

CLASSICAL SWINE FEVER 1998

In recent months the situation of classical swine fever in Europe has largely improved, in particular in the Netherlands and Germany.

The Netherlands

Five outbreaks of CSF were reported in NL in 1998, four of them in January and one in March. They all occurred in the area of the North Brabant where a very high density of pigs exists.

The last outbreak (6/3/1998) was reported following the detection of some seropositive pigs only. No clinical signs of disease were observed and CSF virus was not isolated in the farm. The Dutch Authorities continued an intense programme of serosurveillance for CSF. The Commission gradually lifted the restrictions enforced in 1997.

On 9-10 June 1998 the Standing Veterinary Committee approved the proposal of the Commission to lift all the restrictions enforced in NL. The Decision 98/412/EC has been published in the Official Journal of the European Communities

Germany

Eight outbreaks of CSF occurred in Germany in 1998. The last outbreak occurred on 14/3/1998. All of them were caused by the strain of virus circulating in the wild boar in Mecklenburg Western Pomerania (MWP), except the last one which occurred in North-RhineWestfalen and was caused by the same virus strain circulating in the wild boar in Lower Saxony, Germany and in Sardinia, Italy.

Due to the improvement of the epidemiological situation which has occurred in the last months, on 9-10 June 1998 the Standing Veterinary Committee approved the proposal of the Commission to amended restriction measures enforced in MWP following Decision 98/104/EC. The Decision 98/413/EC has been published in the Official Journal of the European Communities. Movements of breeding and production pigs from the restricted area in MWP to other areas in Germany will be only allowed if a number of additional precautions are taken, including a 30 day standstill in the holding where pigs from MWP are introduced.

Spain

Eighteen outbreaks of CSF occurred in Spain in 1998. The first nine were detected in January in the central area of Spain including the Provinces of Segovia, Madrid and Toledo. Outbreaks 10 and 11 occurred in the Province of Lerida in Cataluña. Outbreaks 12, 13, 15, 16, 17 and 18 were reported in the Province of Saragoza (Aragon) and a single outbreak (14) occurred in the Province of Sevilla (Andalusia).

Due to the occurrence of disease in some areas, further safeguard measures have been adopted by the Commission in the last months (Decisions 98/93/EC, 98/271/EC, 98/339/EC).

Spanish Authorities have implemented the serosurveillance programme approved by Commission Decision 98/176/EC of 18 February 1998. Results of the programme have been provided to the Commission and to the Member States. More than 1,000,000 samples have been tested throughout Spain with negative results.

Due to the improvement of the epidemiological situation which has occurred in some areas of Spain in the last months, on 9-10 June 1998 the Standing Veterinary Committee approved the proposal of the Commission to lift the restriction measures enforced in the Provinces of Segovia, Madrid and Toledo, where the last outbreaks had been reported on 15 January 1998. The Decision 98/411/EC has been published in the Official Journal of the European Communities.

CSF Situation in the Wild Boar

The disease is still present in the wild boar population in six areas of the European Community: Mecklenburg Western Pomerania, Brandenburg and Lower Saxony (Germany), Sardinia and the Province of Varese (Italy), Bas Rhein and Moselle (France).

Some cases of CSF have been detected very recently in the wild boar in Switzerland at the border with the Province of Varese. Italian and Swiss Authorities are studying the possibility to co-ordinate their eradication activities.

Enclosures:

Commission Decisions 98/411/EC, 98/412/EC and 98/413/EC

COMMISSION DECISION

of 26 June 1998

repealing Decision 97/216/EC concerning certain protection measures relating to classical swine fever in the Netherlands

(notified under document number C(1998) 1780)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(98/412/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 90/425/EEC of 26 June 1990 concerning veterinary and zootechnical checks applicable in intra-Community trade in certain live animals and products with a view to the completion of the internal market⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Directive 92/118/EEC⁽²⁾ and, in particular, Article 10(4) thereof,

Whereas outbreaks of classical swine fever have occurred in the Netherlands;

Whereas the Netherlands have taken measures within the framework of Council Directive 80/217/EEC of 22 January 1980, introducing Community measures for the control of classical swine fever⁽³⁾, as last amended by the Act of Accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden;

Whereas, as a result of the disease situation the Commission adopted Decision 97/216/EC of 26 March 1997⁽⁴⁾, concerning protection measures relating to classical swine fever in the Netherlands and repealing Commission Decision 97/122/EC;

Whereas Decision 97/216/EC was amended by Decision 98/226/EC⁽⁵⁾, that was amended by Decision 98/338/EC⁽⁶⁾;

Whereas Dutch Authorities have informed the Standing Veterinary Committee of the measures adopted in the Netherlands to improve the control of movements of pigs;

Whereas, as a result of the favourable evolution of the disease, it is necessary to repeal Decision 97/216/EC;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Veterinary Committee,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Commission Decision 97/216/EC is hereby repealed.

Article 2

The Member States shall amend the measures they apply to trade so as to bring them into compliance with this Decision. They shall immediately inform the Commission thereof.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 26 June 1998.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 224, 18. 8. 1990, p. 29.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 62, 15. 3. 1993, p. 49.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 47, 21. 2. 1980, p. 11.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 87, 2. 4. 1997, p. 24.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 85, 20. 3. 1998, p. 34.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 148, 19. 5. 1998, p. 41.

COMMISSION DECISION

of 26 June 1998

amending Decision 98/104/EC concerning certain protection measures relating to classical swine fever in Germany

(notified under document number C(1998) 1808)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(98/413/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Article 1

Having regard to Council Directive 90/425/EEC of 26 June 1990 concerning veterinary and zootechnical checks applicable in intra-Community trade in certain live animals and products with a view to the completion of the internal market⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Council Directive 92/118/EEC⁽²⁾ and, in particular, Article 10(4) thereof,

Decision 98/104/EC is amended as follows:

Whereas outbreaks of classical swine fever have occurred in Germany;

1. The following paragraph replaces paragraph 2 of Article 1:

'2. Germany shall not send slaughter pigs from the areas described in the Annex to other parts of Germany unless the pigs are for direct slaughter and are slaughtered at slaughterhouses in Germany designated by the competent veterinary authorities. The means of transport shall be officially sealed.'

Whereas in view of the trade in live pigs, semen, embryos and ova, these outbreaks and the infection in the feral pig population are liable to endanger the herds of other Member States;

2. The following paragraphs are inserted in Article 1:

Whereas Germany has taken measures within the framework of Council Directive 80/217/EEC of 22 January 1980, introducing Community measures for the control of classical swine fever⁽³⁾, as last amended by the Act of Accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden;

'3. Germany shall not send pigs for breeding and production from the areas described in the Annex to other parts of Germany unless the pigs:

(a) come from a holding where no live pigs have been introduced during the 30-day period immediately prior to the dispatch of the pigs in question;

Whereas due to the spread of classical swine fever from the infected feral pig population to domestic pig holdings Commission Decision 98/104/EC⁽⁴⁾ was adopted;

(b) have been subject to a test for detecting:

- antibodies to classical swine fever virus and found negative,
- classical swine fever virus and found negative.

Whereas the amended plans presented by Germany for the eradication of classical swine fever in feral pigs in Lower Saxony, Brandenburg and Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania were examined by the Standing Veterinary Committee on 9 June 1998;

The samples for serological and virological examination shall be collected in accordance with the provisions of Annex IV, point 1 of Directive 80/217/EEC. The laboratory examinations shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of Annex I to the said Directive. For detection of virus, however an antigen detection Elisa test approved by the competent authority of Germany may be used.

Whereas, as a result of the favourable evolution of the disease, it is necessary to amend Commission Decision 98/104/EC;

The examination for antibodies and virus/antigen shall be carried out within ten days of certification;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Veterinary Committee,

(c) come from a holding where an inspection of all pigs and a clinical examination of the pigs to be moved, including the taking of temperature of a

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 224, 18. 8. 1990, p. 29.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 62, 15. 3. 1993, p. 49.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 47, 21. 2. 1980, p. 11.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 25, 31. 1. 1998, p. 98.

proportion thereof have been carried out by the official veterinarian within 24 hours of dispatch;

(d) are properly identified by eartags at the holding of origin so that these can be ascertained and traced back.

4. The movement of pigs referred to in paragraph 3 shall only be allowed:

- following three days advanced notification to the competent local veterinary authority responsible for the holding of destination and dispatched by the local veterinary authority,
- directly from the holding of dispatch to the holding of destination,
- to holdings of destination where the pigs are subject to official observation during a 30-day period after arrival and where no pig leaves the holdings during this period unless directly for slaughter.

Such pigs must not be dispatched to another Member State.

5. The pigs referred to in paragraph 1 shall during transport be accompanied by a health certificate issued by an official veterinarian. The means of transport shall be officially sealed.

Article 2

The Member States shall amend the measures they apply to trade so as to bring them into compliance with this Decision. They shall immediately inform the Commission thereof.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 26 June 1998.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COMMISSION

COMMISSION DECISION

of 26 June 1998

amending Decision 98/339/EC concerning certain protective measures relating to classical swine fever in Spain

*(notified under document number C(1998) 1778)**(Text with EEA relevance)*

(98/411/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 90/425/EEC of 26 June 1990 concerning veterinary and zootechnical checks applicable in intra-Community trade in certain live animals and products with a view to the completion of the internal market⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Directive 92/118/EEC⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 10(4) thereof,

Whereas a number of outbreaks of classical swine fever have occurred in Spain;

Whereas Spain has taken measures within the framework of Council Directive 80/217/EEC of 22 January 1980 introducing Community measures for the control of classical swine fever⁽³⁾, as last amended by the act of Accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden;Whereas as a result of disease situation it was necessary to adopt Commission Decision 97/285/EC of 30 April 1997⁽⁴⁾ concerning certain protection measures relating to classical swine fever in Spain, to amend it by Decisions97/446/EC⁽⁵⁾, 98/93/EC⁽⁶⁾ and 98/271/EC⁽⁷⁾ and to repeal it by Decision 98/339/EC⁽⁸⁾;Whereas Spain has adopted the national serosurveillance programme for classical swine fever approved with Commission Decision 98/176/EC of 18 February 1998⁽⁹⁾;

Whereas due to classical swine fever favourable evolution it is necessary to modify adopted measures concerning the movement of pigs and the trade of boar semen from some areas of Spain;

Whereas the measures provided for in this decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Veterinary Committee,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

1. Annex I of Commission Decision 98/339/EC is replaced by Annex I to this Decision.
2. Annex II of Commission Decision 98/339/EC is replaced by Annex II to this Decision.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 224, 18. 8. 1990, p. 29.⁽²⁾ OJ L 62, 15. 3. 1993, p. 49.⁽³⁾ OJ L 47, 21. 2. 1980, p. 11.⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 114, 1. 5. 1997, p. 47.⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 190, 19. 7. 1997, p. 48.⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 18, 23. 1. 1998, p. 35.⁽⁷⁾ OJ L 120, 23. 4. 1998, p. 23.⁽⁸⁾ OJ L 148, 19. 5. 1998, p. 43.⁽⁹⁾ OJ L 65, 5. 3. 1998, p. 26.

Article 2

The Member States shall amend the measures they apply to trade so as to bring them into compliance with this Decision. They shall immediately inform the Commission thereof.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 26 June 1998.

For the Commission
Franz FISCHLER
Member of the Commission

*ANNEX I***Comarcas in the province of Lerida**

Pla D'Urgell

Urgell

Noguera

Segrià

Garrigues

Segarra

Comarcas veterinarias in the province of Zaragoza

Alagón

Borja

Tauste

Zaragoza

Illueco

La Almunia de Doña Godina

Comarcas veterinarias in the province of Sevilla

Los Alcores

*ANNEX II***Comarcas veterinarias in the province of Lerida**

Garrigues

Segarra