

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY
USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT
POLICY

Voluntary Public

Date: 2/27/2012

GAIN Report Number: NL2007

Netherlands EU-27

Post: The Hague

Update of the Schmallenberg Virus Outbreak in the EU

Report Categories:

Livestock and Products

Approved By:

Mary Ellen Smith

Prepared By:

Bob Flach

Report Highlights:

The Schmallenberg virus has been found in cattle in Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, the UK and France. Russia, the Ukraine, Egypt and Mexico imposed a ban on live cattle, embryo's and semen from these countries.

The Schmallenberg virus has been found in cattle in Germany on November 21st, in Belgium on January 19th, in the Netherlands on January 23rd, and in the UK on February 5th. In total 83 cases have been found in cattle, of which almost half of the cases in Germany. Presentations about the Schmallenberg virus on the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health (SCFCAH) can be downloaded at:

http://ec.europa.eu/food/committees/regulatory/scfcah/animal_health/presentations_en.htm#1112012012

Below an overview of the farms suspected, inspected and the results of the tests:

Germany	Farms Suspected	Farms inspected	Virus found	Virus not found	Awaiting result
Cattle			41		
Sheep			620		
Goat			32		
Total			693		

Belgium	Farms Suspected	Farms inspected	Virus found	Virus not found	Awaiting result
Cattle		308	15		
Sheep		179	128		
Goat		9	1		
Total		496	144		

Netherlands	Farms Suspected	Farms inspected	Virus found	Virus not found	Awaiting result
Cattle	424		16	321	87
Sheep	208		97	82	29
Goat	27		5	19	31
Total	659		118	422	147

UK	Farms Suspected	Farms inspected	Virus found	Virus not found	Awaiting result
Cattle			3		
Sheep			55		
Goat			0		
Total			58		

France	Farms Suspected	Farms inspected	Virus found	Virus not found	Awaiting result
Cattle			8		
Sheep			266		
Goat			3		
Total			277		

Trade implications

On February 5th, Russia imposed a ban on the import of live cattle, embryo's and semen from Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, the UK and France. With this ban, an annual trade value of about US\$ 80 million is affected. Also the Ukraine, Egypt and Mexico banned imports of live cattle, embryo's and semen. Annually, Egypt imports about 10,000 head of cattle from the EU.

Exports of Live Cattle, Beef and Veal to Russia in 2011, Value		
	Live cattle	Beef and veal
Germany	26 million US\$	78 million US\$
The Netherlands	48 million US\$	3 million US\$
France	5 million US\$	10 million US\$
Belgium	0	7 million US\$
United Kingdom	0	0
EU Total	122 million US\$	326 million US\$

Source: based on January – December trade statistics of GTIS.

Exports of Live Cattle, Beef and Veal to Russia in 2011, Quantity		
	Live cattle (head)	Beef and veal (Carcass Weight, MT)
Germany	8,362	25,500
The Netherlands	14,366	800
France	902	3,800
Belgium	0	2,900
United Kingdom	0	0
EU Total	39,023	107,000

Source: based on January – December trade statistics of GTIS.

The U.S. and Japan imposed additional restrictions on the import of embryo's and semen of ruminants. Shipments of bovine semen or embryos collected in EU Member States are eligible for import into the United States unless the official export health certificate includes a statement that the bovine germplasm was collected before June 1, 2011. Alternatively, for future collections certificates will need to include statements that the donor animals were tested and that the embryo or semen collections occurred in vector-free facilities. Windows in the collection center must be screened to prevent the entry of vectors. With an annual trade value of about US\$ 7 million, the United States is the premier export destination for semen from the EU.

Information in this report is based on press releases of the Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (NVWA), the Belgian Food Safety Agency (FAVV), and FAS Offices in The Hague, Berlin, London, Paris and Brussels.

