

Situation of the livestocks France/cattle



FranceAgriMer





The fight against animal diseases is one of the priorities of the Ministry of Agriculture, Agri-food and Forestry. It is achieved through concerted joint action by government agencies, using financial, technical and human resources.

The French health system has a direct chain of command, with governance shared between the various players in animal health, with control from farm tools to table.

Individual identification and traceability of French cattle

- > Government approved ear markings
- > FR + 10 digit national number
- > Applied by farmer at birth (within max 20 days)

French guarantees concerning animal diseases

Bovine brucellosis

France has been recognised by the European Union as having been officially clear since 2005.

Bovine tuberculosis

France has been recognised by the European Union as having been officially clear since the end of 2000.

Enzootic bovine leucosis (EBL)

France has been recognised by the European Union as having been officially clear since 1999.

Bluetongue (Mainland France)

France has been recognised by the European Union as having been officially clear since December 2012.



Animal Health

Foot-and-mouth disease

France has been recognised by the European Union as having been officially clear without vaccinations since 30 June 2001.

Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE)

No cases have been detected in the abattoirs since June 2010.

In 2008 France obtained the status of risk brought under control from the OIE.

Schmallenberg virus

The Schmallenberg virus, an emerging disease, has not been regulated at the international level. It is considered an animal husbandry disease. Monitoring of the Schmallenberg virus (clinical surveillance of congenital forms) is defined in the workings of the National Epidemic Surveillance Platform for animal health (ESA Platform), is managed by the General Food Department (DGAL), and was introduced on 31 August 2012 for cattle. Surveillance is now carried out by professionals (GDS France). It is coordinated through the ESA platform.



Animal Health

National surveillance programmes

• General

Tuberculosis, brucellosis, leucosis, IBR, bluetongue

• Targeted

Tuberculosis, BSE, bluetongue (Corsica)

• Event based

Brucellosis, tuberculosis, leucosis, foot-and-mouth, bluetongue, BSE.



Infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR)

- Mandatory control system
- National regulations through ministerial order of 27 November 2006
- Application for recognition of specifications by EU in 2011: Occurrence: 0.64 % Prevalence: 8.73 %



For more information

<http://agriculture.gouv.fr>

www.plateforme-esa.fr

www.anses.fr/bulletin-epidemiologique/



Economics

Organisation of the French livestock/meat industry

France has the largest amount of cattle in the European Union. It is also the only country to have large-scale dairy and suckling herds.

The French industry includes production of thin male animals (grassers) mainly for export, and finished cattle (young bovines, dairy and suckling cull cows). This takes place in different geographic and climatic regions across France, which means a large variety of French breeds.

Most fattening establishments for young bovines are medium sized (70 % of them have less than 50 places).

Putting on the market is carried out by cooperatives (for a third-party), traders, non-commercial production organisations and cattle markets.

Production

The French herd is made up of 19 million heads of cattle, of which 7.8 million are dairy (47 %) and suckling (53%). France is Europe's leading beef producer (65 % from the suckling herd and 35 % from the dairy herd), ahead of Germany and Spain. About 40% of the volume is in the west of the country.



The distribution of production, in heads, is 50 % for beef, 30 % for veal and 13% heifers (both dairy and suckling). In 2004 198,000 farms produced grown cattle; 81,000 of them produced young bovines..

Trade / exports

France exports about 1.2 million thin and fat grown cattle; 90 % of the animals exported are cattle for fattening. The Italian market takes 85 % and the Spanish market 11 %. The export of live cattle (breeders, thin cattle and those for slaughter) to all destinations, comes each year to about 1.2 billion euros (EUR 1.240 billion in 2010), broken down as follows: 79 % thin animals, 16 % for butchery and 5 % breeders. Sales to third countries barely exceeded 1 % in the years 2006 - 2008, and were 3% in 2009 and 7 % in 2010.



Economics

France

19.2 million heads: cows and other cattle
(2009 data)

European union (27 countries)

88 million heads: cows and other cattle
(2009 data)

World

988.6 million heads: cows and other cattle
(2009 data)

For more information

French exports of live cattle to Mediterranean countries, challenges and competition November 2011

<http://www.franceagrimer.fr/content/download/9623/62501/file/exportbovins-vivants-11-2011.pdf>
bovins_2010_3.pdf

FranceAgriMer datasheets 2010: key livestock figures

http://www.franceagrimer.fr/content/download/3128/16982/file/bovins_20103.pdf

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