The surveillance and control programme for enzootic bovine leucosis (EBL) in Estonia.
Structure of VFB:

Director General

Animal Breeding and Market Regulation Control Department

Animal Health, Welfare and Feedingstuffs Department

Food Department

Trade, Import and Export Department

Office for Food of Animal Origin

Office for Food of Non-animal Origin, Retail Sale and Organic Farming

15 county veterinary centres

161 authorised veterinarians
National annual monitoring plan

Enzootic bovine leukemia (EBL) control programme is carried out according to the State Programme on Monitoring and Surveillance of Animal Infectious Diseases, which is annually approved by VFB. Programmes are designed by the specialist of Animal Health and Welfare Department (VFB).

Both above mentioned programmes are:

– based on the requirements of the Regulation Ministry of Agriculture No. 17 of 28 February 2007 on control requirements for enzootic bovine leukemia

– approved annually by the Director General of the VFB.
Laboratory for analysing EBL

Samples are analysed in Estonian Veterinary and Food Laboratory (VFL), which consist of Central VFL (in Tartu) and three smaller VFL’s laboratories in Tallinn, Rakvere and Saaremaa. All these laboratories are accredited according to the ISO 17025.

First the milk samples are analysed by ELISA AB- testkit, then confirmation is done by immunodifusion test from blood samples.
Historical data on the epidemiological evolution

- EBL control programme, commenced in 1987, has effectively reduced the number of bovines affected by the disease during the past decade.
- Whilst in 1992 leucosis was diagnosed in 33,349 bovine animals, in 2004 it was registered in 5 animals.
Number of positive animals and herds under surveillance programme in Estonia 2004-2009

- In 2005 were 69 positive cases
- number of infected animals increased because of new beef herds
Control programme of EBL (1)

- From year 2008 all the bovine animals over 24 months old are subjected to routine serological testing in accordance with Council Directive of 26 June 1964 64/432/EEC on animal health problems affecting intra-community trade in bovine animals at yearly intervals.
- An identification system making it possible to identify the herds of origin and transit for each bovine animal is in existence.
- All bovine animals slaughtered have been subjected to a post-mortem examination by an official veterinarian.
Control programme of EBL (2)

- All suspected cases of EBL have been fully investigated, including tracing back and forward, all herds of origin or transit were subjected to appropriate laboratory examination.

- While such examinations take place, the officially EBL-free status of the herd of origin or transit has been suspended until clinical or laboratory serological tests have ruled out the presence of EBL.

- Implementation of the programme for control of EBL has given good results.

- All positive bovine animals discovered to have EBL were eliminated.
EBL programme is active in all 15 counties.
# Bovine animals population in 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category of animals</th>
<th>Number of herds or flocks</th>
<th>Number of animals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In total</td>
<td>5618</td>
<td>233158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calves (under 1 year)</td>
<td>3624</td>
<td>59394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy cows and heifers</td>
<td>4488</td>
<td>130721</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meat production animals</td>
<td>903</td>
<td>9406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed herds</td>
<td>1333</td>
<td>12466</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Information on diagnostic test used in 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease/species</th>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Type of sample</th>
<th>Type of test</th>
<th>Number of tests performed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enzootic bovine leukosis/ bovis</td>
<td>ELISA</td>
<td>milk</td>
<td>screening test</td>
<td>93889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enzootic bovine leukosis/ bovis</td>
<td>ELISA</td>
<td>blood</td>
<td>screening test</td>
<td>20730</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Data on infection of EBL in 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease/species</th>
<th>Number of herds infected</th>
<th>Number of animal infected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enzootic bovine leukemia/ bovis</td>
<td>6 (5 dairy, 1 meat)</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Epidemiological map for EBL in 2009

DISTRICTS
01 Harjumaa
02 Hiiumaa
03 Ida-Virumaa
04 Jõgevamaa
05 Järvaamaa
06 Lääne
07 Lääne-Virumaa
08 Põlvamaa
09 Pärnumaa
10 Raplamaa
11 Saaremaa
12 Tartumaa
13 Valgamaa
14 Viljandimaht
15 Võrumaa

1 Ambla vald
12 Lihula vald
1 Viru-Nigula vald
1 Tapa vald
2 Tõstamaa vald
1 Sõmerpalu vald
Financial aspects 2009

- All main costs in total: 86714 EUR
- Samples collection: 43311 EUR
- Laboratory investigations: 36769 EUR
- Cost of means to blood sampling: 6634 EUR
Thank you for your attention!