Critical success factors for rapid BVD-control at country level:

Reduction of PI-prevalence in newborns by 95% in less than three years

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When is animal disease control successful?

- Technically correct and well thought out
- Uniform strategy and consequent implementation
- Information and communication
- Visible progress within useful time
  - motivation of animal holders
- Controlling

[Graph showing motivation of animal holders over time]
BVD-eradication in Switzerland

Preliminary work

- Research (epidemiology, diagnostics, control strategies)
- National cattle breeding associations demand the control of BVD
- Information campaign and basic survey of animal holders
- Elaboration of control concept
- Legal bases
- Start of control program
BVD-eradication in Switzerland

Initial situation

• about 42,000 cattle farms
• about 1.6 Mio. cattle
• about 700,000 births of calves per year

BVD-prevalence in 1995:
• antibody: 58%
• antigen: 0.64%

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Main lines

- High antibody prevalence
  - No initial antibody testing
  - Targeted identification and elimination of PI-animals

- To avoid the spread of the disease while eradicating
  - Restrictions of animal movements

- To speed up the eradication and to minimize the restrictions of animal movements
  - At the same time in the whole country
The BVD-eradication program
4 phases

- Tests before pasturing in Summer 2008
  - 571’900 tested animals
  - 1st October – 31st December 2008
  - sampling by official vets

- Initial phase
  - 1 million tested animals
  - 1st October – 31st December 2008
  - sampling by official vets

- Calves phase
  - 1.85 million tested calves
  - 1st January – 30th September 2009
  - newborn calves; sampling by animal holders

- Surveillance phase
  - From 1st October 2009
The BVD-eradication program
Progress

Percentage of PI-animals among newborn calves

34 months, reduction by > 95%
# The BVD-eradication program

## Measures relevant to success

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
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<tr>
<td>Testing of all cattle</td>
<td>Rapid reduction of infection pressure</td>
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<td></td>
<td>No confusions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Immediate testing of newborn calves (within 5d after birth)</td>
<td>Rapid detection and elimination of PI-animals</td>
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<td>Restrictions of animal movements (official movement restriction)</td>
<td>No spread of virus</td>
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<td>Uniform strategy (vaccination ban)</td>
<td>Aim of a seronegative cattle population</td>
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<td>National centrally managed data management (ISVET)</td>
<td>Regulation/controlling, coordination</td>
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<td>Epidemiological investigations of PI-animals (central coordination office)</td>
<td>Detection of remaining PI-animals</td>
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<td>Information and communication</td>
<td>Motivation</td>
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</table>

**Critical success factors BVD-control**

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The BVD-eradication program

Data flow

Federal Vet Office FVO

Central laboratory database

Lab results

Lab results

Cattles on farm

Information system for the public vet service (ISVET)

BVD-Web

Animal movement database

Laboratories

Lab result

BVD Status

Cantonal vet office

• Overview of animals tested
• Lists
• Reports
• Decisions

Sampler

• Lists for samplers

24h

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Challenges

Intensive animal traffic (summer pasturing)
The BVD-eradication program

Outlook

• **2011:** The aim is to bring the PI-prevalence as close „to 0“ as possible
  - Intensified epidemiological investigations of PI-animals
  - Serological surveillance of big summer pastures
  - Re-testing of animals with questionable negative test result

• **2012:**
  - Start with serological surveillance (bulk milk and cattle groups (blood))
  - End of testing of newborn calves as soon as the serological surveillance program has proven effective
Summary

• BVD-eradication in Switzerland is proceeding successfully. Big initial efforts now show their effect.

• Of central importance are:
  • rapid identification/elimination of PI-calves
  • movement restrictions of pregnant animals
  • uniform data processing
  • communication / information
  • central controlling

• Intensive animal traffic – especially summer pasturing – is a challenge

• Change to long-term serological surveillance in 2012
Thank you............