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Chapter 7: Agriculture

COUNTRY PROFILE

CYPRUS

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES
AND ENVIRONMENT

VETERINARY SERVICES

NICOSIA
September 2001

A. General Organization and Management of Control Systems

A.1. At National Level

1. Legislation

(1) Explain how legislation is prepared, promulgated and enforced.

In the case of basic laws the Government Service, which is responsible for applying the legislation, prepares the Bill which is then submitted to the Law Office of the Republic for vetting. At the preparation stage other interested Services, organized groups, producers, traders etc may be asked to express their views.

At the next step the responsible Minister submits the vetted Bill to the Council of Ministers, which approves it for submission to the House of Representatives. Each submitted Bill is published in the Official Journal of the Republic for public knowledge.

At the House of Representatives it is examined by a Parliamentary Committee, before which representatives of any interested group, organization etc, may express their opinion.

The Parliamentary Committee may make amendments to the text, based on opinions expressed at the hearings.

The text, as possibly amended, is submitted to the plenum of the House of Representatives for approval and it is approved by simple majority of the members present at the session.

After approval by the House of Representatives the Law is submitted to the President of the Republic for signature. The President may resubmit the law, if, after consultation with the competent authorities, he does not accept the amendments.

If the text approved by the House of Representatives is accepted by the President, then he signs it and is then published in the Official Journal and becomes Law of the Republic.

In the case of subsidiary legislation (Regulations made under a basic law), the same procedure is followed as for laws, up to the submission to the House of Representatives. There, it is examined at a Parliamentary Committee within 30 days of submission. Interested parties are invited to express their opinions.

The Parliamentary Committee may make amendments to the Regulations. Then the Regulations are approved by the plenum of the House and published in the Official Journal of the Republic and are in force immediately or at a later date fixed in the Regulations, or at a date which may be set by the Council of Ministers.

In the case of Ministerial Orders under the basic law, the text is prepared by the competent authority, is vetted by the Legal Service, then it is signed by the responsible Minister and published in the Official Journal and is in force immediately or at a date fixed in the Order.

(2) A framework law covering i/c trade and imports from third countries has been prepared under which the horizontal Directives 89/662/EEC, 90/425/EEC, 91/496/EEC and 97/78/EC will be appended as subsidiary legislation in the form of Regulations.

The framework law is expected to be approved by December 2001 and the approval of the Regulations by June 2002.

(3) No need to make changes in the National Legislation are considered necessary to be made in order to conform to EU requirements at the central regional or local level. The intension is to improve or establish administrative arrangements by which central level will achieve an improved control of the work carried out at the regional or local level and regional level will control local level through the establishment of an internal audit procedure.

(4) Resources of transposition of legislation

Fourteen officers have been allocated responsibilities to prepare harmonized legislation apart from their other duties and responsibilities. In addition one outside consultant was employed for one year. These officers co-operate with five legal officers from the Law Office of the Republic and a decision recently has been taken to use of the services of the private legal sector.

2. MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE REPORTING AND RESPONSIBILITIES

(1) **Co-ordination:** The Veterinary Services co-operate with the Health Services of the Ministry of Health wherever in the line of the exercise of the Veterinary Controls, problems falling under the responsibility of the Ministry of Health are spotted. For example, suitability of the water supply in food establishments, finding problematic dangerous or unsuitable foods which have entered the retail sale or food poisoning outbreaks.

By special Decision of the Council of Ministers, the two Services cooperate in the control of imported fresh meat, frozen fish and cheeses.

A special Public Health Coordinating Committee has been set up by the Ministry of Health, with the participation of various interested authorities (M.H., V.S., Ministry of Commerce, Planning Bureau, MANRE Union of Municipal Authorities, etc).

Coordination is achieved through mutual exchange of information orally and in writing.

(2) Links between Central Regional and Local levels

Officers employed at Central, Regional and Local services are employees of the same Department and their connection is direct, following a hierarchical system.

(3) Structure, Role and Responsibilities

1. Central Level.

The Veterinary Services have competency over Animal Health, Animal Welfare and Public Health (fresh meat, milk and milk products).

Preparation and application of legislation. The VS have full authority to register all holdings and establishments and to issue, suspend or cancel licences of operation of animal holdings, milk and milk products establishments and fresh meat establishments.

Plan, instruct, train, supervise and coordinate work done by DVO's and local Veterinarians. Under certain conditions may perform physical checks directly or in collaboration with the regional or local officers.

2. Regional Level (District Office)

Plan and act in their area of responsibility and instruct the local veterinary offices. Responsible to perform physical checks and inspections of animal holdings dairy establishments, communal slaughterhouses and other fresh meat establishments, to recommend to the Director of the VS their registration, licensing or suspension of their operation.

Authorized to take samples of products as well as to retain, confiscate and destroy any products that pose a threat to public health, and prosecute those who violate the law.

Authorised also to order managements to cease operation of the work in an establishment for up to four (4) days, repeatable if necessary where serious derogations of hygiene conditions pose a threat to public health.

Issue health certificates for foods of animal origin.

3. Local level (District Veterinary Station)

Responsible to:

a) apply the programmes planned or organised by the VS, of the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment,

b) inspect animal holdings milk and milk products establishments and fresh meat establishments and recommend their registration for operation or suspension of their operation,

c) sample, confiscate and destroy any fresh meat, milk and milk products which pose a threat for public health. Rural veterinary stations are subordinate to and are supervised by the DVO.

Table No. 1 Veterinary Services Structure.

Veterinary Services	Veterinary Officer	Technical Staff	Pharmacists	Clerical Staff
Administration	6*	9	3	13
<u>DISTRICT</u>				
<u>Nicosia</u>	6	9	1	2
<u>Limassol</u>	6	8	1	2
<u>Larnaka</u>	5	8	1	2
<u>Paphos</u>	6	5	1	1
<u>VETERINARY STATIONS</u>				
<u>Nissou</u>	2	5	---	---
<u>Akaki</u>	1	4	---	---
<u>Skarinou</u>	1	4	---	---
<u>Ormidia</u>	3	8	---	1
<u>Avdemou</u>	2	4	---	---
<u>Agros</u>	1	2	---	---
<u>Polis</u>	2	2	---	---
<u>LABORATORIES</u>				
<u>Animal health</u>	6	17	---	---
<u>Public health</u>	3	10	---	---
<u>EPIDEMIOLOGY AND STATISTICS</u>	4	3	---	---
<u>PATHOLOGY OF REPRODUCTION</u>	2	5	---	---
<u>TOTAL</u>	56	103	7	21

* The Director and the two Chief Veterinary Officers are included.

(4) Information on the operation of national legislation on food hygiene controls in particular concerning.

Instructions and Guidelines issued to regional and local authorities and to industry.

- ❖ Instructions and guidelines issued to the Regional and local level on the levels of controls expected to be carried out by them are included in departmental circulars issued at various times. All instructions and guidelines are planned to be included in one single guideline manual.

Guidelines prepared by the central level are applied by the regional and local levels to industry.

Legal procedures / prosecution and their outcomes.

- ❖ Wherever breaches of the law are found, the responsible officer reports his findings to the police or the Law Office of the Republic which then applies the legal proceedings for presentation of the case before the Court, which after the trial, in case of conviction, may impose fine or imprisonment or both.

The responsible officer has the power to withhold the sale of foods pending the results of laboratory examinations or confiscate and destroy foods found unsuitable for human consumption. He may also recommend the temporary suspension of operation at any establishment where he finds serious deterioration of the hygiene conditions. Actual closure is imposed by the Director.

- ❖ Action in case of the risk to consumer.

Confiscation of the products found unsuitable for human consumption.

Trace back of quantities produced under similar conditions which may have entered the retail sale.

Suspension of operation

Thorough examination of the whole production of the establishment.

Application of cleaning disinfection measures in the establishments.

In case of finding of human pathogens medical examination of the personnel.

- ❖ Follow up of the food safety after resumption of production. After resumption of production release of the products is permitted only after examination of the products until confidence is established that the risk will not be repeated.
- ❖ Appeal procedures and their outcome. The owners of the foods characterized as unfit for human consumption, have the right of appeal, on payment of the prescribed fee. A three member committee is appointed by the Director of Veterinary Services comprising of two official veterinarians, other than the one who decided the confiscation, and preferably ranking equally or higher than him and one private veterinarian suggested by the owner.

The committee examines the case by carrying out physical checks and additional tests, if it considers necessary and issues a final decision either unanimously or by majority, upholding or rejecting the decision of the original inspecting veterinarian.

If the committee accepts the appeal the fee paid is refunded to the appellant.

- ❖ Penalties provided by Laws.

The provisions for penalties in the Meat Hygiene Law 94/79, Article 9, for non observance of the Law to the extent that it covers the production processing and sale of meat and minced meat, are as following.

In case of a first offence, imprisonment for a period not exceeding 6 months and to a fine not exceeding £300 or both.

The provisions for penalties in the "Foods (Control and Sale) Law" 1996 to 2001 for non observance of the law, to the extent that it covers the production, processing and sale of fishery products, milk and milk products as well as meat products, are the following :

In case of a first offence, imprisonment for a period not exceeding 6 months and to a fine not exceeding £2000 (3400 ECU) or both.

In the event of a second or subsequent offence, to imprisonment for a period not exceeding twelve months and a fine not exceeding £5000 (8400 ECU) fine or to both.

- ❖ Sanctions against staff with control responsibilities (e.g. private sector).

No private sector staff is employed for carrying out official duties. In case official staff is found to abuse its power and authority, the provisions of the Public Service Law are applied, which include disciplinary and / or penal measures against such official staff.

3. GENERAL ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES

(1) What resources at National level are devoted to food safety controls.

Provisions in the Budget for 2001.

- ❖ Financial Resources

Public health and meat hygiene £393.000

Brucellosis eradication campaign £180.000

Echinococcus campaign £148.000

Control of other zoonoses £5.000

Financial support from UNOPS for

Salmonella campaign £112,000 for the period 7/1999 - 3/2001

Brucella campaign £295,000 for the period 7/1999 - 9/2001

*Infrastructure and equipment

The above funds do not include salaries of personnel, other operating and incidental expenses like, administrative support, telephone, electricity, water supply etc.

(2) How are costs of food safety controls funded.

All costs are covered by the budget.

Part of the costs are covered in the form of:

- ❖ overtime charges in meat inspection, when controls are carried out outside official working hours,
- ❖ fees charged for inspection of imported goods,
- ❖ fees for the issue of health certificates.

4. PERSONNEL POLICY, RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING.

(1) What is staffing structure of the food safety.

Staff number (Senior / Staff and Inspectors) at the Central, the regional and Local Levels.

The Department of Veterinary Services employs 56 qualified veterinarians, 7 pharmacists, 103 and 21, technical and clerical staff respectively, see table No. 1 page 4.

(2) What are the recruitment procedures.

Permanent Staff

The vacant positions are published in the Official Journal of the Republic with the job description, qualifications required and salary provided for the position, calling for applications until a specified date, which is usually about 20 - 30 days after publication.

Professional Staff

Interested persons submit their applications and a departmental committee consisting of the five highest ranking officers of the Service or Department, interviews the applicants and prepares an initial evaluation and a short list of candidates consisting of four times the number of vacant posts, which is submitted to the Public Service Commission. The Public Service Commission is a constitutional body of the Republic, which decides for all appointments of permanent personnel of the Public Service of the Republic.

Technical / auxiliary Staff

Persons who have passed a general state examination may submit applications to the Public Service Commission, which may interview the candidates who have obtained a certain passing mark.

Temporary / extraordinary Staff

The number of posts and duration of employment is requested by the Veterinary Services and approved by Department of Personnel and Public Administration of the Ministry of Finance. A list of Candidates is submitted by the Labour Office of the Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance. Personnel are selected by a Committee of the DPA which evaluates their qualifications. Those ranking higher in the evaluation are recruited for the specific task and for the specified period of time.

(3) What minimum qualifications are required for different categories of staff?

Officers should possess university degree in Veterinary medicine and a good command of the English language. Auxiliary or technical personnel must at least be holders of a high school certificate. Possession of qualifications related to the duties described for the position can be considered as an advantage.

(4) Training programmes

There are no specially established programmes for training of personnel, however the Veterinary Services have made use of scholarship systems for additional training of scientific and technical personnel in specialized subjects which included training in food hygiene and controls. The technical staff has been trained for at least one year, mainly in Germany, England and other countries.

Service personnel have participated in training courses and programmes organized or facilitated by TAIEX, MZCC, IAEA, UNOPS and other international organizations on various subjects including food hygiene and community legislation.

The training courses vary in duration and level, from short courses of one week to obtaining post graduate degrees Ph.D, Masters etc as follows:

Ph.D's: 4
Masters: 12
Diploma: 16
B.Vet.Sc: 56
E.U. Stage 2

(5) Independence of officials

According to the Public Service Law 1(90), officials are not allowed to be employed or offer their Services outside the Public Service, except by special permission issued by the Council of Ministers, for work not connected with the official duties of the officers concerned.

Disciplinary procedures are applied, in case of violation.

A. 1. 5. PRIORITIZATION AND DOCUMENTATION CONTROL.

(1) Overview of food safety controls.

Veterinary Services carried out veterinary controls in slaughterhouses, poultry slaughterhouses, meat cutting plants, butcheries, dairies, transport vehicles, fish processing and packing plants, as well as in holdings.

During inspections priorities are given to:

- ❖ building structure
- ❖ hygiene of building
- ❖ hygiene of operations
- ❖ hygiene of the product
- ❖ personnel hygiene
- ❖ education of personnel
- ❖ inspection of self control activities
- ❖ HACCP application
- ❖ sample for laboratory examination
- ❖ analysis of samples

On the base of the inspection and laboratory results measures are taken, for condemnation of the products and prosecution of the owner.

(2) Written system for prioritization for control activities.

Written prioritization is communicated from central to Regional and local levels in the form of departmental circulars issued from time to time depending on problems arising or establishing activities with longer duration.

(3) Are regular reviews undertaken in response to changes in the health situation in your country?

(3) Regular reviews

The system develops according to problems arising.

(4) Control programmes at national, regional and local levels.

- ❖ Meat of all kinds and milk products inspection, as well as inspection of production holdings and processing establishments.
- ❖ Echinococcosis.
- ❖ Brucellosis.
- ❖ Salmonellosis.
- ❖ Tuberculin testing.
- ❖ Trichinosis surveillance.

(5) Documentation on activities and results on Control programmes.

- ❖ Special written reports.
- ❖ Completion of check list.
- ❖ Sampling forms.
- ❖ Results forms.
- ❖ Withholding forms.
- ❖ Condemnation forms.
- ❖ Destruction forms.
- ❖ Reports to the police.
- ❖ Health certificates.
- ❖ Copies of Official licences.

(6) Internal and external audit.

No formal internal or external system exist, however an internal audit system is under development.

A. 2. GENERAL ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OF CONTROL SYSTEMS AT REGIONAL LEVEL.

1. MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE REPORTING AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

(1) Structure Role and Responsibilities of regional bodies.

Each region (district) is headed by a District Veterinary Officer who holds the post of Senior of Veterinary Officer (Salary scale A13), who is responsible for the application of all Veterinary activities (animal health, public health and animal welfare). He assigns specialized duties to his subordinate officers and technical staff in his office, or in rural veterinary stations, forming part of the territory of his district. He may also carry out control duties personally.

Duties of the officers with regard control activities include:

- ❖ Inspection of establishments.
- ❖ Recommendation to the central level for registration, renewal suspension or cancellation of registration or license.
- ❖ Temporary cessation of operation of establishments. (DVO only)
- ❖ Sampling of foods of animal origin for Laboratory examination.
- ❖ Withholding of foods pending results of laboratory examination.
- ❖ Confiscation of foods of animal origin, which they consider as unfit for human consumption.
- ❖ Destruction of confiscated foods.

(2) Yes, legislation provides that authorized officers may carry out duties without any restrictions based on geographical area.

(3) Yes, the regional level provides guidelines to the local level.

(4) Yes, activities are recorded and reported to the central level.

A. 2.2.1. GENERAL ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES AT REGIONAL LEVEL.

(1) Resources.

All expenses, supplies and equipment are supplied centrally and covered by the budget of Veterinary Services. The same applies to personnel and infrastructure (buildings, transport means, etc).

(2) Controls funded.

Controls are funded by the budget.

A.2.3.1. PERSONNEL POLICY RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING.

(1) The number of posts depends on the work required to be carried out at certain regional area. However the District Veterinary Officer is the officer in charge at Regional level and he carries out administrative duties over the region. See table No. 1 and Point A.1.4.(2).

(2) Private sector in food safety.

The private sector is not involved in official duties in food safety. However legislative changes are planned in order to allow private veterinarians to carry out duties related to food safety. The duties that will be undertaken by the private sector, are meat inspection and inspection of establishments producing foods of animal origin and control of correct use of veterinary medicinal products.

(3) Recruitment

The recruitment procedures at regional level are the same as at central level, {see A.1.4.(2)} however the Public Service Committee identifies the place where the officer must practice his duties.

(4) See A.1.4.(4).

4. PRIORITIZATION AND DOCUMENTATION OF CONTROLS (ROUTINE PROGRAMS)

(1) Food Safety Control at Regional Level.

Inspection of:

- ❖ animal holdings
- ❖ slaughterhouses
- ❖ dairies
- ❖ fish processing establishments for export
- ❖ fish packing installations for export

Sampling of:

- ❖ meat
- ❖ fish and fishery products for export
- ❖ milk and milk products

Sanctions Suspension or withdrawal of licence of:

- ❖ dairies
- ❖ slaughterhouses
- ❖ fish packing installations (their approval for export to EU M/S)
- ❖ fish processing establishments (their approval for export to EU M/S)

The analysis of products is carried out by the LCFAO in Nicosia. No food analyses are carried out at Regional or Local levels.

(2) Procedures.

Procedures for conducting control programs with instructions as to the frequencies and kinds of controls are sent from the central level to the regional level, based on which, regional level prepares its planning.

(3) Activities.

Activities and results of control programs are recorded on:

- ❖ special written reports.
- ❖ completion of check list.
- ❖ sampling forms
- ❖ results forms
- ❖ withholding forms
- ❖ condemnation forms
- ❖ Destruction forms
- ❖ Reports to the police
- ❖ Health certificates.
- ❖ Copies of Official licences.

Copies of all documents are submitted to the Central level.

(4) Prioritization

Currently prioritization is communicated to the regional and local levels by circulars of the Director of VS. The System will change soon to a formal written system.

(5) External and internal audit

No external or internal audit system exists, however an internal audit system is in the process of being established.

A.3. GENERAL ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OF CONTROL SYSTEMS AT LOCAL LEVEL.

1. MANAGEMENT, STRUCTURE, REPORTING AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

(1) Description of the local level.

Local veterinary stations have jurisdiction over a specific part of a regional District Office. It is headed by a Veterinary Officer ranking as Veterinary Officer A (salary scale A12) or as Veterinary Officer (salary scale A8 - A10). Some stations may have more than one Veterinary Officers.

Technical auxiliary staff is also employed at the local level.

Their roles and responsibilities are similar to the ones described for the regional level.

They receive instructions from and report to the Regional (District) Veterinary Officers.

(2) Same as in regional level.

(3) Yes, because the local station is subordinate to the regional (District) Officers.

A.3.2.(1) The Veterinary Officer is officer in charge of a certain area, which is smaller than the region and he is empowered to enter holdings and establishments, carry out inspections of animals, holdings, establishments, foods of animal origin and on establishments, to confiscate foods unfit for human consumption to recommend to regional and central level the registration or suspension of the licence establishments.

(2) Through the budget.

A.3.3. Staff structure at Local authority.

(1) See table of personnel structure.

(2) Official duties by private sector at present, none.

(3) See A.1.4.(2).

(4) See A.1.4.(4).

A.3.4. Prioritization and documentation of controls (1-6) See A.2.4.(1-5).

B. FOOD SAFETY CONTROL SYSTEMS

B1.1. Animal waste

As regards animal waste disposal and processing, the following information should be provided with references to the national legislation.

- (1) Responsible authorities (national, regional and local level)
 - Veterinary Services in accordance with the Legal Order 42/98 as amended by Legal Order 27/2001 which complies with Council Directive 90/667/EEC.
- (2) Classification of high-risk and low-risk animal waste
 - High-risk and low-risk material are those defined in articles 3 and 5 of Council Directive 90/667/EEC which has been fully transposed to the Cyprus national legislation (Legal Orders 42/98 as amended by Legal Order 27/2001 and Legal Order 28/2001).
- (3) Description of system for animal waste collection and transportation and its supervision
 - Animal waste is collected on daily basis from the slaughterhouses, cutting plants and butcheries in approved containers, by registered transporters under contract with the Rendering plant, under the supervision of the Veterinary Services inspectors.
- (4) Requirements for waste-processing plants (high- and low- risk)
 - Approval requirements (as article 4 and 5 of Council Directive 90/667/EEC) (Legal Order 42/98 as amended by Legal Order 27/2001)
 - Operational requirements in particular minimum parameters for the operational processing (as defined in Annex II, Chapter 11 indent 6 of Council Directive 90/667/EEC and Annex I of Council Decision 1999/534/EEC (Legal Orders 42/98 as amended by Legal Order 27/2001)
 - Microbiological requirements for the processed product as prescribed in Chapter III of Annex II of Council Directive 90/667/EEC (Legal Order 42/98 as amended by Legal Order 27/2001).
- (5) Supervision of plants processing high and low-risk animal waste
 - Requirements for own controls (e.g. critical control points, sampling) as prescribed in article 9 of Council Directive 90/667/EEC (Legal Order 42/98 as amended by Legal Order 27/2001)
 - Frequency of supervisory units by the Competent authority
Inspection and sampling by the competent authority twice a month- Scarinou Local Veterinary Office
- (6) Supervision of plants producing petfood
 - Only one petfood plant is in operation in Cyprus producing dry petfood by the help of an extruder using basically processed poultry meat meal derived from low-risk material
 - It is under the supervision of Veterinary Services

B1.2. TSE

As regards surveillance and control of TSEs the following information should be provided with references to the national legislation:

- (1) Responsible authorities (national, regional and local level)
 - Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment
- (2) Measures to improve disease awareness in relation to TSEs
 - Educational gatherings on TSE related issues (clinical symptoms, SRM, rapid tests) of official veterinarians, private vets, slaughtermen, farmers and laboratory staff are organized. Leaflets, video-tapes and other means of educational aids are used.
- (3) Notification of suspected TSE cases
 - Both BSE and Scrapie are notifiable diseases in Cyprus, based on the Contagious Diseases of Animals Law 319/87.
 - BSE -> notification No. 140/1987
 - Scrapie -> Legal Order No. 228/1987
- (4) Official restrictions and laboratory testing of suspected cases of TSE
 - Herd or flock movement restrictions
 - Suspect animals are slaughtered and brain samples are examined histologically. If samples are autolysed, Immunocytochemistry is applied.
- (5) Designation of National Reference Laboratory for TSE Diagnostics
 - In Cyprus there is only one official Diagnostic Veterinary Laboratory, which acts also as TSE Reference Laboratory.
- (6) Information on any routine TSE testing programme in place
 - a) BSE
 - o Since January 2001 and in accordance with Legal Order 28/2001 all bovine animals >30 months old presenting neurological symptoms and all animals taken to the slaughterhouse for emergency slaughter should be tested with one of the rapid tests.
 - o As from the beginning of July 2001, all bovine animals > 30 months old normally slaughtered are also examined by a rapid test.

Details of tests are as follows.

	<u>Until 30/6/2001</u>	<u>Until 30/8/2001</u>
Normally slaughtered	935	1550
Fallen stock	6	---
Neurological symptoms	1	---
Emergency slaughter	20	28

b) Scrapie

- At initial diagnosis of new Scrapie outbreaks animals presenting neurological symptoms are slaughtered, the brain is examined by a histological technique and the meat is destroyed.
- About 10% of animals with neurological symptoms from known infected flocks are tested histologically. The meat of all such animals is destroyed.

(7) Information on any feed bans and supervision of such bans

- In 1990 the feeding of ruminants with protein of ruminant origin was prohibited by Legal Order N. 236/90.
- In 1994 the feeding of ruminants with protein derived from mammalian tissues was prohibited by Legal Order N. 300/94.
- Since January 2001 the feeding of all farming animals with protein derived from mammals is prohibited except fishmeal for pigs and poultry.
- All farms and feed mills are under the supervision of the competent authority and samples of produced feed are collected for routine examination.
- The importation of processed animal protein is prohibited by Legal Order 28/2001.
- Hydrolysed proteins gelatin and Dicalcium Phosphate of animal origin are not permitted to be imported.

(8) Information on any measures to remove the specified risk material (as defined in Commission Decision 2000/418/EC, amended by Decision 2001/2/EC in slaughtering of cattle and sheep and supervision of such measures.

The removal of specified risk material has been included in Order No. 28/2001.

The implementation of the provisions has started however certain difficulties are encountered for the removal of the bovine vertebral column, a problem which is in the process of solution.

B. 1.3. Animal Feed

(1) The Directive 90/167/EEC has been harmonized under the "Veterinary Medicinal Products" Law 116(1)/2001 approved by the House of Representatives on 12 July 2001.

Responsible authority for the enforcement of this Directive is the Veterinary Services at National, regional and local level.

(2) This is a new activity provided in the legislation and official inspections in the field, specifying the type and frequency of inspection, sampling methods and reporting of results are in the process of being organized.

Measures in case of non-compliances include:

a) The warning to the operator to comply within a fixed time to the requirements of the Law.

b) Impose of an administrative fine up to 25.000 Cyprus pounds (40.000 Euro) depending on the severity and duration of the violation.

c) In case of non compliance to impose an additional administrative fine up to £200 pounds for every day the violation continues.

d) In case of refusal of the payment of the administratives fines the operator will be taken to the court.

e) Withdrawal or cancellation of the manufacturing authorization for the medicated feeding stuffs.

f) If medicated feeding stuffs are manufactured in non-approved establishment or non approved premises (marketing authorization), or non approved intermediate products, the violators can be taken to the court with a maximum sentence up to 5 years imprisonment and / or £50.000 pounds fine (85.000 Euro) or both.

(3) Dept of Agriculture.

(4) Dept of Agriculture.

(5) The "Veterinary Medicinal Products" Law 116(1)/2001, which has been approved by the House of Representatives provides for the supervision of production and use of medicated feeding stuffs.

The Veterinarians and Veterinary Pharmacists will be authorized by the Minister of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment to inspect that:

- ❖ the medicated feeding stuffs are produced in approved establishments, in accordance with the veterinarians prescription,
- ❖ the correct use of medicated feeding stuffs,
- ❖ the correct application of the Law provisions.

B.2. Food Processing, Distribution, Retailing and Catering.

B.2.1. Food processing premises covered by Veterinary Hygiene Directives.

1. Legislation

(1) The current status of transposition of the above community legislation into the National law of your country.

A basic law is under preparation in order to incorporate the directives 64/433/EE, 71/118/EEC, 91/495/EEC and parts from Directive 94/65/EEC.

The Directives 77/99/EEC, 98/83/EC, 89/362/EEC, 89/437/EEC, 91/492/EEC, 91/493/EEC, 92/46/EEC, 92/48/EEC and parts from the directives 92/118/EEC and 94/65/EEC will be incorporated in the Foods (Control and Sale) Law 1996 to 2001.

All the above Directives are under preparation.

(2) Timetable

All the above directives will be prepared and they will be approved by the Parliament before June 2002. They will be implemented from July 2002.

The Cyprus authorities will be in position to demonstrate full potential for implementation of the various provision by the end of June 2002 while the harmonized legislation will be in force in the second semester of 2002.

2. Competent authority

The Veterinary Services are the competent authority for inspection of meat and minced meat, milk and milk products, and for the inspection of establishments where these products are produced, processed, stored and transported. They are the competent authority for the butcheries, too.

Veterinary Officers and Technical Staff have been authorized by the Minister of Health to carry out inspections of fish and fishery products, meat products and egg products, intended only for export and to issue their Certificates. They have been also authorized to carry out inspection of the establishments where the above products are produced.

3. Inspection / Audit Procedures

(1) Official control programs exist for inspection and control of:

- ❖ Fresh meat hygiene
- ❖ Milk and milk products hygiene
- ❖ Fish and fishery products only for exports
- ❖ Official plan for residues of veterinary medicinal products in foods of animal origin
- ❖ Hygienic conditions and structure in production holdings processing establishments, storage areas and vehicles for their transport
- ❖ Salmonellosis in poultry flocks
- ❖ Trichinosis surveillance
- ❖ Brucellosis eradication campaign
- ❖ Tuberculin testing of bovines

(2) The frequency of official controls depends on the kind of establishments and products, size of establishments and they vary from 2 - 6 times annually.

(3) Procedure for granting, suspension and withdrawal of approval for processing and storage establishments.

The owners of fresh meat establishments and milk and milk products establishments, apply to the Director of Veterinary Services for the approval of their establishments. The Director instructs the District Veterinary Officer to arrange inspection of the establishment. The inspection is carried out in accordance with the provisions of the legislation and the inspecting officer evaluates whether the establishments satisfy the legal requirements. The DVO recommends to the Director of Veterinary Services the issue or not of a license. An officer from the central level may form an inspection team with the regional inspecting officer.

If during inspection and supervision of approved establishments, an inspector finds that the conditions for which approval was originally granted, are not fulfilled anymore, he informs the management in writing and prescribes a time period during which the management of the establishment must take corrective action for the shortcomings.

In cases of serious deterioration of the hygienic conditions or structures in an establishment or an imminent risk to public health, the inspector may impose temporary interruption of operations, for up to four days, repeatable if necessary.

In case the management does not take measures for such corrections, the inspecting officer recommends to the Director the temporary withdrawal or cancellation of the license.

(4) Indicate the procedures for layout

An inspector inspecting an establishment will move from the clean to the dirty area in sequence. He will look for an one way work flow, the existence of all necessary areas and whether the establishment structurally satisfies the provisions of the legislation.

He records his observations on a check list, developed for each kind of establishment, or takes notes.

(5) Control over the use of health marks.

In meat inspection, stamps are held only by the inspecting officers.

The approval number of the establishment must be stated on the label of milk products.

For exported products sealing stickers are prepared by the producer and the required number are stamped by the Veterinary Services each time exportations are certified.

(6) Describe controls over the use of health certificates.

a. The text of the certificates are printed on prenumbered safety paper, bearing the Cyprus' State logo.

b. All official certificates are printed at the government printing office and are distributed through the office of the Accounting officer to the district veterinary officers. All veterinary exportation certificates are pre-numbered and audited by the Accountant and Auditor generals of the Government. All Veterinary Officers come under the Public Service Laws 1990-2000 (1/90, 210/91, 211/91, 27(I)94 and 146/2000).

c. Officer's signature and name in capital letters as well as the issuing district office with the official stamp of the Veterinary Services appear on the certificates. The original is given to the exporter and the issuing office keeps the copy.

(7) Arrangements for provision of medical certificates for food handlers.

Medical Health Certificates for food handlers are issued by the District Medical Officers or Municipal Medical Officers based on a Chest X-ray examination and stool examinations for Salmonella and parasites, carried out by governmental or private laboratories. Certificates are renewed annually.

(8) Nature, frequency and extent of controls.

Controls cover the structural and equipment of establishment the hygienic condition of the products and establishment, the operation, the records kept by the management, HACCP application, cleaning, disinfection, labeling, storage and transport of the products.

Frequency of official controls depends on the nature, size and activity of individual establishments and range from 2-6 annually.

(9) Traceability

- ❖ A system for identification and registration of cattle is established and traceability for these species of animal is in place.
- ❖ Pig farms have been assigned code numbers and the traceback system is under development.
- ❖ Identification of sheep and goats will be completed by the end of 2002.

(10) Water quality and safety

Legal provisions for water safety and quality provide that water used in food establishments and holdings should be of potable quality. Directive 98/83/EC has been adopted in national legislation in April 2001 and will be in force by order of the Council of Ministers.

(11) Application of HACCP in food establishments.

The application of HACCP system is a precondition for the approved of establishments to export their products to EU Member States. The provision for HACCP system application will be made compulsory in the new harmonized legislation.

The Veterinary Services assist managements in the preparation of HACCP system and audit their application.

(12) Guides to good hygiene practices.

Guides and instructions for food hygiene practices exist for various activities and an intergrated manual is under preparation.

(13) Copies for :

- ❖ pest control and disinfections ANNEXES I and II.
 - ❖ water testing programmes ANNEX III and IIIa.
 - ❖ cleaning and disinfection ANNEX IV.
- are attached.

(14) The official services have complete access to the production records.

(15) The official service issues orders to the operators and processors for withdrawal of the products concerned and supervise the quick withdrawal, and their storage or destruction.

(16) Private Consultants for food safety may apply to the Human Resources/Development Authority for approval of training programmes. After the approval, the consultants may give presentations and practical demonstrations of their approved training programmes to the industry of the Authority follow the application of such programmes. Expenses charged by the consultants for such presentations and practical demonstrations are partly covered by the Authority.

The Veterinary Services organizes from time to time, lectures on Food Hygiene for the industry.

(17) The auxiliary personnel are holders, at least of school leaving certificate. However they have got training either in Cyprus or in other countries related to their duties.

The auxiliary personnel cannot inspect and decide about the suitability of the foods produced in processing establishments.

The auxiliary personnel is employed by the State and is paid by the government.

B. 2.7 Veterinary Residues and Veterinary Medicinal Products

Main community legislation:

1. Council Directive 81/851/EEC (Veterinary medicinal products)
2. Council Directive 90/167/EEC (Conditions governing the preparation, marketing and use of medicated feeding stuffs)
3. Council Directive 90/677/EEC (Extending scope of 81/851 and laying down provisions for immunological medicinal products)
4. Council Directive 96/22/EC (Production of certain substances in stockfarming)
5. Council Directive 96/23/EC (monitoring of substances and residues in live animals and animals products)
6. Commission Decision 97/74/EC (Levels and frequencies of sampling for Directive 96/23)
7. Commission Decision 98/179/EC (Rules for official sampling for Directive 96/23)
8. Council Regulation (EEC) 2377/90 (Procedure for the establishment of maximum residue limits)

1. LEGISLATION

(1) What is the current status of transposition of the above community legislation into the national law of your country?

a) Directives 81/851/EEC, 90/167/EEC and 90/677/EEC have already been harmonized in the "Veterinary Medicinal Products Law 116(1)/2001 and they are already in force.

b) Legislation implementing Council Directives 96/22/EC, 96/23/EC, 86/363/EC and Commission Decisions 97/747/EC and 98/179/EC is under preparation so as to be fully harmonized.

(2) What is the timetable for:

*** the full transposition of this legislation**

- ❖ The full transposition of the above legislation is expected to be ready by the end of March 2002.

*** your authorities to be in a position to demonstrate full potential for implementation of the various provisions of the above legislation**

- ❖ The authorities will be in position to demonstrate full potential for implementation of the provisions of the above legislation after April 2002.

*** the coming in force of this legislation**

- ❖ The legislation will be in force from July 2002.

2. COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

As regards veterinary residues and veterinary medicinal products information should be provided with references to national legislation:

(1) Responsible authorities, including reference to their power (national, regional and local)

(a) In the new harmonized legislation on Veterinary Medicinal Products the Veterinary Service is the competent authority for the registration of VMP, manufacturers and control of sale and use of Veterinary Medicinal Products at national, regional and local levels.

(2) Other services involved in implementation of residues monitoring plan? Which services are responsible for the "on farm" sampling (on live animals and on products, for animal identification, for the designation and control of laboratories, for the control of the manufacture and distribution of veterinary drugs and, where applicable, medicated feeding stuffs, and action taken in case of residue violations?

The residues monitoring plan is organized and coordinated by the Veterinary Services. The State General Laboratory is involved in the testing of samples taken by the Veterinary Services and as confirmatory laboratory for any tests carried out by the Veterinary Services.

Responsible Services:

- a) "On farm" sampling (on live animals and on products): Veterinary Services.
- b) For animal identification: Veterinary Services.
- c) Designation of laboratories: The State General Laboratory of the M.H. and the Laboratory for the Control of Foods of Animal Origin of the Veterinary Services.
- d) Control of laboratories: To be organized under an accreditation system for both Laboratories.
- e) Control of the manufacture and distribution of veterinary drugs: Veterinary Services.
- f) Control of the manufacture and distribution of medicated feeding stuffs: Veterinary Services.
- g) Action taken in case of residue violations? Veterinary Services.

The same procedure is applied for the commodities reported as being sampled.

Once the investigation has been completed, the VS will publish in its Annual Surveillance for Veterinary Residues Report, all the details of the action taken with respect of statutory results above the Action Level, including the names of individual farmers and slaughterhouses where these have been confirmed.

(3) Where applicable, could you please provide us with copies of corresponding procedures.

Please find attached the following forms.

- ❖ Sampling form for residues of VMP in live animals, meat and products of animal origin, ANNEX V.
- ❖ Form Vet 25 attached to samples for laboratory examination, ANNEX VI.
- ❖ Laboratory answer form VET 68 (LCFAO), ANNEX VII.
- ❖ Laboratory answer form (SGL), ANNEX VIII.
- ❖ CMIO Notification to the farmer for penalties, ANNEX IX.
- ❖ Inspection form for farm investigation, ANNEX X and Xa.
- ❖ Labels attached to samples, ANNEX XI.

(4) Please describe the working co-operation and procedures between the competent authority for Animal Feed (see Section B.1) and the CA for the control of medicated feeding stuffs (Directive 90/167/EEC).

Animal feeding stuffs Law and the Veterinary Medicinal Products Law are both new legislations and coordination of the two CA's will be established in the near future.

3. RESIDUES: PLAN AND CONTROLS

(1) Please describe the criteria you employ in sampling, as required by Decision 98/179/EC (e.g. what target criteria, or other risk criteria are applied?)

The target and risk criteria as described in Decision 98/179 are applied and they have been communicated in writing to the sampling officers see ANNEX XII.

(2) Please supply an overview of the number of samples taken in the year 2000 (split up into analyte, tissues, species, product and their corresponding results: please describe the sampling programme for 2001.

Year 2000

Results of the year 2000 plan submitted to the Commission attached as ANNEX XIII.

For more details for the year 2000, see Annex No XIV.

Year 2001

Group A

Bovines: 22, Porcines: 124, Sheep and Goats: 5, Broilers: 75, Turkeys: 3, Other Poultry: 2, Rabbits: 9, Wild and Farmed Game meat: Quails: 4, Ostriches: 4, Cows milk: 7, Sheep milk: 3, Aquaculture: 5, Hen Eggs: 7, Honey: Nil.

Group B

Bovines: 13, Porcines: 187, Sheep and goats: 17, Broilers: 75, Turkeys: 3, Other Poultry: 2, Rabbit meat: 19, Wild and Farmed Game: Quails: 16, Ostriches: 16, Cows milk: 24, Sheep milk: 9, Goats milk: 9, Aquaculture: 10, Hen eggs: 23, Honey: 20.

For more details of the year 2001 see Annexes No XV and XVa.

(3) Which is the procedure for the collection of official samples and in particular the rules concerning the particulars to appear on the official samples.

Which procedures are in place to guarantee that sampling is unforeseen and unexpected.

Authorized personnel of the Veterinary Services collect official samples from:

carcasses at slaughterhouses, including poultry and game
live animals on farms, including milk
animal farms including fish farms
egg packing centers or direct from egg producing farms
stores of beekeepers or honey packing factories

Detailed instructions have been issued at the central level concerning sampling procedure. The district veterinary officer chooses at random the place where the samples are to be taken. Veterinarians, as well as technicians are authorized to take samples. The farmer or the slaughterhouse authorities are not informed before sampling. The devices for sampling are provided by the VS at central level. Samples are labelled with special labels consisting of fixed and detachable parts. The identity of the owner appears only on the detachable part. The detachable coordinator ensures the anonymity of the samples by withdrawing the separable part of the label containing the code number of the owner / producer. He dispatches the samples to the laboratory concerned. When violitive result is found the laboratory which performs the analysis, informs the sampling coordinator by fax or phone followed by written form.

(4) Which type of measures are laid down by the competent authorities with regard to animals or products in which residues have been detected?

Any positive result, revealed by laboratory examinations, during routine screening, will cause the competent authority to:

- ❖ Trace-back the origin of the animal.
- ❖ Organize a second sampling with an increased sample size from the animals originating from the same source.
- ❖ The carcasses are retained until the results are issued.
- ❖ The sampling coordinator informs either the district / local veterinary officer or directly the slaughterhouse, depending where the sample was taken, within the same day, or sometimes the following day of receiving the samples (especially for sulphonamides) of the results violating the MRLs.

- ❖ Based on the provisions of the Meat Hygiene Law, the retained carcasses or meat, proven positive after examination, are confiscated and destroyed.

This procedure is applied mainly for residues of antimicrobial substances, where quick tests are available.

Results for the rest of the substances, included in the program, are reported within ten working days or within a month the latest. The VS take a follow-up action on all samples, which show the presence of substances above the MRL during the screening and the confirmatory analysis. When the trace back is successful a Veterinary Officer of the VS undertakes a thorough on-farm investigation. A pharmacist of the VS may accompany him during investigation.

The investigation may involve an inspection of farm records and stocks of VMP as well as the taking of further samples from suspected animals and prohibition of slaughtering of animals from the farm. The carcasses of the batch of animals originating from the same farm and which follows the already incriminated samples are sampled and retained until the results are available. In case of violative results the carcasses are confiscated and destroyed.

The owner may appeal the decision, in which case a committee comprised of three veterinarians, one being chosen by the owner, decides about the action to be taken. The VS, either directly, or in consultation with the farm's private veterinary surgeon, gives the farmer the fullest possible advice on how to ensure that residues do not enter the food chain. When a violative result is found for the other products of animal origin, the owner may be prosecuted.

Milk: a) If positive cases are found under the Monitoring Plan the case is investigated in a similar way as for meat. In addition the violator is taken to court, and the CMIO is informed.

b) The CMIO (Cyprus Milk Industry Organization) carries out frequent testing of the milk of all producers for antimicrobial residues and in positive cases:

- i) 1st offence - nil payment for the collected quantity of milk.
- ii) 2nd offence - nil payment for 6 subsequent days.
- iii) 3rd offence - nil payment for 8 subsequent days.
- iv) 4th offence - nil payment for 15 subsequent days.

The same procedure is applied for the commodities reported earlier as being sampled.

Once the investigation has been completed, the VS will publish in its Annual Surveillance for Veterinary Residues Report, all the details of the action taken with respect of statutory results above the Action Level, including the names of individual farmers and slaughterhouses where these have been confirmed.

(5) If the national residues plan for the year 2001 and the results of tests for the year 2000 are available, please provide copies.

Copies of the results of tests are provided for the year 2000 as Annex No XIII and the national residues plan for 2001 is provided as Annex No XVI.

4. LABORATORIES

(1) Which laboratories (central/regional/local) are involved in the residue monitoring plan, and for which analytes.

The Laboratory for the Control of Foods of Animal Origin mainly checks for group B1 screening (sulphonamides and antimicrobial agents/EEC four plate test) and chloramphenicol from subgroup A6, while **The State General Laboratory** checks for all groups of substances.

(2) Overview of number of samples analysed in the different laboratories involved for the year 2000 and scheduled analyses for the year 2001, split up into analyte, tissues, species and product.

Table 2: Samples analysed for residues

Laboratory	Year	Number of Sample
GSL	2000	2242
	2001	915
LCFAO	2000	1117
	2001	1164

* See Annexes No XIII and XV for slit up into analyte, tissues species and product.

(3) Name and addresses of National reference laboratories involved in the residues monitoring plan, designation of laboratories for specific analytes.

a. General State Laboratory

Ministry of Health
44, Kimonos Street
1451, Nicosia, CYPRUS
Tel: +357-2-301466/305061
Fax: +357-2-316434
E-Mail: sgl@spidernet.com.cy

b. Laboratory for the Control of Foods of Animal Origin

Department of Veterinary Services
1417, Nicosia, CYPRUS
Tel: +3572 805200
Fax: +3572 332803
E-Mail: vet.services@cytenet.com.cy

5. CONTROL OF VETERINARY MEDICINES AND MEDICATED FEEDINGSTUFFS.

(1) "Prescription only medicines" are the Veterinary Medicinal Products which are included in the following groups.

(a) those products subject to official restrictions on supply or use, as

- ❖ the restrictions resulting from the implementation of the relevant United Nations conventions on narcotic and psychotropic substances,
- ❖ the restrictions on the use of veterinary medicinal products resulting from Community law.

(b) those products in respect of which special precautions must be taken by the veterinarian in order to avoid any unnecessary risk to:

- ❖ the target species,
- ❖ the person administering the products to the animal,
- ❖ the consumer of foodstuffs obtained from the treated animal,
- ❖ the environment.

(c) those products intended for treatments or pathological processes which require a precise prior diagnosis or the use of which may cause effects which impede or interfere with subsequent diagnostic or therapeutic measures,

(d) magistral formulae intended for animals.

In addition, a prescription is required for new veterinary medicinal products containing an active ingredient which has been authorized for use in a veterinary medicinal product for less than five years.

(2) The authorized agent should register any imported or locally produced veterinary medicinal products with the Council of Veterinary Medicinal Products, and is responsible for placing the product on the market. He can sell his drugs to wholesalers or pharmacies or veterinarians. All pharmaceutical preparations including veterinary drugs must be sold by licensed pharmacists from approved and licensed pharmacies. Veterinarians may also sell veterinary drugs intended only for animals under their care from their consulting offices or clinics according to the "Practice of Veterinary Medicine and Registration of Veterinarians" Law 169/90.

Every wholesaler and retailer must keep detailed records of purchases and the sales of veterinary drugs.

The manufacturing license is issued after the premises are inspected and found satisfactory by the Council of Veterinary Medicinal Products. They can produce only the preparations for which they have obtained the manufacturing license. The manufacturing sector in Cyprus is very small and is restricted only to formulation and packaging of liquid ectoparasiticides and the manufacture of premixes for medicated feedingstuffs.

Every person engaged in the sale of pharmaceutical preparations must handle store and transport such preparations under suitable conditions. These activities must be carried out in approved and licensed drugstores or pharmacies.

(3) No physical or chemical checks are carried out by the customs in case of importing drugs or drug precursors. When the customs officers suspect that any imported substance may be intended for inclusion in any veterinary medicinal products, they ask for the advice of the Competent Authority, and release the product only after the Competent Authority declares that the substance is not a controlled substance.

(4) The provision of article 4 and 50a of Directive 81/851/EEC have been included in the New Veterinary Medicinal Products Law 116(I)2001 and they will be enacted as soon as the administrative arrangements are completed. It should be noted that procedures based on the previous Medicines Law 6/67 were not much different from the once described in Directive 81/851/EEC.

(5) Registers of producers and dealers and list of authorized products exist as approved under the Medicines Law 6/67. These registers and list will be reviewed and formulated according to the provision of the New Veterinary Medicinal Products Law 116(I)2001.

(6) There is no manufacturer of immunological veterinary products in Cyprus in the private sector. The Veterinary Services operate a laboratory for the production of a small number of vaccines.

(7) The provisions of article 34 of Directive 81/851/EEC have been included in the new Veterinary Medicinal products Law 116(I)/2001 and they will be enacted as soon as the administrative arrangements are completed.

(8) The sanctions provided for in article 36 of Directive 81/851/EEC and the situations under which are applicable have been included fully in the new Veterinary Medicinal Products Law 116(I)/2001. Since the approval of the Law is very recent and the arrangements for the enactment of the Law have not been completed, no examples of the application are available.

(9) Since the approval of the Law is very recent and the arrangements for the enactment of the Law have not been completed, the Competent Authority has not yet proceeded to organize the inspections of production of medicated feedingstuffs. This will be facilitated by the appointment of additional veterinarians and pharmacists.

Fifty three (53) premises have received the marketing authorization in Cyprus.

B. 2.8. Pesticide Residues in foodstuffs

Main Community legislation:

Please describe the range of measures to ensure compliance with the maximum pesticide residues in foodstuffs of animal origin (Art. 4 of 86/363/EEC).

Pesticides are included in the National Residues monitoring plan and no positive cases were found since 1995 in foods of animal origin. Legal provisions for action will be included in the new harmonized legislation.

B.2.10. Marine Biotoxins

1. GENERAL

(1) Is there any production of live bivalve molluscs?

No.

(2) Is any production likely in the near future?

No. Cyprus territorial waters are eutrophic which makes bivalve molluscs production unfeasible.

2. LEGISLATION

(1) Draft documents for transposition of Council directives 91/492 and 91/493 have been prepared. The distribution of competencies between the services of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture is expected to be finalised soon.

The coming into force of this legislation is foreseen for January 2002.

3. COMPETENT AUTHORITY

The competency for live bivalve molluscs will rest either with the Ministry of Health or the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment.

4. CONTROLS

Since there is no national production of live bivalve molluscs, the controls in place are related with importation.

5. LABORATORIES

No national reference laboratories have been designated yet. The General State Laboratory of the Ministry of Health and the Laboratory for the Control of Foods of Animal Origin from the Ministry of Agriculture can and will be involved in the necessary controls.

No accredited Laboratories, however the State General Laboratory, and the Veterinary Services Laboratory for the Control of Foods of Animal Origin are working towards accreditation, which is planned for 2002.

C1 Farm Registration

1. Legislation

Council Directive 92/102/EEC as regards to bovines, sheep and goats is transposed into the Animal Identification and Registration Ordinances 338/2000 and 29/2001 based on the Contagious (Animal) Diseases Law. The Ordinance came into force on 27.11.2000.

Regulations as regards to Identification and Registration of Pigs are completed and they are at the Attorney General Office for legal vetting.

Concerning Farm Registration all cattle holdings are registered on a Central Database.

Pigeries are also registered on the Central Database. An updating of the Sheep and Goats holdings is going on.

2. Status

(1) The system in place conforms with the requirements in EU Legislation.

3. Official controls

Every holding having one or more animals is registered in our system. There is no exception from this rule.

According to the Animal Identification and Registration Ordinance of 2000 par. 5(b) every owner is obliged, in a period of 15 days from the establishment of his farm, to apply to the Veterinary Services for Registration.

The Identification method for individual holding is as follows:

CATTLE

The Identification Code of Cattle holding consists of 10 digits.

Digits 1 and 2	= CY	for Cyprus
Digits 3	= B	for Bovine
Digit 4	=	The district code
Digits 5,6,7	=	Village code
Digits 8,9,10	=	Serial number of the farms in a village

SHEEP AND GOATS

Digits 1 and 2	= CY	for Cyprus
Digit 3	= S	for Sheep and Goats
The rest as for cattle		

PIGS

The Identification Code consist of 5 digits

Digit 1 and 2	= CY	for Cyprus
Digit 3	=	The district code
Digit 4 and 5	=	Serial number for the Pig holdings in the district

The following information for each holding is recorded.

1. Registration Code or farmer code
2. Village Code (where the holding is sited)
3. Village Name (where the holding is sited)
4. Veterinary Station (where the holding belongs to)
5. Name of the owner
6. Address of the owner
7. Telephone of the owner
8. Identity Card Number of the owner
9. Whether a farm is restricted or not
10. Geographical location of the farm (cadastre number)

C.2 Animal Identification

1. LEGISLATION

- (1) Council Directive 64/432/EEC (Article 14,C,(1),(2),(3),(4))
Council Directive 92/102/EEC
Commission Regulation 2629/97
Commission Regulation 2630/97
Regulation (EC) 1760/2000

are transposed into the Animal Identification and Registration Ordinances 33,8/2000 and 29/2001 which are based on the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Law 319/1987.

Regulation as regards Identification and Registration of Pigs based on the Animal Health Law (109(I)/2001) are completed and they are at the Law Office of the Republic for legal vetting.

New regulations concerning only Bovine Identification and based on the Animal Health Law are under preparation. These regulations include:
Commission Regulation 1760/2000 (only Identification)
Commission Regulation 2629/1997
Commission Regulation 2630/1997
Commission Regulation 497/98

- (2) Full transposition and full potential for implementation of the various provisions of the above Legislation by June 2002. The Animal Identification and Registration Ordinance is already in force and Identification of bovines is completed.

2. STATUS

The system in place conforms with the requirements in EU Legislation.

3. GENERAL

Cattle

- (1) Each animal is identified with double plastic eartag. It becomes a unique individual identification code consisting of 11 digits. Animals must be eartaged in a period of 15 days after birth. Lost eartags are replaced with the same Identification Code. Application of eartags is done by the personnel of the Veterinary Services. Records of eartags are kept in a central database in the Department of Veterinary Services. No special marks for suspect or diseased animals.
- (2) There are also no special rules of Identification of Pedigree animals
- (3) Following data are recorded on the Database:
 - Animal identification code
 - Sex
 - Breed

- Date of birth
- Date of ear tagging
- Holding on which animal is born (for animals born after 1.1.2001) or eartagged (for animals born before 1.1.2001)
- Mother code
- Sire code (not obligatory)
- Date of death
- Date of slaughtering
- Slaughterhouse
- Date of departure from a holding in case of movement
- Date of arrival on new holding

To ensure data quality

The database is in position to control and denies inputs in the following cases (Autoflagging).

- Erroneous ear tag number (ear tag number contains check digit)
- Application of ear tags not assigned to a specific area
- Introduction of non existing eartag number
- Erroneous holding code
- Non existent holding code
- Inconsistency between holding code and owner
- Erroneous dam code or if dam doesn't belong to the holding where calf is born

In case of movements, death, slaughtering the database is automatically checking the data reported (holding, sex, breed) with the data already recorded. In case of discrepancies an investigation protocol is printed out.

Every week the system checks all movements and prints out investigation protocols for cases of departure without arrivals or arrivals without departures.

The system controls upon request naturally inconsistent data e.g. delivery in very young age, or delivery in less than 9 months from previous delivery.

In case of any discrepancies an on the spot check is carried out by our personnel .

- (4) The system records every movement of animals with a double reporting (departure and arrival of animals) from the date of Birth to the date of slaughter or death. A report of the history of the Animal can be printed out.

Sheep and Goats

The system for sheep and goat allows also individual identification.

Animals are marked with one eartag bearing a unique identification code.

Animals must be marked within 30 days of the date of birth or before leaving the farm.

Lost marks are replaced with a new eartag. A link between the lost and the new tag is not always possible.

Pigs

The system for Pigs allows only Farm Identification.

Animals leaving the farm for slaughter are double branded on their back with the farm code which is given by the Veterinary Services.

C3. Movement Control

1. LEGISLATION
see C.2 (Animal Identification)
2. STATUS
see C.2 (Animal Identification)
3. GENERAL (ALL SPECIES)
 - (1) Animals moving from one area which is declared as infected (Brucellosis, Leucosis), have to be checked for Brucellosis (bovine, ovine, caprine) and Leucosis (bovine) before they leave the holding of owner.
 - (2) A written authorisation by the Area Veterinary Officer is required. The authorization is notified to the central Veterinary Service and to the Veterinary Officer of the Area of destination.
 - (3) According to Animal Identification and Registration Ordinance farmers are obliged to report in writing to the Veterinary Services any movement of Animals (Departure and Arrival, see forms). Records are kept on the Database in the District Veterinary Offices and in the Central Veterinary Unit.
 - (4) No additional controls.
 - (5) See 1.
 - (6) For the time being no farm register exist. All records are kept by the Veterinary Services.
 - (7) Not applicable. No animal markets in Cyprus.
 - (8) Vehicles are to be registered under the Animal Welfare Law
 - (9) No legal obligation is in force yet.

C4. CERTIFICATION

Main Community Legislation:

- *Council Directive 96/93/EC (certification of animals and animals products)*

01. Describe the official controls over printing, storage and distribution of blank certificates. In particular, who is responsible for the maintaining supplies of blank copies or certificates?

- The blank certificates are printed at the Government printing establishment on safety paper, in books of 100 double pages (VET10) and transferred to the Central Veterinary Services Account Office (CVSAO). The CVSAO registers these books in a Counterfoil register book, and then distributes them to the District Veterinary Offices (DVOs) by store requisitions GEN32A. The DVO's registry officer or cashier registers these books into their Counterfoil register book and then give, upon request, the necessary VET10 to the personel involved in the exports. The system permits that at any moment, it can be found where each and every book is, and that it remains only in the hands of authorized personnel.

02. Describe the procedures for the completion of certificates.

-The certificates are completed by the DVOs Registry Office as follows:

- (a) Receipt of a written request for exportation by the DVO from the exporter.
- (b) Inspection of the products for export.
- (c) Laboratory examination if considered necessary.
- (d) Labelling and health marking of packages under official supervision.
- (e) Loading of products under official supervision.
- (f) Completion of the certificate by the registry after instructions from inspecting officer.

03. Describe the procedures for the signature of certificates. In particular, who is responsible for the signature and what rules are in place to ensure the independence of the certifying official?

The inspecting Officer signs and stamps the completed certificate in ink of different colour than the print.

All Certifying Officials are veterinarians of the Public Service and are not allowed to have any financial or employment connections outside their official duties.

The decision to sign a certificate is taken directly by the inspecting officer without any interference.

04. Describe the procedures for the withdrawal or amendment of signed certificates.

Withdrawn certificates are repossessed by the DVO, officially cancelled and attached to the retained copy.

Amendment of signed copies are corrected in ink and the correction is monographed by the certifying officer. Extensive amendments or additional certifications may be included in a notification making reference to the number of the certificate or necessitate the issue of a new certificate.

05. Give details of any written instructions made available to certifying officials.

- The Director of Veterinary Services periodically and at any time of the year sends to the DVOs written instructions, detailed guidelines and advice on handling the export of animals or animal products to the EU or other country, see ANNEXES No. XVII, XVIII and XIX.

06. Give details of who is responsible for producing and checking support documentation for certificates.

(a) for producing support documentation

- Officers inspecting the establishment,
- The Laboratory,
- The producer (HACCP, records),

(b) For checking support documentation

- The Registry Office,
- The District Veterinary Officer or his representative,
- The Certifying Officer.

07. Describe the procedures to be followed when final health certificate that accompanies consignments exported to the EU is produced and signed.

- The exporter pays the prescribed fees and the DVOs cashier issues a receipt
- The Inspecting Officer signs and seals the certificate with ink of different colour than the printed letters of the certificate,
- The registry gives the original signed certificate to the exporter or his representative,
- The registry files a true copy of the signed certificate attached with all the accompanied the relevant export documents and reports.

C5 ANIMAL HEALTH STATUS

Council Directive 64/432
90/426
91/68
97/12
90/539
91/67

are transposed as Regulations in the national Legislation under the Framework law on Animal Health (Nr109(I)/2001 of 27.7.2001)

1. General

- (1) Livestock -> all mammalia, birds, reptiles, insects, fish, cetacea and mollusca.
- (2) On the basis of the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Law 319 of 1987, Article 7 the Director of Veterinary Services may by notice to be published in the Official Gazette specify the animal diseases which are notifiable. This List is in full compliance with EU legislation.
(List of notifiable diseases attached).
- (3) In accordance with article 8 of the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Law 319 of 1987.
 - Where any practitioner confirms or suspects the existence of a notifiable disease he must forthwith inform the Chief Officer or the appropriate Area Officer of such confirmation or suspicion;
 - *Where the existence of a notifiable disease has been publicly declared by publication in the Official Journal, any person who has in his possession or under his charge an animal, for which there may be reason to suspect that it has been infected by any notifiable disease, must as far as practicable, keep such animal separate from animals not so affected and must with all practicable speed give notice of the fact to either the Director of Veterinary Services, the District Veterinary Officer or the nearest Police Station. If without lawful excuse, he fails to keep the affected, or suspected animal separate from health animals, he shall be deemed to have committed an offence.*
- (4) Order introducing measures for the control of Foot and Mouth Disease (197/2001) (List A)
Order introducing measures for the control of Classical Swine Fever (252/2001) (List A)
Order introducing measures for the control of New Castle Disease (List A)
Order for the control of sheep and Goats Pox of 1985 (70/85) (List A)
Order for the Control of Brucellosis of 1978-1982 (15/78, 291/79, 79,82) (List B)
Order for the control of Psoroptes Mange of 1982 (28/82) List B
Order for the control of Enzootic Leucosis of Bovine of 1986 (272/96) (List B)

Order for the control of Scrapie 1987 (228/87) (List B)
Order for the control of poultry Diseases and hygiene measures in Breeding flocks and Hatcheries NV 377/90 (List B)
Order for the control of Echinococcosis of 1997 (290/99) (List B)
Order for the prevention of introductions spreading and combating of BSE of 1994 (300/94) --> (replace by order 28/2001) (List B)
Order for the Control of Viral haemorrhagic Disease of Rabbits of 1996 (198/96) (List B)

(5) The Contagious Disease (Animals) Law (319/87) provides compensation on following circumstances:

Art. 10.-(1) In circumstances where-

- a) an animal should die as a result of vaccination, diagnostic testing or because of any treatment conducted in the course of taking precautionary measures for either diagnosing or combating a notifiable disease;
 - b) an animal should be put to death for diagnostic reasons, in the course of diagnosing a notifiable disease;
 - c) an animal which either being infected by a notifiable disease or not so infected, should be either slaughtered or put to death in the course of combating a notifiable disease;
 - d) and animal should die evidently by reason of having been infected by a notifiable disease, the checking of which would necessarily require putting to death and destroying all the animals of either the breeding stock or of the area wherefrom the animal had come;
 - e) any object might have been destroyed in the course of the carrying out of the measures required for combating a notifiable disease;
- compensation shall be awarded to the proprietor of the animal or object.

(2) The amount of such compensation shall be calculated at the rate of 75 per centum of the assessable reproduction value of the animals which had been slaughtered or put to death or the assessable value of destroyed objects (based on their natural condition, not their replacement value) and at the rate of 50 per centum of the assessable reproduction value of the dead animals.

The new Framework Law on Animal Health Nr.109(I)/2001, provides for compensation at the rate of 100% of the assessable value of the animals as breeding stock.

2. (1) Describe any routine monitoring programmes for the presence of OIE List A and B diseases.

The Department of Veterinary Services, which is the competent authority for animal health, carries out surveillance programmes for a number of List A and B diseases which:

- are important to international trade
- constitute a danger to humans
- appear in neighboring countries
- there is a requirement from EU.

In the last couple of years the sampling is carried out on statistical basis and for testing, internationally recognized operating procedures are utilized.

a) The diseases for which monitoring programmes are carried out:

LIST A

1. New castle disease.
2. Classical Swine Fever.
3. Swine Vesicular Disease.
4. Avian Influenza.
5. Peste de petits ruminants.
6. Bluetongue.

LIST B

1. Enzootic Bovine Leucosis.
2. Aujeszky's Disease.
3. Echinococcosis.
4. Transmissible Gastroenteritis.
5. Rabies.
6. Infections bovine rhinotracheitis.
7. Caprine Arthritis / Encephalitis.
8. Avian mycoplasmosis.
9. Bovine Tuberculosis.
10. Bovine viral diarrhoea.
11. Fowl typhoid and pullorum disease.
12. BSE
13. Trichinosis.

b) Diseases for which eradication programmes are in operation.

1. Bovine, ovine and caprine brucellosis (Br. melitensis)
2. Scrapie.
3. Avian salmonellosis.

(2) The use / feeding of waste food, including waste food coming from international transport means, is prohibited by the Legal Order 43/98. (The prohibition of the use of Waste Food for Feeding Animals Order, 1998).

Waste food coming from International Transport is disposed of as follows:

- a) Larnaka Airport: incineration at the airport premises
- b) Limassol Port: collected and transported at the waste disposal site in Vati/Limassol under the supervision of a Veterinary Officer.
- c) Paphos Airport: incinerated at the airport premises under the control of a Veterinary Officer.

(3) Vaccination

a) The Veterinary Services assist producers who want to vaccinate their animals by the supply of the vaccines and / or vaccinators for the following list B diseases.

- Enzootic Abortion of Ewes (Chlamydia)
- Viral haemorrhagic disease of Rabbits –
- Paratuberculosis (voluntary)
- Rabies (only for imported and exported Pet Animals) (Compulsory)

b) For the following diseases there no legal restriction and producers are free to vaccinate their animals if they so decide:

- Newcastle Disease
- IBR
- Infectious Bronchitis
- Infectious Laryngotracheitis
- Fowl pox
- Gumboro disease
- Marek´s disease - 1st day live vaccine

(4) Non applicable

3. DISEASE NOTIFICATION

(1) - Outbreaks of List A diseases are notified to the OIE and the Commission immediately upon confirmation of the disease.

(2) see item C5 1.(3)

(3) No List A disease outbreaks have been observed within the last 5 years. Only cases of Bluetongue seropositive ruminants have been recorded, without the presence of any clinical signs of the disease.

TABLE 3**Outbreaks of list B or A diseases 1996-2000**

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Echinococcosis	3 bov 1 cap 1 muflon 12 ov		4 bov 1 muflon 9 ovi 5 cap		1 ovi 1 cap
Q Fever	2 ovi 3 cap	2 cap	1 ovi	1 cap	1 cap 4 ovi
Paratuberculosis	23 cap 8 ov	15 ovi 21 cap	6 ovi 31 cap	22 cap	33 cap 13 ovi
Brucellosis		4 o/c	7 o/c	7	25 o/c 9 bov
Enzootic abortion	11 ovi 21 cap	24 o/c	20 o/c	40 o/c	33 o/c
Scrapie	35 o/c	25 o/c	23 o/c	20 o/c	23 o/c
Rabbits haemorrhagic disease	129 lep	26 lep	79 lep	9 lep	54 lep
Avian infectious bronchitis	5 avi	10 avi	9 avi	1 avi	
Fowl Pox	1 avi	1 avi	1 avi	7 avi	2 avi
Gumboro disease	69 avi	46 avi	44 avi	32 avi	13 avi
Marek disease	37 avi	22 avi	57 avi	60 avi	32 avi
Mycoplasmosis	7 avi	19 avi	8 avi	7 avi	1 avi
American fowlbrood	35 api	23 api	11 api	10 api	10 api
European fowlbrood		2 api			
Nosemosis	11 api	21 api	1 api	1 api	1 api
Varroasis	41 api	57 api	11 api	10 api	23 api
Leishmaniosis	2 dogs				

C6 Disease Outbreaks

(1) (2) LEGISLATION

The Framework Law on Animal Health is already approved by the Parliament and published in the Official Journal of the Republic (Law 109(1)/2001 of 27.7.2001).

- Commission Decision 73/53/EEC (Swine Vesicular Disease)
- Council Directive 92/35/EEC (African Horse Sickness)
- Council Directive 92/40/EEC (Avian Influenza)
- Council Directive 92/66/EEC (Newcastle disease)
- Council Directive 92/119/EEC (Swine Vesicular Disease)

are transposed in Regulations based on the above mentioned Framework Law. Coming into force and full potential implementation by June of 2002.

- Council Directive 80/217/EEC (classical swine fever)
- Council Directive 85/511/EEC (Foot and Mouth Disease)
- Council Directive 90/423/EEC (Foot and Mouth Disease)

have been transposed into the National Law as Orders based on the existing Contagious Animal (Diseases) Law 319/87 [Legal Orders 252/2001 (CSF) 197/2001 (FMD)].

- Council Directive 89/662 (Veterinary Checks)
 - Council Directive 90/425 (Zootechnical checks)
- will become Regulations under the Law on Importation and Trade of Live Animals and Animals Products, which is at the Attorney General Office for legal vetting.*

Forseen coming in force and Implementation by June 2002.

1. DISEASE OUTBREAKS (OIE LIST A DISEASES)

(1) Contingency plans have been prepared and distributed to the District and Local Veterinary Stations for the following List A Diseases.

- FMD
- CSF

For all other List A diseases, detailed written instructions on what samples to collect and how to handle them and send them to the laboratory have been given to all District and Local Veterinary Station.

(2)

- ❖ Suitable samples from diseased or suspect animals are collected and sent, under special precautions to the laboratory for testing.

The identification of the disease agent is carried out according to internationally approved methods.

Confirmation is done usually at a laboratory in another country, since in Cyprus, only one veterinary diagnostic laboratory exists.

Preference is given to Community Reference Laboratories.

- ❖ Upon suspicion of a List A disease the Director of Veterinary Services has the power to impose quarantine measures for the farm, village or district where the disease is suspected for 15 days.

If disease is confirmed then a Ministerial Order is issued for the quarantine and other control measures.

If suspicion is not confirmed the Director's quarantine measures are removed.

The Director and the Minister have the power to establish control and surveillance zones.

- ❖ The following actions to control disease situations are provided for the specific diseases.

Stamping-out: FMD
CSF

Under the legislation in force, the Minister has the power to specify in the Order he issues, the control and / or eradication procedure i.e. vaccination stamping-out, partial slaughter / vaccination etc.

However in the new harmonized legislation the control / eradication procedures will be specified in the Regulations for each disease, following the provisions of Community legislation.

- ❖ Close observation of the animals in the infected area for a period of 30 days after the last outbreak.

Restocking is permitted 30 days after completion of disinfection procedures which follow the stamping-out action.

(3) During an epizootic of Bluetongue virus disease of Sheep in Cyprus in the Autumn of 1977, 16 species of Culicoides were collected in light – traps.
4 species, *C. circumscriptus*, *C. puncticollis*, *C. catanei* and *C. imicola* are the commonest species in the Island.

(4) Small size of the country.

3. VACCINATION

- (1). According to the Contagious Diseases of Animals Law 319 of 1987 the Minister may from time to time issue notifications whereby he prescribes and regulates the compulsory vaccination against certain List a diseases. Currently no such Order or Notification is in force.
- (2). For routine Vaccinations carried out against list A or B diseases **see C5,2,(3)**
- (3) Biological products and vaccines are registered and approved by the Drugs Council of the Ministry of Health with the help of Veterinary and pharmacy officers of the Veterinary Services who are responsible to study each case in accordance with the epidemiological condition in Cyprus and issue recommendations accordingly. Ovine chlommydiosis and paratuberculosis vaccines are produced at the Veterinary Services Laboratories.

All other vaccines, are imported, registered and distributed under prescription. For more information see table No 3.

Table 4: Vaccines used in animals.

	Type	Strain	Production	USE	Storage	Distribution
Enzootic Abortion of ewes.	Dead	Field Strain	Veterinary Laboratories Veterinary Services CYPRUS	Under prescription of Veterinarian	+4C°	Veterinary Services
Viral Haemorrhagic Disease of Rabbits	Dead	---	EU Country	Under prescription of Veterinarian	+4C°	Veterinary Services Pharmacies
Paratuberculosis	Dead	---	Veterinary Laboratories Veterinary Services CYPRUS	Under prescription of Veterinarian	+4C°	Veterinary Services
Rabies	Dead	---	EU Countries	Under prescription of Veterinarian	+4C°	Veterinary Services Private Veterinarian
Newcastle Disease	Live and inactivated	B1 Live Lasotta Live Lasotta inactivated	EU Country	Under prescription of Veterinarian	+4C°	Wholesalers Pharmacies
IBR	Dead	---	EU Country	Under prescription of Veterinarian	+4C°	Wholesalers Pharmacies
Inf. Bronchitis	Live	H 120 Massachussets	EU Country	Under prescription of Veterinarian	+4C°	Wholesalers Pharmacies
Inf. Laryngotracheitis	Live	---	EU Country	Under prescription of Veterinarian	+4C°	Wholesalers Pharmacies
Fowl Pox	Live	---	EU Country	Under prescription of Veterinarian	+4C°	Wholesalers Pharmacies
Gumboro	Live and inactivated	---	EU Country	Under prescription of Veterinarian	+4C°	Wholesalers Pharmacies
Marek's disease	Live	HVT SB1 HVT+Rispen	EU Country	Under prescription of Veterinarian	Liquid Nitrogen	Wholesalers Pharmacies

4. PRE-EXPORT CHECKS

(1) Checks carried out on farms of origin in relation to animal health status.

Animals for export are isolated on the farm and physical examination is carried out. Records are checked and every relevant document is checked and verified.

(2) Procedure for the testing and isolation of animals prior to export.

Animals are sampled with the appropriate procedures described in the most recent OIE code. Samples are prepared and transported to the Laboratory in accordance to the written instructions in place.

(3) In respect of any quarantine facilities used for live animals destined for export to the EU, give details:

Only live breeding piglets and fish fry are exported from Cyprus to EU member states.

The farms of origin (one piggery and 4 fish hatcheries) are isolated and animals intended for export are isolated within the farm and do not come in contact with any animals of a different health status. They are taken from the farm directly to the port of loading.

The conditions prevailing in these farms are considered equivalent to quarantine facilities.

Currently the existing Contagious Diseases of Animals Law 319/87 provides only for quarantine for imported animals only. The amount of trade in live animals is small and the need for commercial quarantine facilities has not been created.

The legal requirements for the approval and registration of quarantine facilities are covered in the new harmonized legislation, "the Animal Health" Law 109(1)/2001.

C.7 Contingency plans

1. LEGISLATION

Council Directive 64/432 → Draft Regulation under the Framework Law on Animal Health 109(I)2001

Council Directive 80/217 → Legal Order 252/2001 under Contagious Disease of Animals Law 319/87.

Council Directive 90/423 → Legal Order 197/2001 under Contagious Disease Law of Animals Law 319/87

Council Directive 91/42 → Included in the above mentioned orders

Contingency plans for FMD and CSF are already completed in accordance with the EU directives and guidelines (TAIEX).

2. STATUS

(1) Yes

3. GENERAL

- Diseases covered: **FMD, CSF**
- Compliance with EU guidelines: **YES**
- Availability of written plan to central, regional and local services including plans for awareness exercise: **YES**
- Procedure of reviewing and updating plan:
There is a working team for contingency plans. They regularly, review and occasionally update the Contingency plans.
- Details about capacity of laboratory services dealing with outbreaks: **The Cyprus Central Veterinary Laboratory is in position to carry out serological examination for FMD and CSF. For virus isolation and strain typing a bilateral agreement has been signed with:**
 - a) Institute Zooprofilattico Sperimentale, Brescia for FMD
 - b) Institute fuer Virologie, Tieraerztliche Hochschule Hannover for CSF
- Details about the capacity of destruction facilities: **Burial or burning on the spot.**

C.8. Semen, ova, embryos

Main Community legislation:

- 88/407 deep-frozen of bovine,
- 89/556 embryos of bovine,
- 90/429 semen of porcine,
- 92/65 semen, ova, and embryos from animals other than bovine and porcine
- 94/28 from third countries of animals, their semen, ova and embryos.

1. LEGISLATION

(1) What is the current status of transposition of the above Community legislation into the law of our country?

- The framework law is submitted to the House of Representatives for approval,
- 89/556,
- 88/407, 90/429, 94/28 and part of 92/65 are under legal vetting

(2) What is the timetable for :

- The full transposition of the legislation.
End of June 2002.
- Your authorities to be in a position to demonstrate full potential for implementation of the various provisions of the above legislation.
End of June 2002.
- the coming into force of this legislation.
End of June 2002.

2. STATUS

(1) Existing legislation permits the control of locally produced and imported genetic material and its distribution, under a common law for zootechnical and veterinary aspects.

It has been decided to separate the two activities and a new framework law for the veterinary aspects is promoted as mentioned above.

(2) See C8.1.(1) and (2).

3. GENERAL

Give a short description of procedures in connection to the points outlined below:

(1) Checks on health status of animal involved. **All the semen donors are checked on their health status regularly prior the entrance in the AI Centre, prior their use for semen collection and twice a year. All checks performed are based on the requirements of OIE and EU directives.**

- (2) Laboratory facilities
- in the establishment. **The only one registered porcine AI Centre is operating a fully equipped AI-Lab**
 - official services available/used. **No special state AI laboratory exists. Laboratory needs for A1 are covered by the Central Veterinary Laboratory.**
- (3) a) The owner of an AI Center submits an application to the Director for the approval of his center.
- b) The Director instructs the DVO to inspect the center.
- c) The DVO or an official veterinarian from his staff inspects the center based on a specially prepared check-list.
- d) If he finds that the requirements of the law are fulfilled he recommends the approved or rejection of the center, otherwise he recommends improvements to the management and specifies time limit for fulfillment.
- e) The Director issues the licences or informs the applicant about the reasons for rejection.
- (4) and (5) Approval procedure is similar to (3) above however these activities are not carried out in Cyprus.
- (6) Supervision of centres/teams.
For all centers supervision is under the District Veterinary Officer.
- (7) Frequency of official controls. **At least twice a year.**
- (8) Test procedures to meet certification requirements cover the following.
- a) Health status and welfare conditions of the animals kept at the center.
 - b) Quality of the structure of the center and availability of necessary spaces.
 - c) Laboratory and checking facilities of the center.
 - d) Operation procedures.
 - e) Record keeping.
 - f) Product quality.
 - g) Storage facilities.
 - h) Distribution system.
- (9) Operation of insemination centres.
One private porcine and one Governmental sheep and goats AI Centres are operating producing fresh semen.
- (10) Operation of embryo, ova etc. collection teams. **None.**

C9. Eradication programmes

1. LEGISLATION

(1) What is the current status of transposition of the above Community legislation into the national law of your country ?

- *Council Directive 92/102/EEC (Identification and registration of animals)*

Reg. 1760/2000

Both are transposed into the national legislation as legal Orders under the Contagious Diseases of Animals Law N. 319/87

The Legal Order came into force since 27.11.2000

- *Council Directives 64/432/EEC
78/52/EEC
80/1095/EEC
82/400/EEC
90/242/EEC
91/68/EEC*

will be transposed as Regulations under the new framework Law on Animal Health, which has been already approved by the House of Representatives.

(2) What is the timetable for

- **The full transposition of this legislation?**

- By June 2002

- **Your authorities to be in position to demonstrate full potential for implementation of the various provisions of the above legislation?**

- By the time of accession

- **the coming in force of this legislation?**

- By the end of June 2002

2. STATUS

(1) Does the system in place conform with the requirements in EU legislation?

- Partially.

(2) If not, please provide the timetable for the transposition and implementation of EU rules for eradication programmes

- As stated in C9.1(2) .

4. OPERATION SYSTEM

please provide information on the points mentioned below:

(1) Health classification of holdings (according to relevant EU legislation)

- **Routine Herd/flock testing programmes**

- Enzootic Bovine Leucosis: since the year 1996 all cattle over one year of age have been serologically tested with negative results. During the first 6 months of 2001 all bovine animals over one year old were tested and found negative.

- Brucellosis: cattle: During 2001 all cattle (31,114) over one year of age were serologically tested and 126 were found positive.
 - Sheep and goats: Eradication campaign is in place. Yearly 50 blood samples are collected from each flock. If positive animals are detected, then all animals in the flock over 6 months are bled. A retesting of positive flocks is carried.
 - Tuberculosis: Cyprus is free of tuberculosis since 1928. Surveillance programmes were carried out regularly every 3 years till 1994 with negative results. The last two tests were carried out on the total population of cattle over 2 years old in 1994-95 and in 2000-01 and proved again to be negative.
- **Additional movement controls reflecting herd/flock health status**
 - Movement of bovine, ovine and caprine species is allowed only after negative serological testing for Brucellosis.
 - **Use and control of vaccines**
 - No vaccines are used
 - **Laboratory services**
 - Laboratory services are provided by the Central Veterinary Laboratory situated in Nicosia.
 - **Positive animals**
 - All positive animals are removed slaughtered.
 - **Re-testing of herds/flocks where positive were found**
 - Brucellosis: Monthly retesting of the whole flock and herd is carried out. The positive animals are removed slaughtered. The flock or herd is considered free of Brucellosis after four consecutive negative serological results in a period of 6 months from the last positive test (the last two negative tests are carried out at two-monthly intervals).
 - Leucosis: Positive animals and their progeny are slaughtered on voluntary basis without any compensation and re-testing of the herd is carried out six months after removal of the positive animal and their progeny.
 - Tuberculosis: All positive or suspected animals in tuberculin testing are tested with bovine and avian type within 55-60 days after the first test.
 - **Livestock markets**
 - No livestock markets are operating in Cyprus.
 - **Transhumance**
 - Brucellosis: few cases of human brucellosis were detected among farmers owned positive flocks and among Veterinarians.
 - Tuberculosis: Bovine tuberculosis is not existed in Cyprus since 1928
 - **Compensation payments to farmers**
 - Farmers are compensated with 75% of the reproductive value of their animals.

However the new Legislation provides 100% compensation.

D. ANIMAL WELFARE

D1. On Farm Animal Welfare

1. LEGISLATION

(1) What is the current status of transposition of the Community Legislation into the national law of your country?

All community Directives are to be transposed as regulations into the existing national law for the Protection of Animals 46(1)1994.

(2) What is the timetable for:

- **The full transposition of this legislation?**
 - *By the end of 2001*
- **Your authorities to be in position to demonstrate full potential for implementation of the various provisions of the above legislation?**
 - *In the time limits indicated by the provisions of the Directives*
- **The coming in force of this legislation?**
 - *By June 2002.*

2. COMPETENT AUTHORITY

(1) What competent authorities are responsible for on farm animal welfare?

- *Veterinary Services of the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment*

(2) What is the role of the CA in the application of sanctions concerning this legislation?

- *The CA is empowered by the Law to inspect, gather evidences and launch prosecutions in collaboration with the Police authorities.*

(3) What other bodies (e.g. Police services) are involved in the application of sanctions?

- *The Police authorities.*

3. INFORMATION ON THE LAYING HEN, PIG AND CALF SECTORS

(1) How many holdings with laying hens/calves/cattle/pigs are located in your country?

- *laying hens: 33*
- *cattle/ calves: 292*
- *pigs: 137*

(2) What are the main systems for keeping laying hens/calves/pigs?

- *laying hens : 82% in battery cages*
18% in other systems – Deep litter mostly
- *calves : in groups in feed-lot system*
- *pigs : in intensive group fattening system*

(3) On average how many animals are kept on each type of holding?

Average 10000 laying hens ->in cages with 450 cm² space for each hen

Average 40 calves -> in groups

Average 3000 pigs -> in groups with a density of 10-15% more than the provisions of the E.U. legislation

4. IMPLEMENTATION

(1) How many inspections have been carried out in 1998, 1999 and 2000 concerning welfare on holdings with laying hens/calves(cattle)/pigs?

	<i>Laying hens</i>	<i>Bovine animals</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Sheep and goats</i>
1998	25	21	-	-
1999	15	97	7	-
2000	74	76	5	4

(2) What types of infringements have been detected during the inspections?

In 1998:

- ❖ Day old chicks were offered as a gift to customers in a supermarket
- ❖ A dead cow was left on the farm among other cows and no action was taken by the owner
- ❖ A lamb was left in a closed van vehicle

In 1999:

- ❖ Pig carcasses were left un-buried in Kokkinotrimithia village-Ofkos area
- ❖ A goat was left in a pen without water and feed
- ❖ Overstocking of chicken in cages

In 2000:

- ❖ Pigs were transported in a vehicle without any top
- ❖ Two young lambs were kept in small cages
- ❖ A flock of 130 sheep were sub-nourished
- ❖ A number of lambs and kids were loaded on a road-vehicle and then stationed for a long time before taken them off
- ❖ Five young lambs were found in cages next to a lottery open shop
- ❖ Two unburied carcasses (sheep and goat) found in Deftera area. Both destroyed safety.

. How many and what type of infringements have resulted in

- | | |
|--|----------|
| (a) the issue of a formal warning? | 13 cases |
| (b) Imposition of an administrative fine? | none |
| (c) Opening of court proceedings by a public prosecutor? | 8 cases |
| (d) A prohibition on keeping animals? | none |
| (e) Seizure of animals? | none |

. Which body imposed the above sanctions?

As regards indent (a) the Department of Veterinary Services.

As regards indent (c) the Police authorities

D2. ANIMAL WELFARE DURING TRANSPORT

1. LEGISLATION

(1) What is the current status of transposition of the Community legislation into the national law of your country?

- All relevant directives and regulations are to be transposed into the national Law for the Protection of Animals 46(1)1994 in the form of regulations

(2) What is the timetable for:

- **The full transposition of this legislation?**
- by the end of the year 2001
- **your authorities to be in a position to demonstrate full potential for implementation of the various positions of the above legislation?**
- By June 2002
- **The coming into force of this legislation?**
- By June 2002

(3) How have transporters or operators of the various establishments been made aware of their legal requirements?

- By meeting with Official Veterinarians.

2. COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

(1) What competent authorities are responsible for on-farm animal welfare?

- Veterinary Services

3. IMPLEMENTATION

(1) Please explain which of the following requirements have been implemented.

- **Inspections as required by article 8 of Council Directive 91/628/EEC?**
During 1999 275 road vehicles were inspected.
During 2000 8 " " " "
During 2001 34 " " " "
- **Authorisation of transporters as required by paragraph 1(ii) article 5A of council Directive 91/628/EEC?**

Transporters are registered but not licenced.

- **Control of route plans as required by paragraph 2 of Article 5A(b) to (f) of Council Directive 91/628/EEC?**
Route plans are issued only for animals to be exported. No need for inland transport.
- **Control of staging points as laid down in Council Regulation (EC) No. 1255/97?**

No staging points are existed in Cyprus.

(2) How many and what types of infringements have been detected?

Six (6) cases of transport vehicles without any top to protect animals against adverse weather conditions

(3) Were any sanctions imposed as a result of these infringements?

Written warnings.

D3. ANIMAL WELFARE AT SLAUGHTER

(1) What checks are performed during unloading of the animals?

- Animal density, unloading devices, slopes, slippery ramps.

(2) Is a register maintained regarding the number of animals injured/ moribund/ dead on arrival?

Yes only in Kophinou Central Slaughterhouse

(3) Are there any special arrangements for dealing with injured animals (time to slaughter and place of slaughter) (point 6 of Annex A of 93/119/EEC)?

Injured animals are immediately slaughtered but in the same line.

(4) What actions have been taken where unfit animals arrived at the slaughterhouse (i.e. not in compliance with article 2 of 93/119/EEC)?

- Inspection by Veterinarian and relevant desition.

(5) What feeding and watering arrangements exist for animals not taken directly to slaughter (point 9 of Annex A of 93/119/EEC)?

- Animals are kept in pens with water supply. No feed is provided.

(6) Are any checks carried out on systems for restraint and the performance and maintenance of stunning equipment, including back-up equipment (Article 6 and Chapter 11 of Annex C of 93/119/EEC)?

- Yes.

(7) Do any slaughterhouses carry out religious slaughter?

- No.

F. IMPORT CONTROLS ON LIVE ANIMALS AND PRODUCTS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN, FEEDINGSTUFFS AND PRODUCTS OF PLANT ORIGIN

1. LEGISLATION

(1) What is the current status of transposition of the Community legislation into the national law of your country?

Council Directives 91/496/EEC and 97/78/EC (Import Controls on live animals and products of animal origin) will be transposed into the Cyprus Veterinary Legislation in the form of Regulations under the Framework Law on Veterinary Checks of Animals and Animal Products upon Importation and Trade. Both the Framework Law and the Regulations have been submitted to the Legal Service of the Republic for legal vetting. Directive 96/43/EC (fees 85/73/EEC). A draft Law for Fees is under preparation. The Directive will be incorporated on this basic Law as Regulation.

(2) What is the timetable for:

- **The full transposition of this legislation**
- **Your authorities to be in a position to demonstrate full potential for implementation of the various provisions of the above legislation**
- **The coming into force of this legislation**

The Framework Law on Imports and Trade is expected to be approved by the end of 2001. The approval of the Regulations under this Law is expected to be completed by June 2002.

The Framework Law on Fees and the Regulations under this Law are expected to be approved by March 2002 and come in force from 1st July 2002.

(3) System in place to update relevant documentation

Relevant documentation is updated by veterinary officers in charge in the Animal Health and Welfare Division at the Headquarters of the Veterinary Services using the web page "VETLEX" of the EU, OIE and other international organizations.

(4) Instructions sent to the BIP concerning their activity

The officers responsible for BIP's are in possession of the relevant EU legislation on the operation and activities of BIP's.

(5) Status quo of the BIPs existing and planned to be built with the relevant time tables

Two BIPs are operating in Cyprus, one at Larnaka Airport and one at Limassol Port. The existing BIPs do not fulfil the structural EU requirements. It has been decided to upgrade the two Posts.

In case of Larnaka airport the Customs Authority has started constructing an integrated storage and control complex, which incorporates the installations of a Veterinary BIP, based upon plans prepared by the Public Works Department. Based upon these plans, the following spaces will be allocated:

- a. An office
- b. Place for the control of products for human consumption
- c. A laboratory
- d. Storage facilities (Refrigeration, deep-freezing)
- e. Place for examination and keeping of small animals (pets).

These spaces will be available towards the end of October 2001.

In order for this post, to satisfy all requirements, regarding the import trade from third countries, it was requested both from the Customs Authority and the Civil Aviation Authorities to allocate additional space for the creation of the following premises:

- a. for the control of products not destined for human consumption
- b. for the control of live animals, large and small animals

Regarding the Limassol Port, after pertinent consultations, it was decided that the Ports Authority allocates space both, for the control of imported products as well as animals.

Two kinds of spaces were allocated within the Port:

- a. for the construction of offices, Inspection and storage of products (frozen, chilled and ambient temperatures)
- b. space for the inspection and holding of animals.

The Ports Authority undertook the responsibility to prepare the plans based upon the needs, which have already been forwarded to the Authority. The Planning Bureau approved the costs for the preparation of the plans as well as 130 000 CYP pounds (200 000 Euro) for the equipment of the two posts.

Construction is expected to begin in March 2002 and it will be ready for operation before accession.

2. COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

(1) Responsibilities of national, regional and local competent authorities

According to the new draft Framework Law on Veterinary Checks of Animals and Animal Products upon Importation and Trade the competent Authority for carrying out the veterinary checks will be the Veterinary Services of the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment at national, regional and local level.

At present according to the existing Legislation (Contagious Diseases (Animals) Law 319 of 1987, The Food (Control and Sale) Law of 1996 and a Decision of the Council of Ministers in 1990) the inspection of imported frozen fish, fresh meat and cheese is carried out jointly by Veterinary Officers of the Veterinary Services and Health Inspectors of the Medical and Public Health Services of the Ministry of Health.

The final arrangements for competencies are still under negotiation between the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment and the Ministry of Health. The M.H. insists on being involved in the controls at the BIP's, through collaboration of its health inspectors who are not veterinarians, with the official veterinarians of the Veterinary Services.

(2) Co-ordination between them

Veterinary Officers of the Veterinary Services and Health Inspectors of the Medical and Public Health Services of the Ministry of Health, carry out the checks on the above mentioned products of animal origin upon notification by the Customs Authorities at the points of entry.

(3) Co-ordination with other authorities involved in the import controls (Customs, port, airport, road and rail authorities, handling agents, and operators)

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Importers Associations and the Customs Clearance Agencies Association are regularly informed on the Import Requirements and the List of countries authorized to export animals and products of animal origin to Cyprus. Importers, and operators must obtain an individual Import permit before importation issued by the Veterinary Services on the basis of the Legal Order 250 of 1990.

There is a close co-operation with the Customs Authorities at Ports and Airports. On the basis of the Legal Order 250 of 1990 customs officers do not release for free circulation into the territory of Cyprus live animals or products of animal origin, unless a written Import Permit issued by the Veterinary Services is presented at the port or airport of entry and the relevant customs documents accompanying the animals or products are signed by the veterinary officer in charge at the port or airport of entry.

Upon entry to Cyprus all products and live animals are subject to Customs Authority control. The Customs Authority informs any other government service, which has controlling authority, depending on the kind of product based on established procedure.

3. PLANNING

(1) Annual plan of activities prepared for import controls

Activities depend on the load of imported goods.

(2) Risk analysis assessment on import and its application

The Animal Health and Welfare Division at the Headquarters of the Veterinary Services issues each month a list of countries from which imports of live animals and products of animal origin are permitted based on the epizootiological information collected from international organizations (OIE, EU, FAO etc) either by electronic or other sources of information on daily basis.

The risk assessment is carried out by staff of the Division based on the information received.

4. INFORMATION SYSTEM

(1) System to monitor the BIP activity and its performance

The District Veterinary Officer is the responsible Officer of activities of his administrative area including activities at BIP', so he supervises the officer in charge of BIP's.

(2) Procedure to propose and to modify the agreement of the BIPs.

BIPs are staffed by personnel appointed by the competent authority. Since the BIPs are under the direct supervision and control of the DVO, every activity of the BIP is regulated by DVO of the district.

(3) List of all BIPs with their category approval for the checks, inspection centers, customs warehouses, free warehouses, free zones, ship chandlers and caterers according with the legislation.

Two entry points are operating in Cyprus, one at Larnaca Airport and one of Limassol sea-port.

Both are eligible to carry out Vet. Checks on imported live animals, and products of animal origin.

The existing facilities in both entry points are not in full compliance with EU requirements.

Free warehouses as such have not yet been developed in Cyprus. Ship chandlers store their products in commercial cold stores, under special customs control, called “bonded warehouses”, where all products for which no customs duty has been paid, are kept. Those bonded warehouses are specially licensed by the customs Authority after inspections by Customs, Veterinary and Health Authorities. Any Movement of products from bonded warehouses for re-export, ship supplies or the local market is done with the approval of the above mentioned Services. 6 such “bonded warehouses” are in operation.

(4) Information collected and analysis on the operation of each BIP (e.g. no of consignments, typology of the consignments, no of rejections, destructions, laboratory tests).

During 2000 the following consignments were imported in Cyprus:

BIP Larnaca Airport:

Table 5

(a) Products of animal origin:

	Frozen	Chilled	Ambient temperature	Total
Human consumption	254	1876	40	2170
Not for human consumption	18	13	149	180
Total	272	1889	189	2350

(b) Live Animals:

I Rejections – destructions: 12 consignments

BIP LIMASSOL PORT

Table 6

(a) Products of animal origin:

	Frozen	Chilled	Ambient	Total
Human consumption	1380	803	403	2586
Not for human consumption	4	0	1458	1462
Total	1384	803	1861	4048

(b) Live animals:

I Rejections – destructions:

(d) Laboratory testing:

(5) Computer systems used in the operation of import and trade controls.

Computerized system for recording all imports of products of animal origin. Codification used is different from the one applied in EU member States.

(6) System in place to update relevant documentation.

BIP's, as described in Community legislation, are not yet in place. They are in the process of being established. Cyprus is negotiating joining the ANIMO system.

5 COMMUNICATIONS

(1) System in place to communicate between national, regional and local authorities and BIPs with each other within your country, and ultimately with Member States of the EC.

Communications are carried out by fax, phone and e-mail and we expect in the coming months, to operate the ANIMO System after approval of the postal codes by the Commission. The installation of a central server and data-bank in being planned.

6. MONITORING AND REPORTING

(1) Power of the Central Competent Authority to effect corrective action

Since the BIPs will be under the direct supervision and control of the competent authority, every activity of the BIP is regulated by the Director of Veterinary Services directly.

(2) Power of sanction of the Central Competent Authority

Disciplinary measures are provided in the Public Service Law 1/90 for public servants abusing their power.

G.2 ADNS

Council Directive 82/894/EEC will be transposed on the base of the Animal Health Law No. 109(I)/2001. The draft Regulations are at the Law Office of the Republic for legal vetting.

- (1) Competent Authority is the Department of Veterinary Services.
- (2) Cyprus has already adopted the list of modifiable diseases of the EU which will be also part of the new harmonized legislation.
- (3) The systems in place are not in compliance with the above mentioned Directive, but Cyprus is ready to be connected with ADNS and implement the EU rules.

G3. ZONOSSES

1. Legislation

Currently the competency for all diagnoses and identifications of zoonotic agents belongs to the Veterinary Services alone. The obligation of managements of establishments (slaughterhouses, poultry slaughterhouses and meat products) to carry out tests and keep records, will be included in the new harmonized legislation.

Communication: The Ministry of Health communicates to the Veterinary Services, cases of typhoid, paratyphoid and Salmonella and S.aureus food poisonings. The Veterinary Services inform the MH when food poisoning bacteria are found in foods of animal origin.

H. LABORATORIES

1. COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

- (1) No official body for the approval of laboratories exists in Cyprus.
- (2) The Laboratory for the Control of Foods of Animal Origin is recognized as "official laboratory" in the Meat Hygiene Law 94/79 and 65/81 and the Foods (Control and Sale) Law 54(I).
- (3) The Veterinary Services (VS), of the Ministry of Agriculture Natural Resources and Environment, (MANRE) have a state laboratory for the Control of Foods of Animal Origin (LCFAO) and is situated centrally (nationally) in Nicosia. It covers the whole island. The Veterinary Services do not have any other laboratory for the control of Foods either at regional or local level.
- (4) a) Laboratory for the Control of Foods of Animal Origin.

Veterinary Services
Athalassa
1417, Nicosia

b) Responsibilities

- ❖ Microbiological tests on
 - foods of animal origin
 - water used in animal holdings and food establishments
 - milk samples for mastitis and antibiotic sensitivity
- ❖ Parasitological examination in meat and fish
- ❖ Residues of antimicrobial substances (4 plate test, ELISA, HPLC, TLC)
- ❖ Physicochemical tests (somatic cells, pH, freezing point of milk, phosphatase and hyperoxidase test).

c) Quality Systems

Good Laboratory Practice is applied and the Lab is in the process of accreditation.

d) Budget

All expenses are covered by the Budget of the Veterinary Services Specifically.

£ 50.000 (85.000 Euro) annually for expendables and equipment.
£ 150.000 (255.000 Euro) salaries of personnel.

c) Personnel, training and activities.

3 Vets - 1 PhD, 1 Masters
10 Laboratory technicians

2 graduates of technician training schools.

6 one year special training courses in Germany.

All have attended special training courses of 2 weeks to 2 months duration.

2. LABORATORIES

(1) There are not any approved laboratories other than state laboratories where official inspectors submit food samples for analysis.

(2) - (10) Not applicable, see 3 (1)

(11) Current legislation provides that establishments should have their own laboratory or have access to private laboratories, for carrying out their own checks. There is no legal provision for the power of the Competent Authority to exercise any control over such laboratories. This will be covered in the new harmonized legislation.

I. Structure of Agri-Food Industry

(4) The structure of food processing establishments covered by Veterinary Legislation.

Table No 7

Type	Capacity	No	Years								Expected to close
			2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	
1. Slaughterhouses	Industrial	6		1	1	1	1	--	--	--	2
	Low	45		3	3	4	4	4	--	--	27
2. Meat cutting plants	Industrial	20	2	4	4	5	5	--	--	--	--
	Low	26	3	5	6	6	6	--	--	--	--
3. Poultry Slaughterhouses	Industrial	12	3	2	3	2	2	--	--	--	--
	Low	75	5	12	12	12	12	--	--	--	22
4. Red meat products	Industrial	10	6	2	2	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Low	80	4	12	16	16	8	8	--	--	16
5. Meat preparations	Industrial	5	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Low	61	6	12	12	12	10	--	--	--	9
6. Dairy low holdings		250	84	15	35	50	30	20	16		
7. Sheep and goat holdings		4250	200	250	350	600	700	650	650	650	200
8. Milk and milk based products establishments	>2000 tons industrial	10	5	2	1	1	1	--	--	--	--
	500-2000 tons	20	3	3	3	3	4	4	--	--	--
	<500 tons	120		10	10	10	20	20	20	15	15

9. Fishery products establishments		30	4	5	5	5	6	--	--	--	5
10. Fishing vessels (trawlers)		50	2	6	6	6	7	6	6	6	5

I. STRUCTURE OF AGRI-FOOD INDUSTRY

Economic and statistical information, preferably in tabular form, should be provided on the following:

(6) The existing structure of animal waste treatment plants and feed mills and plans for restructuring over the next five years.

Rendering Plants

Two rendering plants are in operation. Both are under the supervision of the Veterinary Services. The first is equipped to undertake the rendering of both high and low risk material. (About 70 tons of animal waste/daily).

The plant is in the process of re-structuring to undertake the rendering of SRM and fallen stock in the next year.

The second one is adjacent to a poultry slaughter house processing poultry waste only.

Both rendering plants are operating in batch system and process animal waste at 133°CX20minutesX3barX50mm particles.

Feed mills

There are 62 commercial feed mills in operation in Cyprus.

Since January 2001 restructuring of the Feed mills is in process to store and handle separately fish meal, the only processed animal protein permitted to be used in farming animal feed.

Most commercial feed mills are producing feeds on demand without fish meal.

Processed animal fat, fish oil, DCP of animal origin, MBM, Hydrolised proteins, are not permitted to be imported in Cyprus.

Pet food plants are separate units and are allowed to use processed animal protein derived for low-risk animal waste under the supervision of the Vet-Services

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