

V A R

Veterinary and Agrochemical Research Centre

To all recognised TSE laboratories of
Belgium and Luxembourg

Our reference
Ringtrial_Be_06

Contact
aldob@var.fgov.be and stroe@var.fgov.be

Date
5/12/2006

Subject: Ringtrial 2006

Dear _____,

As last year, the CODA/CERVA organises the annual TSE ring trial. For this, we have the approval of the FAVV/AFSCA by Geert De Poorter. The competent authorities, i.e. Federal Food Safety Agency, imposes for all recognized TSE labs to participate in this inter laboratory study, according to the Royal Decree of April 15th 2005

We would like to have **a confirmation of each participating laboratory before Thursday 30th November 2006** via fax (02/ 379 04 79) or email (aldob@var.fgov.be and stroe@var.fgov.be).

The costs connected to this ringtrial are set at 270 €.

Identification of samples

Each laboratory will receive 4 samples.

The samples will be numbered (from 1 to 22 (= number of laboratories) and with A, B, C and D. The sample may include positive and negative material.

Distribution of the samples

Each laboratory has to come and collect the samples on the fixed date (**Tuesday 5th December, between 8h00 and 12h00**) at the NRL (CODA/CERVA, Groeselenbergstraat 99, 1180 Ukkel, Brussels). The BSE test needs to be performed ASAP by each of the involved laboratories (in order to guarantee the reproducibility of the results).

The NRL will perform the rapid BSE test (ELISA- Biorad) again on the same samples as the laboratories received.

----- *Scientific research at the service of safe food production and animal health* -----

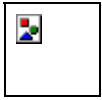
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**Result reporting of the involved laboratories**

The results of the rapid test performed on the four samples need to be forwarded to the NRL **not later than Friday 8th December** by fax (02 / 379 04 79) or email (aldob@var.fgov.be and stroe@var.fgov.be).

The results must include references of the laboratory, identification of the sample (number and letter, e.g. 5A, 5B, 5C and 5D), the optical density and final conclusions (negative or positive).

All remaining material of the samples must be forwarded to the NRL **not later than Friday 22nd December!**

Final evaluation

The NRL makes up a final report of the interlaboratory trial and sends it to the concerned authorities (= AFSCA/FAVV - Ir. G. De Poorter and Dr F. Di Silvestro) and to each participating laboratory (after payment).

Invoicing (according to international rates)

An invoice of € 270,00 will be sent to the laboratories, which participated, afterwards.

With kind regards,

Dr Stefan Roels
Head of the NRL for Veterinary TSE

Dr Alexandre Doby
Responsible for the rapid testing for TSE