Equine infectious anemia (EIA) in Germany – an overview

SCOFCAH 11 – 12 October 2010
## number and distribution of cases

01-09-2010 - 08-10-2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federal Land</th>
<th>number of cases</th>
<th>date of first confirmation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bavaria</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9.9.2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hesse</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2.9.2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Rhine-Westfalia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7.9.2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhineland-Palatinate</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15.9.2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
„history“ of the cases so far

- indications of presence of horses traded from Romania without animal health certification in a holding in Fulda (Hesse)
- one positive finding for EIA in a horse in Lahn-Dill-Kreis (Hesse) deriving from the holding in Fulda
- the positive horse was traded illegally from Romania to Fulda and retailed from there to Lahn-Dill-Kreis
- further investigation on trader’s establishment in Fulda gave information about more 111 horses that came from Romania to Germany without (or with falsified) animal health certification and identification since the year 2008
- animals were probably transported with small trailer in two by two
- 84 of these were found so far, further investigations are ongoing
epidemiological investigations

horses are probably originating from Bihor region suspected way of introduction to Germany

http://maps.google.de/maps?asq=source=gps&vq=address=felds+nach+Ciuleaec,+Romania... 31.08.2010
overview about time frames for transport from Romania to Germany (excerpt) according to information available
certification of the horses available

horses were traded f. e.

- without animal health certificate
- without equide passport
- without negative result of EIA-testing
- with „wrong“ equide passport (signalement not fitting to passport entries)
- with falsified equide passport (chip number manipulated in document)
- with two microchips
measures of the local competent authorities

• humane killing of the horses tested positive  (ELISA and Coggins test for confirmation)

• depending on the horse density around the affected establishment set-up of restriction zones

• serological investigation of possible contact horses (which already resulted in seven mor positive findings)

• tracing forward/ back of more horses that might origin from Romania in the „distributor“ holding in Fulda

• increased control measures in horse markets and exhibitions with horses of the „clientel“ (hobby horses with 1.300 up to 2000,- Euro), i.e. passport and microchip control before entering the area, clinical investigation of all horses incl. body temperature
measures of the central veterinary authority

- immediate ADNS- and OIE-reporting
- immediate information to Romania and request for support of the epidemiological investigations (submission of documents available that might help finding the place of origin of the horses)
- information to COM and MS in the framework of SCOFCAH 7. – 8.9.2010
- request for increased control of animal transports on the possible routes to Bavaria as well as MS Austria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slowakia
- information of horse breeding organisations about the situation
- public informations in homepage and horse journals
- request to FN (national horse federation responsible for issuing horse passports) to support search for „germanised“ horses, as a result of this measure two more positive horses were found in Bavaria originating from Romania, but not transported via Hesse
- request for risk analysis for introduction of EIA from Romania to Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut (NRL), result: moderate to high risk of introduction of EIA-virus via illegal transports, low risk via legal ways
information received from Romania

- **official information:**
  - improved cooperation of police, customs and vet. authorities in control of animal transports
  - high level monitoring of positive horses (test for free) and humane killing of reagents with recompensation of the owner

- **unofficial information:**
  - owners avoid testing because they fear to lose their working animal
  - animals tested positively are transported for slaughter f.e. to Italy, but there sold as horse for „free time“ (Freizeitpferd)
Thank you for your attention!