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## Czech Republic

### Livestock and Products

#### Czech Authorities Confirm 12th BSE Case

**2004**

**Approved by:**

Sarah Hanson  
U.S. Embassy

**Prepared by:**

Petra Choteborska

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**Report Highlights:**

On June 16, 2004, the State Veterinary Administration (SVA) confirmed the 12th case of BSE in the Czech Republic. The cow was born on January 4, 2000 in a cooperative in Horni Kalna in northeast Bohemia. In the next three months, 241 cows of cohort will be destroyed and tested. This incident follows recent cases confirmed on May 11, 2004 and April 22, 2004. Since February 2001, over 600,000 cows have been tested for BSE and 1,653 heads of cohort have been destroyed. Beef consumption has not decreased as a result of the BSE findings.

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Vienna [AU1]  
[EZ]

On June 16, 2004 the State Veterinary Administration (SVA) confirmed the twelfth case of BSE in the Czech Republic. The cow was born on January 4, 2000 in a cooperative in Horni Kalna near Trutnov in Northeast Bohemia. It was sold in December 2001 to a company named Agro Cesky Raj. After the calf was delivered on May 5, it fell ill and was destroyed and tested for BSE on June 8, 2004. In the next three months, 241 cows of cohort will have to be destroyed and tested.

Since February 2001, over 600,000 cows have been tested for BSE and 1,653 heads in cohort have been destroyed and tested (excluding the last cohort count). The source of disease is unknown, SVA suspects randomly contaminated feeds.

#### **BSE cases since regular testing started in February 2001:**

2004 4 cases (January, April, May, June)  
2003 4 cases (May, two in October, November)  
2002 2 cases (both October)  
2001 2 cases (June, September)

#### *BSE measures in the Czech Republic:*

Since 1962 the Czech Republic had very strict rules for production of meat bone meal even though BSE was unknown. As off 1991 meat bone meal for forbidden for use in feeds for cattle. In September 1996 Central Epidemiology Commission of the Czech Republic adopted EU's regulation 94/449/EC on condition for processing meat bone meal (temperature over 133 degrees Celsia, 20 minute time, pressure 3 bars, minimal size of pieces 50 mm).

At the end of 2000, the EU started regular testing for BSE using quick immunology tests. The Czech Republic started testing at the end of 2000 using Western blot method. As of February 1, 2001, the State Veterinary Institutes in Praha and Jihlava tests all animals older than 30 months. In July 2001 the age limit was decreased to 24 months. As of October 2001, the State Veterinary Institute in Olomouc started testing for BSE using the Enfer test. Currently three veterinary institutes test BSE with Western blot and Enfer tests. Immunohistochemical test serves as the confirmation method.

In November 2003, meat bone meal was prohibited from use in any kind of feed mixture including feeds for swine and poultry.

The system of BSE testing and connected measures provides a good level of assurance to consumers that they are adequately protected against purchasing meat from a BSE infected animal. Consumer trust in the veterinary authority is high and demand for beef has not dropped.

#### *Related reports:*

EZ4013 Czech Authorities Confirm 11<sup>th</sup> BSE Case  
EZ3016 SVA Confirms Eighth Case of BSE  
EZ3013 SVA Confirms Sixth and Seventh Cases of BSE  
EZ3011 Livestock Annual  
EZ1007 First BSE Case and Beef Export Subsidies  
EZ1001 Measures Taken Against BS