

## Animal health situation in Republic of Estonia.

### NATIONAL VETERINARY AUTHORITY

The veterinary services in Republic of Estonia are organized in a pyramidal structure. At the top of the pyramid is the Ministry of Agriculture. In the middle, there are State Veterinary Institutions (Veterinary and Food Inspection, Veterinary and Food Laboratories.). In the framework of the Veterinary and Food Inspection one can find the District Veterinary Centers and Veterinary Border Control Inspection. At the bottom of the pyramid there is veterinary practice.

The number of government veterinarians is 210.  
The number of private veterinarians is 841.  
In approved laboratories work 43 veterinarians.  
The number of trained technicians in laboratories is 34.  
10 trained technicians working as assistants to veterinarians.

Legislation pertaining to public health and animal health is issued by the central authorities. When animal or human health is in danger, Veterinary and Food Inspection has the legislative power to immediately issue the necessary regulations. The basic veterinary regulation in the Republic of Estonia is the Law of the Republic of Estonia on Veterinary Service

During the year 1992-1998, 20 border posts with veterinary inspection opened. From the future enlarged EU-veterinary point of view, Estonia is having only one land border to non EU territories. This is the border to Russia in the East of Estonia, starting in the North-East on the coast of the Baltic Sea with the land border post of Narva and running down South to the land border post of Luhaama. On top of that, there is the airport of Tallinn and the ports of Muuga .

### DISEASE STATUS

Republic of Estonia has been free from OIE List A diseases since 1994.. Diagnosis for notifiable diseases is done in accredited laboratories.

The last occurrence of other List A diseases is as follows:

Foot and Mouth Disease	1982
Classical Swine Fever	1994
Newcastle Disease	1962

The following diseases have never been recorded in Estonia:

- Vesicular Stomatitis
- Swine Vesicular disease
- Rinderpest
- Pest of Small Ruminants

Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia  
Lumpy Skin Disease  
Rift Valley Fever  
Bluetongue  
Sheep and Goat Pox  
African horse Sickness  
African Swine Fever  
Avian Influenza

Estonia is a country without an annual systematic immunoprophylaxis against FMD  
In fact, vaccination is not allowed due to exporting conditions as well as the fact that  
Estonia has chosen a nonvaccination strategy. The disease is absent from 1982.

The methods being applied are as follows:

- Notifiable disease
- Prohibition of import from infected countries
- Control program for the whole country
- Quarantine, movement control and precautions at the border and within the country
- Stamping-out policy
- Testing
- Vaccination prohibited

#### DISEASE CONTRROL PROGRAMM

##### *Cattle:*

\*Bovine Tuberculosis

All cows, heifers and breeding bulls examined every year.

\*Bovine Brucellosis

Bacteriological examination – all abortions

Serological examination – 40% of cattle and all breeding bulls every year

\*Leptospirosis

All breeding bulls examined every year

\*Trichomonosis

All breeding bulls examined bi-annually

\*Bov. Genit. Campylobacteriosis

All breeding bulls bi-annually

\*Chlamydiosis

All breeding bulls examined bi-annually

\*Mucosal Disease

All breeding bulls examined every year

\*Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis

All breeding bulls examined every year

##### Swine:

\*Tuberculosis

All breeding swine's every year

\*Brutsellosis

Serological examination – breeding sows and boars every year

\*Leptospirosis

Serological examination – breeding sows and boars every year

\*Aujeszky's Disease

Breeding boars every year

\*Mycoplasmosis

Free herds examined every year

\*Swine Vesicular Disease

1% of herds examined every year

\*Classical Swine Fever

2% of herds examined every year

Horses:

\*Equine Infectious Anemia

Breeding horses every year

\*Glander

Poultry:

\*Tuberculosis

10% of breeding birds examined every year

\*Pullorum Disease

10% of breeding birds examined every year

\*Salmonellosis(C855)

15% of breeding birds examined every year

\*Newcastle Disease

1% of birds examined every year

## VACCINATION STATUS OF THE REGION

Vaccination is not a preferred option because of the delayed recognition free status from OIE List A diseases.

## LIVESTOCK DEMOGRAPHICS

The number of bovines in Estonia is 348 300

The number of sheep and goats is 32 600

The number of pigs is 306 300

The number of poultry is 2 633 300

The number of horses is 4000

We have no buffalo's.

All markets and auctions for livestock in Estonia are under the supervision of the district veterinary officer. All animals entering a market or an auction are examined and inspected by the veterinarian responsible for the market/auction.

The major livestock marketing centers are situated in Tallinn and Tartu.

## AUTHORIZED LABORATORIES

The Estonian National Veterinary and food Laboratory is the reference laboratory for notifiable bacterial, viral and parasitic diseases.

## EMRGENCY RESPONSE TO OUTBREAK SITUATIONS

The main pillar in the epidemiological surveillance is the system of notifiability of animal diseases.

In case of suspicion of a notifiable disease, the district veterinary officer must react in accordance with the national contingency plans. In the case of an outbreak of a list A disease, full compensation is guaranteed by the national government. Stamping out is requested for all A diseases.