



HARMONISATION
OF PHYTOSANITARY
AND VETERINARY
MEASURES



The acquis communautaire: Harmonisation of Phytosanitary and Veterinary Measures

A framework of phytosanitary and veterinary
system in partner countries



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→ I INDEX

Preface	p. 4
Phare Small Projects Programme	p. 7
Project Presentation	p. 8
Partners of the Project	p. 11
Italian delegation	p. 12
The public veterinary service and the application of the acquis communautaire <i>Mr C. Costanzi</i>	p. 12
The organisation and role of the public veterinary service in the Autonomous Province of Trento <i>Mr A. Chiesa</i>	p. 32
The organisation of the phytosanitary sector in the Autonomous Province of Trento <i>Mr F. Bigaran</i>	p. 40
The European phytosanitary legislation: a deep transformation of traditional phytosanitary controls <i>Mr B.C. Faraglia</i>	p. 44
Romanian delegation	p. 51
Acquis communautaire in the sanitary and veterinary field applied to the Bacau County <i>Mr F. I. Velisar</i>	p. 51
The organisation of the phytosanitary administration in Bacau County: methods and control techniques <i>Mr I. Melinte</i>	p. 54
Poland delegation	p. 57
Voivodship veterinary inspection in Gdansk <i>Mr W. Przewoski</i>	p. 57
Phytosanitary issues and regulation in Pomorskie <i>Mr P. Sroka</i>	p. 62
Bulgarian delegation	p. 68
Progress achieved in the veterinary and phytosanitary field in Bulgaria <i>Mrs. M. Pchelinska</i>	p. 68
Lithuanian delegation	p. 71
State Food and Veterinary Service in Kaunas County <i>Mr. M. Kaziliunas</i>	p. 71
Czech Republic delegation	p. 81
State Phytosanitary Administration - Regional Division South Moravia <i>Mr J. Samanek</i>	p. 81
Slovak Republic delegation	p. 86
Overview of the phytosanitary legislation in force <i>Mr P. Sivicek</i>	p. 86

→ I Preface

I'm pleased to present you this project to underline one of the most important aspects of this action: the process of acquisition of a common plan within the European Union, a combination of standards, procedures, observance of the rules. This aim is hard to reach for everybody, and also for us, that still have to develop a constant ability of adaptation to ensure that the obligations set by the membership in the European Union will turn into opportunities. This isn't so evident, often prevails the effort to adjust to norms and disciplines that impose an increased pressure on our entrepreneurs as well as on our administrations. Only within a long term process we'll be able to find out that harmonisation, that is the need to guarantee a common market, involves necessarily the respect of shared rules which have to be respected by all of the involved actors.

Furthermore, the lack of resources, of vocational training and sometimes the lack of elasticity of the *Acquis communautaire* can produce demotivation. For the member states and for the candidate states it was and it is a way which has to be confronted with the awareness of the advantages of being member of this Europe. I apply in particular to you, technicians and experts because you are in the first line and you have to take responsibility for the immediate burdens linked to this project. Your job will be a benefit for the society and the economic system.

Therefore I'd like to bring you a message of encouragement and to wish you the best because the way you are in front of is a very important one.

For the autonomous province of Trento it's of fundamental importance to take part in such kind of projects for two orders of reasons:

- ▶ in the first place because we are a small province that, from the geographical point of view, tends to be isolated for its mountainous territory and therefore needs to build up relations, to open up to the world, to exchange experiences and relationships with other countries even far away. Our ability to create networks with other countries is one result of the challenge to contend with the negative effects that could be caused by our geographical position and dimension.



- the second reason for our involvement in transnational projects concerns our institutional reality, which includes an elevated level of self-government. Our administration is in fact an administration that has a primary legislative competence in several sectors and therefore it is our interest to open up to the experiences of other territorial and institutional realities with the aim to pick up some elements that could be integrated within our self-governmental system and within our legal-institutional system.

Therefore, as far as we are concerned, the opening is not only a factor of development but also a factor of improvement of our political action, since we see in this exchange the possibility to acquire elements that could improve our public politics.

The European projects are projects which facilitate the transfer of knowledge and they aren't limited on only one determined sector.

Therefore I'd like to invite you to take advantage of this opportunity to understand everything you'd like to know about the Trentino, about our experience also besides your specific responsibilities and to try to gain as much as possible from this reciprocal relationship.

After all, the peculiarity of the European projects is indeed to sow something and to wait that the little plant could grow also in the most unexpected places.

Gianluca Salvatori

councillor in charge of European affairs





→ PHARE Small Projects Programme



PHARE Small Projects Programme has been set up by the European Commission to support the efforts of the candidate countries to join the European Union.

By helping different actors to be better prepared for and informed about accession matters, the Small Projects Programme is intended to facilitate the enlargement process.

The objectives of the Small Projects Programme are:

1. To raise awareness on European integration and the Enlargement process in the candidate countries of Central and Eastern Europe;
2. To support and publicise the efforts of these candidate countries to join the European Union;
3. To increase the visibility of the European Union in these candidate countries

The priority issues for 2003 are:

1. The implementation and enforcement of the internal market acquis;
2. The reinforcement of the judicial system, including the role of the judiciary in the implementation and enforcement of the acquis.

→ I The Project

The *acquis communautaire*: harmonisation of phytosanitary and veterinary measures

The project, co financed by European Commission within Phare Small Projects Programme, is intended to raise awareness on the European enlargement process, in particular in the field of free movement of goods and phytosanitary and veterinary measures.

The aim of the project is to support the regional and national institutions in the Candidate Countries providing adequate information, as well as the fundamental tools and the best practices for public officials working in the phytosanitary and veterinary sector. The target group is composed by the officials involved in the management of the phytosanitary and veterinary system at national and regional level in Candidate Countries and in Italy.

The main activities are:

- 1) European conference in Bacau (Romania) on “The *acquis communautaire*: harmonisation of phytosanitary and veterinary measures”.

The conference is intended for a wide audience, public officials, representatives from public and para-governmental organisations and economic agents from applicant countries and Italy. The aim is to provide visibility to the process of enlargement of the EU and the efforts of applicant countries to comply with the *acquis communautaire*.

The first leg of the conference holds in a plenary session, devoted to the legal framework of reference; later on, workshops hold to allow comparison of the experiences in small groups and better analyse problems and define phytosanitary and veterinary measures more adequate to each individual country.

- 2) Study Visit in Trento (Italy) on “The management of phytosanitary and veterinary systems”.

The Study visit in Trento involves officials of partner and participating





countries. The aim of the visit is to explain how plant and animal health controls are performed and the relevant procedures implemented in the Autonomous Province of Trento. This visit is an important educational and training opportunity for the applicant countries as well as a unique opportunity to exchange experiences and start collaboration with participating administrations.

- 3) Creation of a web page, as a place for sharing the knowledge and comparing experiences:

www.acquisphyto-vet.net

- 4) Gathering and printing of papers presented during the project.



E U R O P E



The acquis communautaire:

Harmonisation of Phytosanitary and Veterinary Measures



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→ I The public veterinary service and the application of *acquis communautaire*

Mr Carlo Costanzi – coordinator of the division for promotion of the quality in the health services of the Autonomous Province of Trento

■ INTRODUCTION

The creation of a single European market is based on the assumption that all obstacles of a legislative and regulatory nature which impede free trade will be eliminated.

As far as the veterinary sector is concerned new common veterinary legislation has been issued which concerns various areas of activity.

In particular regulations have been adopted establishing controls to be carried out during the following phases:

- the trading of live animals coming from European Community member states;
- the production, transformation and trading of products of animal origin originating in the European Community;
- the sale of live animals or products of animal origin coming from other countries (countries not adhering to the European Community treaty);
- verification that veterinary and livestock legislation is respected both in trade between European Community countries and in imports from other countries.

The objective of European veterinary legislation is the definition, achievement and maintenance of high standards of health, valid throughout the EUROPEAN UNION for each individual species of animal or category of products.

Only if these health standards are respected will animals or animal products be able to circulate freely within its territory.

The acquisition of live animals or products of animal origin from other countries is only possible once the European Community Commission has ascertained that these countries can supply equivalent guarantees and has proceeded to include them in special lists made official through regulatory provisions (see Decision of the European Community Commission).

For countries wishing to join the European Community, the European Council in Madrid (1995) laid great emphasis on the need for such countries to adapt their administrative structures in order to ensure the harmonious implementation of European Community policy after joining, whereas the Council in Luxembourg (1997) insisted that the inser-



tion of *acquis* within the legislation is necessary, but not sufficient, as it is necessary to ensure that it is applied.

The European Councils of Feira and Göteborg in 2000 and 2001 confirmed the fundamental importance of candidate countries applying the regulatory, political and judicial provisions of the European Community (*acquis communautaire*) and stated that this involves a strong commitment to strengthening and reforming administrative and judicial structures. It is thus clear that in order to maintain high health standards for each individual species of animal or category of products it is necessary for the countries already belonging to the European Community, but above all for countries which have already asked to join, to prepare adequate administrative and technical structures which can ensure the application of *acquis communautaire*.

- **THE FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIVE** of the administrative structure and in our case of public veterinary services is to ensure that production and transformation activities and the circulation of live animals is in line with European legislation, in order to protect the health and the economic interests of consumers, farmers, those owning animals, the personnel employed in industries concerned with animal husbandry and the transformation of products of animal origin and animals, thus facilitating trade.

This alignment does not involve increasing the efficiency and efficacy of controls on production and transformation activities or on the trading of live animals, but rather in bringing application of PREVENTIVE TOOLS to the highest possible level.

- **TOOLS AVAILABLE TO EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS IN ORDER TO ADAPT INTERNAL REGULATIONS TO EUROPEAN COMMUNITY LAW**

The tools available to European institutions in order to adapt their internal regulations to European Community law may take the form of:

- a) **REGULATIONS:** all aspects of these are obligatory and they can be directly applied in member states without the need for national measures for their adoption:
- b) **DIRECTIVES:** provided for by article 249 of the Treaty establishing the European Community, these are issued, following a proposal of the European Commission, by the Council of European Union and by Parliament and are legally binding.

In order to be effective the directive must be adopted within an established timescale, through regulatory provisions of individual member states, which are however free to decide how and in what form to comply with the regulations.

In Italy it is the Community law which indicates the directives to be adopted each year. The procedure for implementation is completed with the adoption of implementation measures (legislative decrees, ministerial decrees, regulations). Direct implementation may occur in the case of a citizen appealing directly to the European courts as a result of failure to apply a Directive. In this case the judge esta-

blishes that, as the European act is precise and detailed, it may be implemented immediately, bypassing any internal measures. In some cases petitioners may claim compensation for damage.

Once the period established for implementation has passed, the European Commission may begin the procedure for infringement. After having placed the defaulting state in a position to present its observations as regards the point, it issues an opinion giving the motivation. If the state does not comply within the period established, the Commission may apply directly to the Courts of the European Union;

c) **DECISIONS:** like Regulations, these can be directly applied in the member states and are obligatory in every aspect, however they are aimed at specific groups and their scope is not general and abstract, as is typical of legislative acts;

d) **RECOMMENDATIONS AND OPINIONS:** these are not binding

■ THE ORGANISATION OF PUBLIC VETERINARY SERVICES IN ITALY

A consequence of the inclusion of a country, in our case ITALY, within the EUROPEAN UNION is the abandoning of a series of border controls which in the past prevented the introduction of infectious diseases and contamination of various kinds in an effective manner.

The choice to become an “open country” (to the entry of animals, their products, various livestock products, tourists, foreign workers etc.) involves the concentration of a whole series of risks which need to be controlled by efficient services, otherwise there is the risk of becoming a “country which is too open” in a negative sense.

ITALY has included its public veterinary surgeons within the staff of the NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE, which is made up of bodies and organisations at different institutional levels which co-operate in order to reach the objective of protecting the health of animals, the safety of food of animal origin and the health of citizens.

Public veterinary surgeons are included within specific structures, namely in:

1) THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH:

- department of food, nutrition and public veterinary health, having the task of establishing policy, co-ordination and legislation.

It is made up of 16 offices, subdivided according to the different areas of jurisdiction deriving from the application of EC regulations, and has 202 staff available (mostly veterinary surgeons and administrative personnel);

€# frontier inspection posts (FIPs), 31 put into operation;

€# veterinary offices for the adoption of the European Community provisions, 17 put into operation.

At **FRONTIER INSPECTION POSTS** established by EEC Directives 90/675/CEE, 91/496/CEE and 97/78/CE, 97/79/CE and 2000/77/CE, 2001/46/CE, implemented by into Italian law with legislative decrees 93/93/, 80/2000 and 223/2003, and organised at ports, airports, and frontier posts with other countries, systematic checks



are carried out on products, and live animals and their products in order to ensure possession of the requisites provided for by EC regulations.

Through the **OFFICES FOR THE ADOPTION OF EC PROVISIONS** on the other hand the Italian state has provided for the verification, through non discriminatory checks, of the correct application of veterinary and livestock legislation, with EC Directives 89/608/CEE and 89/662/CEE, 90/426/CEE, 2000/77/CE and 2001/46/CE, implemented respectively with legislative decrees nos. 27/1992, 28/1992 and 223/2003,;

- 2) **THE FURTHER HEALTH INSTITUTE:** this is a technical and scientific organ of the National Health Service, and through its laboratories, among which the veterinary medicine, food, parasitology, toxicology and animal experimentation quality and safety laboratories it carries out research and training on issues relating to public health, in addition to supervising activities relating to health in experimental zoophylaxis institutes and providing consultancy to the Ministry of Health;
- 3) **EXPERIMENTAL ZOOPROPHYLAXIS INSTITUTES:** these are health institutes established according to public law, which have organisational and administrative autonomy and are a technical and operational tool of the National Health Service, responsible for animal health and control of the healthiness of foods of animal origin, (they carry out all diagnostic, serological, microbiological and chemical tests for the public area veterinary services).

They represent a link in the central public veterinary system within the territory of the EC, with 10 central offices and 85 branch offices (at provincial level), plus some laboratories dedicated to the problems of fishing and fish-farming, and they support the activities of the public health service;

- 4) **THE REGIONAL VETERINARY SERVICES**, established in **19 REGIONS** and **2 AUTONOMOUS PROVINCES**, which plan and organise services and activities relating to the health and wellbeing of animals and the safety of products of animal origin, verifying the results of these activities in their own area;
- 5) **THE VETERINARY SERVICES OF LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES (ASLs)**, which guarantee the provision of activities linked to the health and wellbeing of animals and the safety of products of animal origin. They are organised into three operational areas:
 - **“Area A”**, which deals with prevention programmes for infectious diseases of livestock and the veterinary policing service ;
 - **“Area B”**, which deals with hygiene in the production and sale of foods of animal origin;
 - **“Area C”**, which deals with the wellbeing of animals and the hygiene in farms.

In order to carry out the controls provided for by EC, national and local regulations, the public veterinary services employ 5,273 veterinary surgeons (graduates in veterinary medicine), who are distributed across 197 ASLs, of which 87 in NORTHERN ITALY, 41 in CENTRAL ITALY and 68 in SOUTHERN ITALY and the ISLANDS (Sardinia and Sicily).

Hence, in order to implement policies for the liberalisation and globalisation of the market Italy cannot disregard the need for efficient veterinary services, as it needs to introduce, rear and manage large animal populations, import large quantities of products of animal origin and manage a high concentration of wild and synantropic animals (which share the same ecological niche as man) and domestic species which live and produce in a small space, with frequent contact between people and animals.

The risks deriving from moving large numbers of live animals and quantities of products of animal origin are kept under control through the organisation of the following:

1) SAFEGUARDING OF THE HEALTH OF ANIMAL POPULATIONS IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE TRADE AND THE PREVENTION OF ZONOSIS.

Plans for the eradication and supervision of infectious diseases are an indication of the efficiency not only of veterinary services, but of the whole administration.

In order to encourage the movement of animals, the European Union has laid down conditions for health policing to be put into effect by each member state for the different species of animals. This involves the preparation of programmes for the eradication of disease or regarding the appearance of disease in farms operating within the country and certification when individual animals or groups of animals are moved between different member states.

- 1) For diseases in list “A” of the Office International des Epizooties – O.I.E.-strict supervisory measures are provided for in order to keep them under constant control, as their effects on the world economy and international trade are feared. The measures for combating certain diseases in list “A” of the O.I.E. are contained in Directive 92/119/CEE (implemented into Italian law according to the decree of the President of the Republic 362/1996), in Directive 92/66/CEE (implemented into Italian law according to the decree of the President of the Republic 657/1996) for Newcastle’s disease, in Directive 2001/89/CE for classic swine fever, in Directive 2003/85/CE for epizootic foot-and-mouth disease, in Directive 92/40/CE (implemented into Italian law according to the decree of the President of the Republic 656/1996) for highly pathogenic avian influenza, in Directive 2002/60/CE for African swine fever and in Directive 200/75/CE for malignant catarrhal fever in sheep and goats

Currently in Italy the control and eradication of the following diseases is underway:

- Catarrhal fever in sheep (Blue Tongue disease);
 - African swine disease (Directive 89/622/CEE, as amended by Regulations 806/2003/CE);
 - Highly pathogenic avian influenza.
- 2) Diseases for which eradication and control programmes have been implemen-



ted throughout Italy according to Directives 64/432/CEE and 91/68/CEE, as amended by Directive 2003/50/CE, 92/117/CEE, 97/22/CE, by Regulations 999/2001/C, as amended by Regulations 1915/2003/CE and by the Ordinance of the Ministry of Health of 13 January 1994, as amended by the O.M. of 16 February 1994 and as summarised hereafter:

A) Diseases of cattle which are the object of eradication and control programmes.

Tuberculosis, brucellosis, enzootic leucosis and bovine spongiform encephalopathy.

With the D.M. of 7 January 2000, "National system for epidemiological controls" (as amended by the DMs of 19 January 2001, 19 February 2001 and 6 August 2001.) the first national control programme came into effect from 11 March 2000.

At EC level epidemiological controls relating to transmissible spongiform encephalopathy were regulated by Decision 98/272/CE of 23 April 1998. The control measures contained in the different EC Decisions were then brought together and defined in Regulations 999/2001/CE (as amended by EC Regulations 1248/2001/CE, 1326/2001/CE, 270/2002/CE, 1494/2002/CE, 260/2003/CE, 650/2003/CE, 1053/2003/CE, 1139/2003/CE, 1234/2003/CE and 1915/2003/CE) which, in articles 6 and 11, and in enclosure III, reaffirm the implementation of an annual programme for sampling and a screening procedure which makes use of rapid diagnostic tests.

B) Diseases of swine which are the object of eradication and control programmes.

Classic swine fever, African swine fever, swine vesicular disease, Aujeszky's disease and brucellosis.

C) Diseases of sheep and goats which are the object of eradication and control programmes.

Brucellosis in sheep and goats, scrapie.

D) Diseases of breeding poultry of the species Gallus Gallus which are the object of eradication and control programmes.

Salmonella.

The flow of information relating to the discovery of zoonotic agents was put in motion by Directive 92/117/CE and allows the European Union to identify priorities in terms of intervention for the protection of consumers in an adequate manner.

The European Union underlines the importance of the diffusion of criteria for

health and hygiene (biosecurity measures) for the correct management of animal husbandry (elements of good animal husbandry practices, -GAHP-) in directive 90/539/CEE, implemented into Italian law with D.P.R. 587/1993, identifying precise structural parameters and management methods for poultry farms as regards trading.

E) Diseases of horses which are the object of eradication and control programmes.

Viral arteritis in horses.

- 3) Animal diseases for which local eradication and control programmes have been put in motion on the initiative of individual regions, according to Directive 91/67/CEE and Decision 2001/183/CE (for fish) and 64/432/CEE (Enclosure E, part II) (for cattle) in order to obtain further sanitary guarantees:

A) Diseases of fish which are the object of eradication and control programmes. Viral haemorrhagic septicaemia and infectious haematopoietic necrosis;

B) Diseases of cattle which are the object of eradication and control programmes.

Viral diarrhoea, mucous membrane disease and infectious rhinotracheitis.

- 4) Diseases for which, when local control programmes have not been implemented, the application of special health measures is required for the transportation of individual animals or groups of animals, or in the event of centres of infection occurring, or requiring certification of possession of certain health requirements, namely:
- EC regulations 998/65/CE and decision 2003/803/CE relating to the transfer of pets for non commercial purposes between member states;
 - Directive 1999/90/CEE (implemented into Italian law according to the decree of the President of the Republic 32/2002) which makes provision for exchanges within the EC and the importing of poultry and eggs for brooding from other countries;
 - Directive 90/426/CEE (implemented into Italian law according to the decree of the President of the Republic 243/1994) which regulates movement within the EC and the importing of equidae from other countries;
 - Directive 92/65/CEE (implemented into Italian law with legislative decree 633/1996) established norms for the trading and importation of animals, sperm, ovum and embryos which are not subject to the specific EC regulations listed in enclosure A, section I, of Directive 90/425/CEE.
 - Directive 91/67/CEE, implemented into Italian law according to the decree of the President of the Republic no. 555/92 which lays down health policing measures for the trading of animals and aquaculture products, Directive 93/



53/CEE which establishes minimum measures for the combating of certain diseases of fish, implemented into Italian law according to the decree of the President of the Republic 3 July 1997, n.263 and Decision 2003/858/CE which lays down health policing measures relating to veterinary certification for the importing to the European Union of live fish, eggs and gametes destined for farms and for live fish and their products destined for human consumption.

2) THE PROTECTION OF FARM ANIMALS.

In ITALY regulations designed to impose good animal husbandry practices were issued in 1985 with Law 623/85 which ratified the European Convention for the protection of animals in farms.

More detailed provisions were subsequently issued within the context of the EC as regards methods of animal husbandry for the different species of animals which are most subject to the limitations imposed by modern technology and by management systems.

We recall in particular:

- Directive 98/58/CE, implemented into Italian law with legislative decree 146/2001;
- Directives 1999/74/CE and 2002/4/CE implemented into Italian law with legislative decree 267/2003 (egg-laying hens);
- Directive 97/2/CE, implemented into Italian law with legislative decree 331/1998 (calves reared for their meat);
- Directive 91/630/CEE, as amended by directives 2001/88/CE and 2001/93/CE (swine).

The veterinary services of the national health service check, through appropriate inspections, that the provisions mentioned above, designed to maintain an adequate level of wellbeing for animals and to guarantee correct hygienic conditions in farms, are applied correctly in farms in Italy. Information is gathered at ASL, regional and national level in order to permit a global evaluation of all activities carried out nationally.

3) URBAN HYGIENE AND THE PROTECTION OF ANIMALS USED FOR EXPERIMENTS.

This role is carried out by the veterinary service of the National Health Service, first of all within the context of the prevention of urban rabies and secondarily to prevent the diffusion of strays and the abandoning of dogs.

Italian Law 281/91 established an obligatory dog register, which is implemented through the insertion of microchips in all dogs owned.

The same law forbids the killing of captured stray dogs which do not have a microchip or their use for experiments.

The law also entrusts the public veterinary service with the task of controlling the

numbers, implementing birth control and supervising the colonies of cats which live wild in the area of the individual municipalities.

The European Union regulates the use of animals for experiments with Directive 86/609/CEE, implemented into Italian law with legislative decree 116/92.

In particular the public veterinary service is required to safeguard the wellbeing of animals used for experiments and to check that the environments where the animals are kept meet requirements.

4) REGISTRATION OF FARMS AND THE ESTABLISHING OF NATIONAL DATA-BASES.

The registration of farms at public veterinary departments is obligatory according to Directive 96/2/CE, as subsequently amended by Directives 2003/74/CE and 96/23/CE.

These directives forbid the use of certain hormonal substances and lay down rules relating to checks for the presence of residues of these substances in live animals and their products.

They provide for the keeping of a REGISTER OF TREATMENT WITH HORMONAL SUBSTANCES in farms rearing animals destined to produce products for human consumption.

Directive 92/102/CEE on the other hand establishes an obligatory registration system for cattle, swine, sheep and goats; registration was made compulsory for cattle by European Community Regulations 1760/2000/CE, integrated by Regulations 1082/2003/CE, which also lay down rules concerning the labelling of beef.

For sheep and goats a system of identification and registration was provided for with Regulations n° 21/2004, which should be implemented by 9 July 2005.

ITALY implemented the EC provision with the decree of the President of the Republic 437/2000 and with the interdepartmental decree of 31 January 2000 which laid down rules for the operation of the national database (BDN).

The regions can make use of a regional database which exchanges information with the national database in real time.

By the end of 2003 the completion of certification of the number of animals present in Italian cattle farms is expected to have concluded.

Once this operation has terminated it is expected that application be made to the Commission for the database to go operational.

With Law 1 of August 2003, n° 200 and with the decree of the Minister for Agricultural Policy of 21 March 2003, n° 45 ITALY established an equine register, thus complying with EC Decision 93/623/CE, as amended by Decision 2000/68/CE.

The realisation of reliable databases is a necessary premise for the realisation of a system of control networks for farms referring to each species of animal and for obtai-



ning recognition from the European Commission for this system, as it guarantees respect of the health objectives contained in the respective regulations of reference (e.g. for cattle the respect of the objectives defined in article 14 of Directive 64/432/CEE).

5) CONTROLS ON THE PRODUCTION, TRADING AND USE OF ANIMAL FOODSTUFFS.

The national regulations which since 1963 have governed the use of **products of vegetable, animal and mineral origin, in addition to isolated or mixed chemical-industrial products** destined for the nutrition of farm animals were updated, integrated and partly substituted in 1988 with the adoption of no less than 15 EC directives (74/63/CEE, 77/101/CEE, 79/372/CEE, 79/373/CEE, 79/797/CEE, 80/502/CEE, 80/509/CEE, 80/510/CEE, 80/511/CEE, 80/695/CEE, 82/475/CEE, 82/937/CEE, 82/957/CEE, 83/87/CEE and 86/354/CEE) relating to the **production and sale of animal foodstuffs**, which were adopted by national regulations according to the decree of the President of the Republic of 31 March 1988, no. 152. Subsequently, with the decree of 30 November 1994 of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry and with legislative decree no. 360/1999 the regulations were updated, adopting respectively EC directive 92/87/CEE (which introduces a **non exclusive list of the main ingredients normally used and sold for the preparation of foodstuff compounds** destined for animals other than pets) and EC directives 96/24/CE, 96/25/CE, 98/67/CE and 98/87/CE and article 19 of EC directive 95/69/CE relating to the circulation of raw materials.

With the decree of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, in agreement with the Ministry of Health of 25 June 2003 (considering that article 9 of legislative decree no. 152/1988 established that the amendment of enclosures to Law no. 281/63 was possible with a decree of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry in agreement with the Ministry of Health) the provisions contained in EC Directive 2002/2/CE of 28 January 2002 which amends Directive 79/373/CEE relating to the circulation of compound foodstuffs and repeals Directive 91/357/CEE were adopted as part of national regulations.

The provisions relating to **ingredients forbidden in compound foodstuffs for animals** were established by Decision 91/516/CEE, as amended by Decision 2000/285/CE.

With Directive 1999/29/CE all EC directives on the subject of **undesirable substances and products** in the nutrition of animals were updated and this was implemented into Italian law according to the decree of the Ministry of Health of 23 December 2002, no. 317, in agreement with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

New regulations were issued as regards the use of **additives** in animal foodstuffs with directives 96/51/CE, 98/51/CE and 1999/20/CE, which were implemented in Italy with the decree of the President of the Republic of 2 November 2002, no. 433.

Directive 70/524/CEE relating to the use of additives in animal foodstuffs (still in force) has been periodically updated in subsequent Directives; starting from 1998 new additives for use in animal foodstuffs were no longer authorised by directives, but by regulations; we should recall Regulations 1436/98/CE, 2788/98/CE, 45/1999/CE, 639/1999/CE, 866/1999/CE, 1245/1999/CE, 1594/1999/CE, 1636/1999/CE, 2293/1999/CE, 2562/1999/CE, 654/2000/CE, 739/2000/CE, and lastly Regulations 1801/2003/CE. EC Directive 94/40/CE establishes **the guiding principles for the evaluation of additives for use in animal foodstuffs** (D.M. of Health of 28/11/1994).

Industrial chemical products and products of mineral origin which can be used for the nutrition of animals are regulated by Directive 82/471/CEE, as subsequently amended by Directives 86/530/CEE and 88/485/CEE.

Directive 95/69/CE established the conditions and system for the recognition and registration of plants and intermediaries operating in the animal foodstuff sector and amends Directives 74/63/CEE, 79/373/CEE and 82/471/CEE.

Regulations 98/51/CE establish the model for the registration of plants authorised according to directive 95/69/CE.

Methods for the preparation and commerce of **medicated foodstuffs** in the European Community are regulated by Directive 90/167/CE, which was implemented into Italian law with the legislative decree of 3 March 1993, no. 90.

Provisions relating to **dietetic foodstuffs for animals** are regulated by Directives 93/74/CE, 94/39/CE, 95/9/CE, 95/10/CE and 2002/1/CE and implemented into Italian law with the legislative decree of 24 February 1997, no. 45 and with the decree of the Minister of Health of 16 October 2003.

Directive 70/373/CEE establishes that official checks on foodstuffs for animals designed to check observance of the requisites provided for by legislative or administrative provisions or regulations concerning quality and composition must be carried out using EC sampling and analysis methods.

Member states must thus ensure that official examinations carried out within the context of official checks are undertaken in accordance with the provisions of Directive 2003/126/CE (which repeals Directive 98/88/CE) and within the context of the control programme **in the sector of animal foodstuffs** regulated by Directive 95/53/CE, as amended by Directive 2001/46/CE (implemented into Italian law with the legislative decree of 23 November 1998, no. 460).

6) CONTROLS ON THE USE OF BY-PRODUCTS DERIVING FROM THE FOOD INDUSTRY IN ANIMAL FOODSTUFFS.

At the beginning of the 1990s the European Union regulated the transformation of waste of animal origin coming from farms and/or the food industry for the production



of foodstuffs for animal husbandry and/or technical products (cosmetics, lubricants, fertilisers and fuel) with Directive 90/667/CE). Italy implemented this directive with legislative decree no. 508/92.

This EC directive established the basic principle according to which waste of animal origin, independently of its origin, can be used for the production of animal foodstuffs.

This was based on the condition that the thermal treatment which the by-products were subjected to or the extraction of greases with solvents ensured the elimination of pathogenic micro-organisms (absence of clostridium and salmonella).

Regulation of the subject has now been redefined in Regulations 1774/2001/CE “Health regulations relating to by-products of animal origin not destined for human consumption”.

With:

- Regulations 809/2003/CE transitional regulations were established for the transformation of materials in category 3 and of stable manure;
- Regulations 808/2003/CE amendments were made to Regulations 1774/2002/CE;
- Regulations 810/2003/CE transitional regulations were established for the use of by-products in category 3 and of stable manure used for the production of biogas;
- Regulations 811/2003/CE transitional regulations were established relating to prohibition of recycling within the same species, relating to fish and to the burial and combustion of products of animal origin.
- Regulations 812/2003/CE transitional regulations were established relating to the importation and transit of by-products coming from other countries;
- Regulations 813/2003/CE transitional regulations were established relating to the collection, transport and elimination of food products no longer destined for human consumption;
- Decision 2003/320/CE transitional regulations were established relating to the use of food oils used in animal foodstuffs;
- Decision 2003/321/CE transitional regulations were established relating to standards for the transformation of mammal blood;
- Decision 2003/322/CE transitional regulations were established relating to nutrition of certain species of necrophagous birds using material in category 1;
- Decision 2003/323/CE transitional regulations were established relating to the total separation of materials in category 1 and 2 and materials in category 3;
- Decision 2003/324/CE transitional regulations were established relating to the prohibition of recycling within the same species as regards animals bred for their fur;
- Decision 2003/325/CE transitional regulations were established relating to the separation of plants in categories 1, 2 and 3;
- Decision 2003/326/CE transitional regulations were established relating to the

- separation of fat chemistry plants in categories 2 and 3;
- Decision 2003/327/CE transitional regulations were established relative to plant for low capacity incineration and co-incineration which do not incinerate or co-incinerate materials with specific risks;
 - Decision 2003/328/CE transitional regulations were established relating to the use of kitchen and restaurant waste in category 3 in foodstuffs for swine and the prohibition of recycling within the same species as regards slops for swine;
 - Decision 2003/329/CE transitional regulations were established relating to the thermal treatment processes for manure;
 - Decision 2003/334/CE transitional regulations were established relating to material collected during the treatment of sewage.

7) CONTROL OF THE SALE AND ADMINISTRATION OF VETERINARY DRUGS.

Directives 81/851/CEE, 81/852/CEE, 87/20/CEE 90/676/CEE, 90/677/CEE, 92/18/CEE 93/40/CEE, 93/41/CEE, 200/37/CE and 2001/82/CE laid down EC provisions relating to veterinary drugs and these were implemented into Italian law with the legislative decree of 27 January 1992, no. 119, updated by legislative decrees no. 66/1993 and no. 47/1997 and by the decree of the Ministry of Health 09 April 2003, no. 71.

In particular, with the adoption of directives 2000/37/CE and 2001/82/CE a system for the control of drugs at national level was established.

Directives 96/22/CE, 96/23/CE and 2003/74/CE prohibited the use of certain hormonal, and thyrostatic substances and of beta-agonist substances in animal husbandry and measures were also established for the checking of certain substances and their residues in live animals and in their products, the prohibition being implemented into Italian law with the legislative decree of 4 August 1999, no. 336.

Directives 92/74/CEE and 92/73/CEE established complimentary provisions relating to homeopathic medicines which were implemented into Italian law with the legislative decrees of 17 March 1995, no. 110 and 17 March 1995, no. 185.

Directive 93/42/CEE, as amended by Directives 2000/70/CE and 2001/104/CE laid down measures relating to medical devices which were incorporated into Italian regulations with legislative decrees no. 46/1997 and no. 272/2002.

Directive 2003/32/CE made specific provisions relating to medical devices made with tissues of animal origin.

8) CONTROL OF ZONOSIS AND ZONOTIC AGENTS.

Since 1990 the European Union has considered it necessary to provide for appropriate measures for the control of zoonosis which may place human health at risk and to better safeguard the level of animal health within the European Community (Decision 90/424/CEE).



In particular two groups of zoonosis and zoonotic agents have been identified:

- one group to be subjected to permanent observation;
- one group to be subjected to controls according to the epidemiological situation.

According to Directive 2003/99/CE, member states must undertake collection, analysis and prompt publication of data relating to the incidence of zoonosis, zoonotic agents and resistance to antimicrobics linked to them, whereas according to Regulations 2160/2003/CE they must guarantee the adoption of effective measures for the identification and control of salmonella in all phases of production, treatment and distribution in the primary sector, including animal feed.

9) CONTROLS ON THE METHOD OF CERTIFICATION FOR ANIMALS AND PRODUCTS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN.

Directive 96/93/CE entrusted each member state which transports live animals and their products (sperm, ovum, embryos) or produces products of animal origin or which receives such animals or products, with the task of guaranteeing adequate veterinary controls and the relative certification. These regulations were implemented into Italian law with the decree of the Ministry of Health of 19 June 2000, n° 303.

10) CONTROLS ON THE PRODUCTION, TRANSFORMATION AND SALE OF PRODUCTS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN.

The sectors which see the public veterinary service involved in relation to the control of production, transformation and sale of products of animal origin within the province are:

- **the sector relating to the slaughter and sectioning of beef, horsemeat, pork, lamb and goatmeat**, regulated by Directives 64/433/CEE, 91/497/CEE, 91/498/CEE and 95/23/CE and implemented into Italian law with the legislative decree of 18 April 1994, no. 286, amended by the decree of the Ministry of Health of November 1995;
- **the sector relating to the slaughter and working of fresh poultry and rati-tae (*Struthio Camelus Australis*) meat**, regulated by Directives 71/118/CEE and 92/116/CEE, implemented into Italian law with the decree of the President of the Republic of 10 December 1997, no. 495;
- **the sector relating to the slaughter of game, working and sale of relative meat**, regulated by Directive 92/45/CE, implemented into Italian law with the decree of the President of the Republic of 17 October 1996, no. 607;
- **the sector relating to meat-based products and some products of animal origin**, regulated by directives 92/5/CEE and 95/68/CE, implemented into Italian law with the decree of the President of the Republic of 30 December 1992, no. 537;
- **the sector relating to the production and sale of live bivalve molluscs**, regulated by Directives 91/492/CEE and 97/61/CEE, implemented into Italian law with

- the decree of the President of the Republic of 30 December 1992, no. 530;
- **the sector relating to rabbit meat and farmed game**, regulated by Directives 91/495/CEE and 94/65/CE, implemented into Italian law with the decrees of the President of the Republic of 30 December 1992, no. 559 and 12 January 1998, no. 18;
 - **the minced meat sector**, regulated first by Directive 88/657/CEE and subsequently by directive 94/65/CE, implemented into Italian law with the decree of the President of the Republic of 3 August 1998, no. 309;
 - **the frozen food production sector**, regulated by Directives 89/108/CEE, 92/1/CEE and 92/2/CEE and implemented into Italian law with the legislative decree of 27 January 1992, no. 110 and with the decree of the Minister of Industry, Commerce and Artisan Activities of 25 September 1995, no. 493;
 - **the fishing products sector**, regulated by Directives 91/493/CEE and 92/48/CEE, implemented into Italian law with the legislative decree of 30 December 1992, no. 531;
 - **the sector relating to the production, working and sale of milk**, regulated by directives 92/46/CEE, 92/47/CEE, implemented into Italian law with the decree of the President of the Republic of 14 January 1997, no. 54.
Derogations on the subject were introduced with Decisions 95/165/CE, 96/536/CE and 97/284/CE;
 - **the sector relating to the production, working and sale of honey**, regulated by Directive 74/409/CEE which established the general rules for the application of action intended to improve the production and sale of honey and implemented into Italian law with the Law of 12 October 1982, no. 753;
 - **the egg production sector**, regulated by regulations 1907/90/CEE and by regulations 1274/91/CEE and **egg products sector**, regulated by directive 89/437/CEE, implemented into Italian law with the legislative decree of 4 February 1993, no. 65;
 - **the sector relating to the production, sale and use of food additives**, regulated by Directives 94/34/CE, 94/35/CE, 94/36/CE, 95/2/CE, 95/31/CE, 98/72/CE and lastly by Directive 2001/5/CE, implemented into Italian law with the decree of the Minister of Health of 27 February 1996, no. 209, amended by the decree of 24 June 1998, no. 261 and with the decree of 10 March 2000, no. 183. It is based on the principle of the positive list. The list of authorised food additives is given in the enclosure of the directive, which also specifies food products in which the different additives may be authorised and the conditions relating to their use. All the additives not included in the list are forbidden, with the exception of new additives authorised provisionally by member states for a maximum period of two years.
 - **the sector relating to the production, sale and use of colourings and sweeteners**, regulated by Directives 95/45/CE, 96/77/CE, 98/86/CE and 2001/50/CE,



implemented into Italian law with the decree of 16 June 1999, recently amended by the decree of 18 January 2002.

- **the sector relating to the production, sale and use of additives other than colourings and sweeteners**, regulated by Directives 95/2/CE, 95/31/CE, 96/77/CE, 2000/63/CE, 2001/5/CE, 2001/30/CE, 2002/82/CE, 2003/95/CE, implemented into Italian law with the decree of the Minister of Health of 26 February 2001, the decree of 4 August 1997, no. 356, the decree of 21 December 2001, the decree of 6 May 2002 and the decree of 23 July 2003.
- **the sector relating to the production, sale and use of flavourings**, regulated by Directives 88/388/CE, 91/71/CEE, implemented into Italian law with the legislative decree of 25 January 1992, no. 107 and lastly by Regulations 2065/2003/CE.
- **the sector relating to the production, sale and use of food supplements**, producing products offered as supplements to nutritional substances consumed in a normal diet, regulated by directive 2002/46/CE.

11) HOW CONTROLS ON FOOD PRODUCTS IN THE EUROPEAN UNION WILL CHANGE.

With the issuing of the WHITE PAPER ON FOOD SAFETY, the principles of which were taken up in **Regulations 178/2002/CE, as amended by Regulations 1642/2003/CE**, (the so-called “**general food law**”), the EUROPEAN UNION established the principles and general requisites of food legislation, constituted the European Food Authority and established procedures in the field of food safety.

By food legislation the European Union intends a body of provisions which do not exclusively concern foodstuffs, but every aspect which may have a direct or indirect impact on food safety.

The Regulations recalled above do not apply to the primary sector and to transformation and preparation for private domestic use.

The first aspect of the Regulations which should be underlined is that the primary objective which it is intended to pursue, specified in the considerations, is the free circulation of safe and intact food in a unified context, which does not lead to different concepts of food safety being used in order to create barriers to free trade.

The second aspect of the regulations which should be pointed out is the inclusion of foodstuffs for animals destined for the production of food among the subjects relating to food safety. The food law covers not only every phase in the dietary chain from primary production (collection, rearing, milking, fishing etc.) up to the delivery to the final consumer, but also covers the previous phases, such as the production of foodstuffs destined for animals other than pets.

The third important aspect of the regulations concerns the need to regain and maintain the confidence of consumers in the system of guarantees offered by the European Com-

munity in the field of food, through the adoption of clear decision-making procedures based on scientific data clearly issued by independent parties. Thus it gives considerable importance to the organisation of a **regional or interregional network of laboratories**, capable of continuously monitoring the situation as regards food safety, so that it is possible to provide rapid warnings as regards the emergence of each new danger.

The central importance of **risk analysis** is stated to be fundamental in decisions relating to food safety. Separation of roles as regards **the definition of risks, entrusted to an independent scientific authority** and **risk management** is the responsibility of the **institutions of the Union which deal with the political aspect: the European Commission, the Council of Ministers and the European Parliament**.

This is because:

- the worry exists that a transfer of regulatory powers to an independent Authority may lead to a “diluting” of democratic responsibility;
- an Authority with regulatory powers might not be established by virtue of the institutional provisions which regulate the European Union.

The principle of precaution is codified as a tool for the protection of consumers in the absence of definitive scientific data, allowing the provisional measures for risk management which are necessary in order to guarantee the high level of health which the European Community pursues to be adopted, while awaiting further scientific information for a more exhaustive evaluation of the risk.

It is necessary to keep in mind that provisional health measures adopted may also be more restrictive than international standards or those of the exporting country only if they are based on scientific principles and on an appropriate evaluation of the risk. In the absence of adequate motivation there must not be arbitrary discrimination, but free trade must hold good in accordance with respect for the “**principle of equivalence**”.

The obligation for business enterprises to implement effective procedures for **tracking** and **tracking** down food is also codified, in order not to invalidate the efforts made to prevent the diffusion of risk for the population.

Another aspect recalled in the considerations made in the regulations is the need to **give primary responsibility** for the safety of food products to the business enterprises involved in the food chain.

The Regulations establish a **European Authority for Food Safety** which is a point of reference thanks to:

- its independence;
- the scientific and technical quality of its opinions and of the information distributed;
- the clarity of its procedures and of its operating methods;
- its diligence in carrying out its tasks.

Furthermore:

- it promotes and co-ordinates the definition of standard methods for risk evaluation;



- commissions scientific studies;
- it searches out, gathers, compares, analyses and summarises scientific and technical data;
- it intervenes to identify and define emerging risks;
- it formulates conclusions and orientation in an independent manner;
- it informs citizens and interested parties in a rapid, reliable, objective and comprehensible manner.

The duties of the European Authority for Food Safety are:

- independence;
- clarity;
- confidentiality;
- communication.

The tools available to the European Authority for Food Safety are:

- a rapid alarm network system;
- organisational networks which operate in the sector of food and animal foodstuffs;
- a scientific committee;
- permanent groups of scientific experts and working groups.

The Regulations gave **new powers to the Commission**, which can adopt emergency measures on its own initiative or on the request of the member state in the event that the national authorities are no longer capable of checking emerging food risks.

The **Commission** is responsible for drawing up a **general plan for crisis management**, in collaboration with the member states and the European Authority for Food Safety, establishing a **Crisis Unit (Risk management)**.

These initial Regulations of a general nature will be followed by other Regulations, which the Commission intends to use to put in order and standardise rules, clearly distinguishing between the following areas of action:

- hygiene of food products, whether of animal origin or not;
- health policing regulations, necessary for preventing the diffusion of animal diseases through products of animal origin;
- official checks by the competent authorities, necessary in order to guarantee respect of the regulations.

In the packet of proposals made by the European Commission there are in particular 5 rules of a general nature, which will establish:

- A) Regulations of the European Parliament and of the Council on the hygiene of food products which establish the rules to be respected in order to guarantee hygienic conditions for all food products. These substitute Directive 93/43/CEE and extend its fundamental principles to all those working in the food sector.
- B) Regulations of the European Parliament and of the Council which establish specific provisions relating to hygiene for food products of animal origin, which are

added to the more general rules contained in the Regulations on food hygiene. It is proposed to bring together the provisions currently in force which are distributed over 14 specific Directives, which in many cases overlap.

The following sectors are considered:

- meat from domestic ungulates,
 - poultry;
 - meat from farmed game animals;
 - wild game meat;
 - minced meat and meat products and meat separated mechanically;
 - products based on meat;
 - live bivalve molluscs;
 - fishing products,
 - milk and dairy products;
 - eggs and egg products;
 - frogs' legs;
 - snails;
 - fats of animal origin and crackling;
 - treated stomach, bladder and intestine;
 - gelatine.
- C) Regulations of the European Parliament and of the Council which establish special provisions relating to the organisation of official checks on products of animal origin destined for consumption. The rules are added to those contained in the general provisions, which do not however take into account the risks associated with this category of products;
- D) Regulations of the European Parliament and of the Council which establish regulations for health policing as regards the production, sale and importation of products of animal origin destined for human consumption. These bring together the content of 7 different Directives relating specifically to different categories of products of animal origin in a single document. They state the provisions necessary for reducing to a minimum the risk of propagation of diseases transmittable to animals through the exchange of products of animal origin;
- E) Regulations of the European Parliament and of the Council which repeal certain Directives containing rules relating to the health of food products and health provisions for the production and sale of certain products of animal origin destined for human consumption and which amend Directives 89/662/CEE and 91/67/CEE.

■ CONCLUSIONS

Today the need is felt to apply a standardised European formula in the planning and development of control systems, on the basis of:



- a clear definition of the obligations of member states;
- a clear definition of the obligations of the inspection services of the Commission.

Furthermore, the member countries must accept the sanitary and phytosanitary measures of other countries who are members of the World Trade Organisation as equivalent for imports, even if these measures are different from their own, so long as the exporting member country of the World Trade Organisation can objectively demonstrate that their measures obtain levels of sanitary protection equivalent to those of countries who are members of the European Union (article 4 of the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures -S.P.S. Agreement – Agreement for the application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures within the context of the international trade of animals and their products, in force since 1 January 1995 with the creation of the World Trade Organisation - W.T.O.).

Those countries which are not capable of defining the level of risk of their systems for the production and distribution of food and hence are not capable of demonstrating equivalence will be strongly penalised and/or will become subordinated.

It is therefore necessary to study and realise “new” control systems which, both at national and EC level:

- operate according to results and not to processes;
- are managed in such a way as to explicitly and clearly separate risk management from its evaluation and communication;
- are truly integrated “from the plough to the plate”;
- are and can be shown to be competent, honest and independent.

The national authority and producers must:

- reinforce and modify, respectively, official checks carried out as part of national control systems and those carried out by the farm producer;
- demand the quantitative definition of risks and their acceptance by all the parties concerned, from political level to consumer level;
- gear communications systems to the needs of consumers.

→ I The organisation and role of the public veterinary service in the Autonomous Province of Trento

Mr Alessandro Chiesa – veterinary of the provincial agency for health services of Trento

In the Autonomous Province of Trento the reforms succeeding one another over the years have always been implemented rapidly. At present, in compliance with the current structuring of the public health service, health service programmes are implemented through the Council Office for Health Policy which, through the Health Services Organisation and Quality Department, plans and co-ordinates matters relating to hygiene and public veterinary health. The presence of the department within the area and at centralised provincial level can be summarised in terms of the subdivision which has been created for operational purposes in order to organise respectively the planning policy of the department and its management. In order to programme matters relating to hygiene and public veterinary health a veterinary division is operational, staffed by the personnel shown in the table below: The veterinary services manager makes use of the skills of staff with legal and admini-



strative expertise working in the relevant department, when he considers this necessary in order to fulfil his role and to comply with legislation.

Management of the service, which the Autonomous Province of Trento regulated with the provincial law of 1 April 1993, n° 10, takes place through the Provincial Agency for Health Services (A.P.S.S.). This organisation supervises all activities and tasks in the field of hygiene and public veterinary health deriving from European Community, national or local programmes, which have been assigned to it by specific legislation.

Through THE PROVINCIAL AGENCY FOR HEALTH SERVICES, again implementing



the provisions of provincial law n° 10/93, the HYGIENE AND PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT was established, within which the HYGIENE AND PUBLIC VETERINARY HEALTH OPERATIONS UNIT was created, the unit being organised into three operational areas:

- a) “Area A”, which deals with the health of animal populations;
- b) “Area B”, which deals with the health of food of animal origin;
- c) “Area C”, which deals with health in farms and relating to animal husbandry.

This operational subdivision requires appropriate centralised co-ordination in order to manage operational activities in the various sectors. Consequentially the HYGIENE AND PUBLIC VETERINARY HEALTH OPERATIONS UNIT has an office in Trento, under the direction of a veterinary surgeon with the title of “director of the administrative structure”, who co-ordinates and organises activities and verifies the results of a further four Area Operations Centres which have offices in the districts of Trento, Borgo Valsugana, Cles and Rovereto.

The number of staff in the various centres varies according to the amount of work determined within the area on subdivision into the different districts. The staffing levels have not changed over time in relation to the increase in jurisdiction and duties which has occurred as a result of the need to comply with the various directives.

The organisation chart of the HYGIENE AND PUBLIC VETERINARY HEALTH OPERATIONS UNIT is summarised in the table below:

■ DIMENSIONS OF THE PUBLIC VETERINARY SERVICES OPERATING IN THE TERRITORY OF THE AUTONOMOUS PROVINCE OF TRENTO - 2003 -

AREA ORGANISATION	VETERINARY STAFF			ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF	HEALTH INSPECTORS
	AREA A	AREA B	AREA C		
U.O.BORGIO	5	2	2	5	2
U.O.TRENTO	8	6	0	7	2
U.O. CLES	3	3	0	2	2
U.O.ROVERETO	8	6	0	4	3
PARTIAL TOTAL	24	17	2	18	9
OVERALL TOTAL	43			18	9

The HYGIENE AND PUBLIC VETERINARY HEALTH OPERATIONS UNIT, whose territorial organisation is structured in this way, works in close collaboration with the separate laboratory of the EXPERIMENTAL ZOOPROPHYLAXIS INSTITUTE, which

carries out serological, microbiological and chemical analysis and all diagnostic activities for the public veterinary services operating in the area of the Autonomous Province of Trento, in collaboration with the central office situated in Legnaro, in the province of Padova.

The distribution of staff in the laboratory is summarised in the table below:

VENEZIE EXPERIMENTAL ZOOPROPHYLAXIS INSTITUTE - TRENTO DIVISION-		
VETERINARY STAFF	TECHNICAL STAFF	ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF
2	9	1

■ DIMENSIONS AND TYPES OF FARMS AND ACTIVITIES WHICH ARE SUBJECT TO THE CONTROLS AND SUPERVISION OF THE PUBLIC VETERINARY SERVICE.

In the Province of Trento the sectors which constitute the economic resources in the area are mainly, tourism, industry, artisan activities, service industries, agriculture and animal husbandry. This relevance of this last economic sector can be seen in the following table, which gives the dimensions and types of farms present in the Autonomous Province of Trento, summarised as follows.

COMPOSITION OF FARMS WITHIN THE PROVINCE

SPECIES	NUMBER OF FARMS	% OF TOTALE FARMS
CATTLE	1.756	28,70
SHEEP/GOATS	1.019	16,65
SWINE	776	12,68
HORSES	900	14,70
POULTRY	23	0,37
FISH	78	1,27
BEEES	1.568	25,63
TOTAL FARMS	6.120	100,00

Evaluation of the different species can also be verified in detail through information relating to the relative production sectors which are monitored and exploited in Trento



SUBDIVISION ACCORDING TO THE TYPE OF CATTLE REARED

SPECIES	NUMBER OF FARMS	NUMBER OF ANIMALS PRESENT
DAIRY CATTLE	1.726	40.328
BEEF CATTLE	30	9.758

SUBDIVISION ACCORDING TO TYPE OF SWINE REARED

BREEDING SWINE	9	176 BREEDERS 2970 SWINE PRODUCED
SWINE FOR FATTENING	3	7.400
SWINE FOR FAMILY USE	764	1.687

SUBDIVISION ACCORDING TO TYPE OF HORSES REARED

HORSES FOR REARING	26	530
HORSES FOR RIDING	874	1998

SUBDIVISION ACCORDING TO TYPE OF POULTRY REARED

TYPE	No. OF FARMS	No. OF ANIMALS REARED
FARMS PRODUCING EGGS	2	157.000
BROILER FARMS	17	2.471.000
FARMS PRODUCING EGGS FOR BREEDING	3	157.000
TURKEY FARMS	1	8.000

SUBDIVISION ACCORDING TO TYPE OF FISH PRODUCED

NUMBER OF FISH FARMS	78
SPECIES OF FISH	Quintals or number of units
RAINBOW TROUT BRED FOR MEAT	24.000 quintals
RAINBOW TROUT FRY	18.5000.000 units
FERTILISED RAINBOW TROUT EGGS	350.000.000
BROWN TROUT	3.000 quintals
BROWN TROUT FRY	7.750.000 units
FERTILISED BROWN TROUT EGGS	85.000.000
ADULT CHAR	2.500 quintals
CHAR FRY	850.000 units
FERTILISED CHAR EGGS	3.300.000
GRAYLING FRY	220.000 units
MARBLE TROUT FRY	160.000 units

BEE FARMS

SPECIES OF ANIMAL	NUMBER OF SETTLEMENTS	NUMBER OF FAMILIES
API	1.568	19.700

According to the most recent studies in Trentino, activities in the field of animal husbandry make use of a cultivated agricultural surface area as specified below.

ROTATING FODDER CROPS HA	PERMANENT MEADOWS HA.	PASTURE HA	GRASS MEADOWS HA
2.270	120.116	50.000	1.875

It is nevertheless necessary to underline the fact that, following the application of European Community measures, businesses in the animal husbandry sector in the Province of Trento, which previously differed radically in terms of numbers and qual-



ity, are now made up of farms which have seen a very high level of renewal in terms of their management, thus coming into line with other production units at the same level and of the same type. Currently almost all the farms in the area are run by a single person or a family. Only the poultry sector sees a diversified model of corporate management .

The number of people employed in farms in the province of Trento is estimated to be 7,324.

■ **THE STATE OF VETERINARY HEALTH IN THE AUTONOMOUS PROVINCE OF TRENTO**

The Autonomous Province of Trento was officially recognised by the Commission of the European Community as immune from bovine tuberculosis, bovine brucellosis, bovine enzootic leucosis and brucellosis of sheep and goats according, respectively, to Decisions 2003/467/CE and 2003/732/CE of the Commission.

Furthermore, programmes for the eradication of infective bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR), bovine viral diarrhoea (BVD) and Aujeszky's disease in pig farms are currently being implemented within the province.

Considering the state of health in our province, it should be noted that this is the direct consequence of programmes for the eradication of the main diseases relating to animal husbandry which have succeeded one another in the last 40 years. It should also be recalled that this result has been obtained through the planning of intervention which is undertaken daily by employed staff. The checks, monitoring and supervision of animals undergoing transfer or present in farms, in addition to the controls carried out on products of animal origin destined for human consumption and produced within facilities in the province, are the main guarantee for the achievement of these important results.

■ **INSPECTION AND SUPERVISORY ACTIVITIES APPLIED TO PRODUCTION FACILITIES; THE TRANSFORMATION AND PACKAGING OF PRODUCTS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN**

The number and type of facilities for the production and transformation of products of animal origin subject to supervision and controls by the public veterinary service can be summarised as follows:

■ **NUMBER OF FACILITIES FOR BUTCHERING, THE SECTIONING OF MEAT AND THE WORKING OF MEAT-BASED PRODUCTS AND OTHER PRODUCTS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN**

	NO. OF ABAT-TOIRS	NO. OF SECTIONING LABORATORIES	NO. OF MEAT-BASED PRODUCT LABORATORIES	NO. OF FISH LABORATORIES	NO. OF DAIRIES	NO. OF MEAT OUTLETS	HOME BUTCHERING
N.O. 1 BORGIO	4	4	11		8	375	346
N.O. 2 TRENTO	10	15	20	5	16	237	138
N.O. 3 CLES	10	7	10		16	286	91
N.O. 4 ROVERETO	3	7	15	3	9	387	256
N.O. 5 TIONE	9	6	6	1	7	225	111
TOTAL	35	39	62	9	56	1.510	942

To conclude, the Public Veterinary Service of the Provincial Agency for Health Services operating within the province acts continuously in accordance with the provisions of European Community directives, regulations and decisions relating to movement within the EC and exchanges with countries outside the EC in the sectors listed below:

- **ANIMAL HEALTH**
 - **Diseases in list “A”** of the O.I.E. regarding which strict control measures are provided for in order to keep them under constant control, as their effects on the economy and international trade are feared.
 - **Diseases** for which eradication and planned control programmes have been implemented throughout Italy (bovine brucellosis, brucellosis in sheep and goats, bovine tuberculosis, bovine enzootic leucosis).
 - **Diseases** for which local eradication and control programmes have been implemented (infective bovine rhinotracheitis and bovine viral diarrhoea).
 - **Diseases** for which national or local eradication programmes are provided for and which involve the application of special health measures relating to the transport of animals (viral haemorrhagic septicaemia and haematopoietic necrosis in fish).

It should also be recalled that the Provincial Veterinary Health Service pursues the following objectives:

- Protection of animals in farms
- Urban health and the protection of animals used for experiments
- Registration of farms and the establishment of national databases



- Control of kennels and of shelters for dogs
- Control of the production, sale and use of animal foodstuffs
- Control of the use of by-products deriving from the environmental industry in animal foodstuffs
- Control of zoonosis and zoonotic results
- Control of methods of certification for animals and products of animal origin
- Control of the production, transformation and sale of products of animal origin

In the Autonomous Province of Trento there are no border inspection posts recognised by the Commission of the European Community and therefore checks are not carried out on products of animal origin or live animals and their products coming from other countries.

QUARANTINE PROCEDURES

At the moment there are no pathogens present within the territory of the Autonomous Province of Trento requiring the application of quarantine procedures.

In the future, following approval by the Commission for the European Community of programmes for the eradication of infective rhinotracheitis in cattle and Aujeszki's disease in swine, the necessary quarantine measures will be adopted in relation to the introduction of cattle and swine to the territory of the Autonomous Province of Trento.

REFRESHER TRAINING FOR STAFF OF THE PUBLIC VETERINARY SERVICE

Each year veterinary personnel operating within the Public Veterinary Service at all levels are required to participate in training courses on subjects relating to hygiene and public veterinary health authorised by the Ministry of Health. These courses are assigned a certain number of credits (programmes of continuing education in veterinary medicine).

Over a period of 5 years each public veterinary surgeon must obtain 150 credits.

The scope of this compulsory continuous training is to maintain a high standard of efficiency and the application of regulatory provisions required in order to keep operational procedures up-to-date, in compliance with the health needs established by law.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SERVICE

Currently modernisation of the facilities and infrastructures of the laboratory for diagnosis, serology and control of food already operating within the Autonomous Province of Trento is planned.

In relation to the regulatory provisions necessary in order to comply with *Acquis Communautaire* on the other hand, the Autonomous Province will respect the indications given in the EC law which the Italian Parliament implements each year, detailing all the measures necessary in relation to procedures.

In this way the Autonomous Province of Trento can also apply the provisions previously implemented at national level through this regulatory act.

European community regulations and decisions will instead be directly applied following their publication in the Official Journal of the European Community.

→ | The organisation of the phytosanitary sector in the Autonomous Province of Trento

Mr Federico Bigaran – director of the phytosanitary office of the Autonomous Province of Trento

■ INTRODUCTION

The aim of this speech is to provide information, mainly for the project partners on the organisation of the phytosanitary sector in the Autonomous province of Trento, in order to compare the different situation and facilitate the exchange of experience.

According the EU directive 91/683/CEE and the Italian legislative decree n° 536/92, the Autonomous Province of Trento established the institution of a Phytosanitary Bureau inside of the division for “Control and Promotion of the Agricultural activity”.

The Bureau belongs to the National Phytosanitary system made by the Central Bureau at the Ministry of Agriculture, and the Regional Phytosanitary Services. The co-ordination of the National Phytosanitary system is provided by the Central bureau that organises frequently meetings for legislative and technical purpose.

The general objectives of the bureau activity, according the EU plant health legislation and the international plant health standards and obligations, is to prevent the introduction of harmful organism and to ensure the health and quality status of the crops by monitoring the production and trade of plants and plant products, and to promote a proper use of plant protection products or pesticides.

The phytosanitary controls, according the new regulations, do not occur anymore during the crossing of the border points between the members States, but they have to be done obligatorily by the State or regional phytosanitary authorities, more times per year, inside of their territories and in the places of production, considering not the single crop object of the control, but all the crops located in the farm.

The Council Directive 2000/29/EC establish the legislative framework of the activity and the general principles are established by the International Plant Protection Convention (FAO) and in the World Trade Organisation Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures. According the general principles each authority has to ensure the same level of guarantee and equal trade opportunities within the Community.

■ MAIN TASKS

The main tasks of the office are the following:

- application in the regional territory of the EU directives on phytosanitary sector, adopting



measures to prevent the spread and the introduction of organisms harmful to plants and plant products and for their control according the Council Directive 2000/29;

- monitoring pests disease on regional area according the national and EU programmes;
- to issue the phyto-certification for export;
- to control the nursery sector authorising the issue of the “plant passport”;
- to maintain and update the register of the producers;
- to promote training and information activities on the use of the phytosanitary products;
- to issue the licence for the purchase and use of phytosanitary products.

■ STRUCTURE OF THE BUREAU

The activity is carried out with the following human resources:

- 1 director (agronomist)
- 3 agronomist: 1 for control of nursery sector, 1 for plant pathologies, 1 for fruit virus free certification
- 2 agriculturist full time, 1 part-time
- 1 technical assistant
- 1 assistant for accounting (part time)
- 1 administrative assistant full time
- 1 secretary part time

For the activities related with the monitoring of the plant quarantine diseases in the territory the bureau establish every year special agreements with the extension service unit located in the Agrarian Institute of San Michele.

An important point to underline, in order to compare the EU different situation, is the legal definition of the role of the phytosanitary inspector.

In our judicial system the officer has the power of an investigative police, has executive power in administrative matter and can sequester phyto-stuff. He is obliged to report to the judicial authorities any notice of crime.

Quarantine pathologies situation

The main quarantine pathologies presents in the territory of the Province of Trento are:

Apple proliferation

Plum pox virus (Sharka)

Erwinia Amylovora (Fire blight)

Grapevine yellows

Diabrotica virgifera virgifera

Apple proliferation: the disease is wide spread in the apple district of the Non Valley (6.000 ha) and the % of infected plant reached the 59 % on the cv Renetta and the 32% on Golden Delicious on strong rootstock.

Sharka: is the most critical disease for the drupaceous. In Trentino the virus is present since 1985, the uprooting concerned in the first year 11200 plants and in the recent years the uprooting average is 2500 plants per year.

Erwinia Amylovora: recently discovered in Trentino in 2 districts on old peer trees. A monitoring programme is conduct in collaboration with the Institute of s. Michele

Grapewine yellows: it is present in the south part of the province near the border with Veneto, only five cases were detected and the grape suddenly uprooted. The carrier Scafoideus Titanus is included in the monitory programme.

Diabrotica Virgifera Virgifera: recently discovered in the Storo district (SW), near the border with Lombardia, were several traps were settled. Almost 40 adults were captured and now the Administration is going to adopt appropriate measures according the existing regulation.

Regarding the certification for export, the bureau, during 2003, has issued 1440 certifications (see annexed table).

EXPORT EXTRA-UE YEAR 2003

DESTINATION	APPLE		KIWI		GRAPE		PLANTS		WOOD		VARIOUS	
	Number of Certificate	Ton	Number of Certificate	Ton	Number of Certificate	Ton	Number of Certificate	n° plants	Number of Certificate	Ton	Number of Certificate	Ton
R. CECA	380	6.765	2	9								
R. SLOVACCA	211	3.428	5	44								
RUSSIA	62	1.183										
BIELO-RUSSIA	12	218										
LETONIA	4	52										
ISOLE CANARIE	20	415										
POLONIA	4	15					1	1.000			5	7
NORVEGIA	3	18										
MALTA	27	307		2	2	49						
ALBANIA	177	3.924										
BULGARIA	78	1.789										
ROMANIA	25	684										
BOSNIA	30	655					1	10.000				
CIPRO	2	38									5	860





(follow)

DESTINATION	APPLE		KIWI		GRAPE		PLANTS		WOOD		VARIOUS	
	Number of Certificate	Ton	Number of Certificate	Ton	Number of Certificate	Ton	Number of Certificate	n° plants	Number of Certificate	Ton	Number of Certificate	Ton
MAROCO	2	34										
JUGOSLAVIA	49	921									1	10
SLOVENIA	20	406										
CROAZIA	12	163					1	1.200				
ARABIA S.	7	144										
UNGHERIA	31	551					1	1.200				
ALGERIA	6	127										
LIBIA	57	1086					1	1.200				
NIGERIA	1	3										
EMIRATI ARABI	16	310									2	44
USA			11	240								
KUWAIT	2	27									1	14
BAHREIN	2	38										
CANADA	1	17										
LITUANIA	8	138										
ERITREA							1	3.600				
CINA									149	462		
BRASILE									1	16		
ARGENTINA							1	25.000				
TOTAL	1.249	23.456	18	295	2	49	7	43.200	150	478	14	935

Weak point of the activity:

- The bureau doesn't have a laboratory for the diagnostic of the plant disease and we have to set up special convention with private or public laboratory and research institutes.
- The contacts at international level are weak and it is difficult to get the information in time.
- The monitoring activities require more persons and a proper training.
- There is a lack of training and updating courses
- The use of information technology is not spread

→ I The European phytosanitary legislations: a deep transformation of traditional phytosanitary controls

Mr. Bruno Caio Faraglia – expert of central phytosanitary service
Italian Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

The European plant protection system is defined by Council Directive 2000/29/EC of 8 May 2000: “On protective measures against the introduction into the Community of organisms harmful to plants or plant products and against their spread within the Community”. The 2000/29/EC specifies the measures and the controls that have to be applied when vegetable and vegetable products move into the European community or are imported from third countries.

It is evident that the fight against harmful organisms in the European community, a space characterised by its lack of national borders, would be useless unless the same phytosanitary measures are applied on import consignments.

The compilation and constant updating of the list of harmful organisms under phytosanitary measures is therefore fundamental.

The range of action of this norm covers all the territory of the European community and includes the circulation and the commercialisation within the single member states. As a consequence the territory of each member state is considered, by the phytosanitary system, as an integrated part of the European territory and consignments that move within the national territory need the same controls that are applied to consignments that move towards other countries of the European community. As a consequence the national phytosanitary regulations cannot be applied only to trade among member states and third countries.

One of the basic principles of Directive 2000/29/EC is to guarantee the same level of protection against harmful organisms in all European areas, wherever they are. At the same time it takes into account the different phytosanitary and ecological conditions of each country by introducing the concept of “protected zone” defined as a specific geographic area in which determined harmful organisms are not present and as a result subject to a particular form of protection, in order to prevent their introduction.

This legislation, moreover, together with legislation on the commercialisation of multiplication materials of ornamental, fruit and horticulture plants, has introduced important elements to homogenise the technical and phytosanitary guarantees and the possibili-



ties to collocate products on the market. At the same time it has eliminated many differences and obstacles to trade arising from the different consideration about the various products existing in the different member states.

As far as phytosanitary controls are concerned, it has introduced substantial modifications in their application. The controls made on consignments of vegetable and vegetable products when these are going through customs are substituted by controls in the production areas of the exporting member state and interest not only the single product but all the products present on the farm and also the agricultural land. Taking in examination the productive structure from the point of view of its technical capacity and management, it has in some way introduced a certification of process in agriculture too.

The phytosanitary controls are guaranteed by, in substitution of the phytosanitary certificate, a “plant passport”, an official label realized in not perishable material, that accompanies vegetables when they move inside or outside member states to the final user. When applied on vegetables, on vegetable products, on their packaging or on containers, this “plant passport” gives all the necessary information about the original producer of the product in question making it possible, if there is the need, to urgently apply the necessary protective measures.

The controls are carried out on a small number of vegetables, kinds of production and dangerous harmful organisms but with this regulation the collaboration between the plant protection service and the agricultural operators is extended to the whole farm structure, to the production systems and at the same time facilitates solutions in case of emergencies.

The national plant protection services continue to have the competence to verify the correct application of phytosanitary legislation regarding production cycles, also taking the role of technical consulting bodies. In the spirit of the European legislation, they give the responsibility of every single consignment produced to the production structures who in turn, by applying the norms and respecting the control system correctly, can certify on the appropriate document (plant passport and/or commercialisation document) the quality of their products.

This framework of control applied to different sectors in agriculture, the result of the EU Commission considerations which instituted the D.G. XXIV (today SANCO) for consumers safety, is not only justified by the physical elimination of customs, where it was possible to stop a consignment and to control it, but also by the necessity to guarantee the quality of products to the consumer. The distortions that occurred in the last few years in some agricultural production processes make this more than necessary.

It being impossible to verify and to control all the characteristics of a product in commercialisation, it is therefore fundamental to put under control the entire production line.

It is logical that a control system that guarantees the national consumers, by certifying the quality of products, becomes more interesting to international buyers the more the

system appears to be trustworthy and the quality of products guaranteed. This offers the possibility of recognition of the quality of national control systems, leading to an increase in the market share and /or higher prices.

The confidence in such a system derives fundamentally from the many responsibilities the national phytosanitary service has:

- 4# it is responsible and must guarantee the national territory and the productive system against the introduction and spread of harmful organisms;
- 4# being the guarantee of the production processes of multiplication material it must verify that the production cycles correspond to the norms;
- 4# being practically the technical consultant to farms it must give information and suggestions for rapid solutions to insurgent problems.

We can therefore resume that the European phytosanitary system is basically characterized by the following:

- 4# constitution of “national official registers of producers”;
- 4# delimitation of “protected zones” in the European territory with no presence of harmful organisms;
- 4# release of “plant passports” that guarantee the correct phytosanitary status of vegetables and vegetable products that move inside the Community;
- 4# compilation and constant updating of “registers of vegetables and vegetable products”.

For their insertion in the national official registers of producers, the following categories need to make a specific request to the phytosanitary service:

- the producers, the centres of transportation, the importers and any one that deals or commercialises in vegetable products or other items mentioned in annex V

The European phytosanitary legislation do not consider the aspects regarding exportation because this is exclusively included in the competence of each member state but at the same time the EU system when exporting to third countries needs to have just one model of phytosanitary certificates and the National Services must utilize the same model when they certify export vegetables and vegetable products.

It is useful to precise that firms that produce and commercialise vegetables and vegetable products not listed in the annexes to the directive, don't need to register or do other formalities.

In Italy, the company that produces or commercialises vegetables and vegetable products that are listed in the annex V, part A, sec. I, of Council Directive 2000/29/EC, asks for the authorization to the regional phytosanitary service to use the plant passports.

The producer is directly responsible for the use of the plant passport and this contains all the information to identify the company.

If he produces or commercialises vegetables and vegetable products that they are listed in the annex V, part A, sec. II, regarding the protected zones, he has to use the plant



passport marked "PZ": it is valid for the protected zone where he sends the vegetables and it guarantees the application of specific requirements for this zone.

A further explanation is necessary as regards importers who import vegetable products from Third Countries and these products are listed in part B, and also in part A, of annex V; in that case, once introduced inside the Community these products have to have the plant passport to move inside the Community because after their release by Customs, they are considered under all points of view the same as European products.

As mentioned before the directive has introduced the registers of vegetables, another instrument necessary to trace the origin of the vegetables in case of phytosanitary problems. All the operations concerning the products, origin, transportation and sale, must be indicated in chronological order, in these registers.

In analysing the European phytosanitary legislation it is necessary to take into account some modifications at international level introduced during the last few years, whose effects are starting to be felt today. With the transformation of GATT (General Agreement Tariff and Trade) into the WTO (World Trade Organization) the plant protection services of the world enter in a new historic phase, both in their new function in international trade and the new responsibilities attributed to the plant protection services and also in the organisation needed to carry out this new role. Among the agreements signed during the Uruguay round (more than 30.000 pages of agreements were signed) the Agreement on the application of the sanitary and phytosanitary measures (SPS Agreement) has a fundamental importance to the phytosanitary sector, because it confirms the prerogatives of each country to defend its territory in terms of people, animals and plants and at the same time it establishes the norms on the application of sanitary and phytosanitary measures, inserting them in a wider context related to the elimination of any form of restriction on international trade.

To this end the phytosanitary measures must to be scientifically justified by the elaboration of a pest risk analysis (PRA) and they must refer to, when possible, to the international standards adopted by the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) of FAO. This fundamental change has made necessary a complete review of IPPC and its reorganization, (still taking place), in such a way that this organisation takes on the characteristics and functions of an international body responsible for the development and application of harmonized phytosanitary measures and the elaboration of international standards to that effect.

With the adoption of the International Standard on Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) related to "Principles of plant quarantine as related to international trade" in 1995, the IPPC has began Standard development . 19 ISPMs have already been adopted, which have been used in disputes in the WTO sphere.

Until today the major part of the standards adopted concern conceptual matters, necessary to define the guidelines to the NPPO, in particular on the problems related to

importation, but also on the control of harmful organisms in a territory and to the certification regarding exports too. Since 2001, applicative standards such as: "Guidelines for regulating wood packaging in international trade" and "Guidelines for the use of irradiation as a phytosanitary measure", have been approved which in turn require specific organization of NPPO for their application.

This new approach at the international level has had to have its counterpart at a national level with the institution of the NPPO and the definition of their responsibilities and procedures so as to align them to the international norms.

At this scope an exercise of EU Council, during more than two years, brings to adoption of Council Directive 2002/89/EC of 28 November 2002, that it modify the Directive 2000/29/EC. In particular it has connected in explicit manner the updating of annexes with the coherent justification to relate to the existing phytosanitary risk and it has determined the procedures to recognise the equivalence, according to art.4 of SPS Agreement, of phytosanitary measures adopted by the other Agreement Member.

In this occasion, many norms and procedures have been changed in order to better correspond to the new operative conditions, especially in the collaboration between the Plant Protection Services and the Customs.

Bearing in mind the European space characterised by its lack of national borders, it has introduced the possibility, when the mechanisms are defined, to apply the phytosanitary procedures in a Member State different from the Member State where the Custom procedures were applied.

Moreover, the directive provides for the intensification, more efficiency and homogenisation of controls in the Community and with the scope of increasing the controls capacity of NPPO a new tax has been introduced.

These modifications will come into force on the 1st January of 2005 and will determine the reorganisation of the new European phytosanitary system.

Fundamentally on the vegetables and the vegetable products imported three possible procedures are applied in consideration of their phytosanitary risk identified by different colours:

Yellow alert: All imports (from third countries) of plants and plant material as listed in Annex V Part B of Directive 2000/29 and subsequent amendments must be accompanied by a Phytosanitary certificate, inspected and cleared by Phytosanitary inspectors prior to the release by Customs.

Red alert All plants and plant products listed in Annex III of the above Directive are prohibited from import.

Green alert: All other plants and plant material not classified as Red or Yellow. The Green-listed plants and plant materials should be automatically released by Customs unless Customs are otherwise alerted to act otherwise by the Plant Health Department

The European custom system is totally computerised and the custom controls are applied at random on a percentage of import consignments. Other requirements and characteri-



stics can be inserted in the system to carry out a different degree of control in relation to different degrees of risk represented by the typology of import consignments.

In Italy, in this period, the National Phytosanitary Service is promoting the application of phytosanitary controls by the customs information system and is making the necessary procedures with the Custom Offices, as following (refer to flow chart attached):

1) Red Alert Procedures

In this case the custom informatics system don't accept the red products and the NPPO refuse the consignment.

2) Yellow Alert Procedures

The Customs computer system should be programmed so as to oblige the importers of consignments containing plants and plant materials classified under the yellow alert, to include together with the Customs' documents the Plant Health Clearance Document (PHCD), without which the Customs' procedures cannot be completed.

The Plant Health Department would clear the goods only after it is verified; by documentary and phytosanitary checks that the conditions established in the binding regulations at the time of application are satisfied. Clearance would be authorised by rubber stamping the previously compiled PHCD and inputting the document's reference number, the date and the signature of the phytosanitary inspector.

If as a consequence to the phytosanitary checks carried out, it is concluded that the conditions established in the binding regulations at the time of application are not satisfied, the Plant Health Department will adopt the phytosanitary measures that are deemed fit.

3) Green Alert Procedures

Customs will grant real-time access (read only) to its computer system and provide a possibility for queries, to the Plant Health Department, on the type of imports.

The responsible officer of the Plant Health Department will inform in written form the responsible official at Customs Department of those consignments (from the green category) that would require inspection from the Plant Health Department prior to the Customs' release.

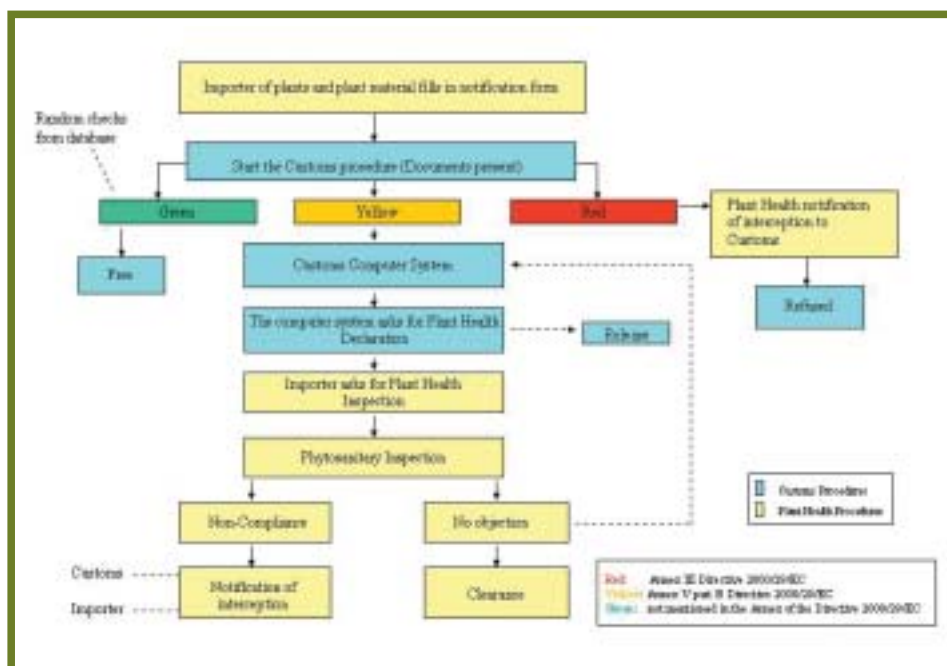
In these last few years international trade in vegetables has increased to such an extent that there is a justified demand to reduce the time needed to carry out such phytosanitary controls. Phytosanitary legislation, the only limit applied to the vegetables trade, must be based on international standards that can be scientifically proven to protect national territories. It is therefore necessary to maintain and increase the relationship not only to the European Community but with the other phytosanitary International Organizations.

The NPPO has the necessity of the appropriate council to define the guidelines and the planning of the activities at national level, and must be able to coordinate the structures, and their different and complex tasks, that work on the national territory.

These activities need the indispensable equipment for the management of phytosanitary emergencies and the means to evaluate the operability and the efficiency of the control structures on the territory. The direct management of proper funds would help to face these situations.

In conclusion the efficiency of a phytosanitary service both at a national level as well as at a European level, as far as the control on the territory and the prevention of plant disease, together with the certification of multiplication materials, is strictly connected to the realization of a homogeneous standard of quality work on the whole territory.

It is clear therefore that one critical point in a geographical area of the system, with a low level of efficiency, constitutes a hole in the protection network that could nullify the controls applied in the nearby areas. This prejudices the possibility of a valid system of phytosanitary protection, with repercussions not only on the phytosanitary status of plants but on the entire economical and productive system.





→ | Community acquis in the sanitary and veterinarian field, applied to the Bacau County

Mr Florin Velisar – director of sanitary and veterinary department of Bacau County

The Sanitary and Veterinarian Department of the BAC U county was established, named and structured as such on 1st June 1990, pursuant to the Order issued by the Ministry of Agriculture. It was projected as a sanitary and veterinarian public authority whose range of action and interest was the whole district and that was directly reporting to the National Sanitary and Veterinarian Authority.

The department activity follows the main trends below: to identify, prevent and fight animal diseases, including those involving human contamination, to assess and correct the malfunctions related to the animal breeding systems in order to prevent and fight nutrition and gynaecological diseases, to control how safe the animal food, fodders and water sources are, to provide the protection of the district area against infectious and parasite-transmitted diseases, to decrease animal morbidity and mortality, and to guarantee public health and hygiene conditions.

This range of activities is assigned to four specialist divisions within the Sanitary and Veterinarian Department of the district of BAC U: Animal Health Division, Public Health and Food Safety Division, Inspection and Veterinarian Law Application Division, and European Integration, IT and Animal Marking and Registration Division, together with the Sanitary and Veterinarian Lab – which is a State established entity empowered with local competence.

Our work is done by 73 employees: 44 veterinarians and 29 middle trained medical employees. The personnel employed by the Sanitary and Veterinarian Department of the district of BAC U includes competent people and applies the equipment necessary to meet the EU standards. Therefore, we have got good results in fighting for animal health, in preventing diseases to be transmitted from animal sources to humans, in protecting the environment. All these facts were certified by the results of the inspections and surveys conducted by the EU experts.

When Romania becomes a part of the EU, the trading relations with the Member States shall function on the basis of domestic trade rules. Even before its official adherence, Romania has undertaken several priorities as to better approach and adjust its own veterinarian laws according to the Community laws in the matter. Taking into consideration Romania's wish to integrate into the EU in the future, the trading relations with the Member States are very important from the perspective of

the Community law and not from the perspective of a potential national regulation showing inadequate particulars. Furthermore, essentially, Romania's trading relations with the Member States is performed and shall develop within the frame established by the Community laws.

■ IN THE FIELD OF ANIMAL HEALTH:

- 4' To exactly assess the animal farms from the following perspectives: their number, their size, the species kept and the output categories;
- 4' To set programmes intended to monitor the qualification of each individual farm (to define their status and those diseases which might be a technical barrier blocking up Romania's participation into the Internal market in the future);
- 4' To identify the animals, which is an essential condition of any veterinarian activity in the field of animal health and to establish an IT system and a data base intended to animal registration;
- 4' To computerize animal shift (within or outside the country);
- 4' To develop and equip the district veterinarian lab;
- 4' To finance the sanitary and veterinarian inspection and survey activity within the customs inspection and survey stations as well as the inspection actions conducted within food industry companies, and to have the possibility to apply the financial resources resulted in order to equip, instruct and compensate the inspection agents;
- 4' To solve those aspects related to the expenses in the veterinarian field, intended to eradicate several diseases from the territory of our district and to support some measures to control animal diseases, on the basis of an approach similar to that applied by the Member States;

In the field of public health:

- 4' To exactly monitor all food industry companies from the following perspectives: their type, category and capacity;
- 4' To exactly assess them, according to their specific business range and to the way they meet the Community law standards;
- 4' To monitor and control the re-engineering, technology-upgrading and modernization programmes intended to provide food products meeting the Community standards;
- 4' To implement the laws covering several issues (how to apply hormonal, betagonist and somato-trophic substances, how to monitor animal waste and refuses)
- 4' To solve the special issues related to animal-transmitted spongiae encephalopathies

With the perspective of Romania's integration into the Unique Market until 2007, there are still several European Directives to be adjusted with and implemented, to govern



the trading relations within the Member States and between them and third countries on a uniform basis. The national veterinarian services of the member States as well as those of the adhering countries have a fundamental part in preparing the veterinarian regulation or in amending it. They also play an important part in being consulted about making decisions to be applied as a result of a crisis emerged in the area of animal or public health.



→ I The organisation of the phytosanitary administration in Bacau County methods and control techniques

Mr Ioan Melinte – director of the agriculture department of Bacau County

The representatives of the national phytosanitary administration at local level, in the Agriculture, Wood, Water and Environment Ministry are the Agriculture and Rural Development County Departments.

The Phytosanitary Unit represents national authority at local level and provides specialist services equal for all farmers no matter the property status of agriculture, vineyards and parks, as well to economic entities that operate plant exports, vegetal production or regulated items.

■ I. THE STRUCTURE OF THE BACAU PHYTOSANITARY UNIT

1. The prognosis, diagnosis, monitoring, authorization and phytocarantine police service.

Main attributions:

- 4# compliance with the phytosanitary legislation
- 4# involving in the monitoring programmes
- 4# registration of the producers and importers, issuing phytosanitary certificates and passports
- 4# authorize the functioning of plant breeding units, as well as the hothouses for vegetables, vineyards, silvic and experimental fields
- 4# writing and distribution of warning bulletins
- 4# organize prognosis and warning activities

2. Programme, expertise, authorization and implementation of the phytosanitary police Unit.

Main attributions:

- 4# draft unitary programmes for fighting against the injurious organisms
- 4# coordinate the activity of fighting against the injurious agents financed from the state budget
- 4# control actions in the agricultures, collective warehouses, expedition centres

Physico - chemical analyses / laboratory Unit.

Main attributions:

- 4# takes samples and execute physico-chemical analyses of the products



- 4# issue analyse bulletins
- 4# economic agents authorization

Zone laboratory for Erwinia Amylovora / phytosanitary analyse Unit.

Main attributions:

- 4# microbiological analyses for the Erwinia Amylovora pathogen within the Moldavia region
- 4# issue analyse bulletins
- 4# Erwinia Amylovora pathogen monitoring, establish the spreading area and the attack degree
- 4# monitoring of the presence of the Ralstonia spp and Clavibacter spp bacteria (in future there will be also lab analysis for these types of bacteria)

■ **II. METHODS AND TECHNIQUES OF PHYTOSANITARY CONTROL**

Actors: phytosanitary inspectors

Methods: field inspections, macroscopic and stereoscopic analyses, taking of diagnostic samples, lab analyses

1. In case that the exportation of regulated items (plant or vegetal products) is envisaged:

- 4# macroscopic and / or stereotypic analyses
- 4# taking of diagnostic examples in lab
- 4# phytosanitary inspections in the original cultures of the products to be exported

2. In case of plant importations:

- 4# macroscopic and /or stereotypic analysis (depends on the situation, and on the lab diagnosis)
- 4# control of the products on the basis of their natural and possible infestations
- 4# taking samples for complex analyses in specialized labs for seeds and seeding material
- 4# concerning the material for planting or the seeds, setting up the cultures or product selling can be done only after the lab results

3. In case of collective producers, collective warehouses and plant shipping, vegetal production or regulated item centres:

- 4# personalization and registration within the Phytosanitary Unit of the producers, importers, collective warehouses and shipping centres
- 4# execution of regular phytosanitary controls in cultures and breeding centres, throughout all the agricultural year
- 4# as the result of the control: issuing of the phytosanitary passport that guarantees accomplishing the legal norms
- 4# phytosanitary control regarding the plants, the vegetal products and the regulated items circulation, as foreseen in the legislation in force

■ III. PROGRAMMES FOR IMPLEMENTING THE COMMUNITARIAN DIRECTIVES

In national legislation:

1. Potato monitoring programme (according to the French model)

Aim:

4# implementation of an inspection programme as well as lab analyses for potato tubercles (in order to be planted, or for consuming or industrial processing) both from internal production as well from import

juridical base: Emergency Ordinance .136/2000; Gum Ordinance .1030/2001; ORD.632/2002; ORD.26/1999 ORD.27/1999;ORD.28/1999 (harmonized with the following directives: 98/57/UE; 93/85/CEE; 69/465/CEE; 69/464/CEE.)

2. Monitoring and control programme for *Erwinia amylovora*:

This programme was accomplished within the framework of a 2001 Phare Project : “Strengthen the phytosanitary capacity in order to adapt and implement the acquis communitaire”

The two main objectives were:

4# monitoring consolidation and establishing of fighting against the *Erwinia Amylovora* pathogen

4# implementation in the phytosanitary field of the work procedures that correspond to those used in the EU

3. The legislative acts in force in Romania:

4# Ord.MAPAM 28/1993, regarding to the spreading limitation of the disease and damages due to “*Erwinia Amylovora*”;

4# Ord.MAPAM 394/2002, on the approval the issuing procedures for the phytosanitary passport or the replacement passport (allowing plants, vegetal or regulated items circulation in Romania (harmonized with Directive 92/105/CEE);

4# HG.1030/2001; OG.136/2000 (harmonized with Directive 2000/29/CEE) on protection measures against spreading the quarantine organisms injurious to plants or vegetal products in Romania



→ | Voivodship veterinary inspection in Gdańsk

Mr Włodzimierz Przewoski – veterinary doctor of Voivodship veterinary inspection head

■ 17 COUNTY VETERINARY DOCTORS

County Veterinary Inspectors

■ BORDER VETERINARY DOCTOR

Border Veterinary Inspector in the Port of Gdynia and Port of Gdańsk as well as the Gdańsk Rębiechowo International Airport

The actions of the veterinary Inspection encircle: eradication of transmissible diseases in animals, slaughter animals and meat testing as well as the conduct of other activities resulting from separate regulations, especially those pertaining to the supervision over:

- 4` The health quality of foodstuffs of animal origin, including the sanitary conditions of production, storage and processing,
- 4` The quality of certain animal fodders,
- 4` The trade in medical supplies and pharmaceuticals for animal use only,
- 4` The health of animals for breeding and the quality of the biological material,

The Veterinary Inspection offices cooperate by the fulfillment of their statutory actions with:

- 4` National Veterinary Inspection
- 4` Pharmaceutical Inspection
- 4` Commercial inspection
- 4` Road Transport Inspection
- 4` The Agricultural Products Quality Inspection
- 4` The local authorities

■ THE VOIVODSHIP VETERINARY DOCTORS' TASKS

- €` Creation and modification of regional readiness plans for the eradication of animal transmissible diseases and the submission thereof for acceptance to the Head Veterinary Doctor. Acceptance of county readiness plans for the eradication of transmissible diseases.
- 4` Crisis Team creation by the voivodship veterinary doctor (WZK) and the coordination, support and control of county Crisis teams (PZ)

- 4` Threat level analysis, goal setting, coordination and supervision of county veterinary doctors,
- 4` Organization of training courses for the employees of the Veterinary Inspection on County and Province level
- 4` Simulations and practical training preparation and conduct
- 4` Acceptance of reports on the possibility of animal transmissible diseases cases determined by veterinary laboratories or other institutions and entities,
- 4` Registration of reports on the possibility of animal transmissible diseases cases determined by veterinary laboratories or other institutions and entities and notification of the Head veterinary doctor about such a report or the exclusion of such a possibility
- 4` Information forwarding on the existence of an animal transmissible disease to the Governor / Voivod
- 4` Coordination, support and control of County Crisis Teams – mainly by the unification of disease control methods
- 4` Threat level analysis, objective setting, coordination of activities and information forwarding to Head veterinary doctor (HVD) on the progress in the disease eradication and cooperation with the National Crisis Team by the HVD
- 4` Cooperation with institutions and organizations vital to the disease eradication
- 4` Information flow assurance and preparation of reports for the HVD and the Governor / Voivod on the progress in the eradication of transmissible disease

■ THE COUNTY VETERINARY DOCTORS' TASKS

- 4` Creation and update of readiness plans for the eradication of animal diseases and creation of Crisis Team by the County Veterinary Doctor (HVD)
- 4` Organization of specialized courses for employees from other institutions than the Veterinary Inspection. The scope of responsibility of the HVD encircles continuous preparation of veterinary services in the aspect of organization, resources and training level, for swift and effective reaction to crisis situations connected with animal disease outbreak. The availability assurance of: equipment, materials and disinfection resources
- 4` Simulations and practical training preparation and conduct
- 4` Acceptance of reports and notification of PVD about a possibility of animal transmissible disease occurrence
- 4` Issuing a decision about a suspicion or occurrence of animal transmissible disease. In the event of actual occurrence undertaking activities aimed at spread prevention of contagious agent and the eradication of the disease at its source
- 4` Cooperation with institutions and organizations vital to the disease eradication
- 4` Notification of PVD about the exclusion of suspicion on an animal transmissible disease occurrence and the issuing of a decision voiding the suspicion decision



To determine the epizootic state and to guarantee human Health and animal health the Veterinary Inspection agendas conduct control surveys of transmissible diseases occurrences in the Veterinary Hygiene Laboratory in Gdańsk – having the sole purpose to ensure the sanitary safety of the country.

■ **THE PATHOLOGU OF TRANSMISSIBLE DISEASES DEPARTMENT**

Bacteriology Laboratory;
Rabies, Anatomy and Histopathology Laboratory;
Fish Diseases Laboratory;
BSE Diagnostic Laboratory;
Parasitology and Mycology Laboratory.

■ **FODDER AND FOODSTUFFS RESEARCH DEPARTMENT**

Foodstuffs Microbiology Laboratory;
Foodstuffs Chemistry Laboratory;
Pesticide Residues Laboratory;
Metal residues Laboratory;
Radioactive Contaminations Laboratory;
Biological residues Laboratory;
Medication Residues Laboratory;
Fodder Testing Laboratory.

■ **LABORATORY DIAGNOSTICS DEPARTMENT**

Serology Laboratory;
Biochemistry Laboratory;
Virology Laboratory;
Plates and Nutrients Laboratory.

The main laboratory coordinating the research and testing in other labs, called “*the reference laboratory*” is located in Puławy in the Lubelskie Voivodship. This laboratory oversees the quality of tests conducted in the Veterinary Hygiene Laboratories and other laboratories at the same time collecting, processing and verifying result data from those laboratories.

■ **THE TESTING OF SLAUGHTER ANIMALS AND THEIR MEAT**

The slaughter animals and their meat, the game animals meat and other meat destined for consumption by humans, the foodstuffs of animal origin are all subject to compulsory testing which is the sole responsibility of the County Veterinary Doctor.

The compulsory testing encircles:

Before slaughtering – the slaughter animals from which meat and meat products would

be introduced on the market or for direct sale with the exemption of rabbits and poultry where the meat is destined for direct sale.

After slaughtering – the meat and the organs of slaughter animals, excluding the meat of rabbits and poultry meat not destined for the market,

After shooting – the meat and organs of game animals, with the exclusion of small game not for gutting, skinning or feathers off destined for personal use or direct sale, after gathering – fish, mollusks and shellfish

In order to assure adequate health quality of foodstuffs and to ensure public health protection the Veterinary Inspection agendas conduct control tests for illegal substances, chemical residues, biological residues, medical and radioactive contaminants in life animals, in tissues or organs of animals after slaughtering, in foodstuffs of animal origin and in fodder for animals.

The maximal allowable limits of the residues are described in appropriate laws and regulations.

■ VETERINARY BORDER CONTROL

INSPEKCJA WETERYNARYJNA

GRANICZNY INSPEKTORAT WETERYNARII

UL. KWIATKOWSKIEGO 60, GDYNIA

The following items are subject to veterinary boarder control:

1. import or the import intent of goods into the territory of Poland
2. export or export intent to territories outside of Poland
3. transfer of goods or the intent of transfer under a given procedure through the territory of Poland to other countries

The veterinary Border Control encircles the control of documents, identity, physical control and analytical control in international exchange of animals and animal derived products. The Border Veterinarian transmits information to the proper authorities at the package destination or the authorized in that location veterinary doctor by means of a computerized system ANIMO

The Veterinary Control by goods leaving the country encircles the control of documents required by the veterinary authorities of the destination country, it also controls the goods and orders samples to be taken.

The appointed county veterinary doctor controls the customs storage, the free economic zone, the duty free zone in the aspect of complying with veterinary regulations and also controls the in and out traffic of goods from the earlier named areas.

The goods brought from abroad are subject to testing in designated places and the animals for breeding or farming ar subject to quarantine – depending on the tests results the county veterinarian issues a decision on:



- 1) allowing the goods into the country for commercial use,
- 2) ordering the goods to be returned abroad, the future import of the goods that have obtained the return order can be done only through the same boarder control point where the returned goods passed the border,
- 3) ordering the goods to be destroyed,
- 4) ordering the animal to be destroyed or ordering a sanitary slaughtering in a designated slaughterhouse,

The goods imported from abroad might be excluded from quarantine and testing if the international agreements foresee, based on mutual obligations, a simplified procedure in veterinary control on the flow of goods in international commerce.

The County and Border Veterinary Doctor are direct subordinates of the Voivodship veterinary Doctor

The Act of 27th August 2003 on the Veterinary Boarder Control describes the rules for the conduct of veterinary boarder control of animals and animal derived meat products imported from third countries.

Any shipment of animals or products, originating in a third country, is subject to boarder control.

In the case of animal goods transfer in the boundaries of the European Union the control procedures are undertaken only in the point of shipping as a non-discriminating control.

The Act becomes Law on the day of Poland's officially joining the EU.



→ I Phytosanitary issues and regulations in Pomorskie

Mr Piotr Sroka – Voivodeship inspection of plant protection and seed production in Gdańsk

According to the EU regulations, there has to be a homogenous institution responsible for the implementation and realization of plant protection regulations in all the member states. The tasks connected with the supervision of plant health, the prevention of trade dangers and use of plant protection agents as well as the superintendence of the production, evaluation and trade of seed-material have been entrusted to Państwowa Inspekcja Ochrony Roślin i Nasiennictwa (*National Inspection of Plant Protection and Seed Production*).

The Inspection includes Główny Inspektorat Inspekcji Ochrony Roślin (*The Head Inspectorate of Plant Protection Inspection*) as well as 16 province inspectorates including 271 regional departments and 26 border departments.

Voivodeship Inspection of Plant Protection and Seed Production in Gdańsk was created on 1st April 2002 on the strength of the Act of March 1st 2002 concerning changes in organisation and operation of central organs of government organisation and departments submitted to it and also concerning a change of some acts (Act Register No. 25, position 253) as a result of joining:

4# Voivodeship Inspectorate of Plant Protection

4# Voivodeship Inspectorate of Inspection of Seed Production

Voivodeship Inspection in Gdańsk is Voivodeship Inspector's organ of assistance, which conducts, on behalf of Pomorski Voivode, the tasks and assignments specified in the Law Acts and separate regulations.

Voivodeship Inspection ensures the realisation of statutory tasks, the directions of operations of Inspection according to the rules specified by the Chief Inspector, as well as Pomorski Voivode.

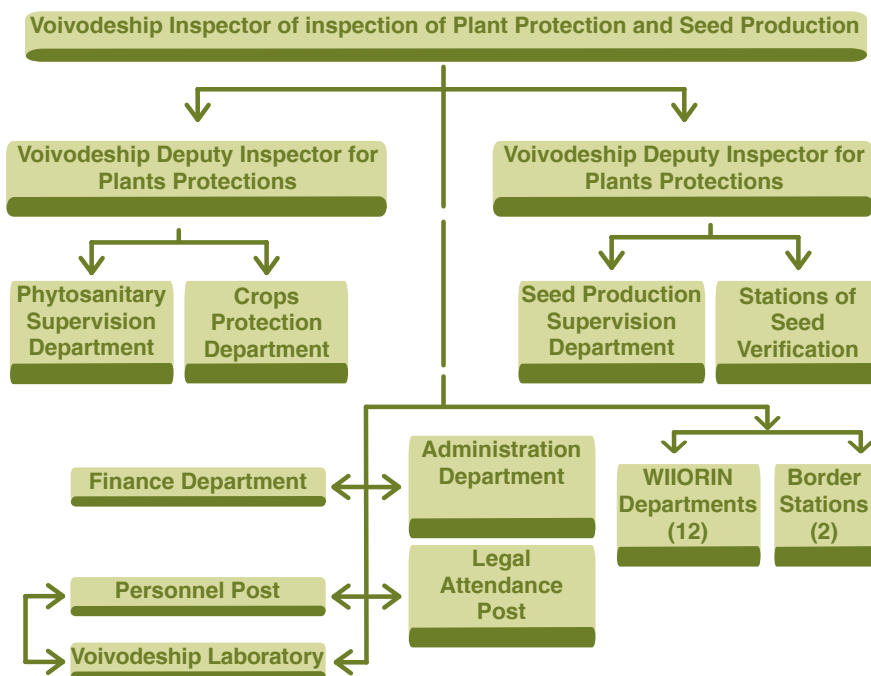
The Province Inspectorate of Pomerania includes 12 departments, which embrace the whole Pomerania Province within their performance range as well as 2 Border Departments in Gdańsk and Gdynia with 130 people employed in the whole unit.

The basis of operation of WIORIN:

- 1) act issued on 12th July 1995 on cultivated plants protection (2002 Reg. No. 171, p.1398)
- 2) act issued on 24th November 1995 on seed production (2001 Reg. No. 53, p.563 with later change)



WIIORIN organization scheme Gdańsk



- 3) act issued on 5th June 1998 on government administration in voivodeship (2001 Reg. No. 80, p. 872 with later change)
- 4) Ministers of Agriculture and Agricultural Reforms Resolution issued on 21st June 2002 on the detailed organization of Inspection of Plant Protection and Seed Production (Reg. No. 86, p. 782)
- 5) statute of Pomorskie Voivodeship Office in Gdańsk
- 6) regulations of Voivodeship Inspectorate of Plants Protection and Seed Production in Gdańsk

Tasks accomplished by IORIN

Voivodeship Inspection of Plant Protection and Seed Production is a unit responsible for:

- # protection of crops against pest organisms;
- # prevention of the spreading of pest organisms across the border and in the country;
- # prevention of people and animal health dangers as well as environment that may result from storage and using of plant protection remedies;
- # plant cultivators' rights and obligations as well as the plant variety creators' rights;
- # producing, transport, verification and control of seeding material

Phytosanitary Control

Internal control:

- 4` Conducting general registration that consists of systematical observations of pathogens and pest presence and damages caused by them;
- 4` Conducting detailed registration referring to the most dangerous, from the economical point of view pathogens and pest. The aim is to evaluate the threat of illness and cultivated plant pests and their localization in Poland;
- 4` Conducting the monitoring of chosen pest organisms submitted to the obligation of destroying (quarantine);
- 4` Examination of samples of plants, plant products, soil and grounds to state the presence of pest organisms;
- 4` Supervision of plants, soils, conditions of storage of plants and plant products to keep control over existence and spreading of pests;
- 4` Controlling methods of cleaning, disinfections, processing of products, objects, transportation means and soil.

External control

In Pomorskie voivodeship it is conducted by two border departments in sea harbours of Gdańsk and Gdynia.

Phytosanitary border control includes plant products and objects together with transportation means introduced into Polish customs area and transported within the procedure of plant transit unless their transportation within the transit procedure takes place in hermetically sealed containers or transport means and are not reloaded within the country area. It has been established that after Poland's accession to the EU, border phytosanitary inspection will be conducted at 16 border crossings. Land (rail and road) border crossings will be run on the Polish border with Russian Federation, Belarus Republic and Ukraine. The border departments appointed to function on the future EU borders have been equipped with IT and laboratory equipment indispensable for executing phytosanitary inspection as well as communication means in the frames of PHARE'99 funds included in PL 9906.01 project.

Some tasks conducted by Inspection to supply the needs of Phytosanitary control system in Pomorskie voivodeship.

The condition of the proper realization of all the tasks consequent to Poland's accession to the EU is a qualified inspection staff. Taking the above into consideration, a great emphasis is put onto training courses.

Trainings for Inspection employees:

- 4 internal trainings – organised by:
 - Voivodeship Inspectorates



- Main Inspectorate (e.g. Central Laboratory in Toru),
 - Within PHARE programme
- 4 external trainings – organised by science - research posts e.g.:
- Institute of Plants Protection in Pozna
 - Institute of Plant Breeding and Acclimatisation in Radzikowo
 - Agricultural academies.

Moreover, the infrastructure modernization is being conducted.

Infrastructure modernization – gradual repairing and modernization of:

- phytosanitary laboratories
- buildings of Inspection organisation units.

These activities aim at the adjustment of the technical infrastructure to the changing requirements of the Inspection function. The creation of the possibility of electronic communication was an indispensable element of the efficient realization of the tasks by the inspectorates. In 2003 an integrated IT system was developed and implemented. The system includes 7 thematic modules supporting the work of the inspectorates in the field of plant health inspection, commodities transport, undertaking phytosanitary means, plant protection trade control means and their application.

Laboratory diagnosis.

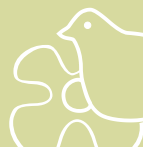
New activities of the member states standards in the field of plant and seed health inspection as well as the implementation of laboratory diagnosis will require the extension of the harmful agents examination range together with the increase in the number of performed examinations.

This results particularly from undertaking the Union list of harmful agents being subject to the duty of eliminating them as well as monitoring activities, obligatory in the EU member states, for such pests as, for example *Ralstonia Solanacerum*, *Bursaphelenchus Xyliphilus* and other present threats. According to the inscriptions of Accession Treaty and the EU regulations, the range of the *Synchytrium Endobioticum* presence examination will be extended. This will require the introduction of new diagnosis techniques and methods as well as providing all the Inspectorate laboratories with the conditions to detect and identify specified harmful agents according to the UE instructions including the detection and elimination of quarantine potato bacteria. (93/85/EWG and 98/57/ EU). Another Inspection task is the improvement of laboratory system functioning as well as the improvement of the examination conduct conditions by proper design of the rooms, technology, specialization and task division among specific employees. The predominant task is the improvement of the phytosanitary safety in laboratories which aims at the protection against the harmful agents release into the environment, at prevention from uncontrolled induction of those organisms from outside as well as the preclusion of mutual sample contamination.

New PIORIN tasks resulting from Poland's accession to EU

The most important new tasks realized by the Inspection connected with Poland's accession to the EU is:

- 4` conducting the office register of producers and entrepreneurs;
Plant and Seed Protection Inspection supervises the activities of the registered subjects. The supervision includes systematic controls of cultivated plant health and stored plant material as well as the control of the registered activities documentation.
- 4` supervision of plant and plant goods movement;
The next new Inspection's task in the field of plant health control is the realization of the Union system of passport-control plant products transported within the EU area. This task involves the Inspection's control over the duty restriction of specific plant products being provided with plant passports as well as the control over their usage.
- 4` conducting official actions aimed at destroying and prevention of spreading pest organisms;
The implementation of the member states standards aiming at the elimination or prevention of the harmful agents spreading in accordance with EU instructions requires the extension of the range of the Inspection activities. This particularly includes such phytosanitary means as the activities undertaken only on the basis of the suspicion of harmful agent existence, the investigation of harmed or likely harmed plant material ways of spreading, and indicating protection zones.
- 4` phytosanitary supervision of international trade of plant, plant products and objects introduced to EU member countries;
Plants, plant products and commodities included in the Directive 2000/20/EU apart from those transported through the EU area in transit procedures will be subject to border control as far as their packaging and transportation means will guarantee that no harmful agents may be released during their transport.
Another Inspection's task connected with phytosanitary border control is preparing notifications of interception of plants, plant products as well as commodities meant to be transported into the EU area;
- 4` supervision of scientific researches;
- 4` supervision of researches on efficiency of plant protection remedies;
- 4` supervision of integrated production and granting plant health certificates;
- 4` analysing the degree of danger and the evaluation of risk connected with trade and use of plant protection remedies;
- 4` participating in Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed – RASFF;
- 4` preparing seed production breeders and entrepreneurs to individual evaluation of seeding material (accreditation);



- 4` supervision of researches on efficiency of plant protection remedies;
- 4` laboratory and external features evaluation of seed-potatoes;
- 4` controlling of the nursery material production with minimal requirements (*Conformitas agmaria communitatis*) – CAC .

→ I Progress achieved in the veterinary and phytosanitary field in Bulgaria

Mrs. Mariela Pchelinska – expert of information and public relations of Bulgarian Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

■ VETERINARY ISSUES

Regarding harmonization of the legislation Bulgaria has achieved significant progress as the harmonization in the veterinary and phytosanitary field could be considered as finalized.

Fiftytwo European regulations and directives including different areas of the veterinary acquis – control systems in the internal market, identification and registration of animals, expenditures in the veterinary field, veterinary checks, animal health, public health, common measures, animal waste treatment, animal welfare, import of animals and animal products, etc. were fully or partially transposed during the last two years in the veterinary field. Sixty legislative acts were published in the State Gazette, 90% of which transpose EU veterinary requirements. It must be taken into consideration that the veterinary acquis is one of the largest and most complicated compared to the acquis in the other fields.

Bulgarian National Veterinary Service (NVS) is an overall well structured and staff has followed specialized training. Annually veterinarians have been trained in Bulgaria and European countries in different fields of the veterinary activity. 247 veterinarians were trained in 1999 and 2000 regarding animal food safety. 96 of them were trained in Italy and other EU member states.

In 2002 seminars and trainings on the implementation of the European legislation in different sub sectors- milk, meat, fish and aquaculture, as well as on the implementation of the ANIMO system, HACCP system, management of border veterinary inspection posts, animal welfare were held under the Twinning project “Improvement of veterinary control”. Experts were trained in Italy on control of residues in food products of animal origin, laboratory accreditation, control of milk and milk products under a Twinning project.

Seminars were carried out in Bulgaria on zoonoses, introduction of HACCP system in the establishments producing raw materials and products of animal origin. Training courses were carried out concerning the introduction of the new adopted national legislation.

There was a course training of veterinarians working in meat processing establishments, managers and workers in meat industry regarding the EU requirements on spongiform encephalopathies in animals.



Regional epizootologists have delivered training courses at regional and local level.

The Bulgarian veterinary service succeeded to keep the territory of Bulgaria free of infectious animal diseases including foot and mouth diseases and spongiform encephalopathies in spite of complicated epizootic situation in Europe during last years.

Bulgarian specialists were trained in the World Reference Laboratory for diagnostics of exotic diseases in Purbright, UK.

In 2002 Bulgarian experts visited England in order to provide assistance in the combat against the foot-and-mouth disease.

NVS has the necessary structure to carry out controls in all spheres of veterinary activity, which ensures good animal health and food safety.

■ PHYTOSANITARY ISSUES

The legislation in the phytosanitary sector is concentrated in the fields of seeds and propagating material, plant health and phytosanitary control.

During 2003 legislation has been adopted on:

4# authorisation of active substances and on biological testing for efficacy and residues of plant protection products as well as on the labeling of plant products;

4# phytosanitary control of *harmful organisms*, including establishing minimum conditions for carrying out of plant health checks on border inspection points;

4# marketing of *seeds and propagating material*.

Equipping of most long-term border inspection posts (BIPs) is completed. Laboratory equipment for BIPs, regional laboratories for phytosanitary control, pilot stations for biological testing of plant protection products has been supplied through PHARE projects.

A PHARE project BG-01-01.03 is currently being carried out, comprising equipment and staff training.

In implementation of the recommendations from the EC's Regular Reports the NSPP is currently in the process of restructuring and strengthening of the administrative capacity.

Administrative capacity at the National Service for Plant Protection (NSPP) was strengthened with the establishment of two new departments in charge of control of the market of plant protection products and phytosanitary control as well as the hiring of new staff for the plant quarantine laboratories. The NSPP took important steps towards the adoption a quality assurance system by appointing a quality manager to co-ordinate activities of quality assurance. Training for border inspectors focused on the detection of quarantine pests upon import are ongoing.

A great number of training projects of the National Service for Plant Protection staff have been carried out. Those trainings comprised the whole scope of activities of the NSPP:

4 Phytosanitary control – border and by destination, control of the region and control on production;

- 4 Laboratory techniques and methods for locating of pests;
- 4 Biological testing of plant protection products in compliance with the requirements of the Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) and the Good Experimental Practice (GEP);
- 4 Introduction of a quality control system;
- 4 Laboratory management.



→ I State food and veterinary service in Kaunas County

Mr. Marius Kaziliunas – officer of Kaunas City state food and veterinary service

The State Food and Veterinary Service of the Republic of Lithuania (SFVS) is an independent budgetary institution under of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania.

The SFVS was established in the year 2000, after the reorganization of the State Veterinary Service and the subordinate veterinary institutions, the State Hygiene Inspection under the Ministry of Health, and the State Quality Inspection under the State Service for Competition and Protection of Consumer Rights. The State Food and Veterinary Service has overtaken the functions of the above institutions and effects food control at all the stages of food handling “from stable to table”

The SFVS consists of the headquarters, the subordinate institutions: the National Veterinary Laboratory, State Food Inspectorate, Border and Transport State Veterinary Service, State Inspection on Veterinary Preparations, Food and Veterinary Audit Service, Food and Veterinary Continuing Training Centre of Kaunas and regional services: ten county State Food and Veterinary Services, four city State Food and Veterinary Services, 34 district State Food and Veterinary Services.

In the system of the State Food and Veterinary Service about 1380 people are employed, 67 of whom are engaged at the headquarters.

■ STRUCTURE

The State Veterinary Service (SVS) is an autonomous organisation and its director Dr Lukauskas reports directly to the Prime Minister and keeps close relations with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

The SVS is in charge of animal health, prevention and control of animal diseases and the control of food of animal origin.

The control of meat and meat products, milk and milk products and products of animal origin is one of the main tasks of the SVS.

Operating under the headquarters of SVS, there are the Border and Transport Veterinary Service, the State scientific control laboratory of veterinary drugs responsible for registration of all veterinary medicines, the National Veterinary Laboratory responsible for testing and investigation/monitoring animal disease and the County State Veterinary Service with 10 Chief Veterinarians.

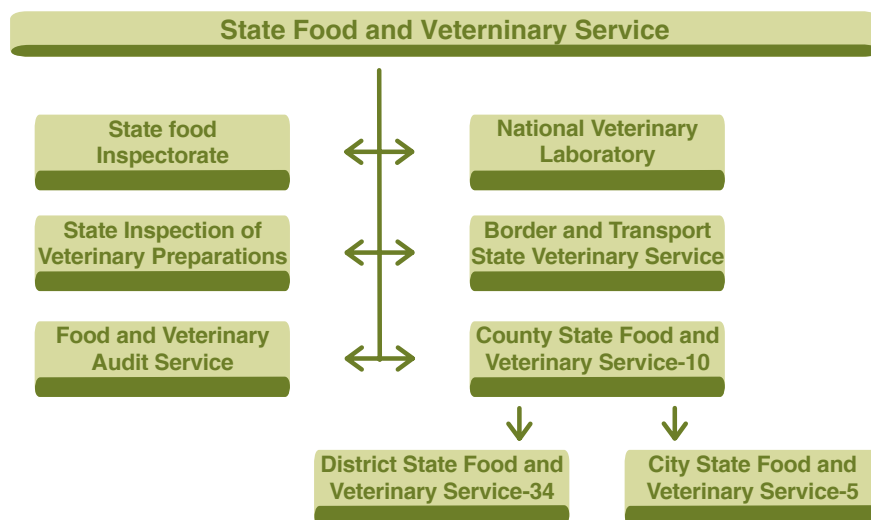
Every county is divided into 3 or 4 districts and each district has its own veterinary inspector. The total number of district veterinarians is 34. The organisation responsible for post-graduate training of veterinarians is the veterinary consultative centre of Kaunas with 7 senior veterinary teachers who have a close relationship with the University - the Veterinary Academy in Kaunas. The veterinary “clinic” of Buivydiskes is a veterinary school for the training of technicians responsible for laboratory work and trichinae testing. The epizootic “squads” of Kaunas and Vilnius are comprised of 8 veterinarians especially trained in epidemiology/outbreaks of communicable diseases.

The epizootic “squad” of Vilnius is also assisting the SVS in transposing the EU veterinary legislation into Lithuanian veterinary legislation. This includes decrees and regulations which are issued at SVS central level. The State veterinary supply centre supplies veterinary medicines, vaccines and diagnostics and has been privatised and totally separated from the SVS in the last month. It employs 6 veterinarians.

The City veterinary-sanitary stations include 4 bigger cities: Vilnius, Kaunas, Klaipeda and Siauliai. At present, only the city veterinary station of Vilnius reports directly to the SVS. In the near future, these 4 bigger cities will be incorporated in the County State Veterinary Service. There are 1654 veterinary surgeons who work as clinicians all over the country and in order to start their practice must obtain a licence from the SVS.

Private veterinary supply enterprises and drugstores: these are wholesalers and pharmacists supplying prescriptions medicines to farmers and private veterinarians.

The veterinary supply enterprises and drugstores must be licensed by the SVS.



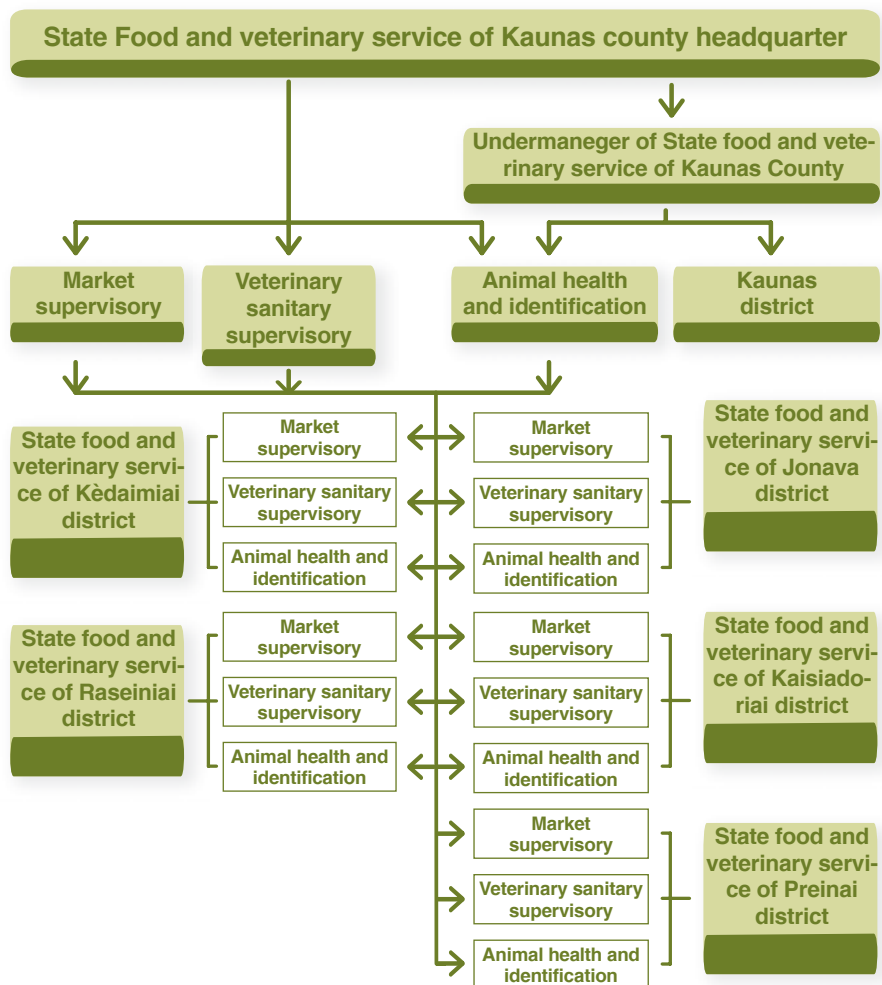
■ OBJECTIVES

The State Food and Veterinary Service implements the state policy in the field of food and veterinary.

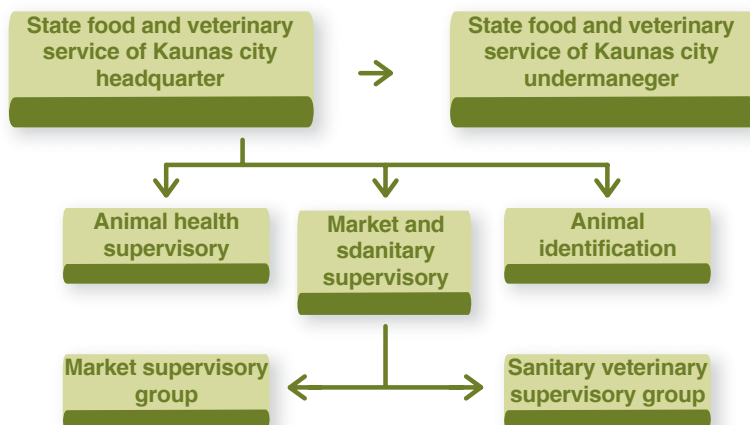


The objectives of the State Food and Veterinary Service are as follow:

- 4# to safeguard the interests of the consumers, to ensure that the food supplied on the internal market and intended for export complies with the requirements for safety, labelling and other mandatory indicators established by the legal acts;
- 4# to ensure veterinary and hygiene control at all the stages of food handling (from rearing plants and animals intended for food to supply of the food to consumers);
- 4# to prevent the introduction onto the territory of the country of contagious animal diseases, to arrange protection of animals from contagious diseases and the eradication of disease focuses, to ensure the welfare of animals;
- 4# to promote the integration of Lithuania into the European Union in food and veterinary fields.



State Food and Veterinary service of Kaunas City



■ CONTACTS WITH OTHER STATE SERVICES

State food and veterinary service contacts with State plant protection, State policy service, Public health centre. Public health centre give information about diseases.

■ PROJECTS

Services employers took part on TAIEX project, which theme was about HACCAP systems, meat establishments control, inspection training.

■ DESCRIPTION OF ZOOTECHNICAL HERITAGE STATISTIC DATA

In Kaunas region there are about 130.000 heads of cattle, in Lithuania - about 950.000, households (keepers) number in Kaunas region 30.000, in Lithuania 225000. There are 65000 milk cows in Kaunas region and in Lithuania 450000, the number of households in Kaunas region - 27000, in Lithuania - 465.000.

This could represent the different breeds of cattle for each species in a table:

SUBJECT	THE NUMBER OF ALL SPECIES CATTLE	BLACK SPOTTED	BRINDLE	OTHER	FLESH SPECIES	MON-GRELS
KAUNAS REGION	130.464	119.748	5.051	579	451	4.635
LITHUANIA	946.129	662.504	240.453	4.231	1.998	36.943



The numbers of sheep and goats are not high: sheep – 3669 in Kaunas region and 20476 in Lithuania, goats – 1979 in Kaunas region and 6612 in Lithuania. As we could see the level is not high.

The number of horses of them is not very high; it may differ from 1000-1500 in Kaunas region.

There are 5 big poultry farms in Kaunas region, in which are concentrated 1,5 mln fowls.

One of the most popular branches of agriculture is swine-breeding. There are slaughtered about 0,8 million pigs in one year, about 30 percent in Kaunas region.

Although production level of milk, fish and meat products meets the domestic requirements.

The primary meat products are beef, chicken, horse meat, lamb meat, pork and rabbit meat. The majority of food production is geared toward supplying domestic markets, although there are significant exports to Eastern markets such as Latvia, Estonia, Russia, the Ukraine and Belarus.

OBJECT	SLAUGHTERHOUSES		MEAT AND FISH PRODUCTION PLANTS	
	Number	Production (tones)	Number	Production (tones)
KAUNAS CITY	0	0	200	2.2000
KAUNAS REGION	153	11.512 12.000	598	21.480 7.857

OBJECT	COLD STORES		MILK PRODUCTION		OTHER ESTABLISHMENTS	
	Number	Production (tones)	Number	Production (tones)	Number	Production (tones)
KAUNAS CITY	8	21.000	3	36.000	5	148
KAUNAS REGION	6	18.000	7	79.621	10	2.018

■ DESCRIPTION OF THE FARMS

As we can see from the statistic data mentioned in the above table, the biggest numbers of cattle belongs to private sector. But the biggest number of pigs and poultry are concentrated in companies. The biggest number of sheep and goats belongs to family business. About 5 percents of employed workers in Lithuania are working in agricultural sector.

The agricultural cultivated surface may be shown in the following table:

(Hectares)

SUBJECT	UNCULTIVATED AREA	NATURAL FIELDS AND PASTURES	CULTIVATED AREA	GARDENS
KAUNAS REGION	198	604	161.200	800
LITHUANIA	2.300	13.400	1.028.000	3.600

In Kaunas region the level of mechanization is:

about 800 tractors (1/200 hectares area) and 500 various units (1/ 300 hectares area) are used in farms (it cultivates about 161200 hectares of the area).

For example, I could introduce the picture of one big farm - mechanisation level, typology of breeding and productivity.

There are about 300 heads of breeding cattle and 250 heads of cattle for productivity. The cultivated area is about 800 hectares. Mechanization level is good: there are about 15 tractors and different kinds of machines and 25 units for manipulation in the fields and farm.

The number of working people differs depending on the season from 25-30 persons. Employers are highly qualified specialists in the agriculture.

Such cultures are used for feeding:

Maize, pasturage, silage, haylage, premixes

Grain crops fields – 245 hectares.

The production of the farm is 20 000 tones of milk and 800 tones grain crops.

■ DESCRIPTION OF THE PRINCIPAL QUARANTINE DISEASES

ANIMAL DISEASES

Rabies

In Lithuania rabies was diagnosed in 35 districts in 1998. The most infected districts where Sirvintai, Raseiniai, Salcininkai and Pakruojis. There were 200 000 doses of oral rabies vaccines used in foxes.

Aphtha

Last epidemic was in 1982 in Švenčionių district. Last vaccination was ended in 1985 year. From 1996 year Lithuania is free from aphtha.



Swine-fever

This disease was widespread till 1976 year. After the 14 years break the disease was registered in 1990. The same time was detected, that boars are contaminated too. Vaccination was started to liquidate that disease. In 1992 was eliminated the last epidemic centre.

Anthrax

The disease was registered in Lithuania in 1920. There were registered 357 historical centres of this disease. Last death from that disease was registered in 1998 year. In the historically epidemical centres animals are vaccinated: 770 cattle, 2 horses.

Brucellosis

In 1965-1968 contaminated animals (cattle) were slaughtered. The last case of this disease was registered in 1991 year in Utena district. Every year cattle are checked with serological analysis. There were checked 547497 heads in 2002. The last centre was registered in 1991 in Telšiai district.

Tuberculosis

The massive analysis of tuberculosis was started from 1960 year. There were identified 32000 heads of positive animals from 1960 till 1980. From 1963 year all positive animals were slaughtered in the sanitary slaughtering under strict control. During 1988-1992 the position was stabilized.

In 2000 year 601703 cattle were examined, 1525 of them were positive to tuberculinum. After the repeated examination 429 cattle were slaughtered.

In 2001 year 0,2 percent positive examinations were founded.

Cattle leukemia, cattle viral diarrhoea, hypodermosis, leptospirosis, micoplasmosis were not spread and didn't cause a dangerous in Lithuania until 1999 year.

Trichinosis

From the invasion diseases the most problematic was trichinosis. There were taken 824649 pigs samples, from which 50 were positive. It come true, that 0,7 percent of boars are infected. In 2002 year 20 foxes were infected too.

■ **POULTRY DISEASES**

NEWCASTLE DISEASE

All poultry is vaccinated from this disease in Lithuania: in 2001 - 18670268, in 2002 – 11667436. We used Intervet, Abic, Merial firm's vaccines for epizootical measures.

Infection bronchitis

For this case we used vaccines made from D274, H120 and 4/91 trunks. In 2001 were vaccinated 26013766 and in 2002 – 17823742 fowls.

Other diseases, such as infection bursitis, infection laryngotracheitis, infection encephalomyelitis, ornitosis, were not typical.

INTERNAL CONTROLS

There are established services of regions and cities, which control food safety from animals' growth to table. Kaunas City Service has 30 and Kaunas Region about 50 employers, who are responsible for epizootic status, establishments' and markets' sanitary control. There are established the sections for the:

- Epizootic works;
- Market and sanitary supervisory;
- Animal marking and identification;
- Animal health supervisory.

Epizootic section is responsible for checking epizootic situation in region, organization epizootic works in small cities/settlements and farms, for monitoring farms veterinary doctors' work and etc.

Market and sanitary supervisory section control markets, bazaares, preschools, catering companies, meat production plants and others.

EXTERNAL CONTROLS

Lithuanian Veterinary (Border Control) controls the imported production (raw materials) from the other countries and their accordance to the requirements of imported goods. The Border inspection posts (BIPs) at external borders with third countries are performing checks, including documentary, identity and physical checks of the animals or animal products presented. There are 18 border inspection posts in Lithuania, 4 from them are the air-transport inspection posts.

CERTIFICATES

Certificates, issued by certain institutions, are necessary when importing some commodities as set forth the laws of Lithuania:

- **Health and quality certificates** are issued by The State Public Health Service
- **Veterinary certificates** are issued by State Food and Veterinary Service
- **Phytosanitary certificates** are issued by State Plant Protection Service
- **Certificates for harmful or hazardous materials or products** are issued by the Ministry of National Defence or the Ministry of Environment

LEGISLATION

There are two levels of legislation in Lithuania. The primary level consists of facts and laws which are drafted and proposed only at central level and which must be approved by Parliament. There are two laws (Law on Veterinary Activities, Law on Product Safety and two draft Laws (supplement and amendment on the Law on Veterinary Activities and Food Law, which have been submitted to the Parliament for approval).

The secondary level comprises orders, regulations, rules and decisions. These are drafted by the European integration department and signed by the Director. There are also horizontal acts which concern different sectors and which are drafted by State Veterinary Service and adopted by the Ministry of Health.



LEGISLATIVE REFORM

Food safety is an integral part of the EU policy on consumer protection and health. Its “farm to table” approach must thus also be adopted by the accession country - Lithuania. Lithuania has been making progress in upgrading their food safety approach to comply with EU law. Transitional measures will allow a limited number of establishments that are still in the process of upgrading their facilities to continue production for the domestic market of the new Member State until 2004 at the latest. Other important steps such as the establishment of border inspection posts (BIPs) to perform import controls on the new external EU borders, still have to be accomplished. In September 2003, the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health is expected to approve a first list of BIPs in the new EU Member States.

Food legislation includes general rules for hygiene and control, food labelling, food additives, food packaging and genetically modified foods. Veterinary legislation includes animal health, animal welfare, animal identification and registration, internal market control systems, external border controls and public health requirements for establishments in relation to animal products. Phytosanitary legislation includes plant health (harmful organisms, pesticides), seeds and propagating material, and plant hygiene. Animal feed legislation includes the safety of feed materials and additives, labelling, contaminants in feed, controls and inspections.

Veterinary and phytosanitary control system, organisation are already harmonised in Lithuania.

TRANSITIONAL MEASURES

Upon accession, the whole Acquis (the existing body of EU law) will become effective in the new Member States. The basic approach taken is that the Acquis related to food safety is fully transposed into the national legislation of each new member state and administrative structures and procedures are strengthened and reformed in good time prior to accession. The Commission has, however, considered a limited number of requests for transitional arrangements. The measures are limited in time and scope. Products coming from establishments in transition must stay on the domestic market of the new Member States. Establishments that have no transitional periods and do not fulfil EU legislation have to be closed down. Agreed transitional periods per country, listing number of establishments per sector:

- # Lithuania: 14 meat establishments, 5 fish establishments and 1 milk establishment (until January 2007);

Future External Borders: Border Inspection Posts for Animals and Products

EU veterinary controls on third country imports require a system of border inspection posts (BIPs) at external borders with third countries to perform checks including documentary, identity and physical checks of the animals or animal products presented. Following these checks at the first border crossing point into the EU, animals and products

can in principle circulate freely in the internal market. Currently there are some 283 EU Border Inspection Posts (BIPs) operated by national authorities. Most of these are ports and airports, others are road or rail links located in particular at the eastern borders of the Union.

In total, some 51 BIPs are proposed by the 10 new Member States to be ready by the time of accession.

Setting up Border Inspection Posts for veterinary and other controls in the new Member States requires buildings, equipment and staff to be in place to carry out the required border checks. EU legislation sets out minimum standards for BIP facilities, depending on the type of products to be checked. The Commission has stated that they are monitoring developments carefully and that only those BIPs fully ready at accession will be approved and listed. The Commission will need to take a legal decision through the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health composed of Representatives of the Member States to approve veterinary BIPs. A first draft list of BIPs to be approved will be drawn up in September 2003.



→ I State phytosanitary administration regional division South Moravia Czech Republic.

Mr Jan Samanek – Officer of state phytosanitary administration regional division South Moravia

Surface of South Moravian Region is 7065 sqkm and it means 8,96 % of Czech Republic territory. Total population is 1121700, and it presents 10,9% of the population in Czech Republic. There are 647 municipalities. More than 64% inhabitants live in towns. More than 60 % of the surface is used for agriculture. South Moravia has very important position in international tourism. There are many sights and some of them are listed in UNESCO – “Lednicko Valtický areál”, “Zelena hora” and others. On the South Moravia territory there is one National Park “PODYJÍ”, and many important conservation areas as “PALAVA”, “BÍLE KARPATY” and “MORAVSKÝ KRAS”. On the territory of South Moravia there are many folklore zones - especially on east - with specific customs and traditions.

■ STATE PHYTOSANITARY ADMINISTRATION - REGIONAL DIVISION - SOUTH MORAVIA.

The inspection/control authority in the Czech Republic in the field of plant health – harmful organisms on national, regional and local levels is entrusted to the State Phytosanitary Administration (“*Státní rostlinolekářská správa*” in Czech, hereinafter also as “SPA”) that was established to January 1, 1997, based on Article 38 of Act 147/1996 on phytosanitary care, Regional administration of SPA in Brno is one of 7 regional administrations of Czech Republic, managing field work. It directs the work of 13 districts administrations and 6 phytosanitary inspection places at the adjacent boundary with Slovakia and Austria. The Regional SPA is responsible for professional, personal and technical activities of all these departments, for fulfil all tasks given by the law of plant protection. It surveys nearly 800.000 ha of agricultural land.

THE MAIN TARGETS OF SPA ARE:

- a) to protect the territory of the Czech Republic against both introduction of harmful organisms from abroad and their spreading within the territory of the state;
- b) to survey, evaluate and register the occurrence of harmful organisms and disturbances on lands and buildings where plants or plants products are grown, stored or processed;
- c) to carry out phytosanitary supervision ex lege;

- d) to impose extraordinary phytosanitary measures and to provide reimbursement of property loss;
- e) to register plant protection products;
- f) to decide about issue of a license documents for control testing of plant protection mechanization means;
- g) other activities arising from orders of the MA and other bodies of the state administration, cooperation with foreign institutions under international agreements and with other institutions involved in the field of phytosanitary care.

■ ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

The staff in District Administration consist of 3 (small districts) or 4 to 5 members (in larger districts).

The chief of a District Administration covers the cooperation with other organizations on the district level, manages the work of his co-workers, is active as a phytosanitarian. Other establishment - fulfil the plan of phytosanitary care (mostly quarantine, monitoring of harmful organisms and others).

■ PERSONAL POLITICS, RECRUITMENT OF NEW EMPLOYEES AND EDUCATION

Recruitment of new employees corresponds to the activities and specialization necessary for the practice on the regional level. They are selected with the aid of Mendel's University for Agriculture and Forestry in Brno from graduated persons. They are needed to fulfil the conditions for the qualification, i.e. be graduated for agriculture and specialized for phytosanitary care, or graduated in agriculture or forestry and absolve PGS (post-graduate studies). Each of graduates is subjected to one month lasting probation, when he is acquainted with all professional activities on regional, district or PI level.

After admission the employee is subjected to the professional course (acquaintance with laws, activities). This course is organized by the Directory of SPA. In the course of the first year absolves the new employee also a course of diagnostics (organized by the Directory with the help of Czech Agricultural University Prague).

Responsibility of regional administration

- operates the activity of district departments and phytoquarantenal inspection in the field of phytosanitary care, incl. the administrative activities
- decides the fines and does administrative procedures
- provide diagnostic activity directed to SPA or other legal or natural persons
- provide some specific diagnostic analyses

Local (district) administration

- practise professional and administrative supervision of phytosanitary care on local district level



Phytosanitary inspections (PI)

- in places of entry provide the phytosanitary inspection on consignments of plants, plant products and other objects, incl. handling with consignments
- provide registration of inspected consignments and results of inspections

■ EXTERNAL QUARANTINE

The main task of the field section of the SPA is in the field of quarantine. The aim is to protect the territory of Czech Republic from introduction of pest agents from abroad. For it are responsible the entry authorities on the boundaries. They provides phytosanitary supervision of imported and transited goods of vegetative origine.

In the case of any irregularity (occurrence of quarantine pest organisms) consignment is not permitted to entry the country and is sent back to the country of origin.

In the case of exported goods of vegetative origin, phytosanitary supervision is usually done in the place of origin of the exported plants and certificate is given there.

Checks are provided in points of entry and inland.

Some important numbers of 2003 year – South Moravian Region:

Checked consignments - 3729

Suspended consignments - 91

■ INTERNAL QUARANTINE

Further duty of SPA is to prevent the spreading of those pest organisms that already exist and are distributed within the country. In our region it is the case of root-knot nematods, bacterial ring rot, potato wart disease and further of some virus diseases occurring in green-houses.

To the important activities belong similar supervision of cultural plants in the growing time before the export and checking of growing material in nurseries of decorating woody plants and vine plants, and so on.

Some important numbers of 2003 year – South Moravian Region:

19 adults of *Diabrotica virgifera* were recorded in feromon traps

1324 samples of soil for diagnostic of *Globodera rostochiensis*

■ PHYTOSANITARY SUPERVISION

Survey of objects of controls focused on by phytosanitary surveillance:

- a) supervision over the fulfilment of the obligation to prevent the spread and occurrence of harmful organisms
- b) supervision over the fulfilment of the obligation of registered persons
- c) systematic phytosanitary control
- d) supervision over the obligations aimed at the use of plant passports

- e) supervision over the obligation to keep the plant passports for one year at least since the date of their receipt and keep records about it
- f) the subsequent phytosanitary inspection after import

The importers recipients and producers of these plants shall advise without delay the competent phytosanitary authority about their transportation to the place of deposition or planting

The phytosanitary inspection of plants (places of propagation) before the export

- g) The inspection of occurrence of quarantine pests
- h) Control of extraordinary phytosanitary measures
- i) The inspection over the plant protection products before their putting into circulation

It takes place in storages of PPP, in shops of the ware for gardening (the products in small volume packing). These controls are carried out within the bounds of post-registration controls of PPP in the aim to establish whether the products are registered and whether the packages bear required labels.

- j) supervision in application of PPP
- k) supervision in storage of PPP
- l) supervision in recording the use of PPP
- m) supervision over the measures in protecting bus, game and fish
- n) supervision over functional worthiness of PP machines
- o) supervision over the fulfilment the obligation of registered persons
- p) supervision over the fulfilment the obligations over the use of plant passports
- q) supervision over the keeping plant passports and keeping records
- r) assessment of the competence for issuing plant passports and keeping records of risk plants
- s) investing the competence for issuing plant passports

Some important numbers of 2003 year – South Moravian Region:

212 supervisions in application of PPP

303 supervisions in recording the use of PPP

191 supervisions over functional worthiness of PP machines

■ DIAGNOSTIC

The main job description is to diagnose the causes of damages to plants for field services – 13 district workplaces and 4 phytosanitary inspections. The laboratory provides for all these workplaces the diagnose of pest agents which cannot be done by field staff including analysing the quarantine organisms (especially the analysis of soil samples for potato cyst nematodes and potato wart disease, biological tests).

In addition to common diagnostics, the laboratory is specialized to the problems of fun-



gous diseases of cereals, grapevine, orchard and ornamental trees, further to the determination of fungi from the genus *Fusarium*. It is charged with the solution of mycological problems for the remaining regional laboratories of SPA in the Czech Republic.

Some important numbers of 2003 year – South Moravian Region:

For occurrence of *Globodera palida* and *Synchytrium endobioticum* was determined 1324 samples.

Total number of samples determined in diagnostic laboratory in South Moravia Region was 4412.

341 samples of soil was biological tested for occurrence *Globodera rostochiensis* and 7 for *Synchytrium endobioticum*

■ MONITORING

Phytopsanitary workers at district administrations are responsible for monitoring of selected pest organisms to identify, evaluate and survey them. Phytopsanitary workers at district administrations detect, evaluate and record systematically the occurrence of selected pest organisms. In our region it refers to about 90 pest organisms on 31 crop plant species. Results are compiled into report for practise. This report draws the attention to the pest organism and their location and term of application of plant protection products.

South Moravia belongs to the most fertile parts of the Czech Republic and to the most significant agricultural regions, where all crop plants (cereals, vegetables, fodder plants, fruit trees etc.) are planted. Nearly the whole area of vineyards and thermophilus fruit trees of the Czech Republic are located in South Moravian Region.

Some important numbers of 2003 year – South Moravian Region:

Monitoring at 2003 was provided for 99 harmful organisms on 28 crops at 287 growths at 79 cadastres

Forecasts:

Phytoththora infestanst: 47 cadastres, 13 weeks, globally 611 forecasts.

Pseudocercospora herpotrichides: 12 cadastres, globally 12 forecasts.

Venturia inequalis on appletree: 1 cadastres, 15 for weeks, globally 15 forecasts

Gnomonia on apricot: 1 cadastres , 15 for weeks, globally 15 forecasts

■ CONSUMPTION OF PRODUCTS AND PRACTICE IN PLANT PROTECTION

Every year is monitored the consumption of PPP

■ OTHER ACTIVITIES

Workers of SPA at all levels organize training and seminars for farmer and agriculture public. In 2003 was organized 127 trainings, many articles was published at newspapers and papers.

→ I Overview of the phytosanitary legislation in force

Mr Peter Sivicek – officer of the central control and testing institute of agriculture, section of plant protection Bratislava

■ GENERAL INFORMATION ON SLOVAKIA

Slovakia is a country situated in the geographical centre of Europe. Thanks to its geographical position it has been already in the Middle Ages recognised as cultural crossing of Europe. The first artefacts of settlement by Slavs come from the turn of 5th and 6th century. The first Czechoslovak Republic was established in 1918 and on 1st January 1993 was established the independent Slovak Republic. Slovakia has 5,5 millions inhabitants. The official language is Slovak. Slovakia is situated in temperate zone. The capital is Bratislava.

To the greatest beauties of nature belong the mountains „High Tatras“ located in the North-East of Slovakia with its unique flora and fauna. Slovakia has beautiful hills, castles on rocks, ancient bourgs and spa rich in mineral springs, as well as spontaneously springing wells with curative effects. Together with Georgia holds world primacy in the number of mineral springs (>1000). There is a large number of spas. Pieš any are world known spa successful in cure of locomotive organs. Slovakia has a lot of world nature's uniques – one of them is one of three beautiful aragonite caves in the world.

In spite of the fact that Slovakia is traditionally agricultural country, on the present in the sector of agriculture works only 6 % population. In particular in the West and East Region of Slovakia especially grown crops are cereals, corn, leguminous plants, sugar-beet and thermophilic fruit and vine. In mountainous areas are grown mainly potatoes, fodder crops and fruit resistant to cold (in particular plums and small fruit).

To the main legal regulations regulating the execution of phytosanitary activities are the Act of the National Council of the Slovak Republic No. 285/1995 Coll. of 20 November 1995 on Plant Health Care as amended by Act No. 471/2001 Coll. and the Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Slovak Republic No. 41/2002 Coll. of 17 December 2001 laying down details concerning the administration of the Act on Plant Health Care. Further there belong 10 government ordinances approved by government in January 2004 in result of harmonisation of national legislation with EU legislation and by which a full compliance of SR legislation has been achieved. These 10 ordinances transpose



EU phytosanitary directives which regard protective measures against the introduction into the Community of harmful organisms, registration, issuing of plant passports, protected zones, minimum conditions for carrying out plant health checks at the inspection posts, interception of consignment, condition under which certain plant material can be introduced into or moved within the Community or certain protected zones thereof for trial or scientific purposes and for work on varietal selections, protection against harmful organisms and another appropriate issues.

■ SCHEME OF ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE PHYTOSANITARY CONTROL IN THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

CENTRAL LEVEL

The main authority in the field of plant health care is the Ministry of Agriculture of the SR which manages, guides and controls the exercise of state administration in the field of protection of the territory against introduction of harmful organisms and prepares the legislation of plant health care.

1. Central Control and Testing Institute of Agriculture (CCTIA) is the main plant health care authority in the field of agriculture with a national competence. Practical implementation of the plant health care legislation is assured by 4 sections of the Institute (Section of Plant Protection, Section of Diagnostics, Section of Pesticides Registration and Section of Seeds and Planting Material) of which the Section of Plant Protection is the one with main responsibility.
2. Research Institute of Forestry is the plant health care authority in the field of forest cultivation with a national competence.

REGIONAL LEVEL

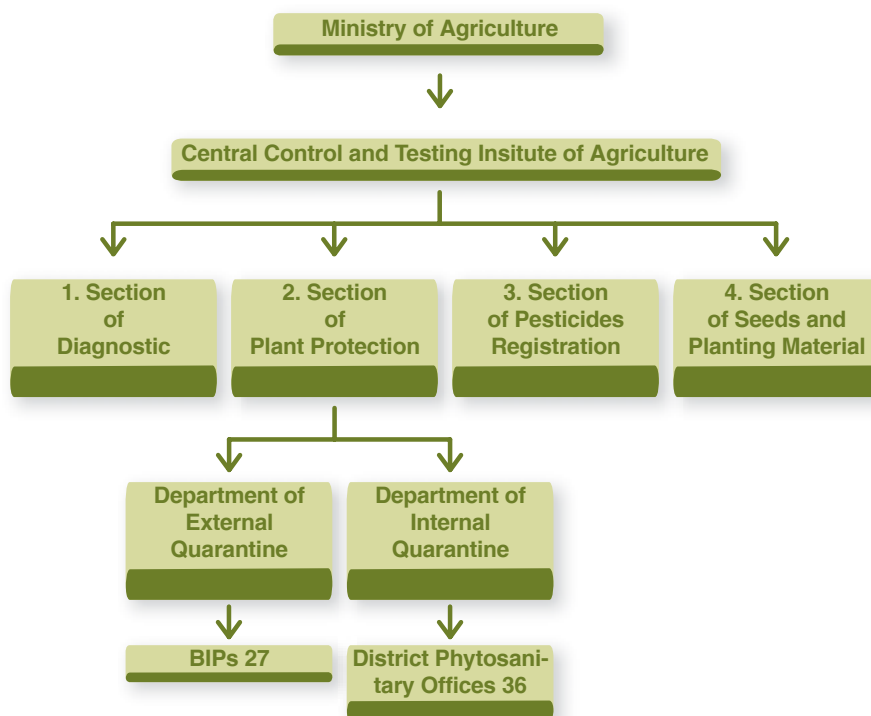
There are three regional branch offices of the CCTIA – in Bratislava (either the headquarters), Zvolen and Košice. Western Slovakia is co-ordinated from the headquarters based in Bratislava. These branch offices are directly managed, guided and controlled from the headquarters in Bratislava. They also manage, guide and control workplaces at local level situated within their regions – district phytosanitary offices.

DISTRICT LEVEL

1. District phytosanitary offices are authorized with the plant health care at local level.
2. Border crossings where the plant health inspections are carried out also serve as plant health care authorities at local level.
3. Specialised diagnostic laboratories are under organisational management, guidance and control of the Section of Diagnostics. Laboratories specialised in detection of organisms harmful to potato plants are located in Haniska and Vígl'aš near the Košice. Upon request of the Control Institute, they order mass-scale and quarantine phytosanitary measures.

The second authority of the plant health care at the central level responsible within smaller extent for the execution of phytosanitary activities is the Ministry of Home Affairs, which directs District forest offices, who proclaims a quarantine proposed by CCTIA in case of harmful organism occurrence and District land offices, who award a fines.

General Overview of the Phytosanitary Organisation in Slovakia





■ ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE PHYTOSANITARY CONTROL IN NUMBERS

Whole territory of Slovakia is divided into 8 regions (Bratislava, Trnava, Nitra, Trenčín, Žilina, Banská Bystrica, Prešov, Košice) which consist of 79 districts. Authentic dividing of Slovakia was into 3 regions – the West Slovak Region, the Central Slovak Region and East Slovak Region and this is the reason why the branch offices are located in regional cities of these former regions – in Bratislava, Zvolen and Košice. Each branch office of the Section of Plant Protection directs 12 district phytosanitary offices, i.e. on the territory of Slovakia is located 36 district phytosanitary offices and so is densely covered by them. In each district the phytosanitary control is conducted by 1-2 phytosanitarians.

In total at the headquarters of the Section of Plant Protection work 13 employees. The number of phytosanitarians of internal quarantine (conduct the control in the inland) is 57. The number of phytosanitarians of external quarantine (conduct the control at BIPs) is 55. Since from the 1st May 2004 the phytosanitary control at the border with Austria, Czech Republic, Poland and Hungary will be cancelled the remaining border with Ukraine long 98,5 km has been strengthened.



The implementation of the stipulated legal regulations into practice determines the most important task of the Section, namely the protection of the territory of the Slovak Republic against the introduction and spread of harmful organisms when plants and plant products are being imported into the country.

As regards the control at BIPs:

On the present Slovakia has 27 BIPs:

- 9 railway border crossings
- 14 road border crossings
- 2 airports
- 2 river ports

After the EU accession the following BIPs will remain :

1. Vyšné Nemecké (road crossing point)
2. Ierna nad Tisou (railway crossing point)
3. Bratislava – airport

■ MAJOR ACTIVITIES OF THE SECTION OF PLANT PROTECTION

The activities of the Section of Plant Protection are defined by the Act of the National Council of the Slovak Republic No. 285/1995 Coll. of 20 November 1995 on Plant Health Care as amended by Act No. 471/2001 Coll., the Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Slovak Republic No. 41/2002 Coll. of 17 December 2001 laying down details concerning the administration of the Act on Plant Health Care and by the 10 government ordinances.

The major activities of the Section of Plant Protection consist from the fulfilment of the following tasks, defined by abovementioned law:

- # registration of importers and exporters of goods,
- # issuing of phytosanitary certificates and plant passports for perspective goods,
- # execution of phytosanitary control of imported, exported and re-exported goods,
- # issuing of decisions in case of infringement of provisions of the Act No 285/95 on Plant Health Care by physical and legal entities,
- # detection and keeping records on the occurrence of harmful organisms,
- # signalisation of plant treatment against harmful organisms,
- # ascertainment of the causes of damages to plants and plant products, proposal of collective measures against harmful organisms to be ordered by relevant bodies of public administration

In the field of international cooperation, the Section cooperates with the European Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) and with Plant Protection Organization of neighbouring countries.

■ CONCLUSION

The main authority in the field of phytosanitary protection in Slovakia is the Ministry of Agriculture. The phytosanitary control is in the scope of 4 section of the CCTIA, which is the organization directly managed by the ministry, of which the Section of Plant Protection is the one with main responsibilities. Slovakia has 112 phytinspectors, 36 district



phytosanitary offices and 3 phytosanitary branch offices. National legislation of SR has been fully harmonised with EU legislation. On the present SR starts with issuing of plant passports for goods concerned. The registration of producers and importers takes place repeatedly. As regards BIPs, of 27 border inspection posts after the EU accession will remain only BIPs at the border with Ukraine namely:

1. Vyšné Nemecké (road crossing point)
2. Ľierna nad Tisou (railway crossing point)
3. Bratislava – airport

The new equipment of these BIPs has been improved under PHARE projects and now is still strengthening till the date of accession of the SR to EU. A network computer system (LAN/WAN) for communication should be completed under PHARE projects and will provide connection between abovementioned BIPs, regional and district phytosanitary offices and the headquarters.

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HARMONISATION
OF PHYTOSANITARY
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MEASURES

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