



submitted for obtaining EU financial contribution

Annex V: Programme for the eradication and surveillance of lumpy skin disease, sheep and goat pox or sheep and goat plague (PPR)

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).

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- 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 : ELLADA

Disease Lumpy Skin Disease

Species : Bovines

This program is multi annual :

Request of Community co-financing for year :

1. Contact data

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Your job type Official Veterinarian
within the CA :

Submission Date

08/12/2022 10:18:20

Submission Number

1670487512861-19217

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and surveillance

2. *Historical data on the epidemiological evolution of the disease*

Provide a description on the target population (species, number of herds and animals present and under the programme), and the main results in the last 5 years (incidents, prevalence, qualification of herds and animals). The information is given for distinct periods if the measures were substantially modified.

(max. 32000 chars) :

Since 2012, Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) had been spreading on an unusually large scale throughout Middle Eastern countries. Turkey reported its first cases in 2013, while the first cases of LSD in the European part of Turkey were reported in 2015.

Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) was firstly confirmed in Greece in August 2015. This was the first confirmation of the disease in the European territory as well. More specifically, the disease was confirmed in the Regional Unit (RU) of Evros, in the region of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace, near to the Evros river which is the natural northern border with Turkey. A total of 117 outbreaks were confirmed in the country (in the Regions of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace, Central Macedonia and in the island of Limnos). The epizootic continued in 2016 with a total of 104 outbreaks confirmed. The last two (2) outbreaks of the disease occurred in the RUs of Kerkyra (Region of the Ionian Islands) and Karditsa (Region of Thessaly) in 2017.

All measures described in union and national legislation were applied in the RUs characterized as restricted areas: surveillance and protection zones, stamping out, movement controls and sanitary burials. Also, emergency vaccination, as a supplementary measure against LSD was put in force.

In 2018, no clinical suspicion of the disease was detected. In the framework of passive surveillance, in 2019, three (3) clinical suspicions of LSD arose in the Region of Central Macedonia, whilst in 2020 only one (1) LSD suspicion was reported in the island of Kos. In all cases, laboratory examinations demonstrated the vaccine strain.

In the reporting period of 2021, no suspicion of the disease was raised.

LSD outbreaks and suspicions are summarized in Table 1 of the attached Annex.

Following the LSD epizootic, the following activities are in place:

A. Passive surveillance for LSD in the entire Greek territory, including all bovine animals.

B. Active clinical surveillance for LSD in high risk areas of the country in the framework of the Four (4) Exotic/Transboundary Diseases (TADs) Programme, that is LSD, Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Peste de Petit Ruminants (PPR) and Sheep and Goats Pox (SGP) hereon referred to as the TAD's programme.

C. Clinical surveillance for LSD, in the framework of mandatory clinical examinations during the planned activities throughout the year (animal movements, slaughters, etc).

D. Vaccination against LSD, in the entire Greek territory.

The aforementioned activities are described in detail in the respective entities herebelow.

Table 1 in the attached Annex depicts LSD outbreaks and suspicions 2017-2022.

3. *Description of the submitted programme*

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and surveillance

Provide a concise description of the programme with its main objective(s) (monitoring, control, eradication, qualification of herds and/or regions, reducing prevalence and incidence), the main measures (sampling and testing regimes, eradication measures to be applied, qualification of herds and animals, vaccination schemes), the target animal population, the area(s) of implementation and the definition of a positive case.

(max. 32000 chars) :

Surveillance activities

Passive surveillance

Passive surveillance is in place in all animals of susceptible species in the entire Greek territory. All clinical suspicions in bovine animals and buffalos are being investigated by testing with molecular techniques in order to verify the presence or absence of the LSD virus. A DIVA real time PCR method has been developed by the NRL with which the field strain (wild strain) is differentiated from the vaccine strain.

Active surveillance

Active surveillance is implemented in the framework of the programme for Transboundary Animal Diseases - TADs (FMD, LSD, PPS, SGP) in specific RUs in Regions defined as High Risk Areas, that is Eastern Macedonia and Thrace, Central Macedonia, specific islands of Northern/ Southern Aegean – bordering with Turkey, due to their proximity with Turkey and other foreign countries.

Active surveillance includes clinical surveillance, as described herebelow:

- Clinical examination is conducted in all bovine animals prior to their LSD vaccination.
- Clinical examination of bovine herds is conducted in the framework of eradication programs for Bovine Brucellosis, Enzootic Bovine Leucosis and Tuberculosis.
- Clinical examination of individual bovine animals is carried out prior to their dispatches for trade purposes and/or slaughter.

Lumpy Skin Disease vaccination programme

LSD vaccination started from the RU of Evros in September 2015, while it has been extended to the entire Greek territory since 2016 and it is obligatory for all animals of susceptible species (bovines, buffalos). Owners of bovine holdings are compelled by national and EU legislation to keep their herd vaccinated/immunized on an annual base, in order to be able to trade bovines and to proceed to consignment of live animals for direct slaughter or other purposes. Vaccination is conducted exclusively with a homologous live attenuated vaccine against LSD. All animals subjected to vaccination must be marked with an individual labeling (tagging/ear tag) and must be registered in holding records. Also, a Central Veterinary Database has been developed for registration of vaccination data by the Official Veterinarians in the RUs. The vaccine offers immunity for a year and therefore, annual re-vaccination is required. A 28 days standstill of vaccinated animals is compulsory after vaccination {three (3) weeks to full disease protection and one (1) week to cover the maximum disease incubation period}.

Bovine animals if possible, should be vaccinated during spring, before start of vector activity and before movements to summer pastures as a priority. An annual booster vaccination of the adult cattle will protect them from LSD. Also, pregnant, healthy cows/heifers can be safely vaccinated.

As far as calves are concerned, two different cases are foreseen:

A) any calves originating from unvaccinated cows or cows that have been vaccinated 28 days or less before labor, are being vaccinated from the first day of their life, since passive immunity from the colostrums immunoglobulins may not provide sufficient protection and

B) any calves originating from vaccinated cows where vaccination has taken place 28 days or more before labor, are vaccinated after the age of six (6) months old according to manufacturers' instructions. Necessary condition for the successful establishment of passive immunity is the consumption of colostrum within the first two (2) hours from labor or maximum 24 hours after birth.

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and surveillance

The procedure of vaccination is under the control of the Official Veterinary Services (supply, storage and distribution of vaccines, vaccination, and destruction management of residual quantities). Nevertheless, private veterinarians approved by local and central Veterinary Services are authorized and encouraged to participate in implementation of the programme. Consequently, Official Veterinarians in Local Veterinary Services are responsible for: a) implementing the vaccination campaign in the entire RU of their jurisdiction, b) approving private veterinarians who can conduct the programme in compliance with official guidelines, c) registering vaccination data (number and identification code of animal and holding, number of doses used, batch of vaccines, etc) in the LSD Vaccinations Database, d) submitting requests to CCVA for the number of vaccine doses needed, e) inspecting that vaccine doses are delivered under appropriate conditions and f) providing private veterinarians with vaccine doses. The CCVA is responsible for: a) coordination of the programme, b) provision of guidelines concerning the vaccination procedure or duties of seasonal personnel, etc, c) managing all matters involved in the vaccination campaign, that is conducting tenders, taking care for proper distribution of vaccine doses, supervising vaccination coverage, processing data extracted from the LSD vaccinations database and addressing any problem presented during implementation of the programme.

According to the article 9, point 2 of the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689 the competent authority shall classify an animal or a group of animals, as a confirmed case of LSD when:

- (a) the LSD agent, excluding vaccine strains, has been isolated in a sample from an animal or from a group of animals;
- (b) an antigen or nucleic acid specific to LSD that is not a consequence of vaccination has been identified in a sample from an animal or from a group of animals showing clinical signs consistent with the LSD disease or an epidemiological link with a suspected or confirmed case;

Or

- (c) a positive result from an indirect diagnostic method that is not a consequence of vaccination has been obtained in a sample from an animal or from a group of animals showing clinical signs consistent with the LSD disease or an epidemiological link with a suspected or confirmed case.

Table 2 in the attached Annex includes clinical surveillance regarding LSD from 2017-2020.

Table 3 in the attached Annex includes number of bovines to be clinically tested in the context of TADs programme.

Figure 1 (map) in the attached Annex shows high risk areas of the country where clinical surveillance is implemented in the framework of the TADs programme.

Figure 2 (map) in the attached Annex shows bovine population density in high risk areas of the country where clinical surveillance is implemented in the framework of the TADs programme.

4. *Measures of the submitted programme*

4.1 *Summary of measures under the programme*

Duration of the programme : 2023 - 2023

- Eradication
- Testing
- Slaughter of animals tested positive

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and surveillance

- Vaccination
- Surveillance
- Sampling

Other, please specify

4.1.1 Timeline for the eradication

Provide the timeline foreseen for the eradication with detailed justification (max. 32000 chars) :

Since August 2017, no outbreaks of the disease have been detected in Greece. However, taking into account the close proximity of Greece to countries where the disease occurs, surveillance of the disease, epidemiological assessment, controls in animal movements, as well as the course of the vaccination campaign are key elements for taking appropriate measures and preventing disease recurrence. Surveillance activities and vaccinations are in place throughout the year, with the majority of local Veterinary Services planning vaccinations of cattle in spring, before their movement to summer pasture.

4.1.2 Interim targets in relation to the timeline for eradication

based on herd prevalence and herd incidence at different periods in link with the timeline for eradication (max. 32000 chars) :

The main target is to prevent disease recurrence and in case of suspicion to timely detect virus presence, in order to proceed to measures required against disease spread. However, another target of our LSD programme is to define the timeframe of the vaccination campaign in the Greek territory.

4.2 Organisation, supervision and role of all stakeholders involved in the programme

Describe the authorities in charge of supervising and coordinating the departments responsible for implementing the programme and the different operators involved. Describe the responsibilities of all involved stakeholders. Explain which actions are taken to actively involve the stakeholders in the implementation of the programme.

(max. 32000 chars) :

The stakeholders involved in the programme and their obligations are described herebelow:
1. The Central Competent Veterinary Authority (CCVA) is the Department of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases of the Animal Health Directorate of Directorate General of Veterinary Services of the Ministry of

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Rural Development and Food, responsible for the planning, coordination and management of the programme at national level. The CCVA assembles, analyzes and interprets epidemiological data, resulting from the implementation of vaccinations and surveillance activities on Regional/Regional Unit level and nationally. Also, it is responsible for conducting the vaccine doses supply tender and their distribution to the Veterinary Services of each Regional Unit on an annual basis. Communication among the CCVA and the local Veterinary Authorities regarding vaccine doses needed, issues in animal movements epidemiological data, the progress of the vaccination campaign and the investigation of LSD suspicions is close and constant. Further, the CCVA is responsible for the communication with the competent bodies and organizations in European Union and internationally.

2. The National Reference Laboratory (NRL) for LSD (Department of Molecular Diagnostic, FMD, Virological, Rickettsial and Exotic Diseases of the Directorate of the Directorate of the Athens' Veterinary Center of the Ministry of Rural Development and Food) is responsible for carrying out molecular diagnostic methods, as described in the OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests: molecular techniques for virus genome detection (Real Time PCR) and DIVA PCR (differentiation between wild and vaccine strains of the virus).

3. The Veterinary Authorities in the Regions/Regional Units of the country have established Local Disease Control Centers (LDCCs) responsible for: a) the implementation of the vaccination programme in the area of their jurisdiction, b) the supervision of private veterinarians participating in the vaccination programme, c) the clinical surveillance of bovine herds prior to vaccination and/or in the framework of eradication programmes for other diseases, d) the implementation of measures described in the National Contingency Plan, in case of suspicion and/or confirmation of the disease, e) the application of union and national legislation in bovine animal movements. In specific Regional Units, seasonal veterinary staff has been recruited, funded by state budget, in order to perform LSD vaccinations.

4. Farmers are obliged to comply with vaccination requirements in their herd, according to indications, recommendations and guidelines designated by the CCVA and the local Veterinary Services.

4.3 Description and demarcation of the geographical and administrative areas in which the programme is to be implemented

Describe the name and denomination, the administrative boundaries, and the surface of the administrative and geographical areas in which the programme is to be applied. Illustrate with maps.

(max. 32000 chars) :

LSD vaccination programme is implemented in the entire Greek territory, as follows:

-Passive surveillance is applied in all bovine herds.

-LSD vaccination is compulsory for all bovine animals in all Regional Units.

-Active surveillance is implemented in the framework of the programme for TADs (FMD, LSD, PPS, SGP) in specific RUs in Regions defined as High Risk Areas, that is Eastern Macedonia and Thrace, Central Macedonia, specific islands of Northern/ Southern Aegean – bordering with Turkey. Active surveillance concerns clinical examinations of specific number of bovine holdings per month.

-Clinical surveillance is applied in all bovine herds including clinical investigation for presence of the characteristic clinical signs of the disease (prior to LSD vaccination, as well as during implementation of Bovine Brucellosis/TB/ Enzootic Bovine Leukosis Eradication Programmes).

4.4 Description of the measures of the programme

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4.4.1 Notification of the disease

(max. 32000 chars) :

Union and national legislation are implemented and as of 21.04.2021, provisions of the Animal Health Law are in force.

Specifically, it is compulsory for all official and private veterinarians, as well as any other involved stakeholder (livestock owners, transporters, etc) to immediately notify any suspicion of Lumpy Skin Disease to the local Veterinary Services. The CCVA is thereof notified and provisions and measures of the National Contingency Plan for the disease are enforced:

-At local level, a thorough clinical examination of all animals in the holding and collection of samples are performed. Decisions regarding measures on animal movement restrictions and further investigations applied due to LSD suspicion in the holding and in the Regional Unit are issued by the competent authorities of the Region, notified to the owner of the affected holding, the CCVA and all involved stakeholders (local Police Authorities, farmers' associations, etc).

-At central level, the CCVA, activates the National Disease Control Center (NDCC) and coordinates actions and measures according to national legislation.

In case of negative results, measures are lifted.

In case of LSD confirmation, measures upon confirmation of disease, that is culling of the animals in the affected holding, cleansing and disinfection therein, etc are implemented after issuance of the respective Decisions by the competent authorities of the Region, notified to the owner of the affected holding, the CCVA and all involved stakeholders. The CCVA immediately notifies the outbreak in the EU ADIS (formerly referred to as ADNS) platform and in the OIE WAHIS system. Also, a detailed report is sent to the European Commission, including relative epidemiological data.

4.4.2 Target animals and animal population

(max. 32000 chars) :

Passive surveillance: All bovine herds, across the entire country, throughout the year.

Vaccination : All bovine animals in the entire Greek territory.

Active surveillance: Clinical examination of a specific number of bovine animals in specific Regions of the country considered as high risk, in the framework of the TADs programme, {twenty (20) bovine animals in fifteen (15) herds per month per Regional Unit (RU), that is 3600 bovine animals per year) in the Regions of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace (RUs of Evros , Rodopi, Xanthi, Kavala, Drama), of Central Macedonia (RUs of Serres, Kilkis,Thessaloniki, Chalkidiki, Pella, Imathia, Pieria)of Northern Aegean (RUs of Lesbos, Chios, Limnos, Samos) and of Southern Aegean (Rodos, Kos).

Clinical examination of live bovine animals, as it is aforementioned, is also conducted during the implementation of Bovine brucellosis/Tuberculosis/Enzootic Bovine Leukosis Eradication Programmes, as well as prior to LSD vaccinations and movements for slaughter or any other purpose.

4.4.3 Identification of animals and registration of holdings including detailed reference to relevant Union legislation and its implementation in the Member State for this disease

(max. 32000 chars) :

Central Veterinary Database

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The Central Veterinary Database is an online digital tool which is used by Official Veterinarians for registering data of live animals and holdings. Concerning cattle livestock, this Database contains recordings of all bovine holdings and individual bovine animals (marked with ear-tag identity). The following information is registered therein: establishment data (owner's data, location of the holding, production type, etc), individual animal data (identification code, date of birth, movements, etc), co-housed herds, etc.

The RU Veterinary Services are responsible for updating the data in the database, regarding relative changes as notified by the owner of the holding and recorded during on farm visits, as described herebelow:

The owner notifies the birth of each animal within seven (7) days following the placement of identification tags. Identification of the animal is carried out within 20 days after its birth. The owner also notifies all modifications in the herd (deaths, movements from/to the holdings, to the slaughterhouses, interruption of the function of the establishment, etc) within seven (7) days at the latest following each modification. Every notification represents a single procedure and is being performed the owner of the holding, who submits a specific form – formal declaration (which receives a protocol number by the Veterinary Service).

The Identification, Registration and Traceability (IRT) System applicable in Greece complies with the provisions of Regulation 1760/2000, as amended and in force, and its implementing Regulations, and includes:

Means of Identification

Each bovine animal shall be identified with two ear tags indicating the country, the code of the holding of birth and the individual bovine code as follows:

EL (two Latin capital letters, corresponding to the country of birth)

XX (two numbers, which are the code of the Regional Unity of the holding of birth or the holding of destination in case of animals moved from 3rd countries)

XXXXX (five numbers, which are the code of the holding of birth or the holding of destination in case of animals moved from 3rd countries)

XXXXX (five numbers, which are the individual bovine code)

The owners are responsible for the identification of the animals. The identification process is implemented as follows:

- In the case of animals born on the holding, an ear tag is placed in each ear within 20 days of the date of birth.
- In the case of animals imported from Third Countries, an ear tag, with above mentioned information, shall be placed in each ear within twenty (20) days of the relevant checks at the Border Control Post (BCP) while at the same time maintaining the Third Countries mark. No ear tags are placed on the animals (which remains the Third Countries' original identification), which are directed straight from the BCP to the slaughterhouse and are slaughtered within twenty (20) days of the relevant checks at the BCP.
- Animals from another Member State retain their original markings.

If ear tags are lost, they must be replaced by ear tags that show the same information as the lost ones.

Registers

The keeper of the holding must keep a constantly up-to-date register.

The register must provide the following information:

- Data regarding the identity of the holding (code, owner data, location, type of farming, type of production, etc).
- All cattle with individual code, detailed individual data (gender, breed, mother, etc., as well as information on movements of these cattle (date of arrival / birth, date of exit, holding of origin / destination etc).

Passports

For each bovine animal, a passport must be issued within 14 days from the notification of the date of

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birth and definitely before the bovine animal leaves the holding of birth.

The animal shall be accompanied by its passport on every movement and the passport shall be updated accordingly with the details of the holdings of the bovine animal.

Database

The central database of the IRT system contains the following information:

1. Holdings (code, owner data, type of farming, type of production, location, etc.)
2. Cattle (animal identification and movement)
3. The means of identification
4. Holding codes that share the same establishment
5. Movements for summer grazing
6. On-the-spot checks
7. The sanctions

The updating of the database fields for points 1 to 5 is carried out by the veterinary services of Regions and Regional Units, after the respective notification by the keeper, as follows:

- The birth of the animal must be notified within seven (7) days of the date of placement of the ear tags.

The animal must be identified at the latest within twenty (20) days of its birth.

- All the changes (deaths, movements to and from the farm, etc) that take place on the holding must be notified within seven (7) days of the event.

The above mentioned notifications are an official procedure which is done by the keeper who completes a special notification form, registered by the local veterinary service, and has the effect of a responsible declaration on the part of the keeper.

The updating of the database fields for points for points 6-7, it is done by the local competent veterinary services which undertake the corresponding actions.

LSD vaccination database

The LSD vaccination database is used for monitoring the vaccination campaign and functions as a tool for data extraction, with the aim to detect problems at local and national level.

It is an online digital database designed for the registration of vaccinations by official veterinarians. It is a back office application which interconnects with the central database of the IRT system, ensuring monitoring of the programme.

Users of the LSD vaccination database are authorized by specific administrators at local and central level.

Database users in the Veterinary Services of the Regional Units have access to vaccination data at local level, whilst users in the CCVA have access to information at national level.

4.4.4 Rules of the movement of animals including detailed reference to relevant Union legislation and its implementation in the Member State for this disease

Please detail also the rules existing for transhumance and common grazing areas, if any.

(max. 32000 chars) :

Union and national legislation are implemented and as of 21.04.2021, provisions of the Animal Health Law are in force.

It is compulsory to vaccinate all bovine animals against LSD before their movements, along with restrictions and prerequisites concerning other diseases for which national and union measures are applied.

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In case of LSD suspicion and/or confirmation, the National Contingency Plan is activated and provisions of national and union legislation are implemented.

Since the first outbreaks of the LSD epizootic in Greece, the EU Implementing Decision 2015/1500 of 7 September 2015 which referred to restrictions in the Regional Unit of Evros was applied. An amendment (2015/2055) of the Implementing Decision 2015/1500 was issued on 15 November 2016, which established special conditions for the animals intended to be moved.

The Commission Implementing Decision 2016/2008 in 15 November 2016 was issued and defined Part I (Annex I) - "free zones with vaccination" and Part II – "infected zones" described in Annex I. This Implementing Decision established prohibition of dispatch of consignments of live bovine animals and captive wild ruminants from the areas of "infected zone" and "zone free with vaccination" of Annex I and the derogations from the above mentioned prohibition, which were used to define the way of movements of live animals between different zones within the country. Also, a channeling procedure defined in Article 12 thereof regarding live bovines movements between Greece and Bulgaria was established. The Implementing Decision 2016/2008 was amended on the 29th of November 2019. As of 28.06.2021, Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/1070 laying down special control measures for a limited period of time related to infection with lumpy skin disease virus is in force.

4.4.5 Tests used and sampling and testing schemes including detailed reference to relevant Union legislation and its implementation in the Member State for this disease (including herd frequency per region, animal coverage in each herd, interpretation rules of the test,...)

(max. 32000 chars) :

Laboratory Tests Used

For detection of the Lumpy Skin Disease Virus (LSDV), the following laboratory procedures are conducted:

-DNA extraction from different types of samples sent to the National Reference Laboratory (eg samples from skin lesions, blood/tissue/nasal and ocular swab samples).

-Real Time PCR for detection of the LSDV genome.

-DIVA PCR for differentiation among the LSDV wild and vaccine strains.

Collection of samples from skin lesions, as well as blood/tissue/nasal and ocular swab samples is carried out by the official veterinarians of the Veterinary Services in the Regional Unit, when clinical suspicion of the disease is raised in the framework of passive or active surveillance, according to the guidelines of the CCVA (Circular No 2630/94270/25.08.2016), as well as in the National Contingency Plan.

4.4.6 Vaccines used and vaccination schemes including detailed reference to relevant Union legislation and its implementation in the Member State for this disease

Explain also how the vaccination coverage is monitored by the official authorities

(max. 32000 chars) :

The Hellenic National Organization for Medicines (EOF), according to Dir. 2001/82 art. 8, has approved by exception the import and use of two (2) specific live homologue vaccines for Lumpy Skin Disease, upon the request of the CCVA and the submission of relevant documentation by the companies/producers (Approval Documents in the Third Country etc):. These are:

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-The "Lumpy Skin Disease Vaccine for Cattle", Onderstepoort Biological Products, OBP, South Africa (56221/26-8-2015/28.08.2015) and
- the "Lumpyvax" by MSD Animal Health-Intervet, South Africa (76596/27-10-2015/29-10-2015).
The latter is the only pharmaceutical product currently used.

LSD vaccination is implemented in the entire Greek territory and is obligatory for all bovine herds. The activities of the programme including definitions of terms and competent authorities, responsibilities, instructions for the implementation and recording of vaccination, passive and active surveillance of the disease are included in the Ministerial Decision No 4349/135471/21.12.2017 (Government Gazette No 4549B).

Annual vaccination is being implemented since 2015.

Vaccination data are registered in the national LSD Vaccination Database. Official Veterinarians in the Veterinary Authorities of the RUs are authorized to register vaccination data in the area of their jurisdiction. Monitoring of data registration, vaccination coverage and all matters involved is being performed by official veterinarians and IT staff in the CCVA.

4.4.7 Measures in case of a positive result including detailed reference to relevant Union legislation and its implementation in the Member State for this disease

A description is provided of the measures as regards positive animals and detailed reference to the Union legislation provisions (slaughter, destination of carcasses, use or treatment of animal products, the destruction of all products which could transmit the disease or the treatment of such products to avoid any possible contamination, a procedure for the disinfection of infected holdings, a procedure for the restocking with healthy animals of holdings which have been depopulated by slaughter. A definition of a suspicion and of a confirmation should be provided, with detailed measures implemented in both situation and how the herd is requalified as free after a positive result. Detailed information should also be provided as regard the epidemiological investigations done, and the additional laboratory tests foreseen (culture, PCR, IFGamma, etc ...). Please mention if national guidelines are available.

(max. 32000 chars) :

Union and national legislation are implemented and as of 21.04.2021, provisions of the Animal Health Law are in force.

In case of LSD suspicion and/or confirmation, the Ministerial Decision No 258933/18.08.2008 'National Contingency Plan for the diseases of Council Directive 92/119' (NCP) is immediately activated. In case of LSD suspicion, specific measures are immediately put in force, including primarily official supervision of the affected holding, restrictions in animal movements, conduction of epidemiological investigation and collection of samples for laboratory testing. Measures are lifted if negative results are obtained after laboratory testing.

In case of LSD confirmation, the National and the Local Disease Control Centers are immediately activated. Measures upon confirmation of disease, that is establishment of protection and surveillance zones, stamping out, movement restrictions, cleansing and disinfection of the affected holding and sanitary burial of carcasses are implemented after issuance of the respective Decisions by the competent authorities of the Region, notified to the owner of the affected holding, the CCVA and all involved stakeholders. Also, an epidemiological survey is conducted. The CCVA immediately notifies the outbreak in the EU ADIS (formerly referred to as ADNS) platform and in the OIE WAHIS system. Also, a detailed report is sent to the European Commission, including relative epidemiological data.

Further, according to the epidemiological situation in the affected area, additional measures may be applied such as total standstill, involvement of other Authorities, etc). Duration of measures is set for a minimum of 28 days, but may be prolonged according to the epidemiological situation of the disease in

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the affected area and in the country.

4.4.8 Compensation scheme for owners of slaughtered and killed animals

(max. 32000 chars) :

Each year a Joint Ministerial Decision (Ministry of Rural Development and Food and Ministry of Financial Affairs) determines the way of calculation of compensation for farmers.

The issuance of the aforementioned Joint Ministerial Decision is carried out by the Department of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases of the Animal Health Directorate of the Directorate General of Veterinary Services of the Ministry of Rural Development and Food.

4.4.9 Control on the implementation of the programme and reporting including detailed reference to relevant Union legislation and its implementation in the Member State for this disease

Please indicate also when the last FVO audit has taken place and provide a table listing the recommendations and the actions taken by the national authorities to this regard.

Please mention if a Task Force subgroup visit has taken place and the state of play as regards the implementation of the recommendations suggested if any.

(max. 32000 chars) :

Implementation of the programme is under the supervision of the CCVA and the local Veterinary Authorities. The CCVA assembles, analyzes and interprets epidemiological data on clinical examinations and vaccinations at local and national level. On the other hand, the local Veterinary Authorities control field activities of the programme in the area of their jurisdiction. Data registration is performed by official veterinarians in the local veterinary services and involves clinical examinations in the Exotic Diseases database and vaccinations in the LSD vaccination database. The CCVA uses these databases for supervising field activities and for extracting data on vaccination coverage for each RU, as well as for the entire territory. In this way, vaccination coverage per RU is monitored and informative circulars are issued at regular intervals, providing guidelines and raising awareness on improving the progress of the vaccination campaign. Further, the local Veterinary Services are able to monitor the vaccination campaign in their jurisdiction on a regular basis and proceed to corrective actions, if needed.

Based on low vaccination coverage data, five (5) teleconferences from 15.01.2021 to 09.04.2021 (instead of the planned on the spot visits, due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions) were conducted with overall 14 Regional Units (Achaia, Rethimno, Ileia, Aitolokarnania, Irakleio, Lesvos, Dodekanisa, Messinia, Korinthia, Kefallinia, Kozani, Fthiotida, Chios, Evoia), with the aim to discuss causes and suggest solutions. For the purpose of monitoring field activities at central level, monthly diaries of seasonal personnel activities by each RU are sent to the CCVA (Circular No 275/42761/10.02.2021).

As surveillance activities for LSD are also conducted in the framework of national programmes for other diseases (brucellosis, enzootic bovine leukosis and tuberculosis), controls preceding animal movements and vaccinations, relative non compliances which affect the progress of the vaccination campaign, such as non registration of animals and/or holdings are recorded and sanctions are imposed.

For monitoring the implementation of the vaccination programme of LSD in the field, the vaccinations and surveillance activities are recorded in monthly reports of daily activities from seasonal staff. The official veterinarians in the CCVA monitor the implementation of the programme at local level via the aforementioned monthly reports sent thereof and the data recorded in the LSD database.

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For 2023, teleconferences among the CCVA and specific local Veterinary Services of the Regions/ Regional Units (where low percentages of vaccination coverage) and/or on the spot visits are planned, with the aim to improve monitoring of the implementation of the programme, as well as discuss any issues or difficulties.

In case of issues detected during the monitoring/control of the implementation of the programme (e.g. refusal of cooperation with the competent veterinary authorities) criminal and administrative sanctions provided for in the articles 23 and 27 of the Law No. 4235/2014 «Administrative measures, procedures and sanctions for the implementation of EU and national legislation related to food, feed and animal health and welfare sectors», are imposed.

Moreover as for 2023 vaccination campaign, a new “framework-agreement” (distribution of 600.000 doses of Lumpy Skin Disease to all Regional Units) between Ministry of Agriculture and Food and Intervet Hellas has been completed. 600.000 vaccine doses of Lumpyvax have been distributed to all Regional Units via this procedure. Apart from that, the renewal of contracts of 27 Veterinarians occupied on the programme at the Local Veterinary Departments of several Regional Units has been completed.

5. Benefits of the programme

*A description is provided of the benefits of the programme on the economical and animal and public health points of view.
Describe*

- progress expected compared to the situation of the disease in the previous years, in line with the objectives and expected results
- cost efficiency of the programme including management costs

(max. 32000 chars) :

The main benefit of the programme in Greece is the high level of preparedness against LSD recurrence, as our country acts as the frontier for the whole European territory against areas where the disease occurs. The geographical position of Greece, in combination with its proximity to third countries, the diversity of its geoclimatic conditions and the extensive land and marine borders, pose enormous risk of disease incursion.

The vaccination campaign in progress, the intensive passive and enhanced active clinical surveillance in place, as well as the clinical surveillance in the framework of other activities (before vaccination-animal movements-slaughter and in the context of national programmes against other diseases) contribute to the early detection of new LSD outbreaks and the timely investigation of clinical suspicions.

However, in case the disease manages to pass through surveillance and reappears, it is the high level of immunization of vaccinated animals that will prevent further disease spread.

Benefits of the programme also include cost effectiveness, when taking into account the amount of direct and indirect costs which are involved in case of disease recurrence (costs related to herd depopulations, compensations, movement restrictions, etc).

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6. Targets

The blocks 7.1.1, 7.1.2.1, 7.1.2.2, 7.2, 7.3.1 and 7.3.2 are repeated multiple times in case of first year submission of multiple program.

6.1 Targets related to testing (one table for each year of implementation)

6.1.1 Targets on diagnostic tests for year: **2023**

Region	Type of the test	Target population	Type of sample	Objective	Number of planned tests
Entire country - Passive surveillance	PCR	Bovines	Skin lesions, swabs, blood	confirmation of suspected cases	50
				Total	50
				Add a new row	
				Total number of tests	
				ELISA	0
				PCR	50

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6.1.2 Targets on testing herds and animals

6.1.2.1 Targets on the testing of herds for year : 2023

Region	Animal species	Total number of herds	Total number of herds under the programme	Number of herds expected to be checked	Number of expected positive herds	Number of expected new positive herds	Number of herds expected to be depopulated	% positive herds expected to be depopulated	Target indicators			
									Expected % herd coverage	Expected period herd prevalence	% new positive herds Expected herd incidence	
Entire country - Passive ⁺	Bovines	18 244	18 244	15	0	0	0	0,000	0,082	0,000	0,000	X
Total		18 244	18 244	15	0	0	0	0,000	0,082	0,000	0,000	
Add a new row												

6.1.2.2 Targets on the testing of animals for year : 2023

		Slaughtering	Target indicators

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Region	Species	Total number of animals	Number of animals under the programme	Number of animals expected to be tested	Number of animals to be tested individually	Number of expected positive animals	Number of animals with positive result expected to be slaughtered or culled	Total number of animals expected to be slaughtered	Expected % coverage at animal level	% positive animals (Expected animal prevalence)
	Bovines	890 142	890 142	25	25	0	0	0	0,003	0,000
Total		890 142	890 142	25	25	0	0	0	0,003	0,000
Add a new row										
Total number of animals expected to be slaughtered or culled : BOVINES										
								0		

6.2 Targets on vaccination or treatment

6.2.1 Targets on vaccination or treatment for year: 2023

Targets on vaccination or treatment programme										
Region	Animal species	Total number of herds in vaccination or treatment programme	Total number of animals in vaccination or treatment programme	Number of herds in vaccination or treatment programme	Number of herds expected to be vaccinated or treated	Number of animals expected to be vaccinated or treated	Number of doses of vaccine or treatment expected to be administered	Number of adults expected to be vaccinated	Number of young animals expected to be vaccinated	
	Bovines	18 244	890 142	18 244	18 244	890 142	890 142	808 730	81 412	
Total		18 244	890 142	18 244	18 244	890 142	890 142	808 730	81 412	
Add a new row										

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and surveillance

7. Detailed analysis of the cost of the programme

The blocks are repeated multiple times in case of first year submission of multiple program.

To facilitate the handling of your cost data, you are kindly requested to:

1. Fill-in the text fields IN ENGLISH
2. Limit as much as possible the entries to the pre-loaded options where available.
3. If you need to further specify a pre-loaded option, please keep the pre-loaded text and add your clarification to it in the same box.

7.1. Costs of the planned activities for year :

2023

1. Sampling						
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of samples	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Requested Union contribution in EUR
Sampling	Animals sampled	25	1,33	33,25	yes	14,96
Sampling	Sampling other than blood sampling	0	0	0	yes	0
2. Testing						
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of tests	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Requested Union contribution in EUR
Testing	Serological test	0	0	0	yes	0
Testing	PCR	50	30.1	1505	yes	677,25
Add a new row						
3. Vaccines						

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Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of vaccine doses	Average cost per dose in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR
Vaccination	Vaccine doses used	890 142	1,1	979,156,2	yes	45	440 620,29
4. Compensation paid to owners							
Cost related to	<u>Compensation of</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR
5. Cleaning and disinfection							
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR
6. Slaughtering/culling costs							
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR
7. Other costs							
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR
Duly justified measures	Awareness campaign	1	5000	5000	yes	45	2 250
Duly justified measures	Clinical examinations of herds for the purposes of active surveillance	68 400	0	0	no	45	0
				<i>Add a new row</i>			
Total with Union funding request (€):				985,694.45	including		443,562.5

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Total without Union funding request (€):	0	= requested EU contribution in €
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7.2. Financial informaton

7.2.1. 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) :

Sampling is performed by official veterinarians (permanent and seasonal staff). The costs are covered by the state budget.

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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) :

Samples are tested in the National Reference for LSD (Virology Laboratory-National Reference Laboratory for Rabies in Animals, Department of Molecular Diagnostics, FMD, Virological, Rickettsial & Exotic Diseases, Directorate of Veterinary Center of Athens, Directorate General of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Rural Development and Food) by official veterinarians and laboratory staff.

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) :

Compensation to owners of holdings are covered by the state budget in line with National legislation. Evaluation of applications for compensation is performed by local veterinary authorities while the CCVA approves and funds compensation costs.

d) Implementing entities - **vaccination**: 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)

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(max. 32000 chars):

Vaccines are provided by the CCVA (following tender procedures). Vaccines are distributed to the Veterinary Authorities in Regional Units according to their needs.
Vaccinations can be performed by official veterinarians (relative costs are covered by the state budget) as well as by private veterinarians (paid by owner of the holding only for vaccination procedure and not vaccine doses.)

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

(max. 32000 chars):

The CCVA has planned to create and distribute to local Veterinary Services in order to inform all the involved stakeholders a) an informative leaflet regarding the biosecurity measures against LSD and b) posters regarding clinical signs, epidemiology and prevention of LSD.
Moreover, a meeting with involved stakeholders (farmers/farmers associations) in a Region of the country considered as high risk area according to the programme is also planned from the CCVA, in order to raise awareness for LSD.

Total financial cost has been estimated not to exceed 5.000€.

• Estimated costs:

Awareness campaign Number Total cost

Posters (Information about LSD) 3000 1000€

Leaflets (Biosecurity measures for farms) 30000 1500€

Organization of meeting with farmers/farmers associations to raise awareness as regards the programme

booking) 1 2500€

(costs of catering, hall

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7.2.2. 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

7.2.3. 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:

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Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and surveillance

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](#), [tif](#), [xls](#), [xlsx](#), [doc](#), [docx](#), [ppt](#), [pptx](#), [bmp](#), [png](#), [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
	Annex LSD for 2023.docx	AnnexLSDfor2023.doc	508 kb
	ERAFUNDSPESTFUNDS_PPD.pdf	ERAFUNDSPESTFUNDS_PPD.pdf	288 kb
		Total size of attachments :	796 kb

ANNEX

INCLUDING TABLES AND FIGURES REGARDING GREECE'S 2023/2024 LUMPY SKIN DISEASE PROGRAMME

In the following Tables and Figures, we present information regarding the administrative division of Greece in Regions and Regional Units, findings and results of surveillance activities and vaccination against the disease, data on bovine animal populations and their densities in the Greek territory, as well geographical depiction where active surveillance for Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) is implemented.

Table 1. LSD outbreaks and suspicions 2017-2021.

	<i>Outbreaks</i>		<i>Clinical suspicions finally attributed to the vaccine strain</i>		
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Regional Unit</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Regional Unit</i>	<i>Comment</i>
<i>2017</i>	2	Corfu, Karditsa	3	Zakynthos, Kos, Evritania	
<i>2018</i>	0		0		
<i>2019</i>	0		3	Imathia, Thessaloniki, Pella	In one case, the affected animal was imported and showed clinical symptoms due to movement stress
<i>2020</i>	0		1	Kos	
<i>2021</i>	0		0		

Table 2. Clinical surveillance for LSD 2017-2020.

	<i>Number of cattle clinically examined</i>					
	<i>TADs (high risk areas)</i>	<i>Before LSD vaccination</i>	<i>Ante-mortem clinical examination in slaughterhouses</i>	<i>National Programmes</i>		
				<i>Brucellosis</i>	<i>Tuberculosis</i>	<i>Enzootic Bovine Leukosis</i>
2017	3754	534891	131998	51365	164311	53311
2018	50100	571068	137140	66243	218643	66894
2019	36252	531949	134207	46182	193422	38276
2020	38802	472042	138081	43646	171138	26202
2021	49.230	498879	144664	296003	171793	51718

Table 3. Number of animals included in Four (4) Exotic Diseases Programme.

Region/Island	Holdings	Animals	Active surveillance for bovines in the framework of TADs programme				
			Number of herds examined per month	Number of bovines clinically examined within each herd per month	Total number of clinical examinations per month	Total number of clinical examinations per year	
Central Macedonia	Kilkis	273	18.816	15	20	300	3.600
	Pieria	132	7.009	15	20	300	3.600
	Thessaloniki	622	62.992	15	20	300	3.600
	Imathia	385	14.403	15	20	300	3.600
	Chalkidiki	81	4.088	15	20	300	3.600
	Serres	986	64.501	15	20	300	3.600
	Pella	417	22.073	15	20	300	3.600
East Macedonia-Thrace	N.Evros	542	4.908	15	20	300	3.600
	S.Evros	511	15.666	15	20	300	3.600
	Kavala	158	8.059	15	20	300	3.600
	Xanthi	592	24.710	15	20	300	3.600
	Rodopi	1.076	28.039	15	20	300	3.600
Drama	473	25.179	15	20	300	3.600	
N.Aegean	Lemnos	115	1.013	15	20	300	3.600
	Lesvos	615	6.890	15	20	300	3.600
	Chios	113	1.342	15	20	300	3.600
	Samos	48	309	15	20	300	3.600
S.Aegean	Rhodes	238	751	15	20	300	3.600
	Kos	346	2.834	15	20	300	3.600
	total	7.723	313.582	285	380	5700	68.400

Figure 1. High risk areas of the country where active clinical surveillance is implemented.

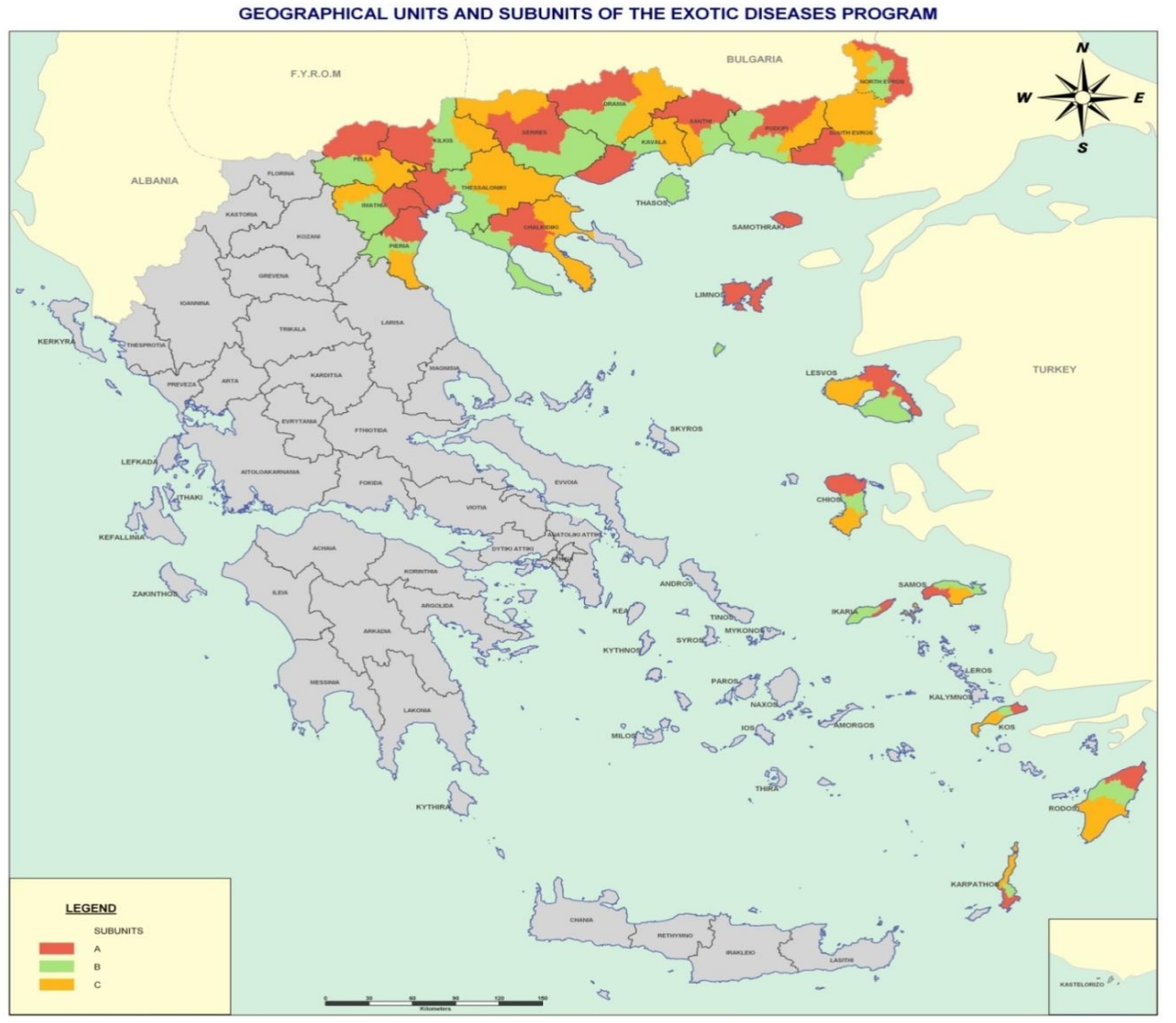


Figure 2. Bovine population density in the high risk areas of the country where active clinical surveillance is implemented.

