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“The New EU Map”

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Objectives

European Union # Enlargement # Health Status of Animals # Disease Spread

Introduction

On May 1st, 2004 10 new Member States will join the European Union. The health status of the herds as well as the economic, the agricultural and the hygienic situation is varying between these countries.

Methods

Out of a literature research the history of the European Union is shown in a pp-presentation followed by a review of epidemics in Europe and the US.

Results

History of the European Union:

- 1951: ECSC = European Coal and Steel Community
- 1957: Treaties of Rome:
 - EURATOM = European Atomic Energy Community
 - EEC = European Economic Community
 - “a common market”
- 1967: 1 Commission + 1 Council of Ministers + 1 European Parliament
- 1992: Treaty of Maastricht
 - EU = „European Union“
- 2002: „Euroland“ Euro-area / common currency starting 1985 “Schengenland” all checks on people travelling between “Schengen-countries” abolished

Review of Main Diseases in Europe

The Office International des Epizooties (OIE) is the World Organisation for Animal Health and was founded due to an agreement of 28 states in 1924. In 2003 the O.I.E. has 165 members.

One of its objectives is to ensure transparency in the global animal disease and zoonosis situation.

Each Member Country undertakes to report the animal diseases that it detects on its territory. The OIE then disseminates the information to other countries via Web site, e-mail and periodicals.

As a mark of the close relationship between animal health and animal welfare, the OIE has become, at the request of its Member Countries, the leading international organisation for animal welfare.

The results under the current OIE [classification](http://www.oie.int) published on <http://www.oie.int> are the basics for the presentation hold in front of the audience.

Within the past 1 ½ years the following List A diseases occurred within Europe:

- Swine vesicular disease
- Bluetongue
- Classical swine fever
- Newcastle disease
- Sheep pox and goat pox
- Highly pathogenic avian influenza.

Aside the situation of Rabies and Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy will be discussed in the lecture.

Conclusions

The enlargement of the European Union will grant a large common market without borders to the trader and the transporter of animals. But on the same it might bring imponderabilities in health risks.

In order to fight the threats of contagious and transmissible diseases the transporter will have to watch the following very carefully:

- health status of the country of dispatch and destination (information provided by O.I.E and Veterinary Officers)
- herd health status
- individual health status of the animal
- quality of means of transport
- quality of assembling
- quality of quarantine and staging points
- frequency and quality of disinfection
- proper care, supply and handling
- GFP Good Farmer´s Practice
- GTP Good Transporter´s Practice

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