



**submitted for obtaining EU financial contribution**

# Annex III: Programme for the control and eradication of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies

Member States seeking an EU financial contribution for national programmes for eradication, control and surveillance of animal diseases and zoonosis shall submit online this document completely filled out by the 31 May of the year preceding its implementation (part 2.1 of Annex I to the Single Market Programme Regulation).

**If encountering difficulties:**

- concerning the information requested, please contact [HADEA-VET-PROG@ec.europa.eu](mailto:HADEA-VET-PROG@ec.europa.eu).
- on the technical point of view, please contact [SANTE-BI@ec.europa.eu](mailto:SANTE-BI@ec.europa.eu), include in your message a printscreen of the complete window where the problem appears and the version of this pdf:

**Protection of Your Personal Data:**

For consultation about the processing and the protection of your personal data, please click to follow this link

[Privacy Statement](#)

**Instructions to complete the form:**

- 1) You can attach documents (.docx, .xlsx, .pdf, etc) to complete your report.  
Using the button "Add attachments" on the last page of the form.
- 2) Before submitting this form, please use the button "Verify form"(bottom right of each page).  
If needed, complete your pdf document as indicated.
- 3) When you have finished completing this pdf document, save it on your computer.
- 4) Verify that your internet connection is active and then click on the "Submit notification" button and your pdf document will be sent to our server. A submission number will appear on your document.  
Save this completed document on your computer for your record.
- 5) For simplification purposes you are invited to submit multi-annual programmes.
- 6) You are invited to submit your programmes in English.

Document version number: 2022 1.0

Member state : BELGIQUE-BELGIE

Disease Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies

This program is multi annual :

Request of Union co-financing from beginning :  To end of

1. Contact data

Name	Phone
Email	Your job type within the CA :

**Submission Date**  
**06/12/2022 15:59:02**

**Submission Number**  
**1670338742943-19139**



# Annex III: Programme for the control and eradication of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies

## 2. Description of the programme

Please give a short description of the programme (max. 32000 chars) :

ee programmes of the previous years.

There has been no publication of new regulatory texts since the demand for co-financing 2014. The instructions and circulars have been adapted according to changes in regulation (EC) 999/2001.

- As of 1 January 2013, testing of healthy bovine animals for slaughter has been stopped (with the exception of bovine animals for slaughter born in Romania, Bulgaria and Great Britain, which are tested from the age of 30 months).

- Emergency slaughtered bovine animals and fallen stock are tested from the age of 48 months (with the exception of bovine animals born in Romania, Bulgaria and Great Britain, which are tested from the age of 24 months).

- TSE testing in ovine and caprine animals consists of an at random sampling of 1500 dead sheep and of 500 dead goats.

- All bovine, ovine and caprine animals and cervids which are suspected of being affected by TSE, are subjected to analysis using different confirmation tests. Suspected bovines are tested from the age of 12 months ( According to BE-NRL-TSE it doesn't make sense to analyse young bovines of only a few months old). Suspected ovine and caprine animals are tested from the age of 6 months.

- In Belgium a voluntary breeding programme of sheep for selecting TSE resistant genotypes has been installed. However, this programme is no longer financially supported by the competent authorities (Regions) in Belgium.

## 3. Description of the epidemiological situation of the disease

Last year's No of cases	Total No	No of classical cases	No of atypical cases	No of undetermined cases
BSE case	0	0	0	0
Scrapie case (ovine)	0	0	0	0
Scrapie case (caprine)	0	0	0	0
Last case of		date (classical case)	date (atypical case)	date (undetermined case)
BSE		05/10/2006		
Scrapie (ovine)		08/03/2007	10/07/2020	
Scrapie (caprine)				

Comments (if any)

# Annex III: Programme for the control and eradication of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies

## 4. Measures included in the programme

### 4.1 Designation of the central authority in charge of supervising and coordinating the departments responsible for implementing the programme

(max. 32000 chars) :

The Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain (FASFC) is the competent authority for the TSE programme in Belgium.

### 4.2 Description and delimitation of the geographical and administrative areas in which the programme is to be applied

(max. 32000 chars) :

The TSE (BSE and Scrapie) monitoring programme and the breeding programme (if applicable) for selecting TSE resistance in sheep is to be applied on the Belgian territory as a whole.

### 4.3 System in place for the registration of holdings

(max. 32000 chars) :

The coordinates of all herds and of the person responsible for the animals (operator) are registered in the databases for the registration of bovine animals (SANITEL-BOV) and of ovine, caprine and cervid animals (SANITEL-OCC).

\* The SANITEL-BOV database is fully operational since 1 July 1999.

\* The SANITEL-OCC database is operational since 1996.

This is in line with the provisions of delegated regulation (EU) 2019/2035.

### 4.4 System in place for the identification of animals

(max. 32000 chars) :

\* Bovine animals are identified by two earmarks according to the provisions of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2035. In addition, an individual identification document (passport) is drawn up for each bovine animal. The data of each bovine animal are managed in the SANITEL-BOV database. The date of birth of each bovine animal is also registered in this database.

(Royal Decree of 20 May 2022 concerning the identification and registration of animals)

\* Ovine, caprine and farmed cervid animals are identified by two earmarks according to the provisions of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2035. The data concerning each acquisition of earmarks shall be entered in the SANITEL-OCC database. No central registration concerning the age is mandatory for ovine, caprine and cervid animals. (Royal Decree of 20 May 2022 concerning the identification and

## Annex III: Programme for the control and eradication of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies

registration of animals)

Data concerning ovine animals registered in breeding books are maintained by the approved breeding societies (KHV and SLE) in a specific database, and they are active in the framework of the TSE breeding programme.

As from 21 April 2021 the rules for identification and registration of bovine, ovine, caprine animals will be replaced by the Regulation (EU) 2016/429 and the Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2035. Therefore, the Royal Decrees of 23 March 2011 and of 3 June 2007 are replaced by the new Royal Decree of 20 May 2022.

### 4.5 Measures in place as regards the notification of the disease

(max. 32000 chars):

In accordance to the Belgian animal health law of 24 March 1987 and to the Royal Decree of 3 February 2014 indicating animal diseases in application of Chapter III of the animal health law and regulating the notification obligation, all TSEs in bovines, ovines, caprines and cervids are notifiable animal diseases since 18 September 1990.

The measures to be taken in case of a suspicion or confirmation of TSE are described in the Royal Decree of 17 March 1997 organising the epidemiological surveillance of transmissible spongiform encephalopathies in ruminants (cf annex 1 of the request for co-funding 2007).

### 4.6 Testing

#### 4.6.1 Rapid tests in bovine animals

Targets for year

**2023**

	Age (in months) above which animals are tested	Estimated number of animals to be tested	Estimated number of rapid tests, including rapid tests used for confirmation
Healthy slaughtered bovine animals born in Ms listed in Annex to CD2009/719/EC			
Risk animals born in MS listed in Annex to CD 2009/719/EC	48	27 000	27 000
Healthy slaughtered bovine animals NOT born in MS listed in Annex to CD 2009/719/EC	30	5	5
Risk animals NOT born in MS listed in Annex to CD 2009/719/EC	24	5	5
Suspect animals (as referred to in Art 12.2 of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001)		30	50

# Annex III: Programme for the control and eradication of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies

## 4.6.2 Rapid tests on small ruminants

The sampling rules applicable for the monitoring of ovine and caprine animals slaughtered or not for human consumption (described below as healthy slaughtered/dead animals) are in compliance with provisions of Annex III, II, 4 of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001, in particular:

- Animals are over 18 months of age or have more than two permanent incisors,
- No over-representation of any group (origin, age, breed, production type, etc),
- Sampling representative of each region and season,
- Multiple sampling in the same flock avoided whenever possible,
- A system is in place to ensure that in successive sampling years, all officially registered holdings with more than 100 animals where TSE cases have never been detected are subject to TSE testing,
- A system is in place to check that animals are not being diverted from sampling (except derogation communicated to the Commission):

yes

no

If no please explain.

In general, the monitoring programme of ovine and caprine animals not for human consumption in Belgium is carried out according to the above mentioned rules. However, it is impossible to guarantee that all rules are applied 100% correctly.

At the rendering plant (only 1 plant in Belgium for the rendering of fallen stock) sampling of sheep and goats takes randomly place on several days a week throughout the year (all seasons) so that the sampling is representative of each region and season.

However, in the central database for sheep and goat identification (Sanitel-OCC) there is no direct link between the official eartag number and the last holding where the sheep or goat was kept. Only the herd of birth is registered in the central database. For this reason it is impossible to be sure that the following rules are applied correctly:

- No over-representation of any group (origin, age, breed, production type, etc),
- Multiple sampling in the same flock avoided whenever possible,
- A system is in place to ensure that in successive sampling years, all officially registered holdings with more than 100 animals where TSE cases have never been detected are subject to TSE testing.

### 4.6.2.1 Rapid tests on ovine animals

Estimated population of adult ewes and ewe lambs put to the ram.

194 323

Targets for year

2023

	Estimated number of animals to be tested
Healthy slaughtered ovine animals (a)	0

## Annex III: Programme for the control and eradication of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies

Dead ovine animals (b)	1 500
In the context of measures of control/eradication on holdings affected by TSE as described in Annexes III and VII of the TSE regulation	
Ovine animals from holdings affected by classical scrapie	30
Ovine animals from holdings affected by atypical scrapie	0
Ovine animals from holdings affected by BSE	1
Suspect animals (c)	10
<b>Total number of tests</b>	<b>1 541</b>

(a) Annex III, A, II, 2 of the TSE regulation

(b) Annex III, A, II, 3 of the TSE regulation

(c) Art 12 of the TSE regulation

### 4.6.2.2 Rapid tests on caprine animals

Estimated population of female goats and female kids mated .

93 231

Targets for year

**2023**

	Estimated number of animals to be tested
Healthy slaughtered caprine animals (a)	0
Dead caprine animals (b)	500
In the context of measures of control/eradication on holdings affected by TSE as described in Annexes III and VII of the TSE regulation	
Caprine animals from holdings affected by classical scrapie	25
Caprine animals from holdings affected by atypical scrapie	0
Caprine animals from holdings affected by BSE	1
Suspect animals (c)	10
<b>Total number of tests</b>	<b>536</b>

(a) Annex III, A, II, 2 of the TSE regulation

(b) Annex III, A, II, 3 of the TSE regulation

(c) Art 12 of the TSE regulation

### 4.6.3 Confirmatory tests **other than rapid tests** as referred to in Annex X Chapter C of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001

Targets for year

**2023**

	Estimated number of tests
--	---------------------------

## Annex III: Programme for the control and eradication of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies

Confirmatory tests in Bovine animals	50
Confirmatory tests in Ovine and Caprine animals	20

### 4.6.4 Discriminatory tests (Annex X.C point 3.1 (c) and 3.2 (c)(i) of Regulation (EC) No 999(2001)

*Targets for year*      **2023**

	Estimated number of tests
Primary molecular testing on bovine animals	5
Primary molecular testing on ovine and caprine animals	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>

### 4.6.5 Genotyping of positive and randomly selected animals

*Adult sheep population*

*More than 750,000 animals*

*Less than or equal to 750,000 animals*

*Targets for year*      **2023**

	Estimated number
Genotyping of TSE cases	5
Random genotyping	0

## 4.7 Eradication

### 4.7.1 Measures following confirmation of a TSE case in bovine animals

#### 4.7.1.1 Description

*(max. 32000 chars) :*

Article 2 of the Ministerial Decree of 13 March 2009 laying down certain measures for eradicating TSEs (cf annex 4 of the request of cofinancing 2010) allows to limit the eradication measures to animals belonging to the cohort of the BSE positive animal and the progeny of a BSE confirmed female animal, depending on the epidemiological situation and traceability of the animals of the establishment concerned. This is in line with the provisions of art 13 of Regulation EC 999/2001.

#### 4.7.1.2 Summary table

*Targets for year*      **2023**

	Estimated number
--	------------------



# Annex III: Programme for the control and eradication of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies

Bovine animals culled and destroyed

30

## 4.7.2 Measures following confirmation of a TSE case in ovine and caprine animals

### 4.7.2.1 Description

(max. 32000 chars) :

The measures to be taken in case of a suspicion and confirmation of TSE are described in the above mentioned Royal Decree of 17 March 1997.

In case of confirmation of a TSE in sheep and goats other than BSE or atypical scrapie, Belgian legislation provides mandatory killing and destruction of the animals in a positive holding.

However, in accordance to derogations in annex VII, 2.2.2, c) of Regulation EU 999/2001, article 3 of the above-mentioned Ministerial Decree of 13 March 2009 provides that some animals having a specific well-known genotype are exempted from eradication measures.

Namely :

Art. 3. § 1. In case of a TSE confirmation, other than BSE, in an ovine or caprine animal, the following animals are killed and destroyed :

1° insofar as they are identifiable, the parents, and in the case of females all embryos, ova and the last progeny of the female animal in which the disease was confirmed;

2° all other ovine and caprine animals on the holding of the animal in which the disease was confirmed.

§ 2. At the request of the person in charge and without prejudice to the above mentioned Regulation (EC) N° 999/2001, the provisions of §1 are not applied :

1° to the following ovine animals, unless it concerns classic scrapie confirmed in a sheep having a resistant genotype :

a) breeding rams with the ARR/ARR genotype;

b) breeding ewes carrying at least one ARR allele and no VRQ allele and, where such breeding ewes are pregnant at the time of the inquiry, the lambs subsequently born, representing the same genotypical characterizations;

c) ovine animals carrying at least one ARR allele which are intended solely for slaughter;

2° lambs and kids less than three months old which are intended solely for slaughter;

3° for all ovine and caprine animals present in the holding to which the animal in which the disease has been confirmed belongs, in case of a confirmation of an atypical scrapie in an ovine or caprine animal.

§ 3. In the holdings where a derogation from the eradication measures is allowed in accordance to § 2, 3°, the following conditions are applied during a period of two years following the last confirmation of a TSE :

1° all ovine and caprine animals are identified;

2° on the holding there is an intensified TSE monitoring, including a TSE analysis on ovine and caprine animals over 18 months of age which have more than two permanent incisors erupted through the gum, and which are either slaughtered for human consumption at the end of their productive life or have died or been killed on the holding and which have not been killed in the framework of an animal disease eradication campaign.

3° ovine and caprine animals are only allowed to leave the holding when they are directly slaughtered for human consumption or killed for destruction. However, by derogation lambs and kids may be moved to one other holding solely for the purposes of fattening prior to slaughter on the condition of having obtained the approval of the Agency, stipulating that the holding of destination does not contain any ovine or caprine animals other than those being fattened prior to slaughter and that the holding does not ship any living ovine or caprine animals to other holdings, except for direct slaughter;

4° on the holding it shall be prohibited to ship or export ova and embryos of ovine and caprine animals to other holdings or to other member states;



## Annex III: Programme for the control and eradication of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies

5° on the holding it shall be prohibited to ship or export living ovine and caprine animals to other member states;

§ 4. Transporting ovine and caprine animals, as referred to in § 3, to a slaughterhouse or a rendering plant where in the framework of intensified TSE monitoring, these animals have to be subjected to a TSE analysis, is solely allowed when the animals are accompanied by a transport document issued by the veterinary inspector or his representative.

§ 5. If the infected animal has been introduced from another holding than the holding referred to in § 1, 2°, eradication measures, based on the history of the infected animal, are applied to the holding of origin in addition to, or instead of, the holding in which the infection was confirmed. In the case of land used for common grazing by more than one flock, these measures may be limited to a single flock based on a reasoned consideration of all the epidemiological factors.

Where more than one flock is kept on a single holding, these measures may be limited to the flock in which scrapie has been confirmed.

### 4.7.2.2 Summary table

*Targets for year*

**2023**

	Estimated number
Ovine and caprine animals culled and destroyed (due to classical scrapie)	150
Ovine and caprine animals compulsory slaughter (due to classical scrapie)	150
Genotyping tests - monitoring and eradication measures	100

### 4.7.3 Breeding programme for resistance to TSEs in sheep

#### 4.7.3.1 General description

*Description of the programme according to the minimum requirements set out in Annex VII, Chapter B of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001*

*(max. 32000 chars):*

The implementation of the breeding programmes, in accordance with Annex VII of Regulation (EC) N° 999/2001, is supervised by 2 approved breeding associations namely "Kleine Herkauwers Vlaanderen (KHV)" and "Stichting Levend Erfgoed (SLE)", both report to the FASFC. However, since 2017 in this programme no genotyping was reported that was financed with public funds.

#### 4.7.3.2 Summary table

*Targets for year*

**2023**

	Estimated number
Ewes to be genotyped under the framework of a breeding programme referred to in Article 6a of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001	0
Rams to be genotyped under the framework of a breeding programme referred to in Article 6a of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001	0
<b>Total</b>	0

### 5.3. Financial information

#### 1. Identification of the implementing entities - financial circuits/flows

Identify and describe the entities which will be in charge of implementing the eligible measures planned in this programme which costs will constitute the reimbursement/payment claim to the EU. Describe the financial flows/circuits followed.

Each of the following paragraphs (from a to e) shall be filled out if EU cofinancing is requested for the related measure.

a) Implementing entities - **sampling**: who performs the official sampling? Who pays?  
(e.g. authorised private vets perform the sampling and are paid by the regional veterinary services (state budget); sampling equipment is provided by the private laboratory testing the samples which includes the price in the invoice which is paid by the local state veterinary services (state budget))

(max. 32000 chars):

The sampling is performed by veterinarians, authorized by FASFC. The material for sampling is provided by FASFC. The costs for sampling are paid by the FASFC (state budget).

b) Implementing entities - **testing**: who performs the testing of the official samples? Who pays?  
(e.g. regional public laboratories perform the testing of official samples and costs related to this testing are entirely paid by the state budget)

(max. 32000 chars):

The rapid tests are carried out by a private laboratory that is authorized by FASFC (public tender). The rapid tests on some risk animals (animals on which an autopsy has been performed, animals with clinical suspicions at AM) and the confirmatory/discriminatory tests are carried out by the NRL for TSE (Sciensano). All tests performed (rapid, confirmatory, discriminatory and genotyping tests done in the framework of the monitoring and eradication

## Annex III: Programme for the control and eradication of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies

measures) are financed by the FASFC (state budget).

The genotyping tests done in the framework of the breeding programme are financed by the Flemish Region (not applicable anymore)

c) Implementing entities - **compensation**: who performs the compensation? Who pays?  
(e.g. compensation is paid by the central level of the state veterinary services,  
or compensation is paid by an insurance fund fed by compulsory farmers contribution)

*(max. 32000 chars):*

The compensation of culled animals is financed by the Sanitary Fund for bovine animals or by the Sanitary Fund for small ruminants. These Funds are fed by compulsory farmer contributions.

d) Implementing entities - **vaccination (if applicable)** : who provides the vaccine and who performs the vaccination?  
Who pays the vaccine? Who pays the vaccinator?  
(e.g. farmers buy their vaccine to the private vets, send the paid invoices to the local state veterinary services which reimburse the farmers of the full amount and the vaccinator is paid by the regional state veterinary services)

*(max. 32000 chars):*

Not applicable.

e) Implementing entities - **other essential measures**: who implements this measure? Who provides the equipment/  
service? Who pays?

*(max. 32000 chars):*

Not applicable.

## Annex III: Programme for the control and eradication of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies

### 2. Source of funding of eligible measures

All eligible measures for which cofinancing is requested and reimbursement will be claimed are financed by public funds.

*yes*

*no*

### 3. Additional measures in exceptional and justified cases

In the "*Guidelines for the Union co-funded veterinary programmes*", it is indicated that in exceptional and duly justified cases, additional necessary measures can be proposed by the Member States in their application.

*If you introduced these type of measures in this programme, for each of them, please provide detailed technical justification and also justification of their cost:*

Not applicable.

## Annex III: Programme for the control and eradication of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies

### Attachments

#### IMPORTANT :

- 1) The more files you attach, the longer it takes to upload them .
- 2) This attachment files should have one of the format listed here : jpg, jpeg, tiff, tif, xls, xlsx, doc, docx, ppt, pptx, bmp, pna, pdf.
- 3) The total file size of the attached files should not exceed 2 500Kb (+- 2.5 Mb). You will receive a message while attaching when you try to load too much.
- 4) IT CAN TAKE **SEVERAL MINUTES TO UPLOAD** ALL THE ATTACHED FILES. Don't interrupt the uploading by closing the pdf and wait until you have received a Submission Number!
- 5) Only use letters from a-z and numbers from 1-10 in the attachment names, otherwise the submission of the data will not work.

### List of all attachments

	Attachment name	File will be saved as (only a-z and 0-9 and -_):	File size
	19139_14856.pdf	19139_14856.pdf	288 kb
	ERAFUNDSPESTFUNDS_PPD.pdf	ERAFUNDSPESTFUNDS_PPD.pdf	288 kb
		Total size of attachments :	576 kb