



Consultation

**on the preparation of the application (dossier) to the
World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)
for Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) controlled risk status**

Activity 1.1.13



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PART A: Background and key facts

1. Background

Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSEs) are fatal diseases of the brain. TSEs include Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) in cattle and scrapie in sheep and goats. TSEs can be genetic, sporadic (atypical) or of infectious origin (classical). They are caused by pathogens known as prions which are an abnormal and infectious form of a natural protein that is abundant in the brain and spinal cord.

2. Key facts

- Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) is a progressive, fatal disease of the nervous system of cattle.
- BSE is caused by the accumulation of an abnormal protein called “prion” in nervous tissue.
- Two forms, or strains, can be distinguished: classical BSE occurs in cattle after ingesting prion contaminated feed; atypical BSE is believed to occur spontaneously in all cattle populations.
- First detected in 1986, the implementation of appropriate control measures resulted in the decline of classical BSE cases worldwide. To date, the incidence of both forms is negligible and estimated to approach zero cases per million cattle.
- BSE is considered zoonotic due to its assumed link with the emergence of variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD) in humans.
- BSE is a World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)-listed disease. The WOAH has established official recognition of sanitary risk status for its classical form.

Transmission of these pathogens into the animal feed chain resulted in the emergence of classical BSE (cBSE) in the UK cattle herd in 1986 and in significant consequences for the global beef industry.

Turkish Cypriot community (TCc) is not classified yet with particular Risk status and therefore the ambitions are to apply for **Controlled Risk Status**.

The TCc takes the view that BSE Controlled Risk Status could offer a trade advantage in terms of gaining entry into new markets.

The WOAH (www.woah.org) is the intergovernmental organisation responsible for monitoring and improving animal health worldwide. Complying with WOAH requirements is the basis of all international trade, and it is this body that classifies the BSE risk status of the cattle population of a country on the basis of a risk assessment. WOAH classification criteria are taken into account by the Commission in arriving at a decision on an application for categorisation.

BSE is a disease for which the WOAH has established official recognition of sanitary risk status in countries in their entirety or in defined zones and compartments, through a transparent, science-based and impartial procedure.

The categorisation of BSE risk status only applies to classical BSE. ‘Atypical BSE’ forms are excluded from the scope of the categorisation, because they are believed to occur spontaneously in all cattle populations at a very low rate.

The three categories of risk for countries or regions can be summarized as follows:

- **Negligible BSE Risk (NR)** is defined as a country or region where the risk analysis has been conducted, that has demonstrated that appropriate measures have been taken to manage the risks identified for the relevant period of

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time and that has demonstrated that there are sufficient surveillance and controls in place to meet a legislative "points target". The country or region must undertake awareness campaigns, notification and investigation and sampling. Neither meat and bone meal, nor greaves must have been fed to ruminants during the previous eight years. Further requirements depend on whether or not there have been indigenous BSE cases. If there has been an indigenous case of BSE, either all cases were born before the date from which the risk of BSE agents being recycled within the bovine population has been negligible; or where a case was born after that date, subsequent investigations have confirmed that any identified source of infection has been controlled and the risk of BSE agents being recycled within the bovine population has continued to be negligible. Any cases of BSE or any bovines affected by atypical BSE that have been detected have been completely destroyed or disposed of to ensure that they do not enter the feed or food chain.

Negligible BSE risk:

- Negligible risk of the classical BSE agent being recycled within the bovine population **for at least the preceding 8 years;**
- Ongoing implementation of a **surveillance programme for at least the preceding 8 years;**
- **The history of occurrence, investigations and management of cases of BSE (classical and atypical)** demonstrate either the absence of indigenous case of BSE or the control of the risk of BSE agents being recycled **for at least the preceding 8 years;**

- **Controlled BSE Risk (CR)** - all of the conditions mentioned above are met, but for less than 8 years for one or more of them.
- **Undetermined BSE Risk (UR)** countries or regions are those whose BSE determination has not been concluded, or those not meeting the conditions applying to the other categories.

In applications for BSE risk categorisation, countries must demonstrate compliance with the provisions of the WOA **Terrestrial Animal Health Code**, in particular, as they apply in the following areas:

1. policies designed to protect animal and human health are based on an appropriate assessment of risk;
2. BSE awareness, education and reporting programs have been implemented;
3. an appropriate feed ban is in place;
4. there is diagnostic competency within the laboratory system;
5. BSE surveillance has been conducted in accordance with the WOA's BSE guidelines.

Surveillance: means the systematic ongoing collection, collation, and analysis of information related to animal health and the timely dissemination of information so that action can be taken.

Monitoring: means the intermittent performance and analysis of routine measurements and observations, aimed at detecting changes in the environment or health status of a population.

With respect to the distribution and expression of the BSE agent the following four subpopulations of cattle are identified for surveillance purposes:

- cattle over 30 months of age displaying behavioral or clinical signs consistent with BSE (clinical suspects);

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- cattle over 30 months of age that are non-ambulatory, recumbent, unable to rise or to walk without assistance; cattle over 30 months of age sent for emergency slaughter or condemned at ante-mortem inspection (casualty or emergency slaughter or downer cattle);
- cattle over 30 months of age which are found dead or killed on farm, during transport or at a slaughterhouse/abattoir (fallen stock);
- cattle over 36 months of age at routine slaughter.

Populations of cattle to consider when planning a national BSE surveillance system

Population of cattle	Category
Healthy cattle	Regular slaughter
Cattle with non-specific signs (e.g. weight loss, loss of production)	Sick slaughter
	Emergency slaughter
Cattle that died/were culled for unknown reasons (e.g. on the farm, during transport)	Fallen stock
	Downer cows
Cattle with specific signs of BSE	BSE suspects

If a country decides to initiate a surveillance programme for BSE, enough time for preparation must be allowed and sufficient funds allocated. First, a **scientific-based BSE risk assessment must be completed annually**.

Then they must decide what infrastructure is required (and what is available in the country) to implement the system effectively.

When the risk assessment demonstrates non-negligible risk, the country should conduct surveillance that will allow the detection of BSE around a prevalence of at least one case per 100 000 animals in the adult cattle population (i.e. a higher level of surveillance).

When the risk assessment demonstrates negligible risk, the country should conduct surveillance that will allow the detection of BSE around a prevalence of at least one case per 50 000 animals in the adult cattle population (i.e., a lower level of surveillance).

The WOAH guidelines assign a value to every test based **on the risk population and age of the animal sampled** for e.g., the lowest value is given for normal slaughtered cattle of an age below two or above nine years; the highest value is given for clinical suspects between four and seven years. The values of all the samples tested are then added. Depending on risk and cattle population size, a specific number of points must be reached within 8 years.

The BSE monitoring criteria for bovine animals, age limit and surveillance target group shall be determined based on Regulation TSE 999/2001 (as last amended).

“BSE risk assessment”

Risk analysis is a structured process designed to determine:

- what can go wrong;
- how likely it is to go wrong;

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- how serious it would be if it went wrong;
- what can be done to reduce the likelihood and/or seriousness of it going wrong.

Risk analysis is a tool that uses data, information and opinions from various disciplines such as epidemiology, pathology, microbiology, virology and economics. It blends inductive and deductive reasoning and judgement, and it must be able to incorporate incomplete information.

It can be qualitative or quantitative, and can address a wide variety of questions, both generally and specifically.

Risk analysis, by definition, is made up of **four components**: hazard identification, risk assessment, risk management and risk communication.

These components are described in detail in WOAH Terrestrial Animal Health Code, Section 2, chapter 2. 1.

Because transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs) can be spread through movement of animals and animal products, risk analysis can be used to evaluate the risks involved in international trade.

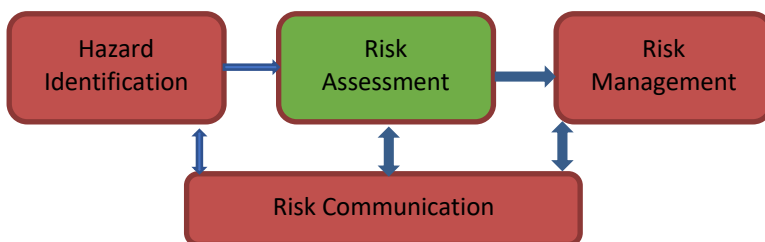
This becomes important in:

- identifying and examining the risks of transferring the TSE agent between countries;
- developing conditions that allow trade to proceed “safely”.
- fulfilling domestic responsibilities (e.g. biosecurity and quarantine legislation);
- fulfilling international responsibilities (e.g. the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Agreement of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and code standards of the WOAH);

Risk analysis can also be used by countries initially to assess their own national risk of having a TSE. In addition, the risk assessments can be used to develop, compare and evaluate domestic strategies for control, eradication, surveillance and monitoring of TSEs.

Results can be used to guide TSE-related policy decisions through assessment of the significance of risks. Policy makers **must consider many factors**, including the assumptions made in the analysis and the perception of the risks, and then evaluate what risk will be considered acceptable and what policies to implement.

WOAH risk analysis framework



According to the WOAH Terrestrial Animal Health Code, factors evaluated in the establishment of BSE status should include:

- the **outcome of a risk assessment** identifying all potential factors for BSE occurrence and their historic perspective;

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- **ongoing awareness programmes** for veterinarians, farmers and workers involved in transportation, marketing and slaughter of cattle to encourage reporting of all cattle showing clinical signs consistent with BSE in target subpopulations (as mentioned above);
- **compulsory notification and investigation** of all cattle showing clinical signs consistent with BSE;
- examination in an **approved laboratory** of brain or other tissues collected within the framework of the surveillance and monitoring system.

The BSE status of a country (or zone or compartment, as defined by WOAAH) can only be determined on the basis of the outcome of a BSE risk assessment.

The following potential factors that must be considered in such an assessment:

Entry assessment:

- the presence or absence of animal BSE agents in the country;
- MBM or greaves manufactured from the indigenous ruminant population;
- imported MBM or greaves, live animals, animal feed and feed ingredients;
- imported products of ruminant origin for human consumption (which may have contained SRM and may have been fed to cattle) or for in vivo use in cattle. Relevant surveillance and other epidemiological investigations should be taken into account in carrying out the assessment.

Exposure assessment:

- domestic recycling and amplification of the BSE agent through consumption by cattle of MBM or greaves of ruminant origin, or other feed or feed ingredients contaminated with these;
- the use of ruminant carcasses (including from fallen stock), by-products and slaughterhouse waste, the parameters of the rendering processes and the methods of animal feed manufacture;
- the feeding of ruminants with MBM and greaves derived from ruminants, including measures to prevent cross contamination of animal feed;
- the level of surveillance for BSE conducted on the cattle population to that time and the results of that surveillance.

3. List of Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Meaning
BSE	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
ELISA	Enzyme-Linked ImmunoSorbent Assay
WOAH	World Organisation for Animal Health
PCR	Polymerase Chain Reaction
SRM	Specified Risk Material

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TSE	Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy
TCc	Turkish Cypriot community
VD	'veterinary department'
MBM	Meat-and-bone meal
FBO	Food business operators

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PART B: Step by step preparation of dossier (Learning by doing approach)

NOTE:

The text below is just an example giving direction of what should be described under each point and therefore should be adapted according to the existing practices, legal texts and statistics data available.

SECTION 1: GENERAL ISSUES

1. Introduction

Since DATE??? TCC has no registered case of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) and BSE preventive and control measures have been implemented effectively based on scientific knowledge.

At present, the BSE control measures are comprehensively implemented from the perspective of food hygiene and animal health. They consist of real feed ban; close monitoring and surveillance of domestic BSE incidence; Specified Risk Material (SRM) removal from food chain as well as from animal feed chain; and traceability based on the cattle identification system, ensuring not only scientific viability but also consumer confidence on safety of beef. An overview of the individual measures is given below, and further details are explained in the relevant chapters.

Overview of BSE Preventive and Control Measures Implemented:

No case has been identified in the domestic cattle population born in and after February 2002. This supports appropriateness and effectiveness of the BSE control measures currently implemented in TCC. These measures include the followings:

- Feed Ban

e.g. While the administrative notification urging industry to refrain from using ruminant MBM as ruminant raw material of feed was issued in DATE??, more stringent legally binding feed regulation has been in place since DATE??, which blocks both ruminant pathway and cross contamination through non-ruminant pathway.

- SRM Removal

SRM includes at least the brain, spinal cord, eyes and tonsils of bovine animals aged over 12 months and the vertebral column of bovine animals above an age to be determined in accordance with the procedure SRM are required to be removed from both food chain and animal feed chain.

- BSE Monitoring and Surveillance

BSE occurrence is closely monitored nationwide through compulsory BSE testing of all

- cattle over 30 months of age displaying behavioral or clinical signs consistent with BSE (clinical suspects);
- cattle over 30 months of age that are non-ambulatory, recumbent, unable to rise or to walk without assistance; cattle over 30 months of age sent for emergency slaughter or condemned at ante-mortem inspection (casualty or emergency slaughter or downer cattle);
- cattle over 30 months of age which are found dead or killed on farm, during transport or at an slaughterhouse/abattoir (fallen stock);
- cattle over 36 months of age at routine slaughter.



The total number of BSE surveillance points in country is?????points during the last 8 years (from 2017 till 2024 year), which is over the required number of points for Type A surveillance (Chapter D of the Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 May 2001 laying down rules for the prevention, control and eradication of certain transmissible spongiform encephalopathies).

- Quarantine at Posts/Ports of Entry

..... (brief prescription of the quarantine measures)

- Administrative Framework

The key components of the effective and successful BSE control measures are the well-established legislative framework and the efficient implementation bodies. Comprehensive BSE measures were adopted including the compulsory notification of BSE suspected cattle, BSE preventive measures against BSE affected cattle and their cohorts. The legal text supported smooth implementation of this measures is

In order to ensure the implementation of the BSE measures based on this legislative framework, training/education programs on BSE have been continuously implemented for official veterinarians and concerned parties including private veterinarians and cattle farmers.

At TCC level the (WHO??)(VD?) is responsible for ensuring SRM removal, BSE monitoring at slaughterhouses and border control from the perspective of food safety and human risk, implementing feed ban, BSE surveillance on fallen stock, traceability through the cattle identification system and border control to prevent introduction of animal infectious diseases into TCC.

At regional level, the (WHO??).....in close cooperation with the(VD?) are responsible for implementing each component of BSE control measures at field level. Besides, research institutes and certain university laboratories provide expertise in BSE diagnoses and preventive measures.

- Traceability through the cattle identification system

The traceability system through the cattle identification system covers all of the domestic cattle and enables swift identification of individual cattle, a route of trade and a farm of origin. This traceability system contributes to increasing consumer confidence on domestic beef and beef products on the market.

2. VD infrastructure

2.1. Related legal texts (please list all relevant existing legal texts, procedures related to BSE and put the No of annex that they will referred)

Legal texts concerning BSE are listed below:

- Local text for notification of disease (Annex)
- Local text for compensation to the farmers (Annex)
- Local text for identification and registration of animals (Annex)
- ...
- ...

2.2. VD

- Organisation and structure





.....prescribe

- Diagnosis service and research activity

.....prescribe

- Regional/Local veterinary service

.....prescribe

- Private sectors

.....prescribe

Add all relevant figures/organograms





SECTION 2: RISK ASSESSMENT

A working group has been set up at the VD (Order No... from ... year (Annex??)), which conducts on annual base BSE risk assessment. The reports from the conducted risk assessments are published on the website of the VD and available to all interested parties (Annex??). Based on the recommendations of these reports, the VD’s managers evaluate the effectiveness of the implemented BSE control measures and their constant improvement. Below are some of the potential risk pathways to introduce a BSE agent in TCc, measures put in place and their constant improvement.

2.1. Entry assessment

a) **The potential for the entry of the classical BSE agent through importation of meat-and-bone meal or greaves (including of non-ruminant origin)**

Question to be answered: Has meat-and-bone meal, greaves, or feedstuffs containing either, been imported within the past eight years? If so, where from and in what quantities?

Note: You have two options how to prescribe this part and it is dependent whether TCc have OR have not been imported meat-and-bone meal, greaves, or feedstuffs containing either.

Evidence required

i) **Documentation to support claims that meat-and-bone meal, greaves or feedstuffs containing either meat and-bone meal or greaves have not been imported**

Importation of **meat-and-bone meal and greaves and products containing them**, when they are for feed or fertilizer and potentially can be converted to feed or fertilizer, was completely suspended in XXXX year.

During the past 8 years the import in TCc from Member states or third countries was provided by direct permission of the VD. No permission was given by VD for import of meat-and-bone meal, greaves, or feedstuffs containing either within the past 8 years (will be good if you have evidence even from 1995).

At the border inspection posts there is no data for import of meat-and-bone meal, greaves, or feedstuffs containing either within the past 8 years.

By order No (Annex??) it was arranged for the implementation of strict veterinary control on the import of feedstuffs, fodder components, pre-mixes and bio-concentrates.

No quantities of meat-and-bone meal, greaves, or feedstuffs containing either, have been imported in TCc within the past 8 years (or since 199.....???)

Note: What about meat meal derived only from deboned meat- if you have such cases you have to explain and put details in table covering 8 years, indicated the country, the years and the amount as well prescribing the preventive measures taken for the BSE agent have been implemented.

Table: Annual Import of Meat Meal by Country

Country	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-





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Please prescribe short description for the information in the table (this short table description approach should be followed for each one of the tables in the whole document)

ii) Documentation on annual volume, by country of origin, of *meat-and-bone meal, greaves* or feedstuffs containing them imported during the past eight years.

No quantities of meat-and-bone meal, greaves, or feedstuffs containing either, have been imported in TCc within the past 8 years.

Note: If you have other situation than relevant information and tables should be inserted. In case importation of meat-and-bone meal used for feed and fertilizer or potentially can be converted to them is suspended you should explain for what other purpose they are used, who will used them, where and that they never will be used for feed or fertilizer OR they are coming only from free BSE zones/countries.

iii) Documentation describing the species composition of the imported *meat-and-bone meal, greaves* or feedstuffs containing them.

No quantities of meat-and-bone meal, greaves, or feedstuffs containing either, have been imported in TCc within the past 8 years.

iv) Documentation, from the *Veterinary Service* of production, supporting why the rendering processes used to produce *meat-and-bone meal, greaves* or feedstuffs containing them would have inactivated, or significantly reduced the titre of BSE agent, should it be present.

No quantities of meat-and-bone meal, greaves, or feedstuffs containing either, have been imported in TCc within the past 8 years

b) The potential for the entry of the classical BSE agent through the importation of potentially infected live cattle

Question to be answered: Have live cattle been imported within the past 8 years?

At present, import of live cattle to TCc is ban and there is no import since XXXX??? (it is based on legal text (Annex???)

Note: If there is other picture, than you have to prescribe all details about importation species (feeder cattle, in addition to dairy breeding cattle, beef breeding cattle, experimental cattle and cattle for exhibition) including age, place of origin, intended for what, quantity, prevention measures etc. + information for domestic animals and system for R&I and traceability.

Evidence required

i) Documentation including tables describing origin and volume of imports.

The import of live cattle to TCc is ban and there is no import within the past 8 years.

If the import was present, the answer can be as follow:

The import of live cattle within the past 8 years is shown in the tables below. The import of live cattle/bovines was carried out only from countries and regions free from BSE and the animals had not been anywhere else.

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Table: Annual Import of Dairy Breeding Cattle by Country

Country of origin	Nº of Imported cattle for 2017	Nº of Imported cattle for 2018	Nº of Imported cattle for 2019	Nº of Imported cattle for 2020	Nº of Imported cattle for 2021	Nº of Imported cattle for 2022	Nº of Imported cattle for 2023	Nº of Imported cattle for 2024

Table: Annual Import of Feeder cattle by Country

Country of origin	Nº of Imported cattle for 2017	Nº of Imported cattle for 2018	Nº of Imported cattle for 2019	Nº of Imported cattle for 2020	Nº of Imported cattle for 2021	Nº of Imported cattle for 2022	Nº of Imported cattle for 2023	Nº of Imported cattle for 2024

Table: Annual Import of cattle for other purposes by Country

Country of origin	Nº of Imported cattle for 2017	Nº of Imported cattle for 2018	Nº of Imported cattle for 2019	Nº of Imported cattle for 2020	Nº of Imported cattle for 2021	Nº of Imported cattle for 2022	Nº of Imported cattle for 2023	Nº of Imported cattle for 2024

ii) Documentation including tables on the country, zone or compartment of origin of imports. This should identify the country, zone or compartment of origin of the cattle, the length of time they lived in that country, zone or compartment and of any other country in which they have resided during their lifetime.

Note: If you have any particular procedures/orders regarding import of live animals - Breeding Cattle, Feeder cattle or other cattle please prescribe the detail here + name of the relevant orders/procedures, legal texts, etc. (Annex..)

The same tables above could be inserted here as well.

Note: Here you should prescribe and demonstrate that risks are periodically reviewed in light of evolving knowledge on the BSE status of the country, zone or compartment of origin.

e.g.

The VD follows on daily basis the epizootic situation in the whole world concerning the diseases from TSE group and takes the relevant measures to prevent the TCc from BSE.

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Note: Take the proper list of countries or map road published in WOAHA or if you have some particular orders (drafted based of the knowledge on the BSE status of the country, zone or compartment of origin) for restriction/banding import of cattle/bovines, meat and animal by-products, semen, embryo and ova from bovines, etc. from particular countries/zones???

c) The potential for the entry of the classical BSE agent through the importation of potentially infected products of ruminant origin

Question to be answered: What products of ruminant origin have been imported within the past eight years?

Evidence required

i) Documentation on the country, zone or compartment of origin of imports. This should identify the country, zone or compartment of origin of cattle from which the products were derived, the length of time they lived in that country, zone or compartment and of any other country in which they have resided during their lifetime.

The products of bovine origin imported on the territory of TCc for the recent 8 years are listed in the tables below. The products originate from bovines which lived only on the territory of the countries and regions free from BSE.

Note: To be checked/ revised/modified

ii) Documentation describing origin and volume of imports

The import volume by exporting country of products which ingredients contain or may contain bovine material is arranged by the following classifications:

- (1) Bone
- (2) Meat and meat products
- (3) Meal
- (4) Processed animal protein
- (5) ????

These products are not limited to ones which ingredients are solely bovine material, but also include ones which may contain bovine materials (mixed animal-species) and ones which ingredients use unknown animal species (unknown animal-species), and moreover, include ones containing ingredients not originated from animals such as vegetables and minerals. It should therefore be noted that the risk of introduction may be overestimated on assessing potential BSE introduction through importation of these products.

Note: Do you have any procedure e.g., bilateral agreement for submitting of additional documents that could guaranties the reduction of risk? If yes, you should prescribe this and add is annex the template of this document/protocol???

The import volume by exporting country by each classification within the past 8 years is listed below.

(1) Bone

Bone includes bone, crushed bone, hoof and horn, bone tendon, bone meal, hoof-and-horn meal, and other bone derived from bovine origin, mixed animal-species and unknown animal-species.

Table: Annual Import of Bone by Country (for the recent 8 years)





Country of origin	Type of product	volume of imports 2017	volume of imports 2018	volume of imports 2019	volume of imports 2020	volume of imports 2021	volume of imports 2022	volume of imports 2023	volume of imports 2024

(2) Meat and meat products (of bovine origin, or containing/potentially containing bovine origin ingredients)

Meat/offal mainly for food such as meat, ham, sausage, bacon, organ/digestive tract, casing and fat of bovine origin or containing/potentially containing bovine origin ingredients is counted **as meat and meat products**

Note: List all potential products that you know have been imported (entered) to TCc

Table: Annual Import of Meat and meat products by Country

Country of origin	Type of product	volume of imports 2017	volume of imports 2018	volume of imports 2019	volume of imports 2020	volume of imports 2021	volume of imports 2022	volume of imports 2023	volume of imports 2024

From the perspective of BSE prevention, importation of meat and offal is permitted only if they are from **BSE free countries or zones???**. Meanwhile, importation is suspended immediately when the country becomes non-compliant with the agreed condition such as the disease status of the country has changed by occurrence of BSE or other diseases.

Note: Do you have any other options e.g., bilateral agreement for import of such under special conditions and guaranties?? If yes prescribe how it is going incl. legal frame.

(3) Meal

Meal includes blood meal, meat meal, meat-and-bone meal, offal meal, leather meal and other kinds of meal.

Note: If any meat-and-bone meal has not been imported emphasized it again

Table: Annual Import of Meal by Country

Country of origin	Type of product	volume of imports 2017	volume of imports 2018	volume of imports 2019	volume of imports 2020	volume of imports 2021	volume of imports 2022	volume of imports 2023	volume of imports 2024





(4) Processed animal protein (except meat-and-bone meal)

Processed animal protein includes ossein, calcium phosphate, bone ash, greaves, animal oil/fat, powdered animal oil/fat, gelatin, collagen, hydrolyzed protein, and other processed animal protein derived from cattle, mixed animal-species and unknown animal-species.

Any meat-and-bone meal has not imported into the country since???

There has been no actual import of greaves since???

Table: Annual Import of Processed Animal Protein (except meat-and-bone meal)

Country of origin	Type of product	volume of imports 2017	volume of imports 2018	volume of imports 2019	volume of imports 2020	volume of imports 2021	volume of imports 2022	volume of imports 2023	volume of imports 2024

Note: Also here you should prescribe and demonstrate that risks are periodically reviewed in light of evolving knowledge on the BSE status of the country, zone or compartment of origin.

e.g.

Documentation demonstrating that risks are periodically reviewed considering evolving knowledge on the BSE status of the country, zone or compartment of origin by legal text ... which regulates the procedure for import of products which ingredients contain or may contain bovine material.

The VD follows on daily basis the epizootic situation in the whole world concerning the diseases from TSE group and takes the relevant measures to prevent the country from BSE.

2.2. Exposure assessment

a) The origin of ruminant carcasses, by-products and slaughterhouse/abattoir waste, the parameters of the rendering processes

Question to be answered: How have bovine carcasses, by-products and slaughterhouse waste been processed over the past eight years?

Evidence required

i) Documentation describing the collection and disposal of fallen stock and materials condemned as unfit for human consumption.

NOTE: The overall risk of BSE in the cattle population of a country or zone is proportional to the potential for recycling and amplification of the infectivity through rendering practices. For the risk assessment to conclude that the cattle population of a country or zone is of negligible or controlled BSE risk, it must have demonstrated that appropriate measures have been taken to manage any risks identified. If potentially infected cattle or contaminated materials are rendered, there is a risk that the resulting meat-and-bone meal could retain BSE infectivity.

Note: It is very important how the process of waste management is covered!!!!





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The materials condemned as unfit for human consumption are: (1) fallen stock; (2) specified risk material (SRM); (3) cattle determined to be condemned, and meat and offal totally or partially discarded during inspection at slaughterhouses; (4) inedible material, such as bone generated after shipped from slaughterhouses but not SRM.

(1) Fallen stock

Means cattle died on..... must (PRESCRIBE + BY WHICH LEGAL TEXT IT IS COVERED)

IF THERE IS ANY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS BASE ON THE AGE OF THE ANIMAL AND THERE IS TESTING FOR BSE THEY SHOULD BE PRESCRIBE AS WELL + LEGAL TEXT (Annex...)

Ministry of ... subsidizes necessary costs so as to ensure that testing of fallen stock and disposal of meat-and-bone meal derived from them are carried out without fail????

The VD has prepared instructions for collection and disposal of fallen stock (Annex...)

The implemented operational system for the collection and disposal of fallen stock is organised as follow:.....

Note: Prescribe the details bellow

Note: Is there any financing from the state budget???? Prescribe if yes

(2) Cattle determined to be condemned, and meat and offal totally or partially discarded during inspection at slaughterhouses

PRESCRIBE + BY WHICH LEGAL TEXT IT IS COVERED

The VD has prepared instructions for collection and disposal of materials condemned as unfit for human consumption (Annex...)

The implemented operational system for the collection and disposal of materials condemned as unfit for human consumption is organised as follow:.....

Note: Prescribe the details bellow

Note: Is there any financing from the state budget???? Prescribe if yes

(3) Inedible material, such as bone generated after shipped from slaughterhouses but not SRM

PRESCRIBE + BY WHICH LEGAL TEXT IT IS COVERED

Table: Disposal of fallen stock and materials condemned as unfit for human consumption in rendering plant per years (for the recent 8 years)

201.....											
Fallen stock	Cattle	Small ruminants	Equine	Pigs	Dogs	Chickens - one	Poultry and	One day	Exotic	Exotic	Total NO of

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						month	waterfowls	chickens	birds	animals	animals
No of fallen stock											
201.....											
Fallen stock	Cattle	Small ruminants	Equine	Pigs	Dogs	Chickens – one month	Poultry and waterfowls	One day chickens	Exotic birds	Exotic animals	Total NO of animals
No of fallen stock											

Documentation including tables describing the fate of imported cattle, including their age at slaughter or death:

The importation of live cattle since??? has been ban from all countries OR to mainly from countries or zone of origin recognized with free status (Annex.....).

The fate of imported cattle, including their age at slaughter or death is described in the table below (Note: it could be as separate annex if the information is with big volume). The animals were tested and gave negative result for BSE.

ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT

Farm....(name), registration number of the farm, etc.

Table: The fate of imported cattle, including their age at slaughter or death (page 1)

No of ear tag	Date of birth	Date of dead	Year of import
No.....	???	????	20???
No.....	???	????	20???
No.....	???	????	20???
No.....	???	????	20???
No.....	???	????	20???

Table: The fate of imported cattle, including their age at slaughter or death (page 2)

Country of origin	Category	Age in months	Destination
-------------------	----------	---------------	-------------





Germany???	Healthy slaughtered	58??	Rendering plant
Germany??	Healthy slaughtered	62??	Rendering plant
Austria??	Fallen stock??	100??	Rendering plant
	Emergency slaughtered??	63??	Rendering plant
Netherlands??	Healthy slaughtered	58??	Rendering plant

ii) Documentation describing the definition and disposal of SRM.

PRESCRIBE + BY WHICH LEGAL TEXT IT IS COVERED

example

The SRM for removal from ruminants as specified in legal text ... (Annex):

- tonsils and distal ileum from cattle of any age originating from a country, zone or compartment with negligible BSE risk status and undetermined BSE risk status;
- brains, eyes, spinal cord, skull and vertebral column from cattle that were at the time of slaughter over 12 months of age originating from a country, zone or compartment with undetermined BSE risk status;
- brains, eyes, spinal cord, skull and vertebral column from cattle that were at the time of slaughter over 30 months of age of age originating from a country, zone or compartment with negligible BSE risk status.

The methods of their removal and disposal are specified in the legal text on ... fully harmonized with EU legislation. (Annex). The VD has prepared operational instruction for removal, collection and disposal of SRM (Annex...) The instruction was introduced for implementation by official veterinarians in the Tcc (on which date, what are the evidence???)

Note: Usually this instruction explain the way for control of live animals when they arrived in slaughterhouse, methods of stunning, the way of SRM sampling, removal, Staining of SRMs , collection, disposal, storage, cleaning, disinfection, etc- SRM management, including obligations of vet inspector and FBO.

The implemented operational system for the removal, collection and disposal of SRM is organized as follow:.....

Note: Prescribe the details here per instruction

Based on the provisions of the instruction the official veterinarians carrying out the veterinary and public health control at meat-production and meat-processing establishments introduced the guidelines and the procedures written in the instruction to the operators responsible for removal, collection and storage of SRM in those establishments. The owners of establishments where the SRM and animal-by-products (ABP) are removed must provide conditions for the removal and storage of SMR and ABP. Persons responsible for SRM removal, collection and storage are authorized by an order of the owners of establishments. The official veterinarians checked the compliance with the instruction and with measures for SRM management and implementation of appropriate methods to prevent contamination from SRMs by the operators in meat-production and meat-processing establishments by conducting regular inspections.

More specifically, the inspection has been conducting on BSE control measures at slaughterhouses concerning: the stunning method; the documentations and records concerning the standard operating procedures and the verification

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method for removing and incinerating SRM (Note: It is performed in rendering plant or on place in the establishments- how the effectiveness of the process is controlled???) ; the SRM incineration method; the removal method of spinal cord after carcass splitting; and the carcass washing method (checklist in the Annex).

The SRM are disposed in the rendering plants.

Note: You have to prescribe here as well the requirements for ABP which are not intended for human consumption including activities at any stage from collection to disposal of ABP and thereof, as well as their use, placing on the market and transit (based on legal text (Annex..))

iii) Documentation describing the rendering process and parameters used to produce meat-and-bone meal and greaves

e.g.

For the recent 8 years the carcasses, the ABP and the slaughter wastes/rendered harmless in rendering plants at the temperature regime of 133° for 30 minutes and it was arranged for the owners of rendering plants to provide for the installation of record devices for recording the parameters of processing of animal wastes – temperature duration and pressure. 24 hours presence of veterinarians is provided for at rendering plants.

Add Figure: Rendering Process Chart

There are ??? (how many???) renderers establishments?? intended for processing of materials of Categories of ABP 1, 2, 3 as follow??.....

e.g.

2 establishments with:

- I line intended for – processing of materials of Category 1 and 2– 40 tons per 24 hours;
- II line intended for – processing of materials of Category 3 - 100 tons per 24 hours.

The rendering process and parameters used to produce meat-and-bone meal and greaves are provided by processing method under legal text???

In order to prevent cross contamination thoroughly, the rendering process of animals other than ruminants such as swine and poultry has been required to be physically segregated from that of ruminants (under the provisions of article ??? of legal text???). Porcine meat-and-bone meal, poultry meat-and-bone meal, poultry meal, feather meal (Question for clarification: What about this categories- are they produced in TCC, what are the rules, measures, etc for control?? Or it is prohibited???) Prescribe how it is.) have been allowed to be used for livestock feed of animals other than ruminants only if they are produced at approved rendering plant.

Note: Prescribe the details as it is existed

Add relevant figures/tables.

Table: Amount of Ruminant Meat-and-bone Meal derived from ruminants allowed to be used for feed of animals other than ruminants





Year	Amount of Incineration (metric ton)

OR

According to the provisions of the article???? of legal text the use of protein such as meat-and-bone meal derived from ruminants for feed for any livestock was banned since 20...??? (Annex...).

Therefore, meat-and-bone meal and greaves from ruminants and from other animals including ruminants have not been distributed in the TCc since 20...????.

iv) Documentation describing monitoring and enforcement of the above.

1. Legal text on the implementation of the total feed ban.

Feeding of all species of farm animals with processed animal proteins is banned. The prohibition does not refer to :

- feeding with milk, milk products, eggs and egg products; gelatin, obtained from non-ruminants and hydrolyzed protein, obtained from parts of non-ruminants and from hides of ruminants;
- feeding of non-ruminants with fish meal and blood products obtained from non-ruminants;
- feeding of fish with blood meals obtained from non-ruminants.

2. Order No????? addressed to regional level of VD on the inspections which to be carried out in all feed mills, feed premises, feed markets and animal holdings concerning the availability of meat and bone meal and to control the implementation of the order of minister on the total feed ban.

3. Order No??? addressed to regional level of VD to carry out information campaign/conferences where all veterinarians (official and private) and all the persons interested (farmers, representatives of meat production and meat processing establishments, local executive power) to be acquainted (and signature of each participant to be provided) with legal texts on the total feed ban and disposal of ABP.

Directives EU 2002/32; 2005/86; 2005/87; 2005/8 are introduced into secondary legal texts ????????

The control on the feed safety, feed additives and premixes thereof are carried out as follow:

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Note: Prescribe the details regarding the organization and staffing in the field of animal nutrition of the responsible local body at central and regional levels and at entry points. Chain of command, flow of information, inter-consultation procedures, and responsibilities of each service in the field of animal nutrition at central, regional and local levels and at entry points

v) Information in a table (see below), including the audit findings in rendering plants processing material of ruminant origin (including mixed species containing ruminant material) and only material of non-ruminant origin (e.g., fish, poultry, pig, horse), related to the prohibition of the feeding to ruminants of meat-and-bone meal and greaves. The sampling objectives to detect whether material of non-ruminant origin could have been contaminated with ruminant material.

Year (information should be provided for each of the eight years for which effectiveness is claimed)	Type of renderers	Number of plants	Number of plants in (A) inspected under Competent Authority supervision	Number of inspections in (B) in total	Total number of plants in (B) with infractions	Total number of plants in (B) inspected under Competent Authority supervision with sampling	Total number of plants in (E) with positive test results
		(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)
Year 1	Material of ruminant origin (or mixed species)		(e.g.: < or = to A)	(e.g.: > or = to B)	(e.g.: < or = to B)	Not applicable for the purpose of the dossier	Not applicable for the purpose of the dossier
	Only material of non-ruminant origin		(e.g.: < or = to A)	(e.g.: > or = to B)	(e.g.: < or = to B)	(e.g.: < or = to B)	(e.g.: < or = to E)
Year 2, etc.	Material of ruminant origin (or mixed species)					Not applicable for the purpose of the dossier	Not applicable for the purpose of the dossier
	Only material of non-ruminant origin						





vi) Information in a table (see below) on each rendering plant referred to above processing material of ruminant origin (including mixed species containing ruminant material) and only material of non-ruminant origin (e.g., fish, poultry, pig, horse) with infractions, specifying the type of infraction (columns D and F of the table above) and the method of resolution.

Year (information should be provided for each of the eight years for which effectiveness is claimed)	Type of renderers	Plant ID	Nature of infraction	Method of resolution	Follow-up results
Year 1	Material of ruminant origin (or mixed species)	ID 1			
		ID 2			
		ID 3, etc.			
	Only material of non-ruminant origin	ID 1			
		ID 2			
		ID 3, etc.			
Year 2, etc.	Material of ruminant origin (or mixed species)				
	Only material of non-ruminant origin				

b) The potential for the exposure of cattle to the classical and atypical BSE agents through consumption of meat-and-bone meal or greaves of ruminant origin

Question to be answered: Has meat-and-bone meal or greaves of ruminant origin been fed to cattle within the past eight years?

Feeding of bovines with meat and bone meal in TCc is banned since YEAR?????. Bovines have never been fed with greaves.

Evidence required

i) the feed industry, including repartition between feed mills producing feed for ruminant only, feed for non-ruminant only and feed for both;

What are the rules in TCc????





Do feed mills which produce feedstuffs for animals and have only one production line and use meat and bone meal are not permitted to produce feedstuffs for ruminants OR do they have 2 lines???

Prescribe how it is.

ii) methods of animal feed production, including details of ingredients used, the extent of use of meat-and-bone meal (including of non-ruminant origin) in any livestock feed;

Prescribe the details.

iii) the use of imported meat-and-bone meal and greaves (including of non-ruminant origin), their country or zone of origin, including the feeding of any animal species;

As per legal text ... the feeding of bovines with meat and bone meal in TCc is banned since YEAR?????. Bovines have never been fed with greaves.

Importation of ruminant meat-and-bone meal which potentially can be used as a raw material of feed from any country and area has been suspended and usage of animal protein of ruminant origin for any livestock feed has been banned under the provisions of the article ... of legal text ???.

Importation of any livestock feed or fertilizer, or meat-and-bone meal which potentially can be used for feed or fertilizer has been suspended and there has been no actual import.

Therefore, during 8 years from 2017??? to 2023??, the potential of cattle being exposed to the BSE agent through feed including these raw materials is nil.

What about domestically produced meat-and-bone meal from any animal including cattle??? Do you have such practice or it is banned too and everything has been incinerated???- prescribe what is the practice respectively control.

e.g.

Therefore, within 8 years from 2017??? to 2023??, bovine meat-and-bone meal has been incinerated. The potential of cattle being exposed to the BSE agent through feed including these raw materials is thus nil.

OR If you have other reality- prescribe the details what kind of meals/greaves were imported, where are they from and for what type of animals they were used as feed

iv) the use made of meat-and-bone meal and greaves produced from ruminants, including the feeding of any animal species;

Feeding of cattle with meat-and-bone meal has never been a practice in TCc.

If you have any practice feeding any animals species with meat-and-bone meal, then prescribe the details here

v) the measures taken to control cross-contamination of ruminant feed ingredients with the meat-and-bone meal and greaves including the risk of cross-contamination during production, transport, storage and feeding;

Feeding of cattle with meat-and-bone meal has never been a practice in TCc.



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The only way of meat-and-bone meal to be present in the rations of cattle was possible through the cross contamination in feed mills but always there was a number of tons with bran used to clean the line in feed mills after the production of feedstuffs for poultry and pigs, and then the feedstuffs for large ruminants are produced???

Note: Do feed mills which produce feedstuffs for animals and have only one production line and use meat and bone meal are not permitted to produce feedstuffs for ruminants OR do they have 2 lines???Prescribe how it is!!

Feedstuffs in bulk produce for bovines in feed mills are stored in a separate compartment and are delivered to the cattle by means of trucks property of industrial cow-farms. The farmers with small number of cattle buy feedstuffs intended for cattle in packages where it is written that the feedstuffs are only for bovines???

Note: What about labelling of feedstuffs intended for birds and pigs ???Is it allowed in TCc they to content meat and bone meal from ruminants?? Is there any limitation??

In case you have such practices prescribe the detail and content of label

e.g.

[Labeling contexts]

Precautions for use and preservation:

- 1 This feed must not be fed for cattle, sheep, goats and deer (it should be noted that to use this feed for cattle, sheep, goats and deer may be subject to penalties).
- 2 This feed must be stored so as not to be mixed with feed (including ingredients and raw materials for feed production) for cattle, sheep, goats and deer.

Note: What about possible cross contamination by feed if you have different types of animals?? Is it allowed in the intensive farms to reared more than one type animals OR it is only of one and the same species??

By means of legal text ??? (Annex) a total ban was imposed since 20?? on feeding with some proteins of animal origin all farmed animals intended for meat production for human consumption.

Note: If you have such legal text:

Did you perform inspections in all feed mills, feed premises, feed market places and animal holdings for meat and bone meal in reference with the legal text for total ban feed and testing of compound feed and components intended for feeding of ruminants with proteins of animal origin??? Respectively training for taking samples???Prescribe!!

Note: Other issues that you have to pay attention - Any evidence for testing of compound feed and components intended for feeding of ruminants with proteins of animal origin?? (Base on ban on feeding with some proteins of animal origin all farmed animals intended for meat production for human consumption)

Laboratories which carry out tests (Annex) for presence of proteins of animal origin are laboratories nominated for that purpose. All the laboratories operate according to the Analytical microscopic method as per the Regulation No 152/2009. Samples are tested for presence of meat and bone meal, fishmeal, blood products, dicalcium phosphate on organic base. The activity of the nominated laboratories is supervised and controlled by VD??????.

Note: What about Fish meal, Animal oil/fat???

Note: Under the current section v) you have to take again into consideration all kind of legal texts, orders, procedures on place (for both veterinarians and FBOs), what is tested in the lab, penalties measures, Requirements imposed on importers, Requirements imposed on rendering plants and gelatin/collagen production plants if you have such, Requirements imposed on feed production plants, if you have any particular standards for feed production etc. and relevant results from inspections/audits to include in the table below

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vi) provide details in a table, on the audit findings in feed mill processing feed for ruminant only, for non-ruminant only and for both, related to the prohibition of the feeding to ruminants of meat-and-bone meal and greaves. The sampling aims to detect whether material of ruminant origin could have contaminated feed intended to ruminant;

Year (information should be provided for each of the eight years for which effectiveness is claimed)	Type of feed mill	Number of feed mills	Number of feed mills in (A) inspected under Competent Authority supervision	Number of inspections in (B) in total	Total number of feed mills in (B) with infractions	Total number of inspected feed mills in (B) with sampling	Total number of feed mills in (E) with positive test results
		(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)
Year 1	For ruminant only						
	For non-ruminant only					Not applicable for the purpose of the dossier	Not applicable for the purpose of the dossier
	For both						
Year 2, etc.	For ruminant only						
	For non-ruminant only					Not applicable for the purpose of the dossier	Not applicable for the purpose of the dossier
	For both						

Note: Here you have to prescribe details about:

Outline of on-site inspection/investigation

Sampling analysis



Farm investigation

e.g.

VD representatives are in charge of on-site inspection of feed and feed additive at the importation and production level (rendering plants, feed mills, silos at ports, sales of feed and at the production level (feed mills) of feed distributed within the country, etc.).

50??? Inspectors (central, regional/local level) conduct on-site inspection, without prior notification, in principle, at the premises of importers, producers and distributors under the provisions of the article ??? of legal text ?? (if there is any particular uniform manuals, instruction check list - prescribe them and that inspectors are trained)

At the inspection, data and related documents kept by them are checked in terms of the conditions of production management and quality control of feed, and the explanation about them is interviewed. Also, the inside of facilities is inspected and the compliance with standards for production or storage to be followed by producers for the prevention of contamination of ruminant feed by protein of animal origin is checked. Furthermore, feed sample is collected without charge as necessary, and the contamination test of animal protein is conducted with a microscopic analysis, an ELISA test and a PCR test (Annex?) (Is there any particular control regarding feed formula, do you have any recognised/registered standards??)

Note: Prescribe the way for reporting and follow up activities

vii) details in a table, on each feed mill processing feed for ruminant only, for non-ruminant only and for both, with infractions, specifying the type of infraction (columns D and F of the table above) and the method of resolution;

Year (information should be provided for each of the eight years for which effectiveness is claimed)	Type of feed mills	Feed mills ID	Nature of infraction	Method of resolution	Follow-up results
Year 1	For ruminant only	ID 1			
		ID 2			
		ID 3, etc.			
	For non-ruminant only	ID 1			
		ID 2			
		ID 3, etc.			
	For both	ID 1			
		ID 2			
		ID 3, etc.			





Year 2, etc.	For ruminant only				
	For non-ruminant				

viii) why, in light of the findings displayed in the preceding four tables (of Sections 4 and 5), it is considered that there has been no significant exposure of cattle to the BSE agent through consumption of meat-and-bone meal or greaves of ruminant origin;

As strict feed ban has been implemented under the legal text ... since DATE???, the possibility that ruminants be exposed to the BSE agent is nil.

ix) husbandry practices (multiple species farms) which could lend themselves to cross-contamination of ruminant feed with meat-and-bone meal and greaves destined to other species.

There are no intensive farms where bovine and porcine species are reared together.

It is estimated that a farming style where small ruminants and cattle farms raise other livestock is not more than a few percent???

The feeding of all animals reared in farms with processed animal proteins was banned (legal text??).

VD is focusing on the risk of cross contamination at a cattle farm, has notified/enlightened farms about the risk and the feed industry since the beginning of the feed ban in 20?? In order to have farmers and feed industry fully-understand these provisions, the booklet for them has been prepared and handed out to them (Annex??)





SECTION 3: OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1. Awareness programme (see point 2 of Article 11.4.2.)

Evidence required

- a) when the awareness programme was implemented and its continuous application and geographical coverage;

When was BSE specified as a designated disease an awareness programme was developed and implemented by continuous application on the territory of TCc since (DATA)????

Note: prescribe the details of the program regarding themes, brochures, infographics, movies, trainings, expected target groups, geographical regions etc. It should be permanent program!!

- b) the number and occupation of persons who have participated in the awareness programme (farmers, livestock owners, animal handlers, veterinarians, workers at livestock markets or auctions, workers at slaughterhouses/abattoirs, etc.);

Under the awareness programme inspectors, farmers, livestock owners, animal handlers, veterinarians, workers at livestock markets or auctions, workers at slaughterhouses/abattoirs, food and feed business operators were trained during the past 8 years.

Note: Prescribe the details- how many, where, how, refresh training sessions were held, etc. Insert table with statistical data of trainees per years. How many and to which target audiences information materials have been distributed, etc.

- c) a description of the materials used in the awareness programme (the manual, supportive documents, or other teaching materials) (Weblinks to supporting documents in one of the official languages of the OIE may also be provided, where they exist.);

List of possible instruction that should be used in the awareness campaign and distributed to all interested parties- in case they exist you have to put them in Annexes. Here you should prescribe briefly what information provide each one of the instructions or materials used under section c)

Below is example of list of documents, you should check if you have a similar, change the name of the document and prescribe briefly what information provide each one

Instruction on the prevention and control of TSE in animals

Guidelines on measures in case of clinical suspect and confirmation of TSE

Guidelines on sampling and control on feedstuffs intended for farm animals reared in animal holdings for production of food for human consumption

Guidelines on the official control to verify the ban on using processed animal proteins in feedstuffs production, storage, trading and usage

Guideline on determination of the age of ruminants, removal, dying and burial of SRM, sampling of brains for "rapid tests" in time of slaughtering of large and small ruminants



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Guidelines on removal and destruction of SRM in time of slaughtering of small and large ruminants

Guidelines on some diseases in bovines specific with nervous clinical signs

Guidelines on taking samples for testing of meat-and-bone meal in feedstuffs intended for feeding of ruminants

Guidelines on using the teeth formula to determine the age of large and small ruminants

Guidelines on taking, packaging and transportation of brain samples to implement the TSE surveillance program

Instruction on collection of SRM and dead animals /fallen stock/ on the territory of TCc

Etc....

d) contingency plans or preparedness plans to deal with an occurrence of BSE.

Since 20?? VD has a contingency plan for BSE (Annex??) in accordance with the general criteria of EU rules on the control of animal diseases - guidelines specifying the measures to be implemented and indicating competences and responsibilities where cases of BSE are confirmed.

Every year the VD drafts a program for surveillance of diseases of TSE group, which complies with the provisions of regulation 999/2001.

2. Compulsory notification and investigation (see point 3 of Article 11.4.2.)

Evidence required

- a) Describe the guidance given to farmers, livestock owners, animal handlers, veterinarians, workers at livestock markets or auctions, workers at slaughterhouses/abattoirs, etc. in terms of the criteria that would initiate the investigation of an animal suspected as being a case of BSE. Have these criteria evolved and, if so, how?

All the veterinary experts engaged with the BSE prevention and prophylactics were trained by means of instructions, trainings and video lessons. A part of the farmers and all slaughterhouse operators and transporters of ruminants were trained how to report immediately at the VD any case of BSE suspect.

Since 20?? training has been carried out on constant basis, guidelines have been elaborated and meetings have been held with all veterinary experts engaged with the BSE prevention and prophylactic.

All involved parties are introduced and have direct access to the relevant instructions, legal texts, information materials mentioned in Section 1- p. 1-c.

- b) What was the date and content of the legal text making notification of suspected cases of BSE compulsory?

Prescribe the relevant legal text/particular articles, orders, etc. related to notification of suspected cases of BSE

- c) Describe the measures in place to stimulate notification, such as compensation payments or penalties for not notifying a suspected case.

The measures in place to stimulate notification, such as compensation payments or penalties for not notifying a suspect are pointed in the article ... of legal text??? (Annex)

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3. Examination in an approved laboratory of brain or other tissues collected within the framework of the surveillance system described above (see point 4 of Article 11.4.2.)

Evidence required

- a) Documentation if BSE laboratory diagnosis carried out in the country provide an overview of the approved laboratories where samples of cattle tissues from the country or zone are examined for BSE;

The tests for BSE are carried out in: ???prescribe where and how laboratories have been selected and nominated??

The laboratories are equipped with apparatuses, and they have the required consumables to carry out ???write the tests name

Note: Prescribe the diagnostic procedures and methods used during tests, etc,

- b) Documentation if BSE laboratory diagnosis is not carried out in the country, provide the names of the laboratories in other countries providing the service as well as the arrangements in place, including logistics for shipment of samples and the time frame for reporting results;

N/A for TCc???

- c) Documentation that these diagnostic procedures and methods have been applied through the entire surveillance period.

Documentation proving that the diagnostic procedures and methods have been applied through the entire surveillance period is accompanying letters; protocols of the tests, etc. which are kept in the relevant diagnostic laboratories (Annexes???)

SECTION 4: BSE SURVEILLANCE AND MONITORING SYSTEMS

Questions to be answered: Does the BSE surveillance programme comply with the guidelines in Articles 11.4.20. to 11.4.22. of the *Terrestrial Code (edition of 2022)*? Provide documentary evidence

Evidence required

- a) documentary evidence that the samples collected are representative of the distribution of the cattle population in the country or zone, including by age and subpopulations as described in Article 11.4.21.;

Programme for monitoring and surveillance of the Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (Clarification: FSP developed in May 2022, but it is still not implemented) comply with the guidelines in Articles 11.4.20. to 11.4.22. of the Terrestrial Code. Every year the VD drafts a program for surveillance of diseases of TSE group, which complies with the provisions of regulation 999/2001. The following describes an overview of TCc’s surveillance program.

The surveillance program following WOA recommendation was initiated in Date??

VD is responsible for the implementation of the programme. The laboratories for examination of TSE is Central veterinary health laboratory.

According to the surveillance programs passive and active surveillance is carried out in monitoring of BSE:

- Active surveillance - cattle





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Brain samples are tested:

- cattle over 30 months of age displaying behavioural or clinical signs consistent with BSE (clinical suspects);
 - cattle over 30 months of age that are non-ambulatory, recumbent, unable to rise or to walk without assistance;
 - cattle over 30 months of age sent for emergency slaughter or condemned at ante-mortem inspection (casualty or emergency slaughter or downer cattle);
 - cattle over 30 months of age which are found dead or killed on farm, during transport or at a slaughterhouse/abattoir (fallen stock);
 - cattle over 36 months of age at routine slaughter.
- **Passive surveillance - cattle**
 - Brain samples are tested of all bovines with clinical signs similar to those of the spongiform encephalopathy
 - **Surveillance of TSE in small ruminants:**
 - 10 000 samples of sheep over 18 months or sheep which have more than two / front teeth/ incisors pierced the gingival intended for regular slaughter and human consumption are tested
 - samples of all dead sheep and goats over 18 months are tested
 - 3 000 samples of goats over 18 months intended for regular slaughter and human consumption are tested.

In total (HOW many????) samples were tested as follow:

routine slaughter - ?

found dead or killed on farm, during transport or at a slaughterhouse/abattoir (fallen stock) - ?

emergency slaughter or condemned at ante-mortem inspection - ?

clinical suspects - ?

All tested samples from bovine, caprine and ovine animals gave negative results for TSE as by now. In TCc there is no positive result for BSE.

In Annex ??? are pointed the collected and tested samples by regions.

- b) **documentary evidence on the methods applied to assess the ages of animals sampled and the proportions for each method (individual identification, dentition, other methods to be specified);**

Note: Prescribe the procedure for animals' identification and registration, and traceability- who, when, what etc. including the obligations of vets and farmers??? Including relevant legal texts/orders (Annex???)

Please check the text below

TCc's identification system is based on the equivalent EU regulation that was relevant in more than a decade ago. However, the basis of the new EU regulation has not been changed drastically so the available system is reliable for

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EU Project: Technical assistance to improve implementation of food safety standards and disease crisis preparedness- Contract 2021/423-933

implementing the programme. All holdings and animals are registered in the computer data base that is regularly updated.

In accordance with the local legal text on animal Identification and registration (Text No.7/2008) the following requirements need to be met:

- Identification and registration of every holding and every animal related to the animal species that is obligatory and is responsibility of VD and farmer,
- Registration of identified animals and identification of farmers,
- Keeping individual records,
- Issuing identification documents for identified animals,
- Supervision of the identification and registration of the animals,
- Keeping the movement documents of the animals,

Regarding the bovine animals more detailed requirements are described in the local text animal identification and registration of bovine animals (Text No. 576/2009, 643/2010):

- Procedure for identification and registration of animals and holdings,
- Establishing a database that allows the traceability of animals and animal products,
- Animals must be identified with individual ear tags,
- Holdings must be identified with unique identification number,
- Monitoring of the identification of animals and holdings,
- Monitoring on the movement documents available on the holding,
- Monitoring of the record keeping.

In addition, local text on identification, registration and monitoring of sheep and goat animals. (Text No. 758/2009).

A Guidelines on using the teeth formula to determine the age of cattle and small ruminants was prepared by VD and desalinated to all interested parties (Annex??). The guidelines are available on the website of the VD (weblink).

- c) **documentary evidence on the means and procedures whereby samples were assigned to the cattle subpopulations described in Article 11.4.21., including the specific provisions applied to ensure that animals described as clinical met the conditions of point 1) of Article 11.4.21. and that at least three of the four subpopulations have been sampled.**

VD prepared and distributed to all levels concerned an Instruction on the measures in case of suspicion and confirmation of TSE (Annex???) and an instruction on some diseases of animals characterized with some clinical symptoms (Annex??)

Note: Also, you could briefly prescribe who is doing what and when including explanation for the categories of animals below

Clinical suspect:

1. Cattle displaying specified clinical signs -
2. Cattle with the other signs -

Casualty slaughter:

Fallen stock:

Routine slaughter:

Table: Details of all clinically suspected cases notified complying with the definition in point 1) of Article 11.4.21.

Laboratory	Age	Description of observed clinical	Point of detection (farm, market channels,	Final diagnosis
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identification number		signs	slaughterhouse)	
e.g. Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
e.g. 4824/19.07.2020	72 months	nervous disorders	Farm in the village???	neurosis

The cattle population in TCc is ...how many heads??, the target point of type A surveillance is ... how many???????? thousand points. The surveillance points, for 8 years from year 2017 to 2024 is shown in the Table below. Therefore, the surveillance points meet the requirements.

Table: Details of the number of target points applicable to the country or zone and its BSE surveillance requirements (type A or type B surveillance as a result of the risk assessment of Section 1) are met as described in Articles 11.4.21. and 11.4.22.

SUMMARY TABLE FOR BSE SURVEILLANCE								
Year: (complete a separate table for each year of surveillance)								
	Surveillance subpopulations							
	Routine slaughter		Fallen stock		Casualty slaughter		Clinical suspect	
	Samples	Points	Samples	Points	Samples	Points	Samples	Points
>1 and <2 years								
>2 and <4 years								
>4 and <7 years								
>7 and <9 years								
>9 years								
Subtotals								
Total points								

According to the statistics reported by the VD, the number of adult cattle at 24 months of age or over in TCc is ?????





Table: Number of adult cattle (over 24 months of age) per region of TCc.

SECTION 5: BSE HISTORY OF THE COUNTRY, ZONE OR COMPARTMENT

Questions to be answered: Whether a *case* of BSE has ever been diagnosed in the country or *zone*

1) Whether a case of BSE has ever been diagnosed in the country or zone;

BSE has never occurred on the territory of TCc

2) In the case of positive BSE findings:

a) the numbers of BSE cases (classical and atypical), the origin of each BSE case in respect to the country or zone. Indicate the birth date and place of birth;

N/A

b) the most recent year of birth of the classical BSE cases;

N/A

c) that the case(s); and

N/A

d) all cattle which, during their first year of life, were reared with the BSE cases during their first year of life, and which investigation could not rule out consumption of the same potentially contaminated feed during that period; or

N/A

e) if the results of the investigation are inconclusive, all cattle born in the same herd as, and within 12 months of the birth of, the BSE cases; and

N/A

f) if alive in the country or zone, how they are permanently identified, and their movements controlled, and, when slaughtered or at death, are completely destroyed.

N/A

Contact details:

List of potential Annexes: