

EU 域内の無視できる BSE リスク国由来の牛の SRM の取扱いについて

1 欧州委員会は、牛の SRM の取扱いについて、委員会規則を一部変更し、2015 年 8 月 5 日付けで施行した。

(1) 改正前の欧州委員会規則 (No. 999/2001) の付属書 V は、EU 加盟国のうち BSE リスクステータスが「無視できる」国には、以下を SRM と規定していた。

- ① 12 か月齢超の頭蓋（下顎を除き脳、眼を含む。）及び脊髄
- ② 30 か月齢超の脊柱（尾椎、頸椎・胸椎・腰椎の棘突起及び横突起並びに正中仙骨稜・仙骨翼を除き、背根神経節を含む。）
- ③ 全月齢の扁桃並びに小腸の後部 4メートル、盲腸及び腸間膜

(2) 改正の結果、BSE リスクステータスが「無視できる」EU 加盟国の SRM から、上記②及び③を除外した。なお、①は引き続き SRM と規定した。

2 上記の変更について、欧州委員会は以下のとおり説明している。

- ・ OIE の BSE リスクステータスでは、「管理された」及び「不明」の国由来の牛の SRM の貿易からの除外を勧告している。一方、「無視できる」国由来の牛の SRM の貿易からの除外は勧告されていない。(3)
- ・ 欧州委員会の TSE ロードマップ 2 (2010-2015) は、「無視できる」国における SRM の取扱いについて見直しの可能性を考えていた。(4)
- ・ 現時点では「無視できる」EU 加盟国に由来する現行の SRM として規定されている全ての部位の流通を認めることは、非定型 BSE に係る科学的不確実性から時期尚早と考えられる。(5)
- ・ EFSA 等により、非定型 BSE は飼料規制とは無関係に自発的に発生し、近年は発生が極めて少数かつ定常的であるとの報告がある。また、BSE の臨床例では、感染性の 90% が中枢及び末梢神経組織と関連付けられる(65% が脳、26% が脊髄と関連)。(6) ~ (9)
- ・ 以上の理由から EU 加盟国と第三国由来の製品の流通条件の更なる同一化を図るため、12 か月齢超の頭蓋（下顎を除き脳、眼を含む。）及び脊髄を除き、「無視できる」加盟国に対する SRM の追加的要求を廃止する。(14)
- ・ 将来、健康リスクに関する新たな科学的知見が得られた場合は、SRM に関する規則を検討する。(16)

COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) 2015/1162**of 15 July 2015****amending Annex V to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down rules for the prevention, control and eradication of certain transmissible spongiform encephalopathies****(Text with EEA relevance)**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 May 2001 laying down rules for the prevention, control and eradication of certain transmissible spongiform encephalopathies ⁽¹⁾, and in particular the first paragraph of Article 23 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 lays down rules for the prevention, control and eradication of transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs) in animals. It applies to the production and placing on the market of live animals and products of animal origin and, in certain specific cases, to exports thereof.
- (2) Point 1 of Annex V to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 designates as specified risk material ('SRM') certain bovine, ovine and caprine tissues if they come from animals whose origin is in a Member State or third country, or in one of their regions, with a controlled or undetermined Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy ('BSE') risk status. Point 2 of that Annex extends the list of tissues designated as SRM to Member States with a negligible BSE risk status, but not to third countries with the same status. As a consequence, Member States with a negligible BSE risk status are to remove and dispose of SRM, while imports into the Union of such tissues from third countries with a negligible BSE risk status are allowed.
- (3) The World Organization for Animal Health ('OIE') only recommends the exclusion from international trade of SRM derived from bovine animals originating in countries with a controlled or undetermined BSE risk, while no such exclusion is recommended for bovine animals originating from countries with a negligible BSE risk status ⁽²⁾.
- (4) The Commission Strategy Paper on Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies for 2010-2015 ⁽³⁾ envisages the possibility to review the current obligation for Member States with a negligible risk status to remove SRM from the food and feed chain if an increasing number of Member States reach such status. With the adoption on 20 October 2014 of Commission Implementing Decision 2014/732/EU ⁽⁴⁾, which is based on the World Animal Health Organisation (OIE) Resolution No 18 of May 2014 ⁽⁵⁾, seventeen Union Member States have been recognised as having a negligible BSE risk status.
- (5) Authorising all bovine tissues currently classified as SRM to be used in the food chain in Member States with a negligible BSE risk status is considered premature at this stage due to certain remaining scientific uncertainties linked to Atypical BSE.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 147, 31.5.2001, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ Article 11.4.14 of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code, Edition 2014 (OIE — Terrestrial Animal Health Code — V 8 — 15.7.2014).

⁽³⁾ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council — The TSE Road map 2 — A Strategy paper on Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies for 2010-2015; COM(2010)384 final.

⁽⁴⁾ Commission Implementing Decision 2014/732/EU of 20 October 2014 amending Decision 2007/453/EC as regards the BSE status of Bulgaria, Estonia, Croatia, Latvia, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Portugal and Slovakia (OJ L 302, 22.10.2014, p. 58).

⁽⁵⁾ Resolution No 18, 'Recognition of the Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Risk Status of Member Countries', adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates of the OIE on 27 May 2014 (82 GS/FR — Paris, May 2014).

- (6) On 19 January 2011, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) published a joint opinion prepared with the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) on any possible epidemiological or molecular association between Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSEs) in animals and humans ('the joint EFSA and ECDC Opinion')⁽¹⁾. In this joint opinion, the EFSA and ECDC confirmed the identification of atypical forms of BSE in cattle and made the distinction between classical BSE, L-type atypical BSE and H-type atypical BSE.
- (7) According to this joint opinion, several elements indicate that the L-type atypical BSE agent has the potential to be a zoonotic agent. By contrast, such elements are absent for the H-type atypical BSE agent. This joint opinion also stated that the unusually old age of all H-type atypical BSE and L-type atypical BSE identified cases and their apparent low prevalence in the population suggest that these Atypical BSE forms are arising spontaneously, independently of the animal feeding practices. The BSE surveillance system in the Union showed a very low prevalence and relative constant level of atypical BSE cases in recent years.
- (8) On 11 January 2011, EFSA published a Scientific Opinion on the revision of the quantitative risk assessment of the BSE risk posed by processed animal proteins⁽²⁾ ('EFSA's 2011 opinion'). This scientific opinion indicates that 90 % of the total infectivity amount in a BSE clinical case is associated with central and peripheral nervous system tissues. More precisely, this opinion estimated that 65 % of the total amount of infectivity in a clinical case of BSE is associated with the brain and 26 % is associated with the spinal cord.
- (9) On 11 July 2014, EFSA published a scientific report on a Protocol for further laboratory investigations into the distribution of infectivity of Atypical BSE⁽³⁾. According to that scientific report, collective data indicate that Classical BSE shares the same tissue distribution as the Atypical BSE cases, with the higher titres of infectious prion proteins and/or infectivity detected in the central and peripheral nervous systems.
- (10) For all those reasons, the brain and the spinal cord of cattle over 12 months whose origin is in a Member State with negligible BSE risk status should remain in the list of SRM, pending further knowledge is gained on the risk linked to Atypical-BSE.
- (11) Given the practical difficulties to ensure the absence of contamination of the bones of the skull with brain tissues, the skull of cattle over 12 months whose origin is in a Member State with negligible BSE risk status should also be maintained as SRM.
- (12) The data examined by EFSA mainly refer to Europe, due to the very robust surveillance system in the EU. Discussions at OIE level are ongoing to review the BSE chapter of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code in the light of recently acquired knowledge concerning Atypical-BSE. The Union rules as regards SRM in Member States and third countries with negligible BSE risk status should be reviewed in the light of the outcome of these discussions.
- (13) The skull, the brain, the spinal cord and the eyes of bovine animals over 12 months are not known to be imported into the Union.
- (14) In order to ensure more similar conditions for putting on the market commodities from the Member States compared to imports of commodities from third countries, while taking into account the possible remaining risk linked to the use in the food and/or feed chain of certain tissues, the additional requirement extending the prohibition of SRM of bovines to Member States with a negligible BSE risk should therefore be repealed except for the skull, the brain and spinal cord of bovine animals over 12 months.
- (15) Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (16) Should future scientific evidence point out public health risks that are currently unknown, the Union rules as regards SRM in Member States and third countries with negligible BSE risk should be reviewed.
- (17) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed,

⁽¹⁾ EFSA Journal 2011; 9(1):1945.

⁽²⁾ EFSA Journal 2011; 9(1):1947.

⁽³⁾ EFSA Journal 2014;12(7):3798.

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

In Annex V to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001, point 2 is replaced by the following:

‘2. Specific requirements for Member States with negligible BSE risk status

Tissues listed in point 1.(a)(i) and 1.(b), which are derived from animals whose origin is in Member States with a negligible BSE risk, shall be considered as specified risk material.’

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 15 July 2015.

For the Commission
The President
Jean-Claude JUNCKER