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# GAIN Report

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## EU-27

### Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

### BSE update on the EU situation in 2006

### 2007

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**Report Highlights:**

This 2006 update on the EU BSE/TSE situation shows another 40 percent decrease in BSE prevalence in EU cattle herds compared to 2005. An update on new EU BSE/TSE-related legislation as part of the EU TSE Roadmap is included.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Brussels USEU [BE2]  
[E4]

**Number of BSE cases in the EU-25 down again by more than 40 percent in 2006.**

BSE cases in the European Union (EU) in 2006 again decrease by more than 40 percent to some 320 cases, compared to about 560 cases in 2005. This decreasing trend now seems to occur throughout the EU-25. More background information on the BSE/TSE situation in the EU can be found at the Commission website at

[http://ec.europa.eu/food/food/biosafety/bse/mthly\\_reps\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/food/food/biosafety/bse/mthly_reps_en.htm)

Country/Year	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Austria	1	0	0	0	2	2
Belgium	46	38	15	11	2	2
Czech Republic	2	2	4	7	8	3
Denmark	6	3	2	1	1	0
Finland	1	0	0	0	0	0
France	274	239	137	54	31	8
Germany	125	106	54	65	32	16
Greece	1	0	0	0	0	0
Ireland	246	333	183	126	69	41
Italy	48	38	29	7	8	7
Luxembourg	0	1	0	0	1	0
Netherlands	20	24	19	6	3	2
Poland	0	4	5	11	20	4
Portugal	110	86	133	92	51	33
Slovakia	5	6	2	7	3	0
Slovenia	1	1	1	2	1	0
Spain	82	127	167	137	103	67
Sweden	0	0	0	0	0	1
Switzerland	42	24	21	3	3	5
United Kingdom	1202	1144	611	343	226	132
<b>Total</b>	<b>2170</b>	<b>2152</b>	<b>1362</b>	<b>872</b>	<b>562</b>	<b>323</b>

Source: European Commission and updated by FAS/USEU.

**Work on EC TSE Roadmap progressing rapidly**

EC DG SANCO continues to work on its "TSE Roadmap<sup>1</sup>", which was published on July 15, 2005. Again in 2006, [new amendments](#)<sup>2</sup> were approved to the EU BSE legislation. Progress on the TSE Roadmap now includes:

*Amendments in the short and medium term (2005-2009):*

- Age requirements for removal of Specified Risk Material (SRM) were raised. This has been addressed in [Commission Regulation \(EC\) No 1974/2005](#) of 2 December 2005
- Feed Ban: the zero-tolerance on bone spicules and the fishmeal ban were relaxed in [Commission Regulation \(EC\) No 1292/2005](#) of 5 August 2005.
- Monitoring Programs: reducing the number of BSE testing in line with epidemiological considerations. The finding of a BSE case in Sweden in March 2006 has actually led to the extension of the BSE monitoring to Sweden by [Commission Regulation \(EC\) 688/2006](#).

<sup>1</sup> [http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/food/biosafety/bse/roadmap\\_en.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/food/biosafety/bse/roadmap_en.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/food/food/biosafety/bse/chronological\\_list\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/food/food/biosafety/bse/chronological_list_en.pdf)

- Categorization of countries according to their BSE risk based on OIE categorization rules will replace the EU's GBR classification system as agreed in [Regulation \(EC\) No 1923/2006](#) of December 18, 2006.
- Review of culling policy with regard to TSE's in small ruminants. The finding in 2006 of BSE a French goat and several suspected cases in sheep has led to increased monitoring of TSE's in small ruminants as required in [Commission Regulation \(EC\) 1041/2006](#).
- The culling of bovine cohort animals is expected to be reviewed in future legislation.
- Restrictions on UK beef exports were lifted through [Regulation \(EC\) 657/2006](#) of 10 April 2006.

*Amendments in the long-term (2009-2014) include:*

- A gradual decrease in the level of surveillance to a level in line with OIE recommendations.
- A complete revision of the need for the removal of SRM's
- The introduction of a system of certification of herds

Most issues foreseen for the 2005-2009 period of the TSE Roadmap have already been agreed and implemented. [Regulation \(EC\) No 1923/2006](#) also includes amendments to make the BSE Regulation 999/2001 more compatible with Regulation 1774/2002 on animal by-products.

Regular updates on the European BSE/TSE situation can be found on our website at <http://useu.usmission.gov/agri/srm.html>.

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#### Related reports from FAS EU:

Report Number	Title	Date Released
E47008	<a href="#">Livestock – Semi-annual</a>	February 1, 07
E36122	<a href="#">EU Mid-year 2006 BSE update</a>	September 21,06
E36049	<a href="#">BSE/TSE situation in the EU-25 - update on 2005</a>	March 21, 06
E35164	<a href="#">EU Directorate for Health and Consumer Protection presents its TSE Roadmap</a>	August 23, 05
GM7004	<a href="#">BSE in Germany - Update Covering 2006</a>	January 30, 07

These reports can be accessed through our website <http://useu.usmission.gov/agri/> or through the FAS website <http://www.fas.usda.gov/scriptsw/attacherep/default.asp>.