2638033	220600	46950	12648	2918231
% animals vaccinated	89	129	19	1	90
* winter census					
** twice vaccinated					



# Vaccination BTV8 - 2008

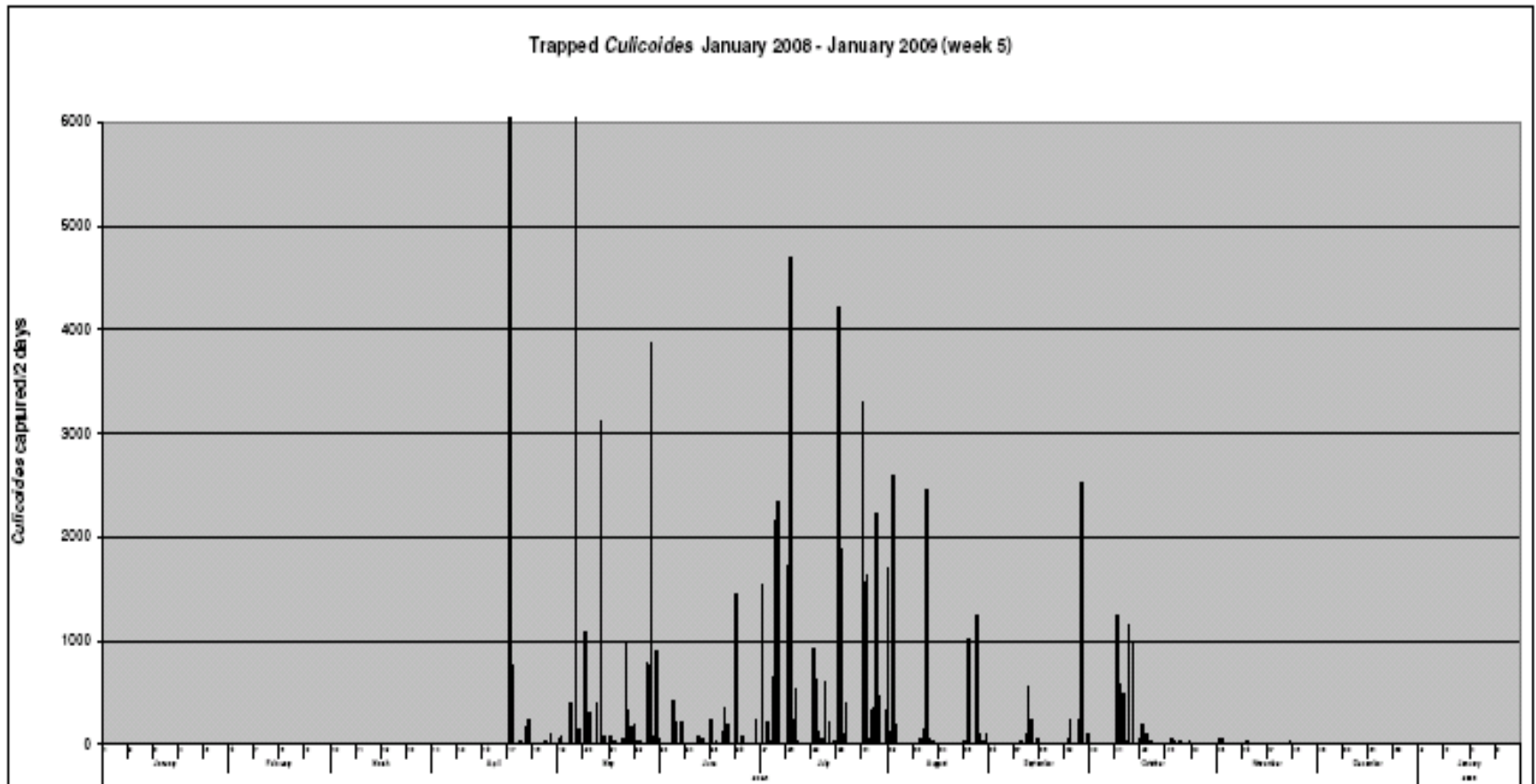


# Vaccination BTV8 - 2009

- Mandatory vaccination of cattle and sheep
- Voluntary vaccination of veal calves, goats and cervids
- Vaccination by farm veterinarian
- Registration of vaccinations in central database
- 4.1 million dosis of inactivated BTV8 vaccine have been ordered
- Vaccination will start next week



# Entomological surveillance 2008-2009



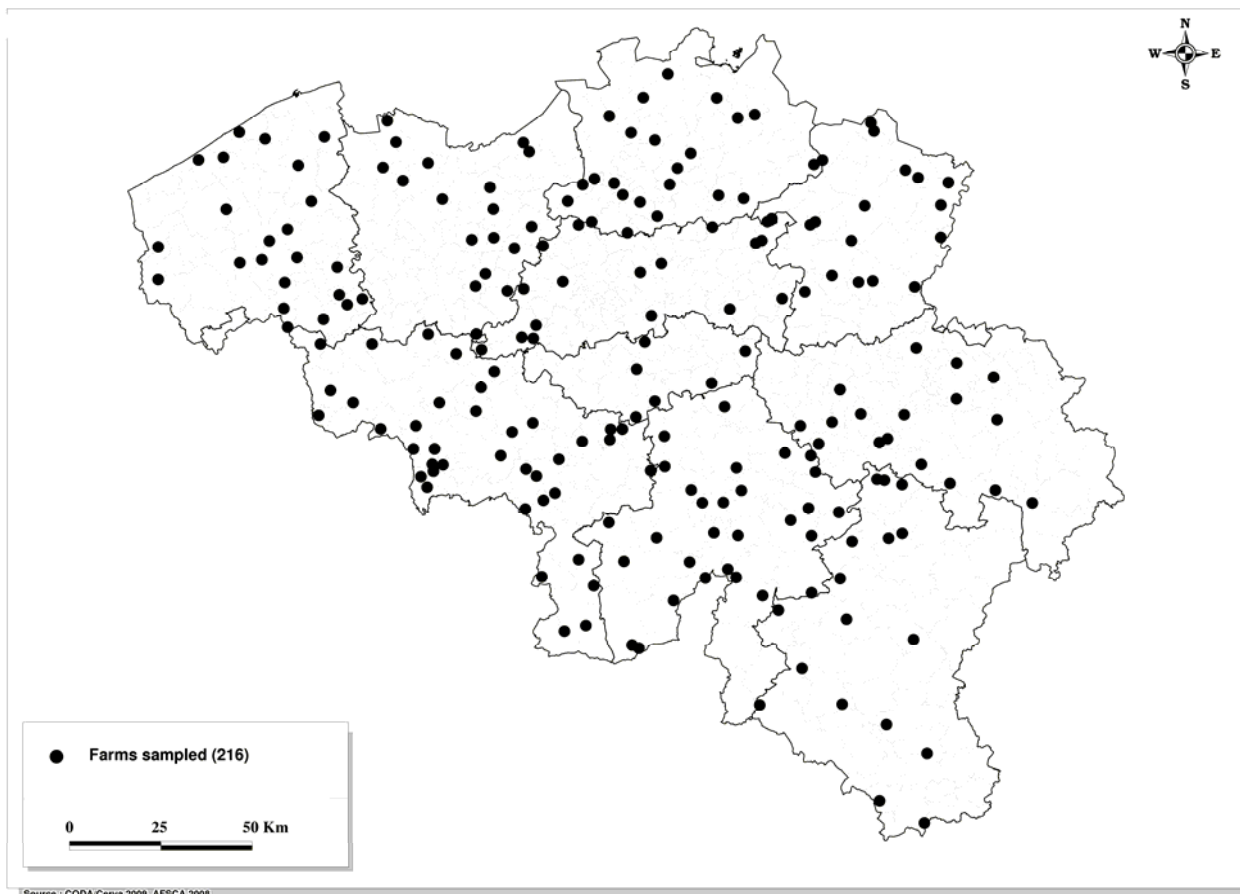
# Winterscreening 2008-2009

- 208 dairy farms sampled (blood+serum) in December-January
- Mostly the same farms as in the previous winterscreening
- Stratified for age (10 bovine animals born in 2008, 2007, 2006 and earlier)
- RT-PCR and Ab ELISA
- Preliminary results
  - 7281 samples tested in RT-PCR: 154 positive (2%), 5 dubious



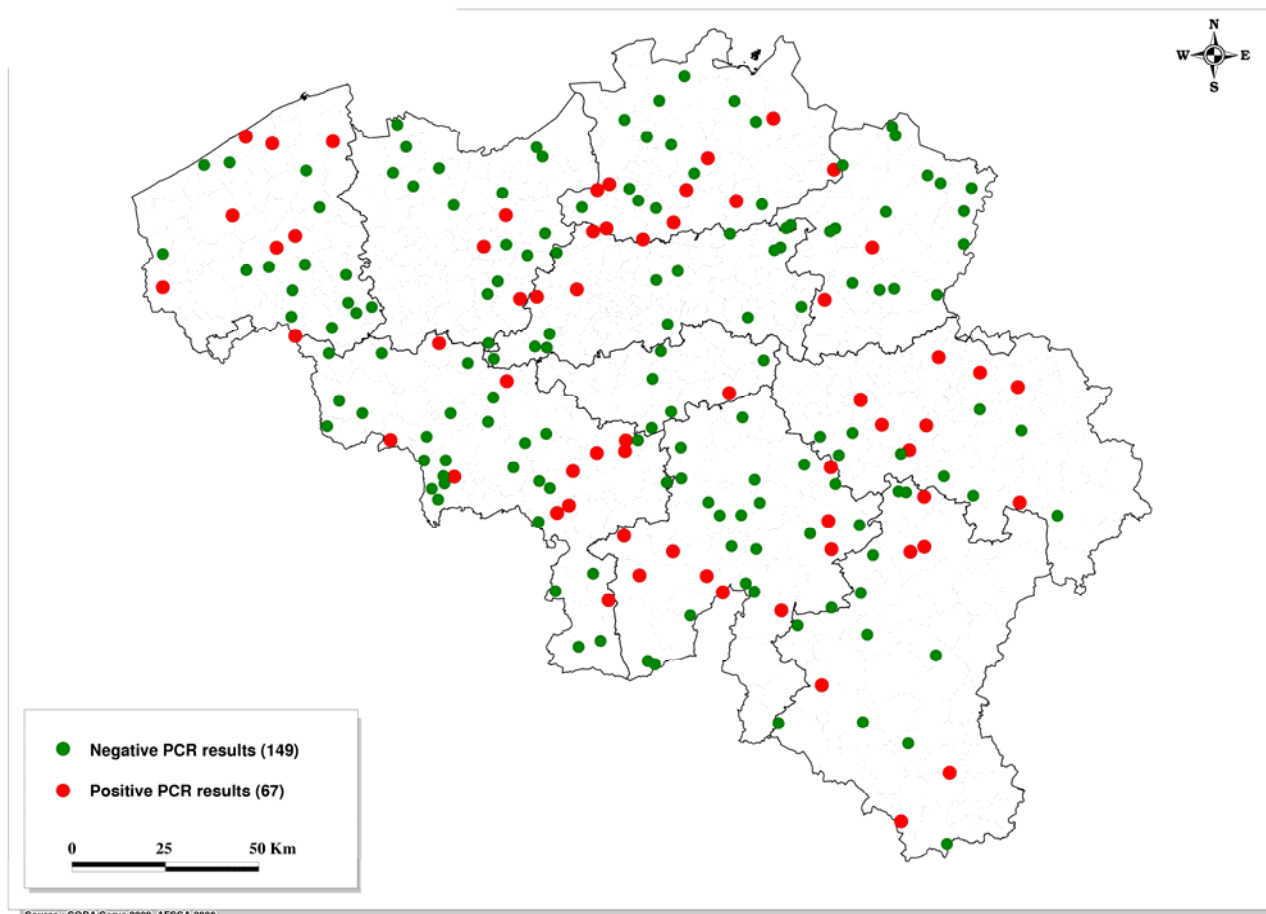
# Winterscreening 2008-2009

## Farms sampled



# Winterscreening 2008-2009

## RT-PCR



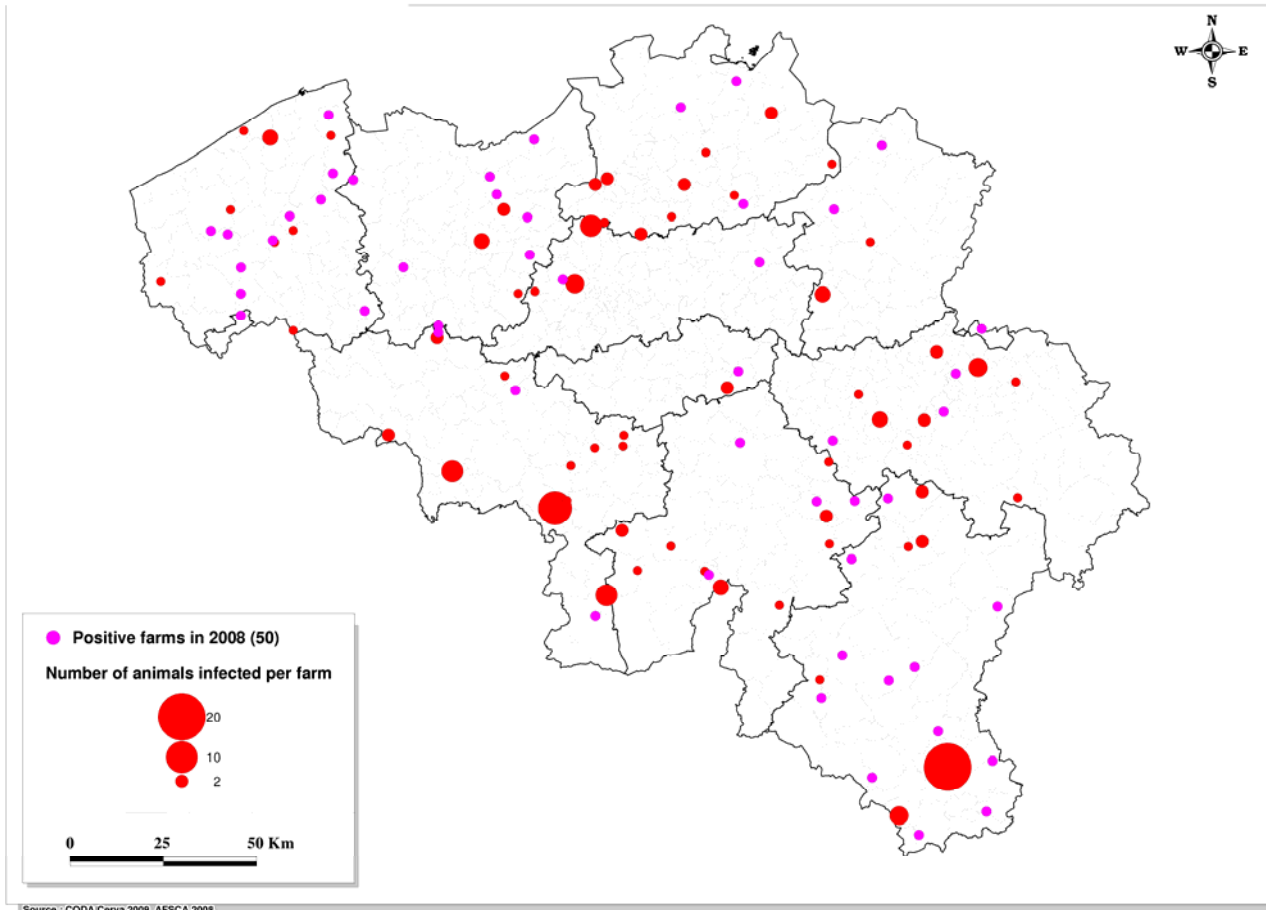
Source: CODA-Cervia 2009, AFSCA 2009

BTW/2009\_Situation\_Finale.wor



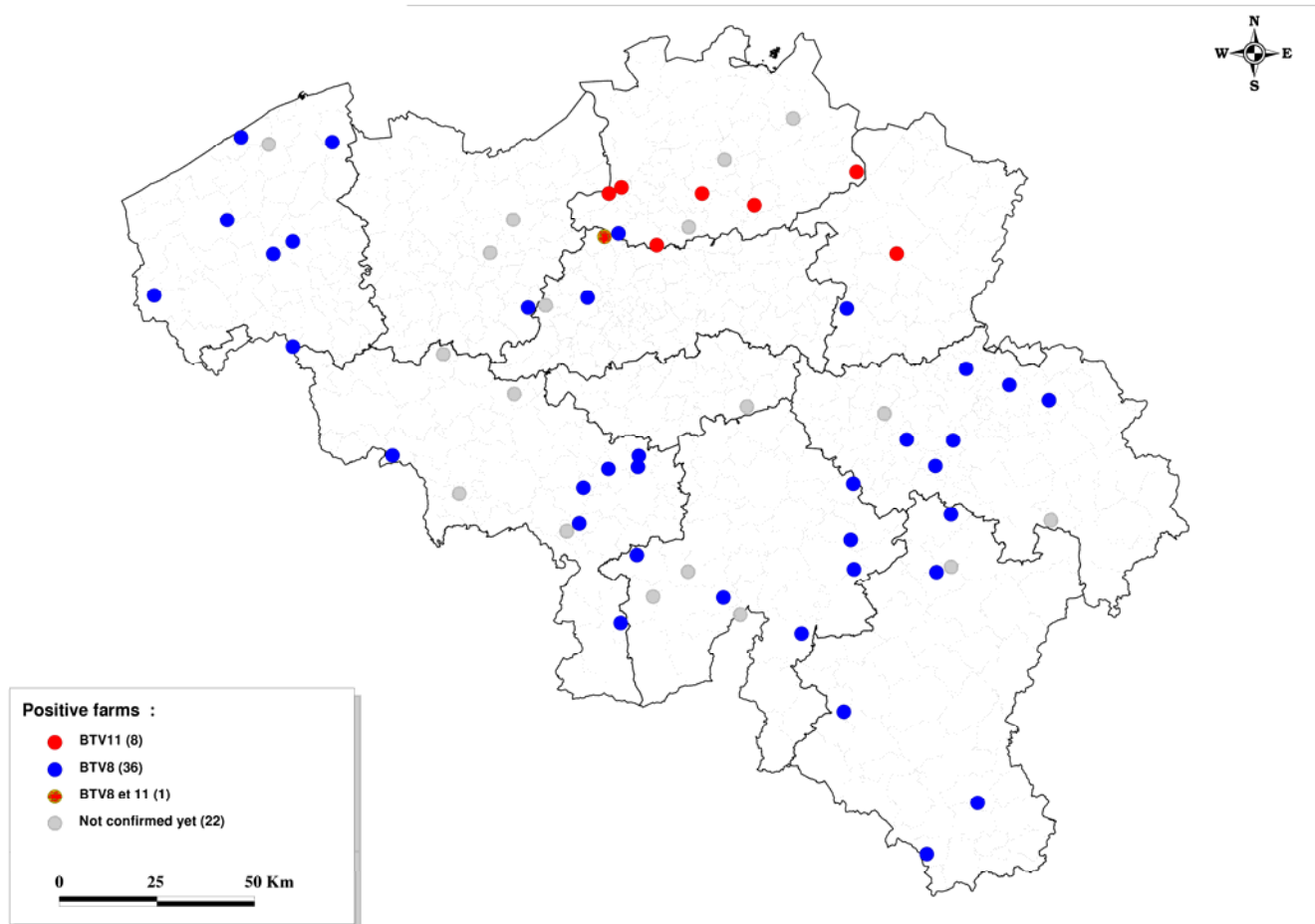
# Winterscreening 2008-2009

## RT-PCR



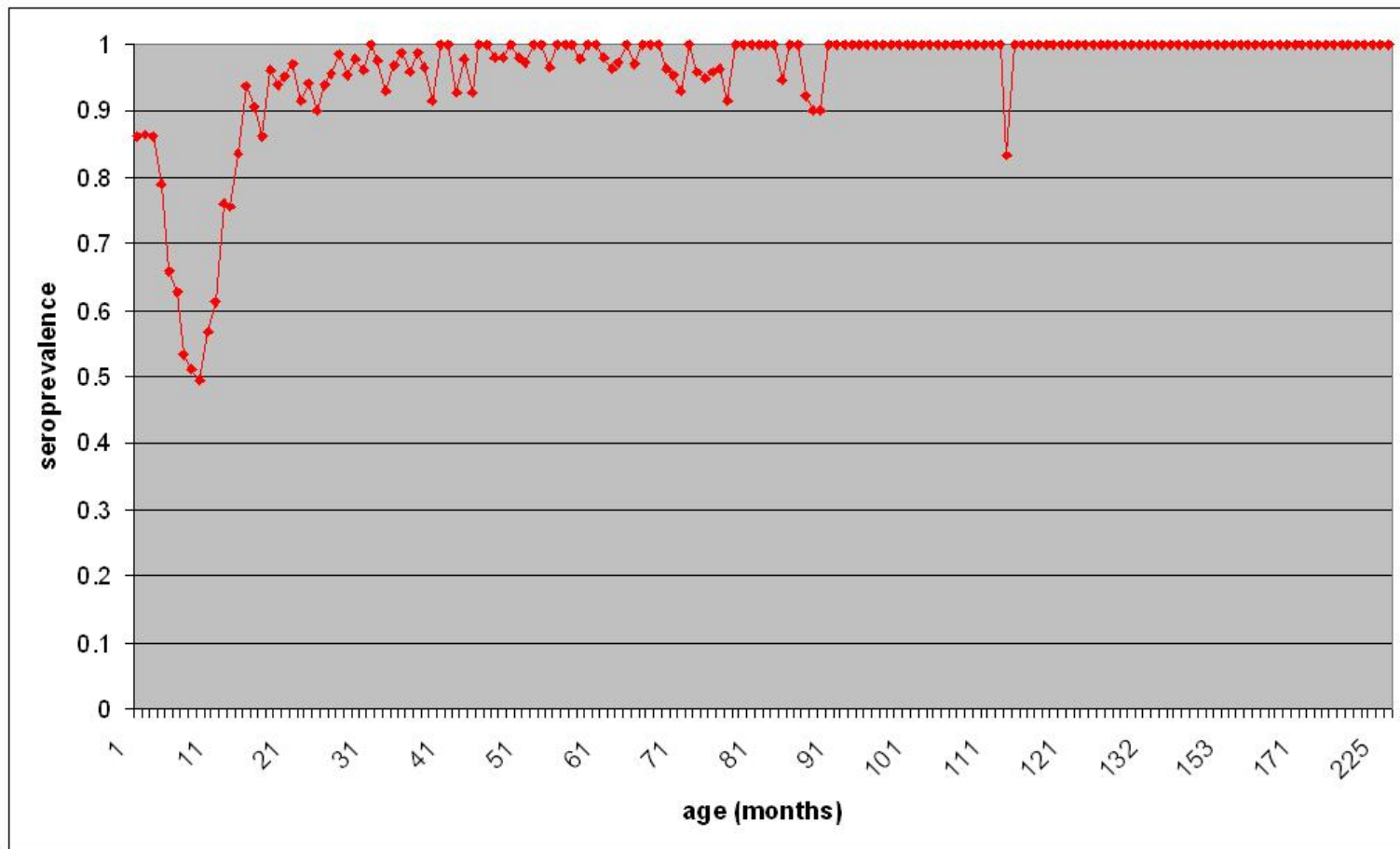
# Winterscreening 2008-2009

## RT-PCR



# Winterscreening 2008-2009

## SEROLOGY



# BTV11

- A cow was tested in November 2008 in the framework of passive surveillance (calf died soon after birth)
- Positive for BT in RT-PCR
- Serotype specific PCR negative for BTV1, BTV6 and BTV8
- Virus isolation negative



# BTV11

- Samples send to CRL
  - Initialy same results
  - Positive in PCR for serotype 11
  - Positive in SNT for serotype 11
  - Based on limited sequencing of genome segment 2 very much related to the South African reference strain (parent of the live vaccine strain) (99.74%)
  - The virus could not be isolated



# BTV11

- Sampling of all other bovines in the herd
  - No other animals positive in RT-PCR
- Sampling of all other farms with ruminants in the 1 km zone
  - 20 farms sampled, 907 samples
  - 5 farms with 1 to 3 animals positive for BTV11 (ct<40)
  - 9 animals positive for BTV11 (ct<40)



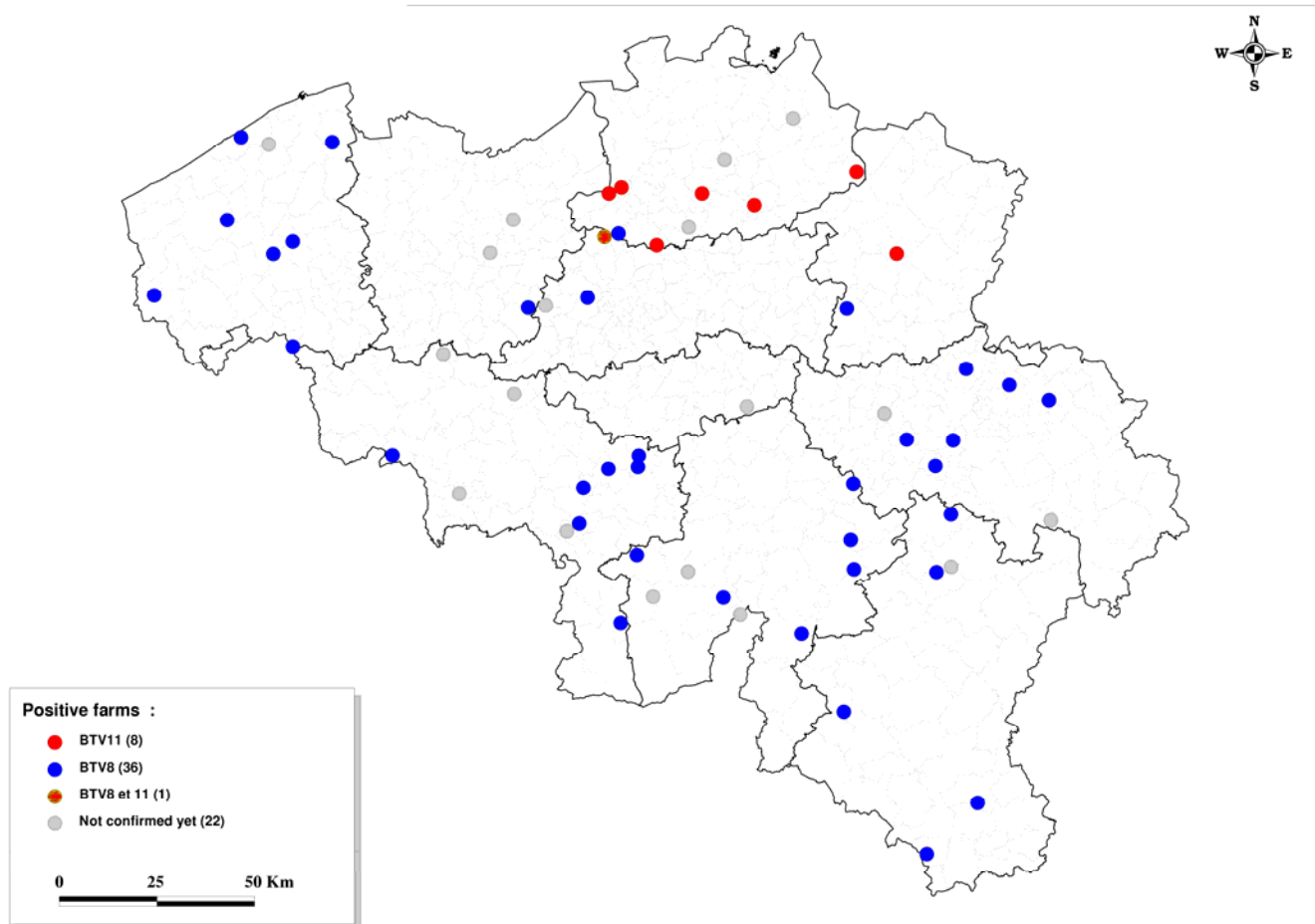
# BTV11

- All samples of the winterscreening positive for BT in RT-PCR were tested in the BTV11 serotype specific PCR
  - 8 farms with 1 to 2 positive animals in the north of the country
  - 12 positive animals on 246 tested

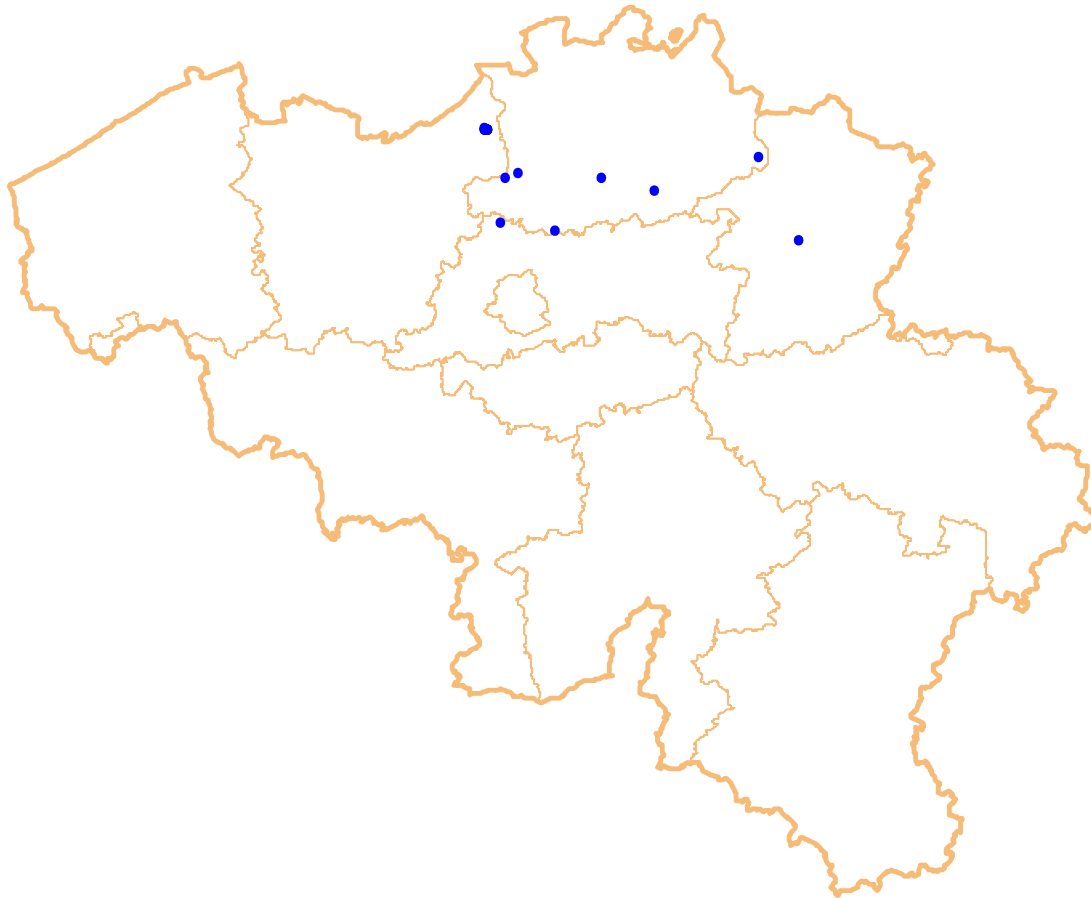


# Winterscreening 2008-2009

## RT-PCR



# BTV11- RT-PCR positive herds



# BTV11 - Epidemiology

- Only positive animals in a region in the North of the country
- No clear epidemiological links between positive farms
- No disease observed in cattle or sheep
- Low prevalence

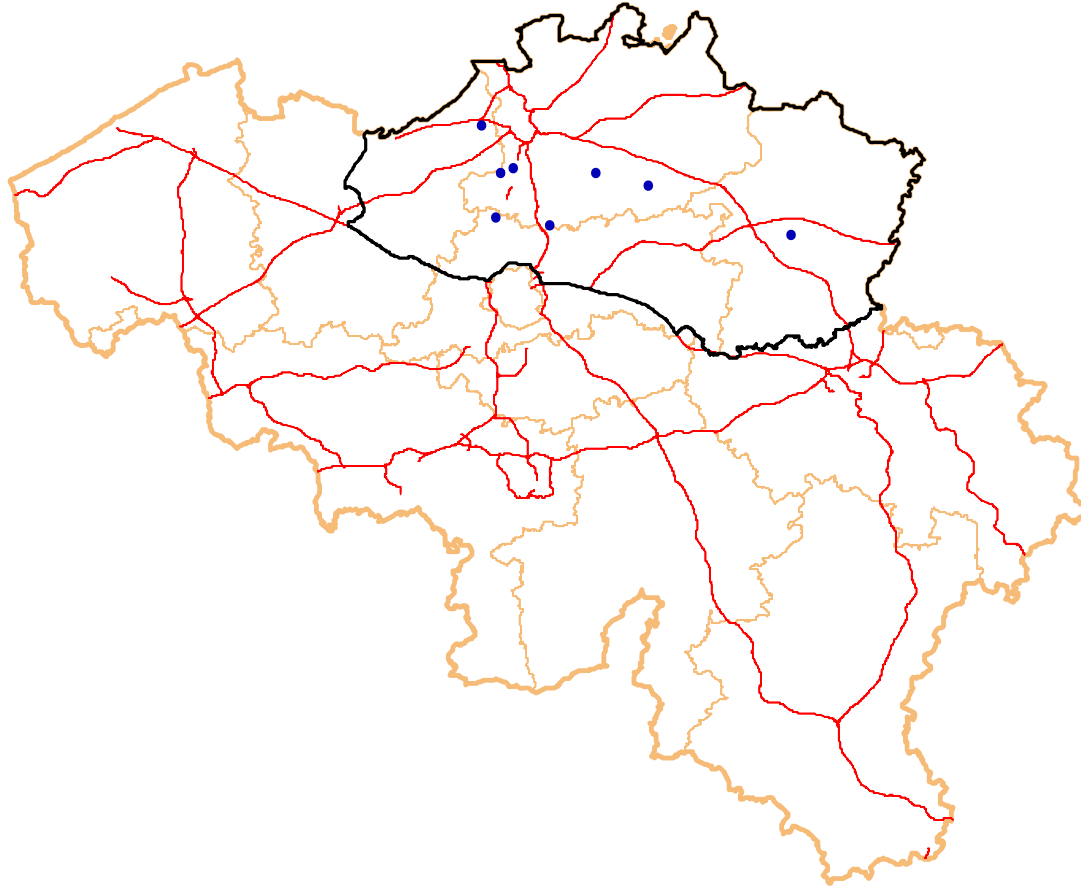


# BTV11 - Measures

- By way of precaution, a temporary control zone (min 20 km) was established on 17 February
- Ruminants for breeding and fattening that have been in this zone since 1 November 2008 are only sent to other memberstates if negative in the RT-PCR for BT



# BTV11 – Temporary controle zone



# BTV11 - Measures

- Active and passive surveillance for BT is intensified
- All ruminants in herds with positive results are being sampled and tested



# BTV11 - Conclusions

- Limited spread of a BTV11 virus in a defined region
- Only one or a few animals positive per herd
- No disease
- Only detected due to intensive surveillance
- Probably a vaccine or vaccine related virus



# Website

[www.favv.be](http://www.favv.be)

[www.afsca.be](http://www.afsca.be)

Thank you for your attention

