

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Surveillance monitoring for Aujeszky's disease in Great Britain

Compliance with EU rules on state aid

December 2014

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Introduction

Aujeszky's Disease is an animal disease included in the list of animal diseases established by the World Organisation for Animal Health and is notifiable in Great Britain (GB).

GB has been recognised as free of Aujeszky's Disease since 1991. Defra carries out a surveillance programme to ensure that GB maintains its status as an Aujeszky's Disease free zone. In particular, this involves collecting samples from cull-boar submitted to abattoirs for slaughter and testing these for the presence of Aujeszky's Disease.

The current state aid scheme (N699/1992) administered by Defra closes on 31st December 2014. New agriculture state aid regulations were agreed by the Commission at the end of July 2014 (EC 704/2014). Paragraph 735(b) of the guidelines accompanying these regulations confirms that existing schemes need to close and, if continued, be registered in line with the new regulations.

Aims and objectives

To provide evidence of continued freedom from Aujeszky's Disease within GB.

Legal basis

- Council Directive 64/432/EEC
- Commission Decision 2008/185/EC
- Guidance to Commission Decision 2008/185/EC (SANCO/3023/2008)
- The Animal Health Act, 1981

State Aid

This surveillance programme constitutes a subsidised service under State Aids within the meaning of the Articles 107 – 109 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. All aid paid under this Scheme is in full compliance with Commission Regulation (EU)702/2014, in particular with Articles 1 and Article 26(7c) of that Regulation. In accordance with Article 26(13) aid will not exceed 100% of the eligible costs and in accordance with Article 26(5) aid will be paid directly to the organisations (Food Standards Agency and the Animal and Plant Health Agency) which collect and test samples on behalf of the beneficiaries. Surveillance for Aujeszky's Disease is an ongoing requirement so the new scheme will commence on 1 January 2015 and will close on 31 December 2020.

Eligibility

The scheme applies to all small and medium-sized enterprises within Great Britain as defined through Annex 1 paragraph 2 of Regulation (EU) 702/2014, that are subject to the Aujeszky's Disease surveillance programme.



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