

Updated Situation Assessment No.5

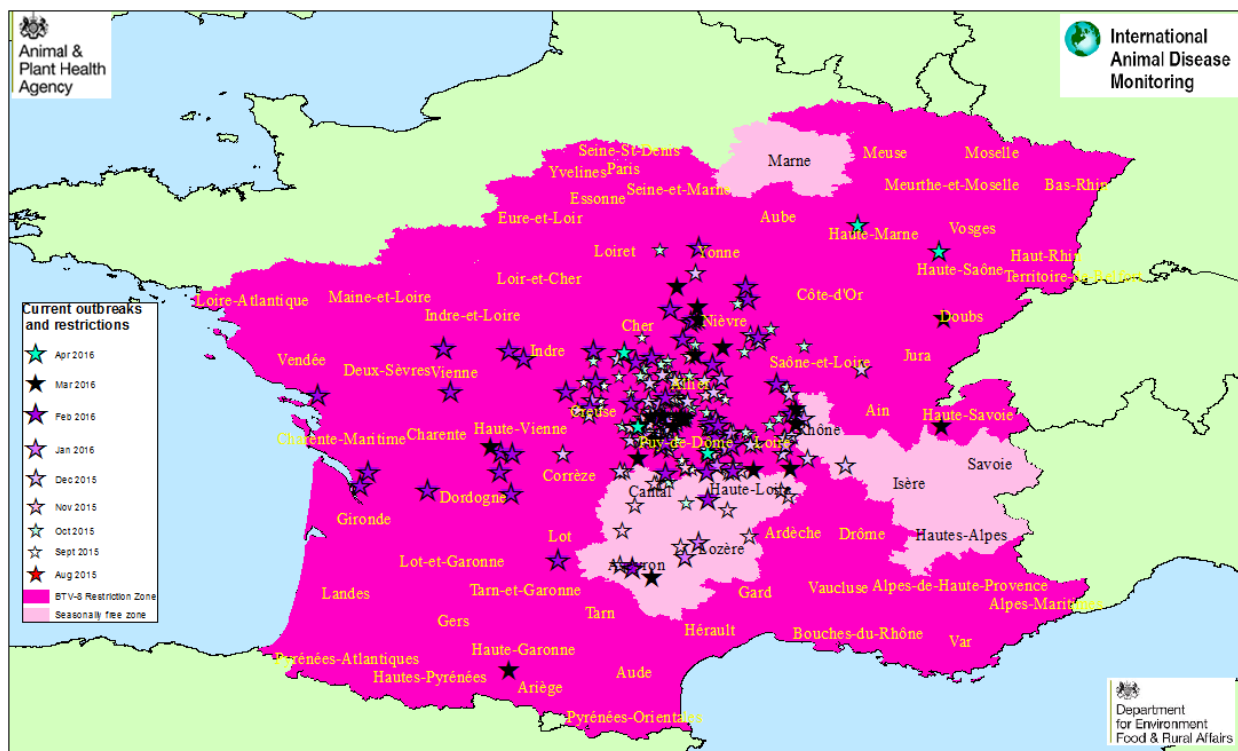
Bluetongue virus (BTV-8) in France

15th April 2016

Ref: VITT/1200 BTV-8 in France

Disease Report

France has now reported a total of 240 outbreaks of BTV-8, which is 15 new outbreaks and two new regions now affected: Aveyron, Cher, Doubs, Haute Marne, Haute Saone and Haute Savoie since our last update in March 2015 (OIE, 2016; see map). As a result, the restriction zones have been increased in size again, towards the west of the country with small increments in the northern reaches of the zones (Ministère de L'Agriculture (FR), 2016). All the recent outbreaks are in cattle holdings, detected by surveillance activities, not as reports of clinical disease in animals (either cattle or sheep). This continues to support the evidence that BTV-8 presents with few clinical signs in cattle. The "seasonally free zone" status of several regions has now been lifted as vector activity has increased or as cases are detected.

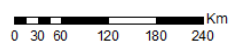


Map Prepared by IDM

Absolute Scale 1:5,500,000

BTV-8 in France, current Restriction Zones* by date of map

Date prepared 14/04/2016



* restriction zones are available on the French Min of Ag website
<http://agriculture.gouv.fr/liste-des-departements-et-des-communes-classes-en-zone-reglementee-fco>

Situation Assessment

There is no significant information to report except for the lifting of the “seasonally free zone” status in several regions and the sporadic cases found in new regions. These could still be the result of infection last year or movement of affected animals within the large restriction zone which is allowed without vaccination. As the vector season progresses, virus circulation, representing re-emergence of disease becomes more likely.

Conclusion

Our risk level remains the same. We will continue to monitor the current situation in France and report any further updates from their Authorities.

Authors

Dr Helen Roberts

Jonathan Smith

References

Ministère de L’Agriculture (FR) (2016) Liste des départements 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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Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us at iadm@apha.gsi.gov.uk