

Management Board  
14 December 2023

# ACTIVITIES IN ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE PANEL

**Søren Saxmose Nielsen**

Chair of the Panel on Animal Health and Welfare

# ANIMAL HEALTH MANDATES 2022-2023

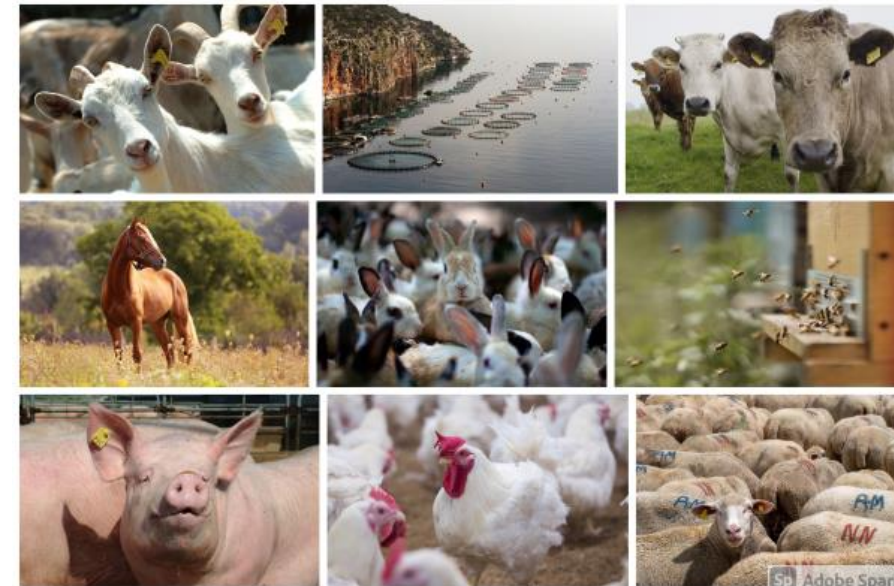
Assessment of **Rabies** waiting period prior to importation of dogs into the EU

**Surveillance of zoonoses** in animals  
One Health approach

Annual reporting of **Avian Influenza surveillance** carried out by MSs

Quarterly epidemiological report **on Avian Influenza viruses**

[Link to AHL supporting publications](#)



Surveillance in animals for **SARS-Cov2**

Assessment of the use of **vaccination in the control of Avian Influenza viruses**

Epidemiological analysis on **African Swine Fever**

Listing and categorisation of **5 aquatic diseases (AHL)**

Assessment of **control options for Cat A diseases (AHL)**

Annual report on surveillance for **Echinococcus multilocularis**

Assessment on vectors for **aquatic diseases (AHL)**

Identification of **AMR bacteria with potential animal health impact** and assessment of the need to be listed and categorized (AHL)

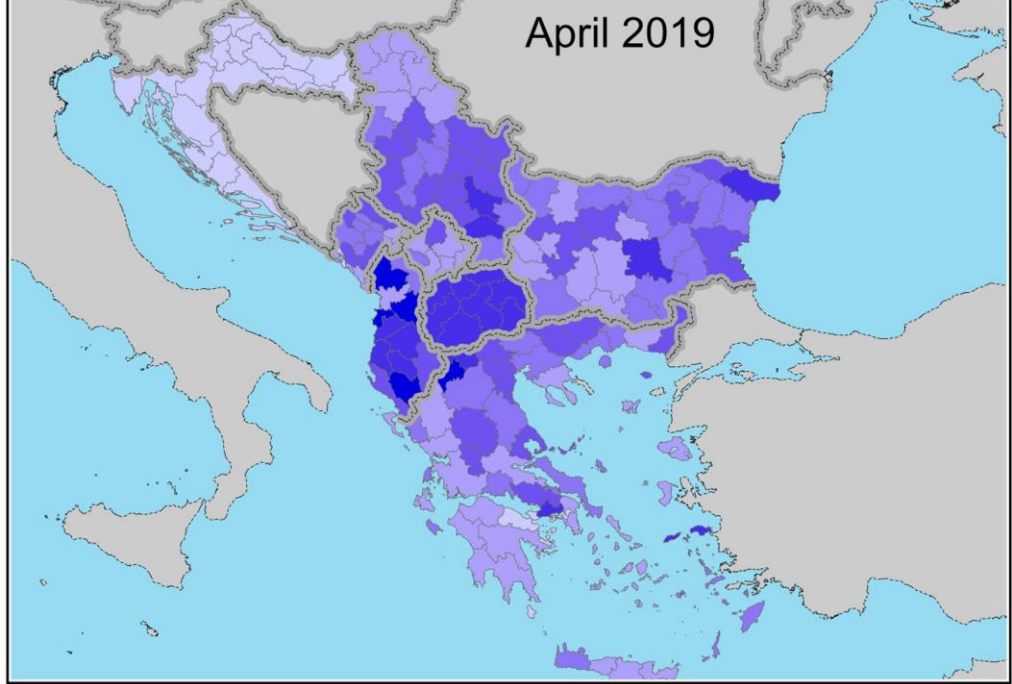
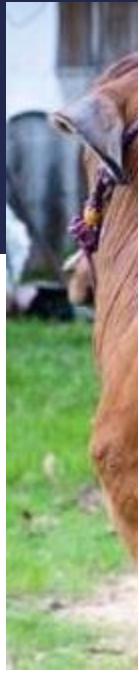
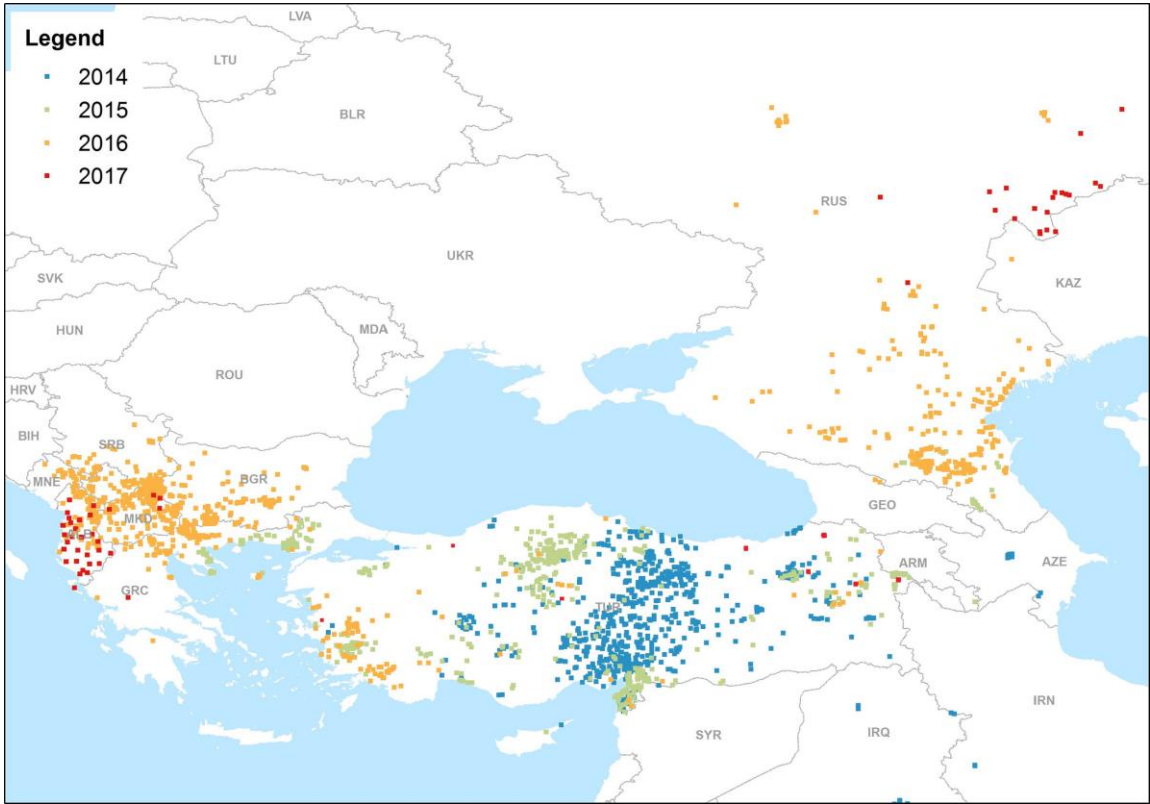


# ASSESSMENT OF LISTING AND CATEGORISATION OF BOVINE DISEASES ACCORDING ANIMAL HEALTH LAW

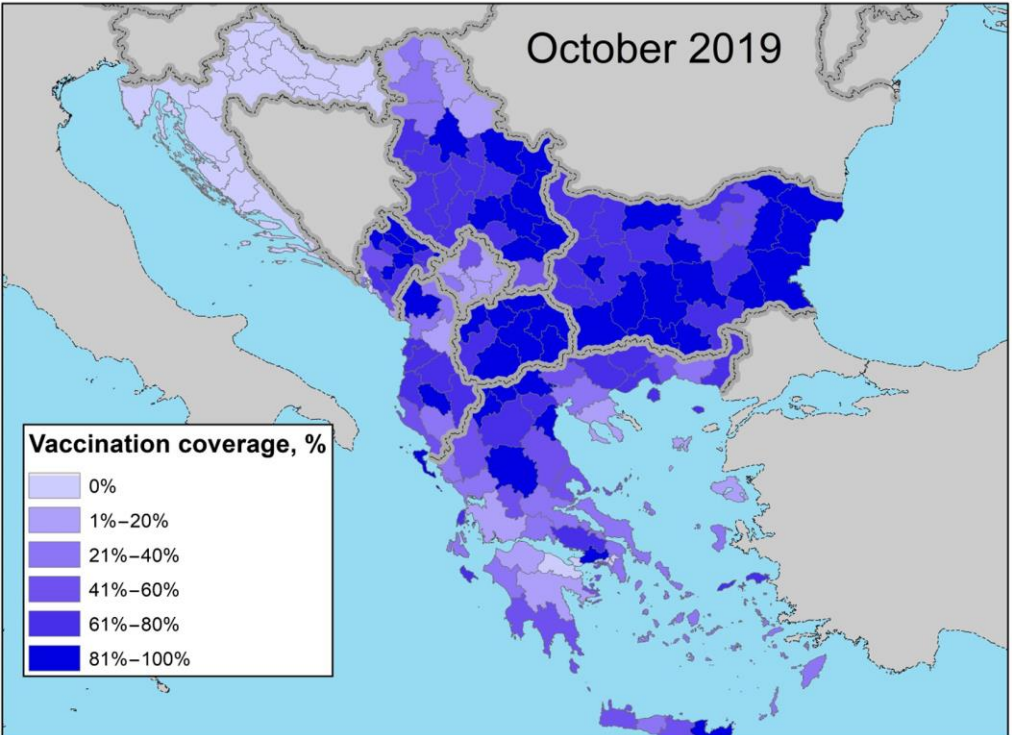
Disease	EFSA assessment	EC decision
Brucellosis	Yes: B, C, D, E	Yes: B, D, E
Bovine tuberculosis	Yes: B, C, D, E	Yes: B, D, E
Paratuberculosis	Yes: C, D, E	Yes: E
Borna disease	No	No
Trichomononiasis	Yes: C, D, E	Yes: D, E
Bluetongue	Yes (BTV1-24 (not BTV16)): B, C, E	Yes: C, D, E
BVD	Yes: C, D, E	Yes: C, D, E
IBR	Yes: C, D, E	Yes: C, D, E
<i>Bovine genital campylobacteriosis</i>	Yes: C, D, E	Yes: D, E
<i>Mycoplasma mycoides subsp. mycoides</i>	Yes: (D,E for CBPP) (D, E and inconclusive A for CCPP)	Yes: A, D, E
Miltbrand	Yes: D,E	Yes: D, E
Enzootic bovine leukosis	No consensus (D, E)	Yes: C,D,E
Aujeszky's disease	Yes: (D,E)	Yes: C, D, E (not cattle)



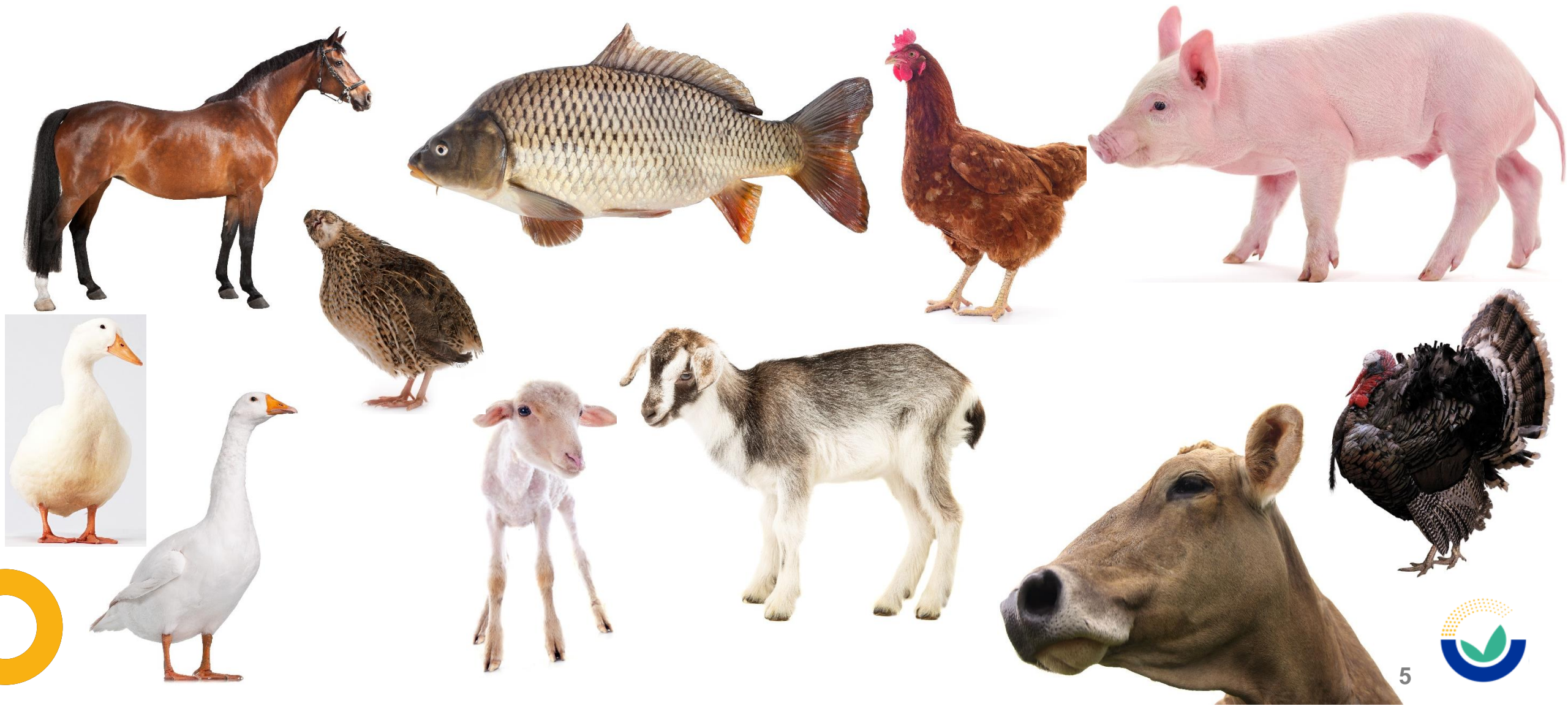
# ADVICE ON LUMPY SKIN DISEASE



2015:  
2016:  
2017:  
2018:  
2018:  
2019:  
2020:  
2022:



# ANIMAL WELFARE



# SCOPE OF ANIMAL WELFARE & REGULATION



## ON FARM WELFARE

Pets & animals farmed for food production

Description of the husbandry practices

**F2F &  
End the Cage  
Age context**



## STUNNING AND KILLING

On farm (eradication) and slaughter

**Poultry ;Pigs;  
Cattle; small ruminants;  
horses**



## APPLICATIONS

On new stunning and killing methods

**Nitrogen Foam for  
pigs & poultry ;  
Diathermic  
Stunning cattle**



## ANIMAL TRANSPORT

**Free moving  
animals ;  
Animals in  
containers**

# CURRENT EU ANIMAL WELFARE LEGISLATION

## DIRECTIVE 1999/74/EC

on laying hens

## DIRECTIVE 98/58/EC

on animals kept for farming purposes

## DIRECTIVE 2007/43/EC

on broilers

## DIRECTIVE 2008/119

on calves

## DIRECTIVE 2008/120

on pigs

## REGULATION (EC) No 1/2005

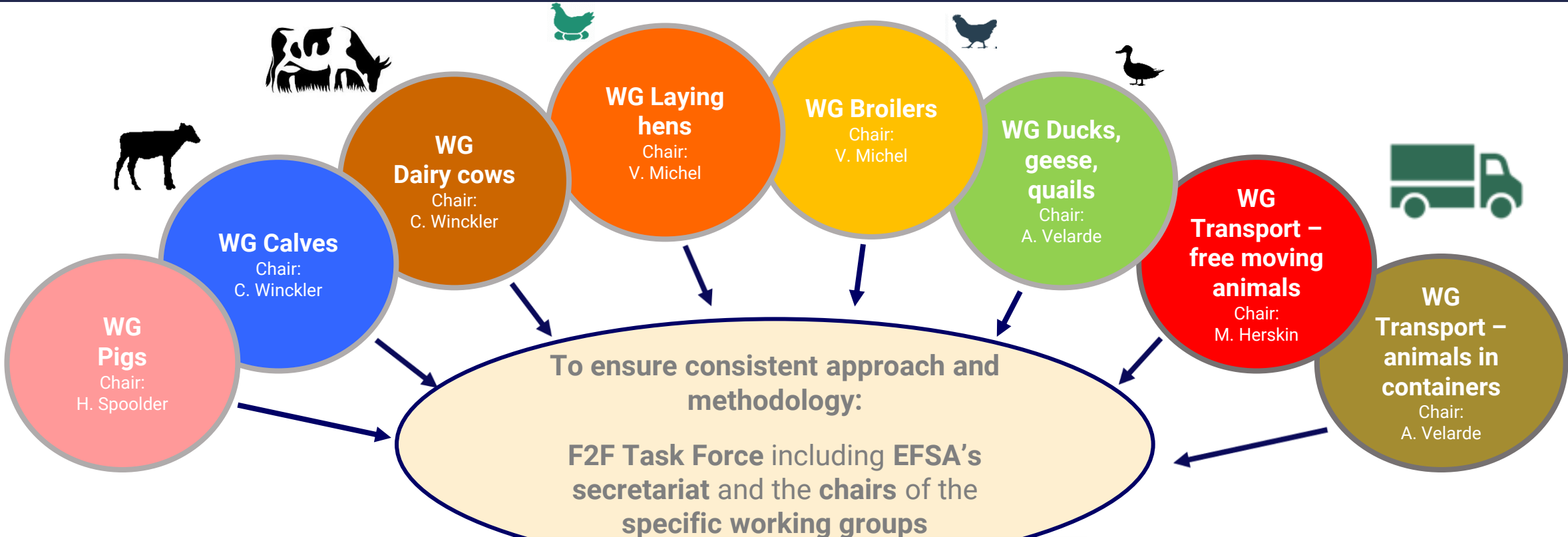
on animal transport


## REGULATION (EC) No 1099/2009

on animals at time of killing



# ADDRESSING THE F2F MANDATES



**SCIENTIFIC OPINION** 

ADOPTED: 1 June 2022  
doi: 10.2903/j.efsa.2022.7403

**Methodological guidance for the development of animal welfare mandates in the context of the Farm to Fork Strategy**

EFSA Panel on Animal Health and Welfare (AHAW),



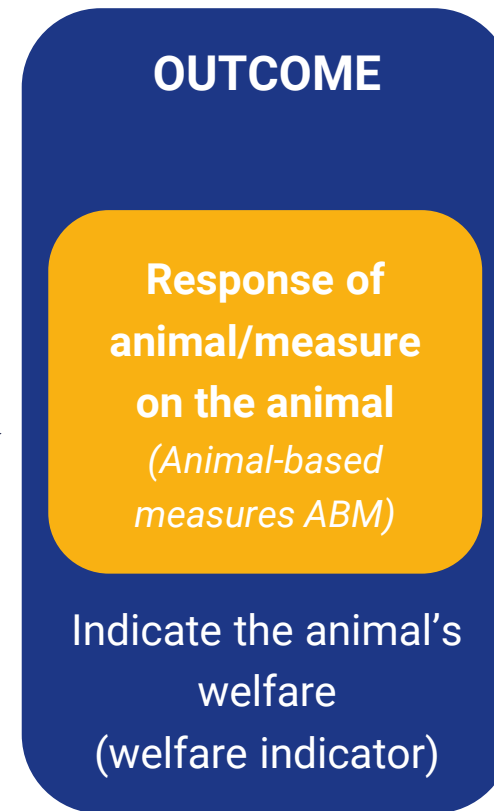


# AW RISK ASSESSMENT: THE KEY ELEMENTS

## Factors / Hazards



## Welfare consequences/Adverse affect



# WELFARE ASSESSMENT IN PIGS IN FARM - EXAMPLE

Welfare consequence	Husbandry system(s) for which the welfare consequence is highly relevant	Hazard(s) with indication to which husbandry system(s) it applies to	Preventive measure(s) of the hazard	Measure(s) correcting the hazard or mitigating the welfare consequence	ABM(s)
Group stress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Indoor group housing</li> <li>•Indoor systems with access to an outdoor area</li> </ul>	Mixing of unfamiliar animals (both systems)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Minimise mixing</li> <li>– House in litter groups</li> <li>– Co-mingle litters in lactation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Remove bullied individuals</li> <li>– Treat any injury</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Agonistic behaviour</li> <li>•Belly nosing</li> <li>•Skin lesions</li> <li>•Body condition</li> </ul>
		Inability to show submission or otherwise avoid aggression (mainly indoor group housing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Increase space allowance and use pens with functional areas</li> <li>– Provide visual barriers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Remove bullied individuals</li> <li>– Treat any injury</li> </ul>	
		Insufficient access to resources (both systems)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Increase amount of limiting resources</li> <li>– Increase access to limiting resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Remove uncompetitive individuals</li> <li>– Treat any injury</li> </ul>	
		Early weaning (relevant to both systems)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Increase weaning age</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Remove disruptive individuals</li> <li>– Treat any injury</li> </ul>	
		Lack of enrichment (relevant to both systems)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Provide additional enrichment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Remove disruptive individuals</li> <li>– Treat any injury</li> </ul>	

# PRODUCED OPINIONS AND REPORTS ON ANIMAL WELFARE 2022-2023 (1)

- ON-7403 **Methodological guidance** for the development of animal welfare mandates in the context of the Farm to Fork Strategy: <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/it/efsajournal/pub/7403>
- ON-7404 Welfare of **small ruminants** during **transport** <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/7404>
- ON-7441 Welfare of **domestic birds and rabbits transported** in containers <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/7441>
- ON-7442 Welfare of **cattle during transport** <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/7442>
- ON-7444 Welfare of **equidae during transport** <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/7444>
- ON-7445 Welfare of **pigs during transport** <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/7445>
- ON-7421 Welfare **of pigs on farm** <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/7421>
- ON-7789 Welfare of **laying hens on farm** <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/7789>
- ON-7788 Welfare of **broilers on farm** <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/7788>
- ON-7896 Welfare of **Calves on farm** <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/7896>
- ON-7993 Welfare of **Dairy Cows on farm** <https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.2903/j.efsa.2023.7993>
- ON-7992 Welfare of **Ducks, Geese & Quail on farm** <https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.2903/j.efsa.2023.7992>
- ON-8213 Scientific and technical assistance on welfare aspects related to **housing and health of cats and dogs** in commercial breeding establishments <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/8213>



# PRODUCED OPINIONS ON SLAUGHTER & KILLING AND NEW METHODS

- ON-5927 Stunning methods and **slaughter of rabbits** for human consumption: <https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.2903/j.efsa.2020.5927>
- ON-5849 Welfare of **poultry at Slaughter**: <https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.2903/j.efsa.2019.5849>
- ON-6148 Welfare of **pigs at slaughter**: <https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.2903/j.efsa.2020.6148>
- ON-6275 Welfare of **cattle at slaughter**: <https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.2903/j.efsa.2020.6275>
- ON-6882 Welfare of **sheep and goats at slaughter** <https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.2903/j.efsa.2021.6882>
- ON-6312 Welfare of **cattle during killing for purposes other than slaughter** on-farm killing of cattle <https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.2903/j.efsa.2020.6312>
- ON-5850 **Killing for purposes other than slaughter: poultry** <https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.2903/j.efsa.2019.5850>
- ON 5943- Scientific opinion concerning the killing of **rabbits for purposes other than slaughter** <https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.2903/j.efsa.2020.5943>
- ON-6195 Welfare of **pigs during killing for purposes other than slaughter** <https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.2903/j.efsa.2020.6195>
- Welfare of **small ruminants during killing for purposes other than slaughter**: **ongoing (deadline June 2024)**
- Welfare of **horses at slaughter**: **ongoing (deadline Dec 2024)**
- Welfare of **horses during killing of other purposes than slaughter**: **ongoing (deadline Dec 2024)**
- **Use of high expansion foam** for stunning and killing pigs and poultry: **ongoing (deadline Jun 2024)**
- **Use of Diathermic Syncope®** for stunning cattle: **ongoing (deadline October 2024)**



# FUTURE MANDATES TO BE RECEIVED BY EFSA: 2023 & BEYOND



# THE FUTURE: EFSA'S ROADMAP FOR ACTION ON ANIMAL WELFARE

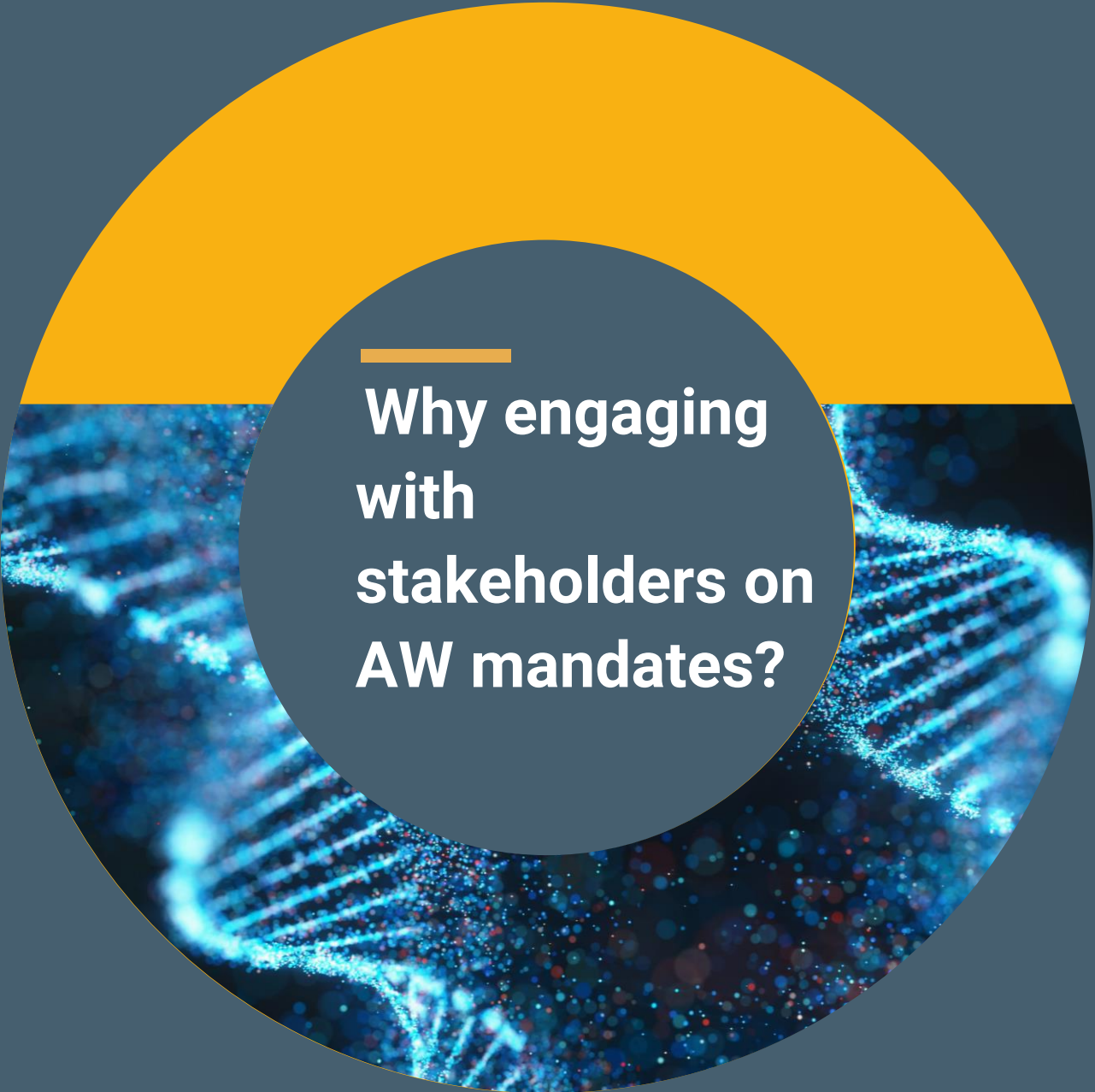
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Develop methodology  
for animal welfare  
quantitative risk

Develop data  
collection framework

Ensure EFSA is prepared to respond to future  
requests from EC, Parliament or MSs





**Why engaging  
with  
stakeholders on  
AW mandates?**

External engagement with stakeholders is recommended:

- To address sensitivities and manage expectations.
- To foster an open and transparent dialogue.
- To gain access to evidence at stakeholders' hand to inform EFSA's assessments.
- To promote the understanding of EFSA's role and work.

# A CONSISTENT FIT-FOR-PURPOSE ENGAGEMENT APPROACH

## 1. Expression of interest + public meeting

- Set up a pool of SH for regular engagement.
- Present the mandate; discuss its opportunities and challenges.
- Listen to the views of SH as from the start.
- Identify individual contributors to be invited to ad-hoc technical hearings of the EFSA working group.

After mandate acceptance

After the public meeting

## 2. Call for evidence

Shortly after the public meeting, EFSA will hold a structured collection of the data/information at SH's hand to support risk assessment. SH input will be made public.

## 3. Ad-hoc technical hearings

SH who have submitted relevant data or information may be invited as hearing experts in the meetings of the EFSA working group.

Throughout the mandate

## 4. Targeted consultation

EFSA may require additional input on specific parts of the draft opinion. The consultation would target the pool of SH involved in the previous steps. SH input will be made public.

Before adoption (if needed)

## 5. Public webinar

- Present the EFSA opinion.
- Foster the understanding of EFSA's conclusions / recommendations.
- Close the feedback loop with SH by explaining how their input was considered / taken on board in formulating EFSA's opinion.

After publication

