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EC animal disease eradication; control and monitoring program for 2009

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Livestock and Products

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Report Highlights:

Commission Decision 2008/897/EC is providing a budget of €223 million to eradicate, control and monitor animal diseases in in the EU-27 in 2009. This 15 percent increase over the 2008 budget is due to the wide spread of Bluetongue disease throughout Europe. Avian Influenza and salmonella programs remain high priorities. The decrease in spending for BSE is more than offset by increased costs for the monitoring and eradication of TSE's in small ruminants.

General Information:

On November 28, 2008, the European Commission (EC) approved [Commission Decision 2008/897/EC](#) [1] , providing a budget of €223 million to eradicate, control and monitor animal diseases in 2009. This is a significant increase compared to the €186.6 million for 2008 (see GAIN [E47110](#) [2]) and €193 million budgeted for 2007 (see GAIN [E36130](#) [3]) respectively. While the funding needed for the fight against BSE is more than offset by the increasing cost for fighting TSEs in small ruminants. For some diseases like rabies, Aujeszky disease and enzootic bovine leucosis, multi-annual programs have also been approved in order to ensure a more efficient and effective achievement of the objectives of those programs. This is in line with the new Animal Health Strategy for the EU (2007-2013) (see GAIN [E47015](#) [4] and [E47096](#) [5]).

The fight against Bluetongue (BT) disease

The fight against Bluetongue disease (BT) at €61.2 million is attracting the largest increase in funding. The arrival of BT virus type 8 (BTV-8) in 2006 has dramatically widened the spread of this disease from just a Mediterranean border problem to a disease that extends as far north as the Scandinavian countries. In late 2008 and early 2009, two more new BT strains were identified: BTV-6 in The Netherlands and BTV-11 in Belgium. However, both BT strains seem to be related to vaccination programs with a vaccine from South African origin. A [map](#) [6] of the distribution of the different BT strains on the European continent is available on the EC webpage.

Salmonella control programs

The effort to bring salmonella prevalence numbers down remains an important goal in 2009. The EC is maintaining a high level of funding for this cause at €20 million.

BSE/TSE monitoring and eradication programs

The EU BSE situation is improving year by year due to a good implementation of the monitoring and eradication programs in most MS. Nevertheless, a budget of over €68 million for 2009, compared to €62.5 million for 2008, means that the increased monitoring and eradication of TSE's in small ruminants is more than offsetting the decreases in funding for BSE.

Avian influenza surveillance

Surveillance for avian influenza in poultry and wild birds is continuing with financial assistance from the EU for laboratory testing and sampling costs for wild birds. A budget of €4,5 million is available for 2009.

This surveillance is most effective to detect early outbreaks of both high and low pathogenic influenzas and was extremely useful in past years, allowing early detection of avian influenza in wild birds before commercial flocks became infected.

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Related reports from USEU Brussels with info on EU CAP Reforms:

Report Number	Title	Date Released
E48132	EU Veterinary Week: ONE HEALTH: Healthy Animals=Healthy People	November 20, 08
E48117	EU-15 increases age for mandatory BSE testing	October 23, 08
E48094	Livestock Annual report	August 27, 08
E48090	Poultry Annual Report	August 27, 08
E48083	EFSA publishes two opinions on BSE testing levels in cattle	July 29, 08
E48076	EU Council asked to consider vectors of Bluetongue disease transmission	July 14, 08
E48074	European Council further relaxes BSE rules	July 14, 08
E48004	Update on the European animal disease situation	January 16, 08
E47110	European Commission approves €187 million to fight animal diseases in 2008	December 24, 07
E47096	EC adopts Community Animal Health Policy 2007-13	November 5, 07
E47050	EC Regulation sets targets for salmonella prevalence in broiler flocks	June 19, 07
E47015	EU Community Animal Health Policy (CAHP) Strategy 2007-2013	February 27, 07
E36130	EU Approves €193 Million to Fight Animal Diseases in 2007	October 24, 06

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^[1] <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2008:322:0039:0049:EN:PDF>

^[2] <http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200712/146293309.pdf>

^[3] <http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200610/146249312.pdf>

^[4] <http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200702/146280287.pdf>

^[5] <http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200711/146292905.pdf>

^[6] http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/diseases/controlmeasures/bluetongue_restrictedzones-map.jpg