2014 Eradication Programme for Sheep and Goat Brucellosis

CROATIA

Standing Committee on Plants, Animals and Food and Feed (SCoPAFF)

June 2015
Last outbreak of sheep and goat brucellosis in Croatia was in 2013th - sheep herd in Lika-senj county

- herd was not regularly tested (high risk municipality in which testing for brucellosis was mandatory)
- Communication with human epidemiology at local level (the owner got sick)
- herd was depopulated

Last outbreaks before 2013 -> 2010 (Lika-senj, and Split-dalmatia counties), 6 outbreaks

- 2004 – 2008: sporadically (Lika-senj; Split-dalmatia; Karlovac county)
- Problem mostly based on illegal movements… (herds depopulated)
Testing strategy before 2014

- Laboratory investigation of **all reported abortions** in sheep and goats (abortion reporting was mandatory)

- **Mandatory testing of male animals** before use for breeding or introduction into the herd

- Before 2012 - testing has been performed in **municipalities with high risk** because of previous outbreaks (2006 - 2010)

- Granting of officially free statuses started in 2012 – for all dairy and mixed sheep and goat herds

- **2012 – 2013** -> about 80,000 animals have been tested, both years
For the first time whole sheep & goat population in Croatia was under the programme (600,000 sheep, 70,000 goats), about 20,000 herds

- Maintenance of OF status in previously OF herds (dairy and mixed herds tested in 2012 and 2013)
- Granting OF status for all remaining herds
  - 1st test in autumn 2014 (September – December)
  - 2nd test ongoing (April – September 2015)
- Laboratory investigation of all reported abortions
Raising awareness among owners about sheep and goat brucellosis and importance of reporting abortions – distribution of educational materials to owners during testing in 2013 and 2014

Premovement testing in the whole country – animals have to be tested within 30 days prior to movement (except between OF herds).
**RESULTS IN 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total herds</th>
<th>Tested (%)</th>
<th>Positive herds</th>
<th>Total animals</th>
<th>Tested (%)</th>
<th>Positive animals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>20,176</td>
<td>15,605</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>670,372</td>
<td>462,891</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(77.3 %)</td>
<td>(0.12 %)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(69.05 %)</td>
<td>(0.004 %)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Laboratory investigation of abortions:

- Number of reported abortions: 395
- Bacteriologically investigated samples: 104
- *Brucella sp.* was not isolated
RESULTS IN 2014

- All animals positive on RBT have been retested (CFT)

- In case that more than 5% of animals in the herd were positive on RBT, whole herd tested with CFT

- All animals positive on CFT -> culled and sampled for bacteriological investigation
RESULTS IN 2014

Location of CFT positive herds:

25 herds
30 animals
(29 sheep and 1 goat)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Number of animals tested in the herd</th>
<th>CFT positive animals</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Number of animals tested in the herd</th>
<th>CFT positive animals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sisak Moslavina County</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Zagreb county</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>28</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Osijek baranja County</td>
<td>414</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>117</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Vukovar srijem County</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>10</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>129</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>76</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Virovitica podravina County</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lika senj county</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>114</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>359</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Požega slavonia county</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bjelovar bilogora County</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>110</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Zadar county</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
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</table>
All measures are financed from the state budget (except premovement testing)

Sampling performed by authorised veterinarians

Laboratory testing performed by the Croatian veterinary institute (CFT – only in NRL)

Cost of sheep & goat brucellosis programme in 2014

2.3 mil €
OFFICIALLY FREE HERDS

- December 31st 2014
- **720 OF herds (dairy herds)**, tested in previous years (2012, 2013, 2014)
- All other herds are **in the process** (2nd test is ongoing, under 2015 programme)… interval 6 – 12 months between 2 tests

**2015 (and 2016)**

- On December 31 2015, at least 80% of herds should be able to get OF status
- Additional efforts to increase testing coverage
- **Continuing education and communication** with the owners
June 17th – 18th, Split, Croatia
Brucellosis subgroup… TF team of experts

Thank you for your attention!