

Council Directive 92/35/EEC of 29 April 1992 laying down control rules and measures to combat African horse sickness

Article 4

1 Where a holding contains one or more equidae suspected of being infected with African horse sickness, Member States shall ensure that the official veterinarian immediately sets in motion official means of investigation to confirm or rule out the presence of the said sickness.

2 From the moment when the suspected infection is notified, the official veterinarian shall:

- a have the suspect holding(s) placed under official surveillance;
- b initiate:
 - (i) an official census of the species of equidae, stating in the case of each species the number of equidae already dead, infected or liable to be infected, and the updating of that census to take account of equidae born or dying during the period of suspicion; the information in the census must be produced on request and may be checked at each inspection;
 - (ii) a census of places likely to facilitate the survival of the vector or to accommodate it and the use of appropriate means of eradicating insects in such places;
 - (iii) an epizootiological inquiry in accordance with Article 7;
- c regularly visit the holding(s), when he shall:
 - (i) examine each equid kept there;
 - (ii) carry out a detailed clinical examination or an autopsy on the suspect or dead animals and take the samples necessary for laboratory examinations;
- d ensure that:
 - (i) all equidae on the holding(s) are kept in their living quarters or in other places protected against the vector;
 - (ii) all movement of equidae to or from the holding(s) is prohibited;
 - (iii) appropriate means of eradicating insects are employed in and around the buildings housing the equidae;
 - (iv) the carcasses of equidae which have died on the holding are destroyed, disposed of, burnt or buried in accordance with Council Directive 90/667/EEC of 27 November 1990 laying down the veterinary rules for the disposal and processing of animal waste, for its placing on the market and for the prevention of pathogens in feedstuffs of animal or fish origin and amending Directive 90/425/EEC⁽¹⁾.

3 Pending the introduction of the official measures referred to in paragraph 2, the owner or keeper of any animals suspected of having the disease shall take all the necessary precautionary action to ensure compliance with paragraph 2 (d).

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4 The competent authority may apply any of the measures provided for in paragraph 2 to other holdings should their location, their geographical situation or contacts with the holding where the disease is suspected give reason to suspect possible contamination.

5 Apart from the provisions of paragraph 2, specific provisions may be laid down in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 19 for nature reserves in which equidae live in freedom.

6 The measures covered by this Article shall be officially discontinued only when the competent authority no longer suspects the presence of African horse sickness.

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(1) [OJ No L 363, 27. 12. 1990, p. 51.](#)