

Summary

Advice 03-2007 of the Scientific Committee of the FASFC on the risks of the different scenario's aimed at reducing the intensity of the active surveillance program for the control of BSE.

The Scientific Committee took the initiative to scientifically evaluate the pro- and contra's of the different scenario's reducing the intensity of the current, active surveillance program for the control of BSE.

The Scientific Committee recommends to reduce the number of rapid BSE-detection tests by partially sampling the healthy cattle population above 30 months of age, whereby the proportion of animals to be sampled is linked to the acceptable prevalence of BSE to be determined by the risk manager.

The Scientific Committee also proposes to lower the compulsory age limit for cattle belonging to risk categories that need to be tested (cattle in rendering companies and emergency slaughtered cattle).

According to the Scientific Committee, an increase in the age limit for the implementation of BSE test in healthy slaughtered animals and in animals deceased on the farm, as proposed in the Road Map, is not indicated.

The Scientific Committee recommends also to continue a permanent and active surveillance in order to be able to detect an eventual recrudescence of the disease.

The full text is available on <http://www.favv-afsa.fgov.be/wetenschappelijkcomite/adviezen/2007.asp> in French and Dutch.