



REGIONE DEL VENETO

giunta regionale

DIPFSA

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Oggetto: Missione FVO: macellazione e trasformazione di carni fresche con particolare riferimento alle carni equine - 18-28 giugno 2012

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14 MAG. 2012	
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Tit.	F. Cl. 5

Ai signori Responsabili dei Servizi Veterinari delle Az. U.L.S.S. del Veneto

LORO SEDI

Si trasmette, per opportuna conoscenza nota del Ministero della Salute 1529 p del 04/05/2012 in riferimento alla visita dell'FVO prevista per il mese di giugno.

Ad oggi non siamo a conoscenza di quali regioni saranno visitate, qualsiasi informazione giunga dal Ministero della Salute sarà prontamente trasmessa.

Distinti saluti.

IL DIRIGENTE REGIONALE

Dott. Giorgio Cester

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH & CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

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Directorate F - Food and Veterinary Office
F2 - Food of animal origin: mammals

DG(SANCO)/2012-6333-EP

EVALUATION PLAN
FOR AN AUDIT
TO BE CARRIED OUT IN ITALY
FROM 18 JUNE TO 28 JUNE 2012
IN ORDER TO EVALUATE THE OFFICIAL CONTROLS RELATED TO
SLAUGHTER AND PROCESSING OF FRESH MEAT, IN
PARTICULAR FRESH MEAT OF SOLIPEDS

Note to the Competent Authority

The Evaluation Plan is designed to provide information on the scope and depth of the planned evaluation. It indicates the main areas that the evaluation team will wish to examine, and is intended to assist both national authorities and the FVO in the planning and preparation of the audit.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The audit will take place in Italy from 18 to 28 June 2012.

The audit will be undertaken as part of the Food and Veterinary Office's (FVO) planned audit programme.

The audit team comprises four FVO auditors and one national expert. The audit team should be accompanied throughout the audit by a representative of the Central Competent Authority (CCA).

2. OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF THE AUDIT

The objectives of the audit will be to evaluate the Competent Authorities with regard to official controls and enforcement action related to slaughter and processing of fresh meat, in particular fresh meat from solipeds.

The audit team will primarily evaluate the Competent Authorities' control system (central, regional and local), and in particular:

- (1) organisation and co-ordination of Competent Authorities;
- (2) Competent Authorities' powers, independence and authority for enforcement;
- (3) supervision;
- (4) resources;
- (5) organisation of control systems;
- (6) documented control procedures;
- (7) official laboratories, including national reference laboratories;
- (8) official controls on imports.

The scope of the audit will also cover specific topics of the production and processing of fresh meat from equidae animals:

- (1) the controls in place over the production of fresh meat, including animal welfare, and *Trichinella* examination;
- (2) the system of identification of equine animals intended for food production and the system of identity verification;
- (3) the system in place for recording treatments with veterinary products, including those essential for the treatment of equidae as laid down by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1950/2006;
- (4) the system of registration of holdings, identification and movement control.

3. LEGAL BASIS AND OTHER LEGISLATION RELEVANT FOR THE AUDIT

The audit will be carried out under the general provisions of EU legislation and, in particular Article 45 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules.

Other legislation relevant to this mission is listed in the Annex to this Evaluation Plan.

4. REVIEW OF LEGISLATION

A review will be undertaken of the national legislation in the sector being evaluated, and to the manner of its implementation and enforcement.

To facilitate this review, copies of the national legislation should be made available to the audit team before the start of the audit, preferably not later than 18 May 2012.

If the evaluation team identifies major problems in other areas not covered by the above mentioned legislation, these will be noted in the report.

5. AUDIT PROCEDURES

5.1. Pre-audit assessment

The CA is kindly asked to provide the following information for planning and conducting the audit:

- list of the 25 biggest livestock markets and collection centres supplying solipeds to slaughterhouses;
- list of the 25 biggest slaughterhouses slaughtering equidae including an indication of the number of animals slaughtered;
- production figures for the 25 biggest cutting plants/meat products/mince meat/meat preparation establishments processing horse meat;
- list of the 25 biggest horse holdings (breeding horses and horses for slaughter);
- imports of horse meat in 2009 and 2010 and 2011 and country of origin;
- imports of live horses and breeding horses in 2009, 2010 and 2011 and country of origin destined for slaughter either directly or via a collection centre;
- horses intended from other Member States (country of origin) in 2009 and 2010 that are destined for slaughter either directly or via a collection centre;

- horses introduced from other Member States (country of origin) in 2009 and 2010 that are destined for breeding;
- the main border inspection post of entry in the case of import of live horses from third countries;
- horse population figure in Italy (horses for slaughter and for breeding);
- figures concerning domestic slaughter of horses for 2009, 2010 and 2011.

5.2. On-the-spot audit

The itinerary for the audit will comprise three main elements:

5.2.1. An opening meeting

During this meeting the audit team will confirm the objectives of, and itinerary for, the audit, and any additional information required for the satisfactory completion of the audit will be requested.

5.2.2. Site visits

During the audit, the audit team will visit relevant sites and/or meet with personnel in order to evaluate and verify the procedures in place. For such visits the CCA will be requested to provide one or more representatives to accompany the audit team during the whole audit.

The following elements should be included in the audit itinerary:

- an initial and final meeting between the audit team and your services;
- visits to local and regional veterinary offices;
- visits to the official services dealing with establishment approval and audit of establishments and holdings;
- visits to the approved slaughterhouses, cutting plants, meat processing establishments, cold stores and other approved establishments;
- visits to approved laboratories (central and regional; trichinae testing);
- visits to horse holdings, operating livestock markets, collection centres and dealers;
- visits to the issuing body for identification documents for horses.

Regions to be visited are to be decided after consultation with the lead auditor.

5.2.3. A closing meeting

During this meeting, the audit team will present the main preliminary findings and conclusions of the mission to the CCA.

6. EVALUATION SCOPE AND DEPTH

The evaluation team will pay particular attention to the ability of the Competent Authority to deliver the required standards in the following areas.

NB. The right of the evaluation team to modify these areas to respond to changes or the receipt of new information is reserved.

6.1. Competent Authority

6.1.1. Management structure

6.1.2. Independence

6.1.3. Resources

6.1.4. Personnel

6.1.5. Recruitment & training

6.1.6. Legal/enforcement powers

6.1.7. Prioritisation of controls

6.1.8. Documentation of controls

6.1.9. Import controls

6.1.10. Food safety controls

6.2. Mission specific headings

6.2.1. Holding registration, animal identification and movement controls

6.2.2. Approval of establishments

6.2.3. Official laboratories

6.2.4. Official controls at establishment level:

6.2.4.1. General and specific hygiene requirements

6.2.4.2. HACCP-based systems

6.2.4.3. Microbiological testing

6.2.4.4. Traceability

6.2.4.5. Animal welfare

6.2.4.6. Ante-mortem and post-mortem inspections

6.2.4.7. Health and identification marking

6.2.4.8. Verification of compliance

6.2.4.9. Action in case of non-compliance

7. LANGUAGE

The language to be used during the course of the evaluation will be French. Interpreters will be provided by the Commission services.

8. CONFIDENTIALITY REQUIREMENTS

Subject to the provisions of Article 339 of the Treaty on the functioning of the European Union, the final reports of this audit will be made available to the European Parliament, Member States and consumers, according to the provisions of the FVO's Manual of Procedures. Finalised reports are published on the Health and Consumers Directorate General web-site at:

http://ec.europa.eu/comm/food/fvo/index_en.htm

9. PROCESSING AND DISTRIBUTION OF AUDIT REPORT

The draft report will be produced within 20 working days (or 10 working days where the findings indicate that urgent action is needed) of completion of the evaluation. The Competent Authority will receive a copy of the draft report for comment. Comments should be provided within 25 working days (or 10 working days where the findings indicate that urgent action is needed) of receipt of the draft report. The comments should include an action plan indicating any actions taken or planned, including deadlines for their completion, to address the recommendations contained in the report. The report will be finalised after receipt of the Competent Authority comments.