



# Better Training for Safer Food *Initiative*

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# BTSEF

Better Training for Safer Food is an initiative of the European Commission aimed at organising an EU training strategy in the areas of food law, feed law, animal health and animal welfare rules, as well as plant health rules.

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# BT Outlook

Module 6.3  
Outlook on future requirements  
and legislation





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# EU Animal Health Strategy 2007-2013

[http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/diseases/strategy/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/diseases/strategy/index_en.htm)

Food safety



## Four 'Pillars', mostly relevant to Animal IRT

[http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/diseases/strategy/pillars/action\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/diseases/strategy/pillars/action_en.htm)

B T S F

## **Pillar 1 – Prioritisation of EU intervention**

- Categorisation of biological and chemical risks according to the level of relevance for the EU

## **Pillar 2 – A single and clearer regulatory framework - the “Animal Health Law”**

- Replacing the existing series of linked and interrelated policy actions by a single policy framework

## **Pillar 3 – Prevention and preparedness for animal-related threat prevention**

- Reflecting the level of risk associated with different types of productions systems and species (e.g. intensive -, extensive production, hobby farmers)
- Optimised, coordinated risk-based approach to border inspections
- ❖ Towards an EU wide, integrated electronic system for the different elements of A-IR

## **Pillar 4 – Science, Innovation and Research**

- To stimulate and coordinate risk analysis, science, innovation and research for surveillance and other interventions



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# Pillar 2: New Animal Health Law



# Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on transmissible animal diseases

## Regulation (EU) 2016/429

- streamline the vast number of legal acts relating to animal health (~40 directives and regulations) into a single, comprehensive regulation
- clarify responsibilities
- allow for a greater use of new technologies for activities (electronic identification and registration of animals)
- complement to a high level of public health and food safety
- improve early detection & control of animal diseases
- improve the alignment with the international standards (OIE/Codex)

## ➤ **Animal Health Law – timescale**

- Draft proposed to Council and EP May 2013
- Technical Reads 2013 and 2014
- Political agreement at Council and EP 1 June 2015
- EP adoption at plenary 8 March 2016
- Council conformation 9 March 2016
- Publication in OJ 31 March 2016

## ➤ **Animal Health Law (1)**

- Came into force 20 days after laid, but not applicable until 5 year transition (21<sup>st</sup> April 2021)
- Defines in general 4 Delegating and 2 Implementing Powers, to complement the framework law
  - ❖ 111 delegated acts (delegated acts will be bundled to about 5 acts)
  - ❖ around 30 implementing acts
- **Delegated acts** will be consulted both by Member States' experts and stakeholders and will require the involvement of the European Parliament and the European Council
- For **implementing acts** no involvement of the European Parliament and the European Council is foreseen

## ➤ **Animal Health Law (2)**

- The Animal Health Law consists of 283 Articles arranged in several parts and chapters
- The Animal Health Law will repeal much relevant existing EU legislation on the identification and registration of animals, including basic rules.
- Animal IRT is defined in Chapter 2 "Traceability of kept terrestrial animals", Articles 108-120

## ➤ **Animal Health Law (3)**

- The second step will be to complement the essential rules with operational elements in delegated and implementing acts.
- EU Commission is now translating existing rules into new Acts, by 20 April 2019 at latest, however 3 years transitional period is available if needed.
- The subject of animal IRT should not be seen to be changed substantially. However, for example:
  - the term “holding” is replaced by “establishment”,
  - detail on electronic formats for microchips (this is expected by 2019),
  - detail on the interoperability protocols for databases
  - less certification required for traded moves to slaughter
  - As result, 1760/2000 will be largely repealed, though will be retained to cover beef labelling (which is not part of 2016/429)

## AH Strategy Pillar 3

### ❖ Towards an EU wide, integrated electronic system for the different elements of animal IRT

- Merging the different elements of animal traceability, namely identifiers, paper based system of animal passports and holding registers combined with national databases not connected between individual Member States to an EU wide, integrated electronic system.
  - Interoperability of national identification databases
  - Introduction of electronic procedures
    - Introduction of electronic certification
    - Integrated electronic system, with a unified database
    - Possibility to replace paper based certificates with electronic certificates
    - Link with TRACES



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# Legislation Changes already underway



# 1. Electronic Identification of Bovines

- Discussed in Module 1 and throughout the week
- 653/2014 describes electronic identification as an official means to identify bovine animals within the EU –on a voluntary basis, from 2019
- Member States can still introduce it as a mandatory scheme at national level
- By being faster and more accurate electronic identification can
  - contribute to improvements in existing systems of bovine identification
  - Enhance food safety and better safeguard animal health
  - Reduce the administrative burden to farmers and other stakeholders

## 2. Amendments to Regulation 882/2004

- Reg 882/2004 is about to be replaced (i.e. very significant amendments)
- It will be laid by parliament in March 2017, to be in force in 2019
- However, there are various transitional periods:
  - Introduction of IMSOC, changes to veterinary and other border controls: 3 yrs
  - Changes to control of animal transport : 6 yrs
  - EU Reference laboratories : earlier (2018)



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# Interoperability of National Databases



Food safety

## Interoperability of national databases

- Current legislation included prescriptions for national databases containing information about holdings, animals and their movements
- National databases are not connected between Member States
- BOVEX.
- As from the end of 2014 some Member States (France, Italy, Spain and Belgium – now joined by Latvia and by Greece, for inward movements) have collaborated on a voluntary basis to exchange the electronic data of bovine passports
- If Ireland joins, this represents a significant proportion of total trade.
- The Regulation (EU) No 653/2014 brought provision for such data exchange. And the technical protocol is likely to continue under 2016/429
- Also, Germany and Austria have a bilateral agreement to share key data for animals traded between them.



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**Thank you  
for your attention!**





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