NATIONAL SANITARY VETERINARY AND FOOD SAFETY AUTHORITY

• EQUINE INFECTIOUS ANAEMIA IN ROMANIA
• PAFF Committee, 12 - 13 June 2019
Background

• EIA was endemic in Romania in 2010 and the immediate slaughter of infected equids was not properly implemented
• As a consequence, for all equines originating from Romania were imposed movement restrictions settled by EC Decision 2010/346/EU
• A surveillance, control and eradication Programme of EIA is applied within the entire territory of Romania
• The provisions of EC Decision 2010/346/EU were implemented in national legislation by the Strategic Programme, the national Order 46/2014 and instructions established by the service notes
Surveillance programme

Is performed:

- in conformity with the Strategic Program approved by Government Decision and NSVFSA President Order on the entire territory of Romania
to all equids older than 6 months age at least once a year, in period of February-April
- the sport horses are tested six months apart
- the horses from holdings approved according to EC Decision 2010/346/EU are tested three months apart
- Additionally, all equines from the infected localities, after the disposal of all positive animals, are tested by Coggins test three months apart until they have two negative results
Eradication programme

The EIA eradication Plan - approved by the NSVFSA President Order no 52/2010 and replaced by the NSVFSA President Order no 46/2014.

The Order 46/2014 contains:

Chapter I
the Plan for eradication of EIA in Romania

Chapter II
the rules for implementing Commission Decision 2010/346/EU

Diagnostic method: agar gel immunodiffusion (Coggins test)

National Reference Laboratory for Equine Infectious Anaemia, within the Institute for Diagnosis and Animal Health (IDAH) analyse samples from:
• equids from Ilfov county and Bucharest
• equids from approved holdings according to EC Decision 2010/346/EU
• expertise or some confirmation of results

40 County Laboratories within the Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Directorates
• analyse samples from equids from their designed area
Eradication programme - measures

• The equids with positive results at the EIA confirmation tests (Coggins test) are disposed by slaughter or killing within 30 days and the compensations are paid to the owner according to Government Decision no 1214/2009 provisions.

• In holding in which there are animals with positive result at Coggins test is declared outbreak, and they are applied specific measures of EIA eradication, including the movement restrictions of susceptible animals, except for the movement directly to slaughterhouse.

• After the disposal of positive animals, the remaining susceptible animals from outbreak are tested by Coggins test 90 days apart.

• For closing of the outbreak and regaining the free status for EIA - two successively testing 90 days apart, with negative results.

• After the disposal of positive animals from outbreak, all the susceptible animals from the locality (not only from outbreak) are also tested 90 days apart, till there are obtained two successively negative results.
Animals movement

Within the national territory

- Is carried out according to the President Order 37/2010 with subsequent amendments.
- The consignments of equids are accompanied by the passport, sanitary-veterinary health certificate and, for equids intended to slaughter, also by the food chain document.
- Mandatory Coggins test for EIA with negative result within the last 90 days; except for equids intended to slaughter with condition that they have been tested according to the national surveillance programme.
- The sanitary-veterinary health certificate and the passport contain the date and result of EIA test.

On the other Member State territory

- The equids consignments are accompanied by a health certificate according to Annex III of Council Directive 2009/156/EC.
Technical difficulties and measures

• The management of EIA cases/outbreaks (thousands of outbreaks in very short period of time)
• Notification of outbreaks (internal, ADNS, OIE)
• Animals identification
• Owners refusal for giving their EIA horses
• Disposal of EIA animals in due time (30 days)
• Uncontrolled movement of animals

Measures applied in order to reduce the deficiencies:

• EIA database in NSVFSA Intranet – All details regarding the confirmation, the location of outbreak, the disposal of the positive animals or closing of outbreak are filled in real-time
• Specific procedure concerning the diagnosis, the notification, the declaration, the close of outbreak and the registration in Intranet of the EIA equids
• Specific procedure concerning the electronic notification of the EIA outbreaks
• The Order 60/651/2013 regarding the equids identification (common with Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development) replaced by the Order 248/79/2017– implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/262
• Common Protocol NSVFSA – NZA (National Zootecnick Agency) on equids identification
• Specific instructions through Services Notes/Checks and sanctions

The application of these measures had as result significant decrease in the incidence of the disease
Technical difficulties - EC Decision 2010/346/EU

• EC Decision 2010/346/EU on protective measures with regard to equine infectious anaemia in Romania sets the conditions for the movement of horses from Romania to other Member States of European Union.

• According to Article 1 of EC Decision 2010/346/EU, Romania cannot dispatch to other Member States the equids from its entire territory.

• Derogations from this Article are granted for live animals, semen, ova and embryos of animals of the equine species; these derogations are described in the different articles of the decision.

• Severe conditions for animals movement: holding approval, long term animals isolation (minimum 90 days) and EIA testing.

• Intra-Union trade with live equidae – non-existent.

• Issues related to horses movement for medical treatments/interventions, mating, trainings or other activities.

• Issues related to organising of international horse competitions within the Romanian territory.
Population of equids in Romania has decreased.
Surveillance programme - Testing

### Tested equids

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total No of equids</th>
<th>No of tested equids</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>660733</td>
<td>548218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>585758</td>
<td>540764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>560663</td>
<td>523196</td>
</tr>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>530407</td>
<td>506856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>463304</td>
<td>468032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>455614</td>
<td>426885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>432240</td>
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<td>338026</td>
<td>318469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>313600</td>
<td>285371</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Tests/positive animals/country/year

- No of tests
- No of positive animals
EIA outbreaks and cases
Incidence of EIA/country 2010-2018 decreased from one year to another
EIA evolution by county
EIA evolution by county

EIA Incidence 2012/county

EIA Incidence 2017/county
EIA evolution by county

EIA Incidence 2018/county

EIA Incidence 2019/county
EIA evolution by county – the highest no of EIA outbreaks within 2010-2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>No of EIA outbreaks</th>
<th>No of EIA animals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Maramures</td>
<td>1381</td>
<td>1765</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bihor</td>
<td>1128</td>
<td>1499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Satu Mare</td>
<td>1077</td>
<td>1216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sibiu</td>
<td>664</td>
<td>713</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Arad</td>
<td>501</td>
<td>673</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Bistrita-Nasaud</td>
<td>564</td>
<td>623</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Special situation in Tulcea county – isolated region in Eastern Part of Romania situated in Danube Delta – not so higher no of EIA outbreaks (223 within 2010-2019), but difficulties in disposal of EIA animals
## EIA evolution by county within 2010-2019

### EIA outbreaks and animals/year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
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<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No of EIA outbreaks</td>
<td>EIA animals</td>
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<td>EIA animals</td>
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<td>No of EIA outbreaks</td>
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<td>No of EIA outbreaks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Maramures</td>
<td>332</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>423</td>
<td>532</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>19</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bihor</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>337</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Satu Mare</td>
<td>473</td>
<td>548</td>
<td>341</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sibiu</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>239</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Arad</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Bistrita-Nasaud</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### EIA outbreaks/year

Bar chart showing the number of EIA outbreaks per year for each county from 2010 to 2019.
EIA evolution by county

Maramures county - EIA 2010-2019

Bihor county - EIA 2010-2019
The highest number of EIA outbreaks were registered within the North-Western and Central Part of Romania.

As a result of the control measures implemented, the incidence of EIA has substantially decreased.
Comparative maps – EIA outbreaks per year
Distribution of EIA outbreaks confirmed in 2018 - 2019
Counties with sporadic outbreaks within 2018-2019 (0 – 1 outbreaks)
Remaining EIA outbreaks with positive animals

The remaining EIA animals from Alba, Arad, Bihor, Timiș and Suceava are within 30 days of confirmation.
Conclusions

➤ The Programme for surveillance, control and eradication of EIA in Romania, restarted in 2010 has been updated in conformity with the requirements of FVO missions and of the audits carried out in the field, and all the recommendations of FVO missions carried out by the European Commission were closed as a consequence of their favourable achievement.

➤ The EIA control and eradication Programme is still a priority for Romania, the veterinary services making special logistical and financial efforts for its implementation.

➤ For the proper implementing of the legislation concerning the equids health, at national level there were elaborated regulations and specific procedures and instructions.

➤ For the monitoring of the EIA eradication programme, it was created a database in the NSVFSA’s Intranet.

➤ The movement of the equids on the Romanian territory is carried out in specific conditions, respectively a new testing by Coggins test within ten days prior the date of dispatch in the case in which more than 3 months passed from the last testing for EIA.

➤ The equids foreseen in the Commission Decision 2010/346/EU are tested at the National Reference Laboratory for EIA.

➤ All EIA cases were registered only in nonprofessional holdings; no cases of equine infectious anaemia have been reported in sport horses.
Conclusions

- By analysing the above data and the data presented in our previous presentations (Paff Committee in April 2018) and reports sent to European Commission, it can be noticed an accentuated decreasing of incidence of EIA in the most infected areas (North-Western and Central Part of Romania), and also no cases or sporadic cases in Southern and Eastern Part of Romania.

- As a consequence, please analyse the possibility of applying the principle of regionalization on the Romanian territory according to epidemiological antecedents, in order to amend the EC Decision 346/2010/EU provisions only for a part of Romanian territory.
Thank you!