

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE SITUATION IN BULGARIA

Communication from the European Union

Addendum

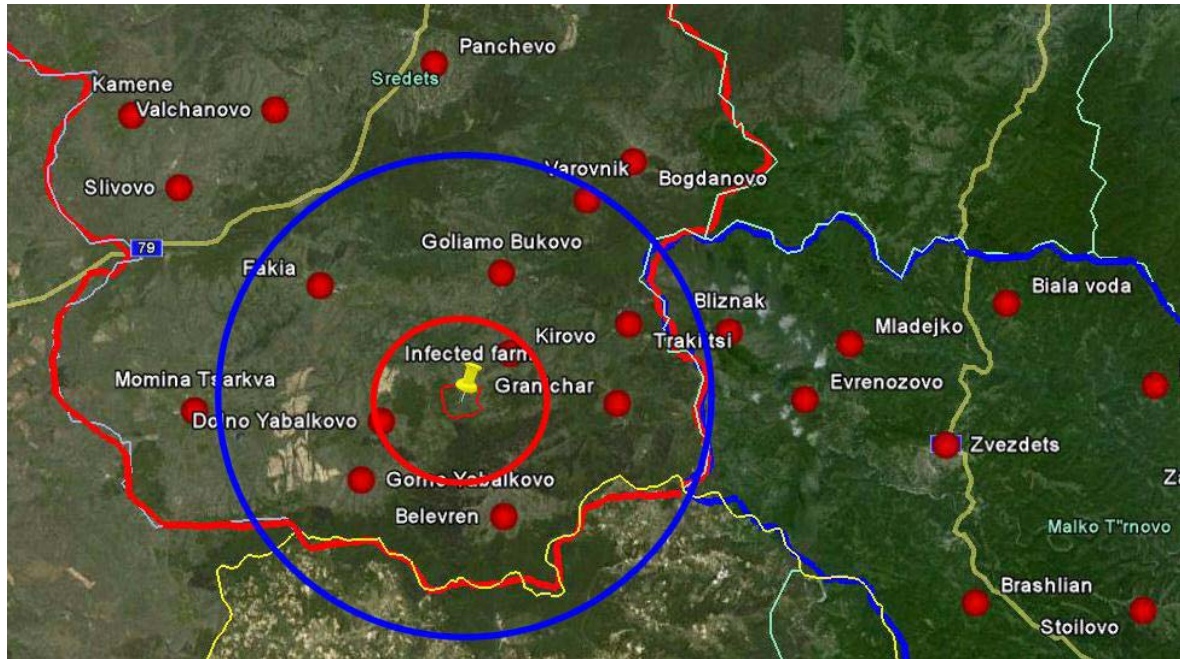
The following communication, received on 28 March 2011, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of the European Union.

I. STATE OF PLAY

1. On 19 March 2011, Bulgaria reported a further outbreak (outbreak 4) in the municipality of Sredets, in a herd of 143 beef cattle on fenced grass. Several animals in that herd displayed four-five days old lesions, reacted positive in an agent-identification test (PCR) and negative in a test for the detection of antibodies. All susceptible animals within three km of the infected premises will be culled and those in the three to ten km circle will be tested.

Outbreak 4 (19 March 2011)





2. On 23 March 2011, in the framework of routine clinical examinations, clinical signs of FMD were observed in a bovine herd in one of the villages in the ten km surveillance zone - Granichar, at a distance of six km from the infected premises of outbreak 4 in the municipality of Sredets. On 24 March 2011 the National Reference Laboratory in Sofia confirmed the diagnosis (outbreak 5). All animals within 3 km of the infected premises will be culled and those in the 3 to 10 km circle will be tested.

Outbreak 5 (24 March 2011)

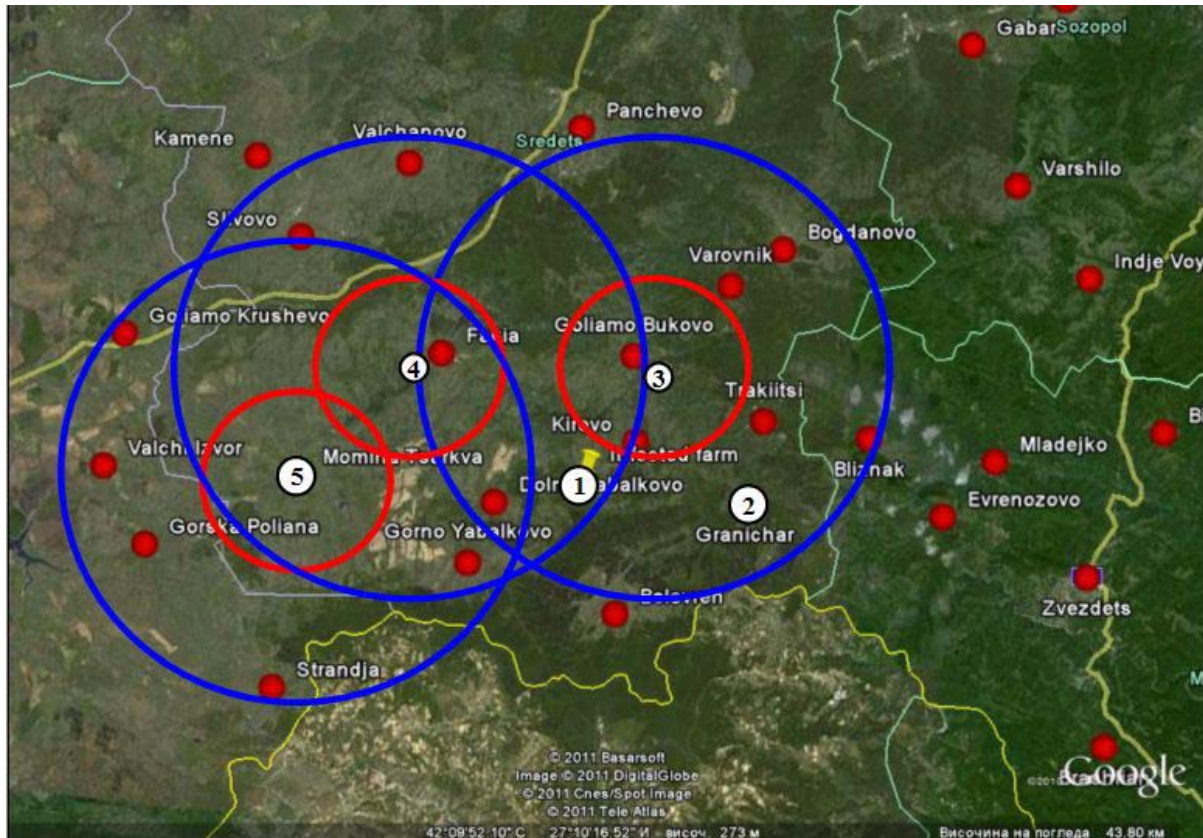


Legend: The location of outbreak 4 (indicated as "1" in picture) and of the location of outbreak 5 (indicated as "2" in the picture)

3. Moreover, on 25 March 2011, the Bulgarian authorities informed the European Union about the confirmation of further FMD outbreaks in domestic animals detected on 24 March 2011 in Sredets municipality on:

- a cattle and pig holding located near Goliamo Bukovo village (outbreak 6);
- a cattle holding located near Fakia village (outbreak 7);
- a cattle holding near Momina Tsarkva village (outbreak 8).

All susceptible animals within 3 km of the infected premises are being culled and those in the three to ten km circle have been tested.



Legend [situation as of midday on 28 March 2011]: The location of outbreaks 4 and 5 (indicated as "1" and "2" in picture) and of the location of outbreaks 6, 7 and 8 (indicated as "3", "4" and "5" in the picture).

II. ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

4. Prior to 19 March, in the light of the favourable evolution of the disease situation the European Union, supported by the member States, intended to reduce the size of the high-risk area to two municipalities only (Malko Tarnovo and Tsarevo - Annex I) until 30 April 2011, and to include in the low-risk area (Annex II) only the three surrounding municipalities Sredets, Sozopol and Primorsko of the Burgas region. This decision was NOT formally adopted.

5. Instead, in the light of the new outbreaks reported since 19 March 2011, the European Union supported by the member States decided to retain the larger regionalization, as originally set up in Decision 2011/44/EU, and to extend the date of application until 30 June 2011. This decision will be formally adopted before 31 March 2011.

6. The European Union has regularly dispatched information to international trade partners on the evolution of the FMD situation in Bulgaria and the actions undertaken to prevent any spread of disease from the affected area, including trade restrictions.

7. For further information, a chronology of the main events and actions taken by the Commission is available on the website: http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/diseases/controlmeasures/fmd_en.htm.
