

## Updated Outbreak Assessment #1

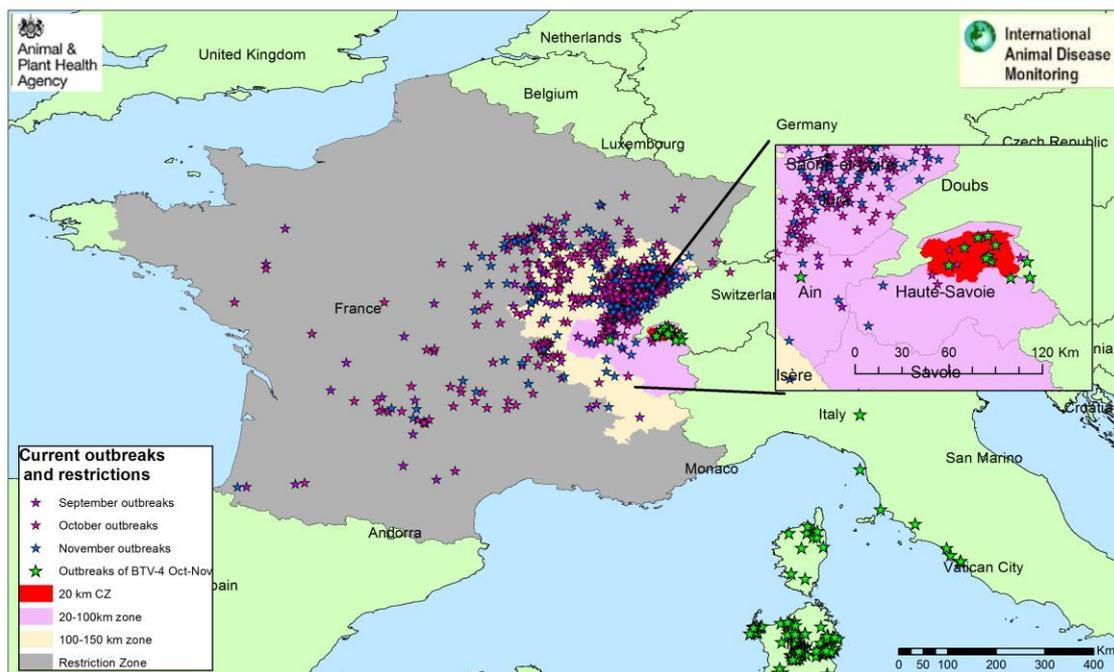
# Bluetongue virus (BTV-4) in France

30<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Ref: VITT/1200 BTV-4 in France

## Disease Report

Since our last report on the 14<sup>th</sup> November, France has reported a further thirteen cases of BTV-4 in Haute Savoie region and now a case in Ain region (within the 100 km Protection Zone). According to the disease reported, seven of the new cases were in cattle, though no animals were exhibiting clinical signs, one was in a small flock of 25 sheep and one was reported in a single sheep and goat on the same premises. The map below shows the cases and the zones which the French authorities have put in place – the temporary 20km control zone has been expanded to more communes in the Haute Savoie department and the PZ and SZ now cover specified departments (Ministère d'Agriculture, 2017).



Map Prepared by IDM  
Absolute Scale 1:5,800,000  
Date prepared 28/11/2017

BTV-8 in France and Switzerland and BTV-4 in France:  
Outbreaks detected since September 2017  
Restriction zones for BTV-4 cases (Inset: BTV-4 in France)

Department for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

## Situation Assessment

Although the origin of viral incursion into the index case is still not known, it is clear that BTV-4 has recently been circulating in this region of France. The zones have been delineated to allow vaccination to be carried out and all BTV-susceptible animals from this

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region will now have to be vaccinated against BTV-8 and BTV-4 if they are destined to move outside the zones.

So far there is no information on whether the Swiss and Italian authorities are also carrying out surveillance. Given the time of year and the altitude of the region, the vector free season or low vector activity season may be approaching which will reduce the level of transmission.

The UK vector season has not come to a close yet, as parous female midges are still be detected in vector surveillance traps.

## **Conclusion**

We would like to remind all livestock owners that they should source animals responsibly by working with their private veterinarians and livestock dealers to make sure animals are correctly vaccinated and protected prior to travel. We would also like to remind keepers that if they wish to take animals for show purposes to a restriction zone and then return to a free area, they will need to make sure the animals are vaccinated prior to travelling into the Restriction Zone

We will continue to monitor the current situation in France and disseminate any further updates from the French Authorities, particularly with regards to the most recent cases and the BTV-4 situation.

## **Author**

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## **References**

Ministère d'Agriculture (2017) Liste de département et des communes classés en zone réglementée FCO <http://agriculture.gouv.fr/liste-des-departements-et-des-communes-classes-en-zone-reglementee-fco>



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