



# Schmallenberg virus in the EU

## Epidemiological situation / trade

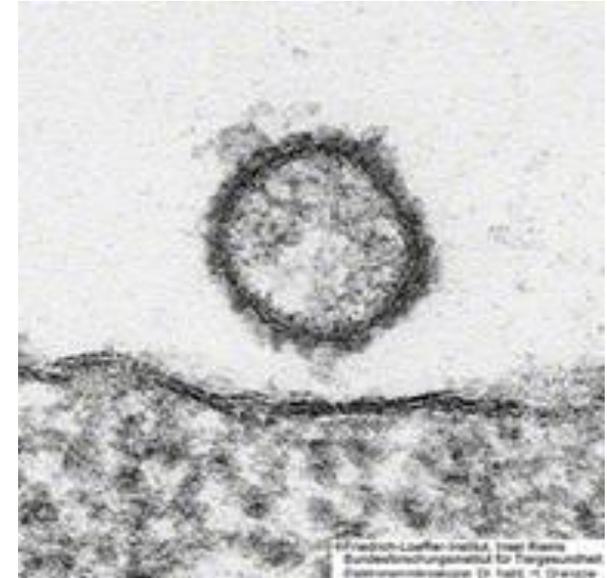
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**DG SANCO-G2**

# The Virus

Family: *Bunyaviridae*  
Genus: *Orthobunyaviruses*  
Serogroup: Simbu serogroup  
Virus: Schmallenberg virus (SBV)



- L-segment: 69% homology with Akabane virus
- M-segment: 71% homology with Aino virus
- S-segment: 97% homology with Shamonda virus

# The Virus

*Identified in Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, the United Kingdom, France, Italy, Luxembourg and Spain.*

## *Clinical signs:*

- Adults: mild and transients (fever, diarrhoea, reduced milk yield) → mainly in cattle
- Foetus: congenital malformations → mainly in sheep

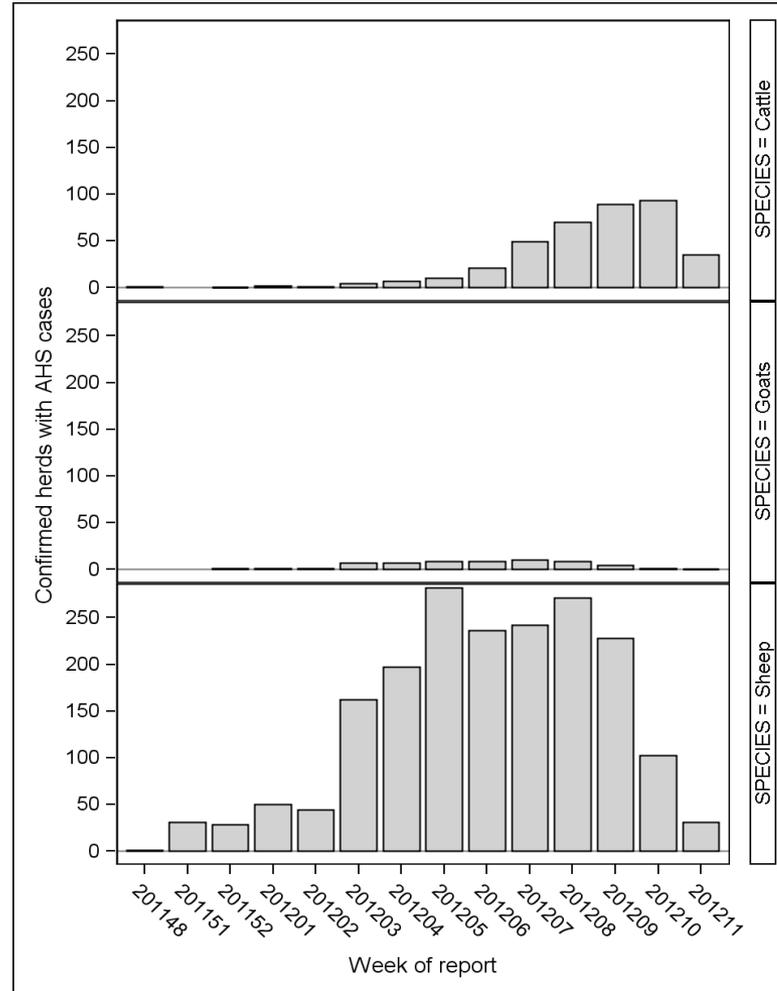
## *Species affected*

- Sheep, Cattle, Goats, Bison (1 case)

*NOT a zoonosis*

# EFSA Report

## Number of herds



Cattle

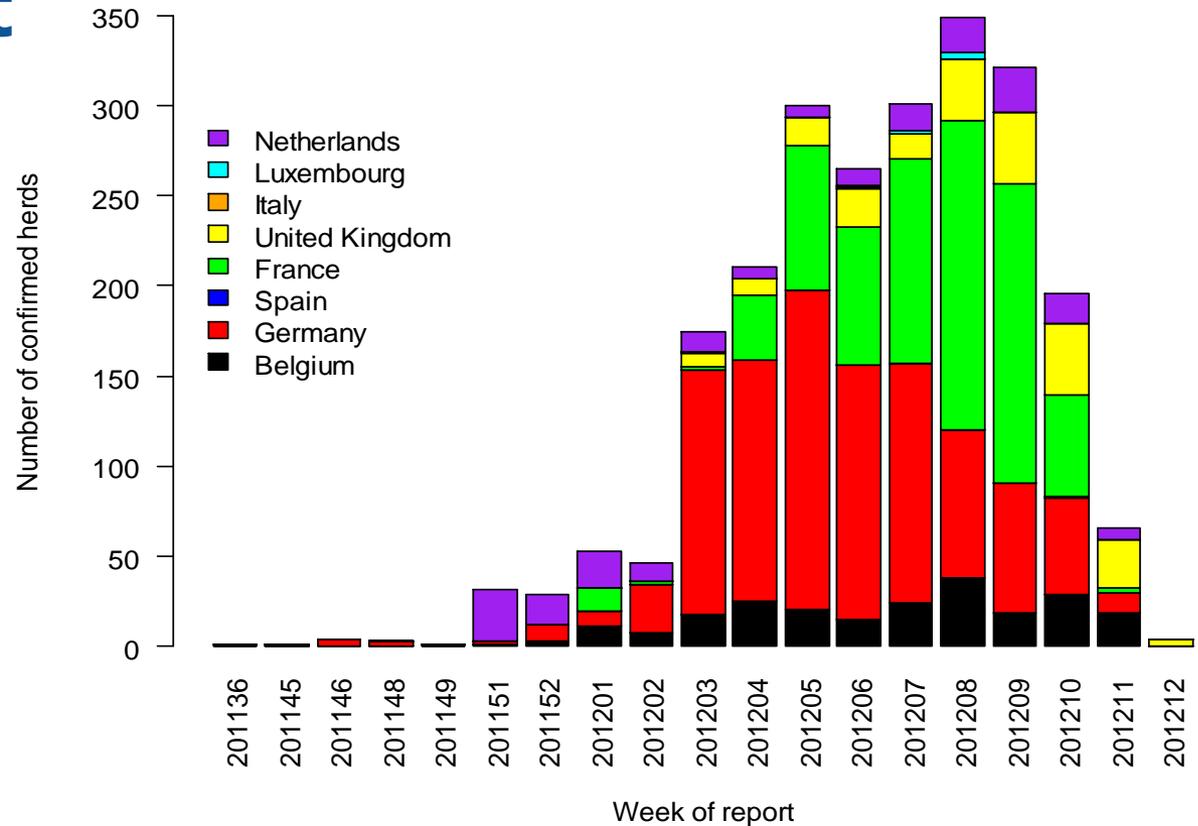
Goats

Sheep

# EFSA Report

<b><i>Animal species</i></b>	<b><i>Infection April 2011</i></b>	<b><i>Infection August 2011</i></b>	<b><i>Infection October 2011</i></b>
<b><i>Lambs</i></b>	<i>August 2011</i>	<i>December 2011</i>	<i>February 2012</i>
<b><i>Calves</i></b>	<i>November 2011</i>	<i>March 2012</i>	<i>May 2012</i>
<b><i>Goat kids</i></b>	<i>August 2011</i>	<i>December 2011</i>	<i>February 2012</i>

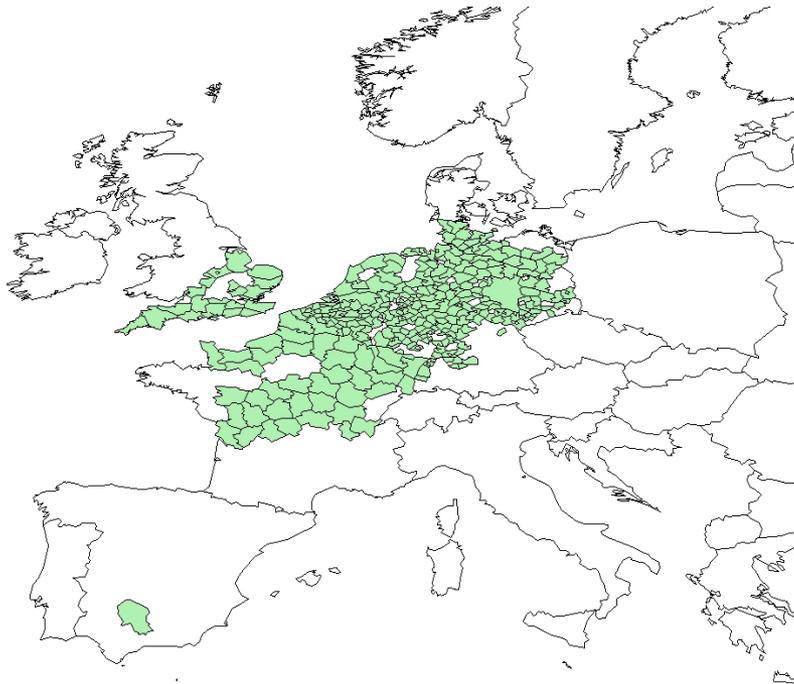
# EFSA Report



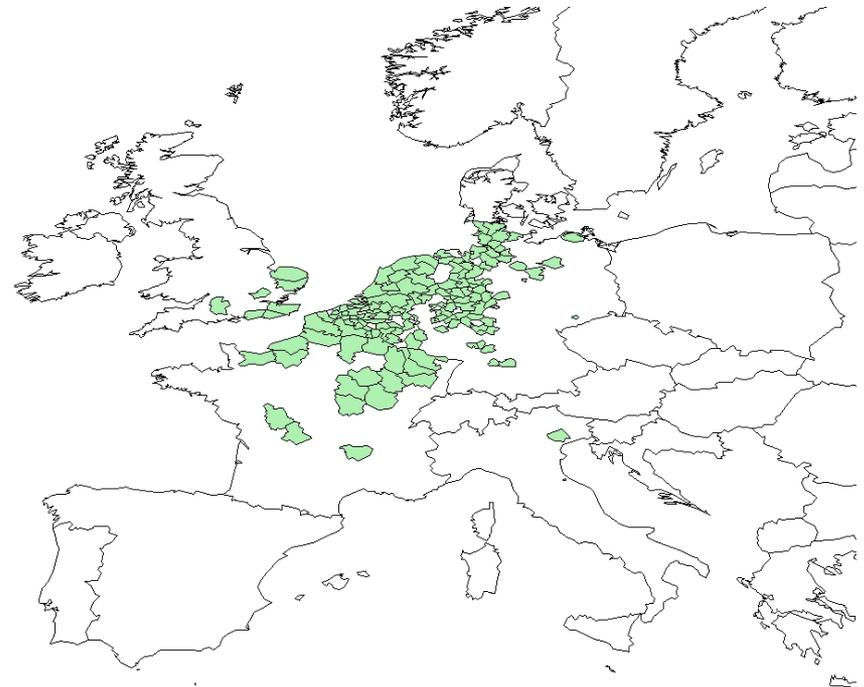
*Confirmed herds by week of first report and country- All species*

# EFSA Report

Regions with at least one  
SBV confirmed herd



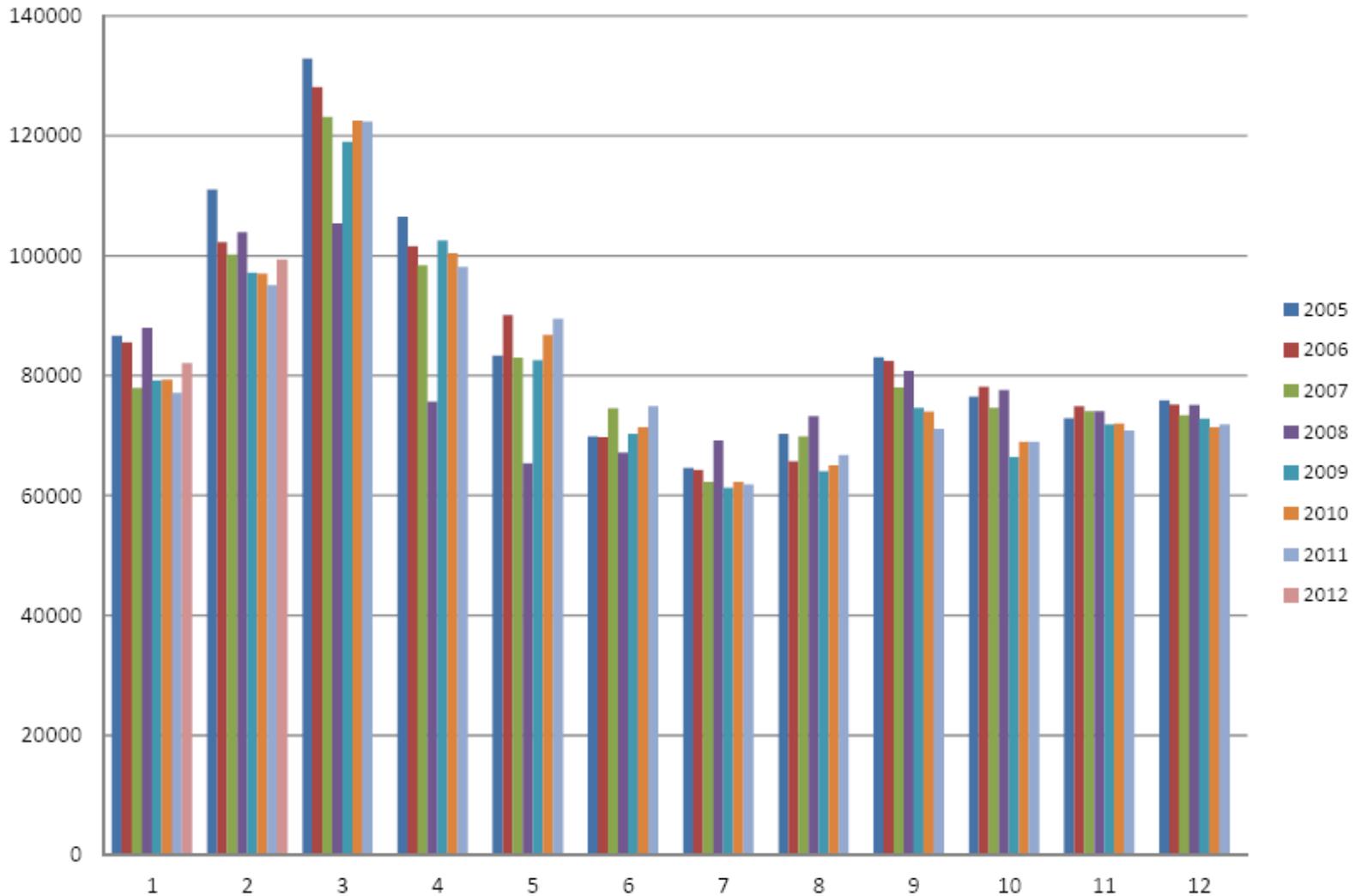
Sheep herds

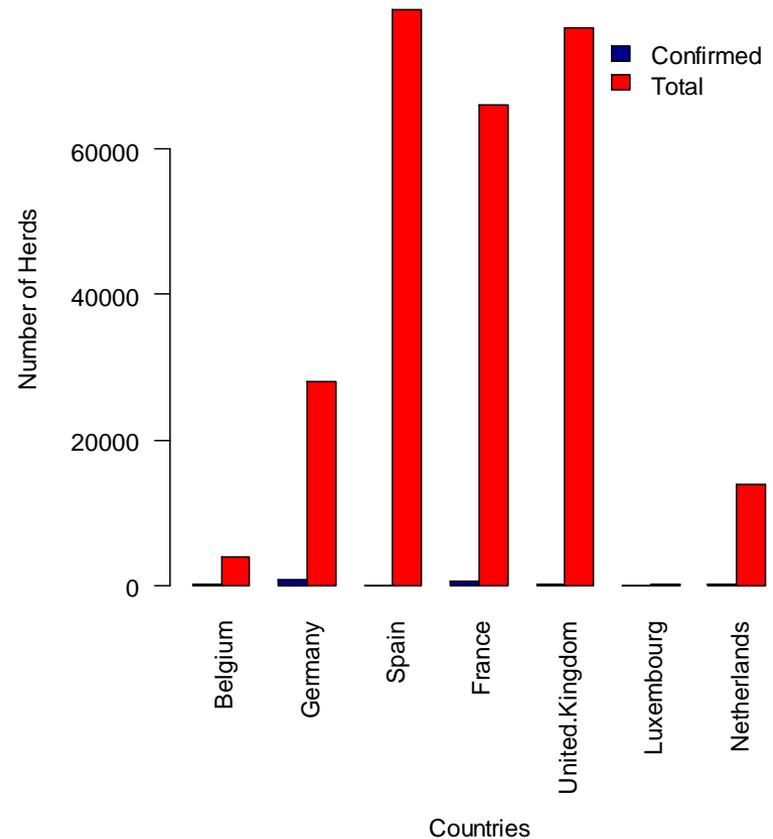
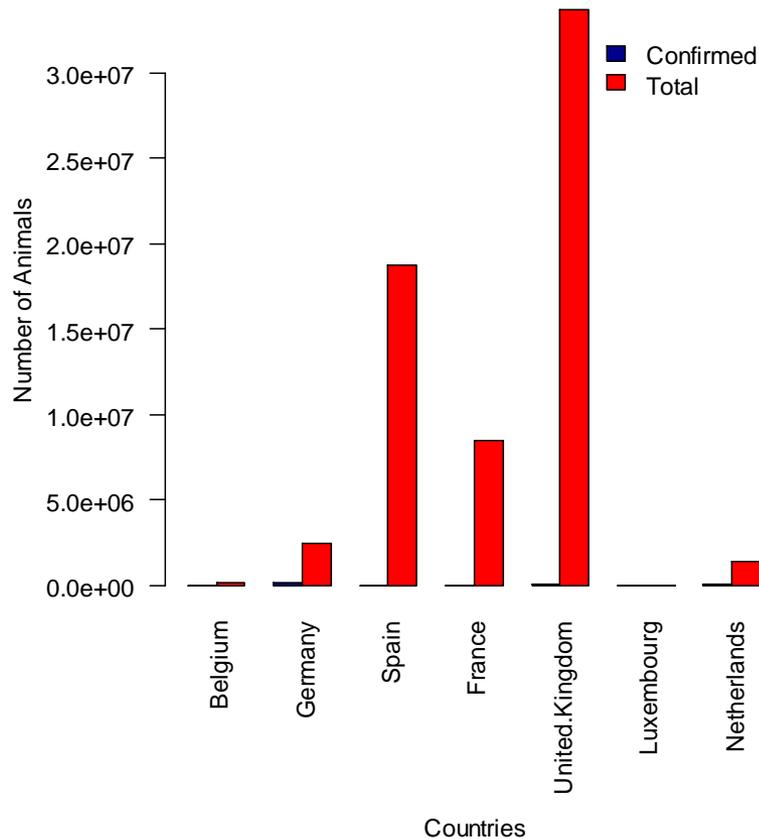


Cattle herds

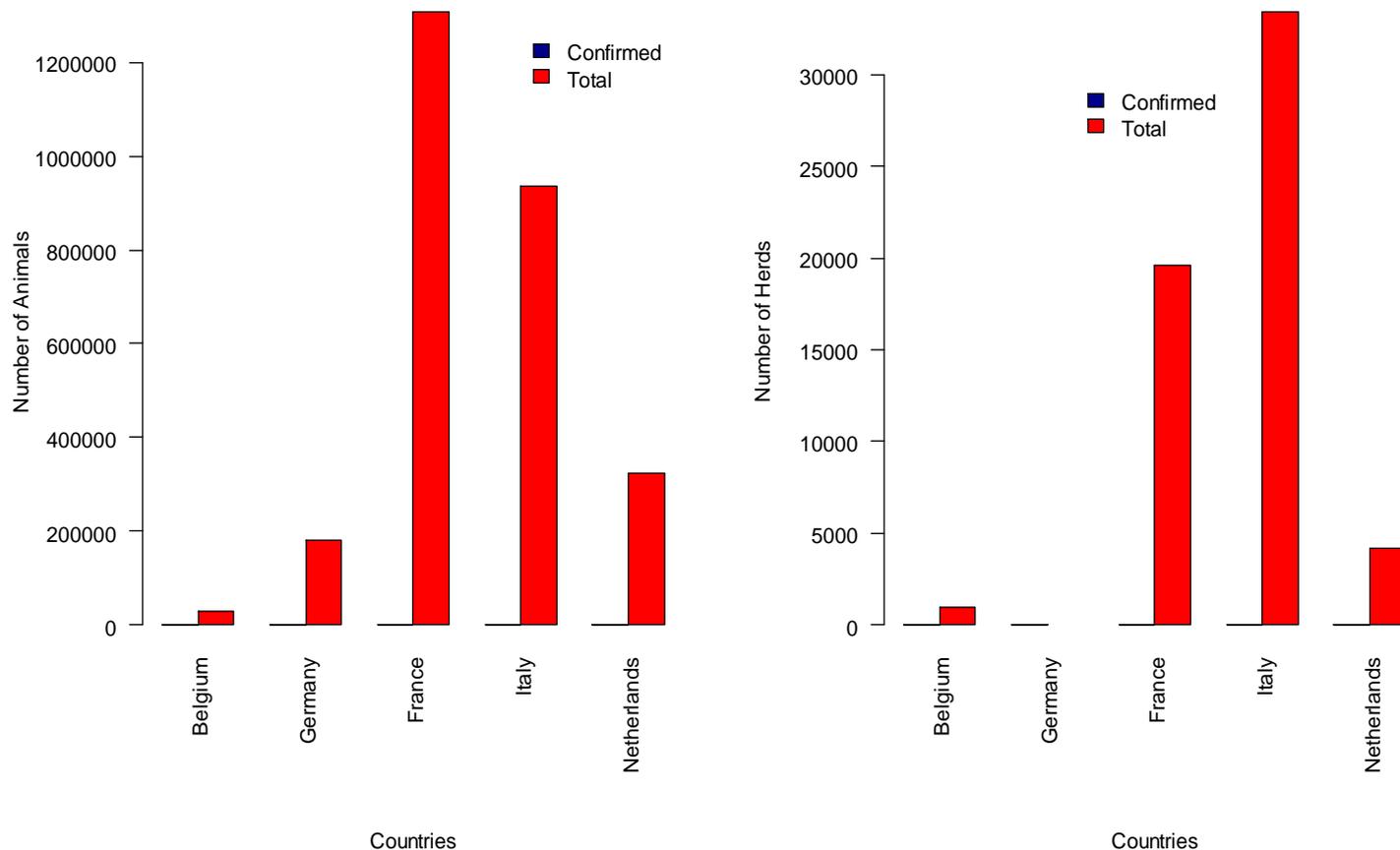
# Impact - BE

## Cattle birth records 2008-2012

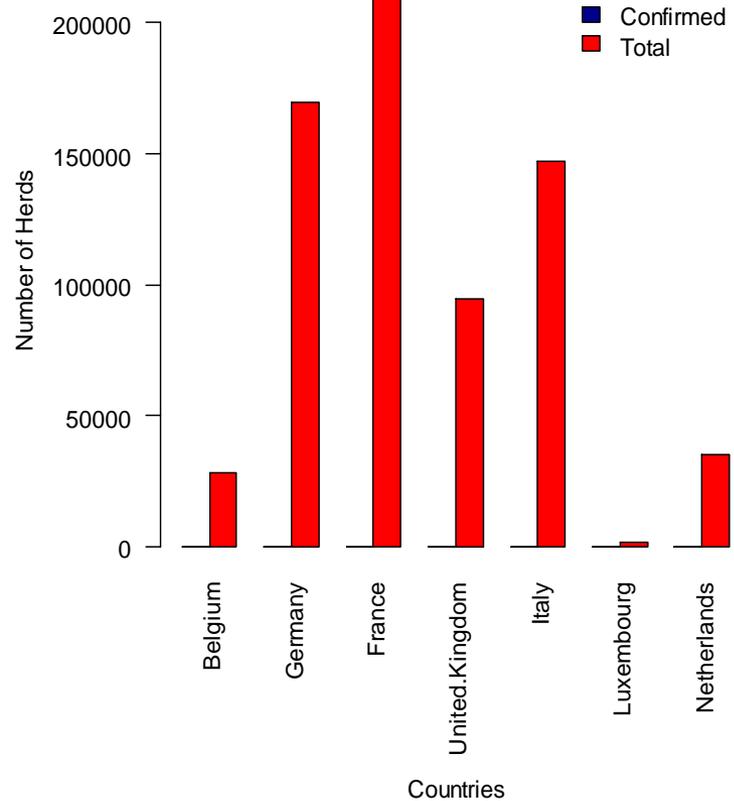
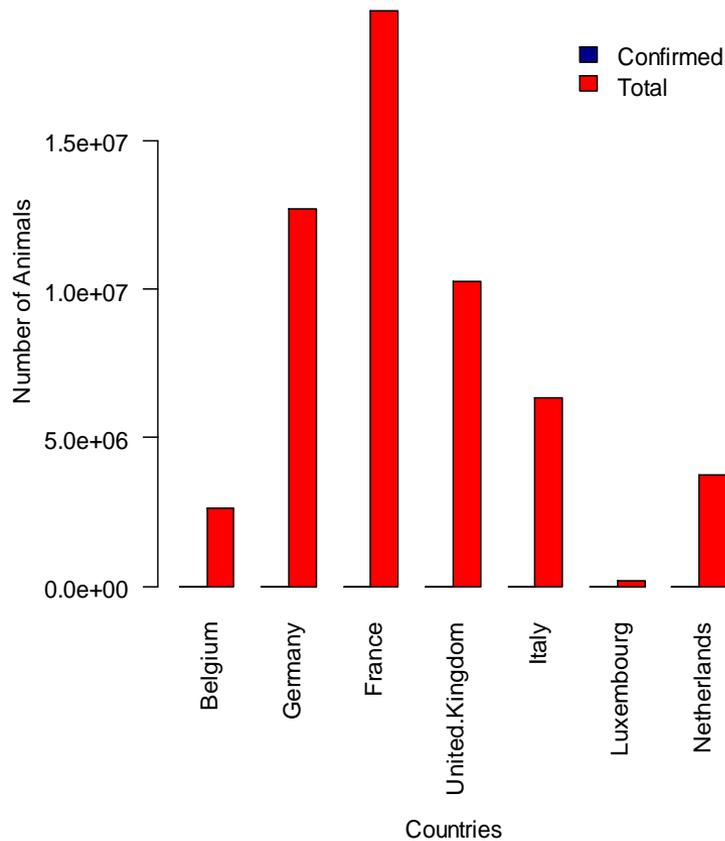




Total number of **sheep** in SBV confirmed herds (left panel) and SBV confirmed herds (right panel) by country versus total number of sheep and herds per country.



Total number of **goats** in SBV confirmed herds (left panel) and SBV confirmed herds (right panel) by country versus total number of goats and herds per country.



Total number of **cattle** in SBV confirmed herds (left panel) and SBV confirmed herds (right panel) by country versus total number of cattle and herds per country.

# Trade perspective

- **In EU, no trade restrictions in relation to the Schmallenberg virus as well as any other Orthobunyavirus**
- **It is *not* an OIE listed disease**
- **No OIE standards on similar viruses (e.g. Akabane, Aino, Shamonda)**
- **EU to speak with one voice**
- **It is not a zoonosis**

*There is no rationale for imposing trade measures on this virus*

# Trade perspective

*21 Third countries apply trade restrictions*

*4 Third countries requested additional information*

# Trade perspective

- **Science based:** sanitary restrictions can only be justified if they effectively mitigate the risks of disease spread. They cannot be maintained without sufficient scientific evidence.
- **Targeted:** sanitary measures shall be only applied to the extend necessary to protect human, animal or plant life or health
- **Proportionality:** the impact of SBV in the EU is very limited despite that the virus entered in a fully susceptible population
- **Non discrimination:** SBV is very similar to other infections rather common worldwide for which no international trade standards are in place and for which very limited disease control measures are applied within the affected countries

## **EU management: Coordination – Timeline (1/3)**

*December 2011:*

- **First raised by Germany in SCoFCAH**
- **ECDC → Risk Assessment**

*January 2012:*

- **Creation of SBV dedicated SANCO web page**
- **SCoFCAH → Joint Statement**
- **WG with MS for deciding on the strategy**
- **CVO Council meeting → Information Note**
- **Commission requested EFSA for technical assistance**

## **EU management: Coordination – Timeline (2/3)**

*February 2012:*

- **EFSA → preliminary analysis published**
- **SCoFCAH → Endorsement of Guidance Document on the Priority Actions**
- **WG with MS for defining priorities for scientific studies → MS submitted proposals**
- **WG with MS to agree on common position → Joint Statement**
- **Formal consultation with stakeholders via the AHAC**

## **EU management: Coordination – Timeline (3/3)**

*March 2012:*

- **SCoFCAH**
- **Coordination WG with MS**
- **CVO Council meeting**
- **EFSA → Analysis of the epidemiological data**

*April 2012*

- **Scientific seminar (17 TC attended)**
- **SCoFCAH**

## **EU management: Coordination**

### *WHAT NEXT?*

#### *Four main points:*

- **EFSA → Analysis of the impact of SBV**
- **OIE**
- **Continue dialogue with third countries**
- **Scientific studies**

## **DG SANCO web page**

**[http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/diseases/schmallenberg\\_virus/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/diseases/schmallenberg_virus/index_en.htm)**

## **Scientific Seminar**

**[http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/diseases/schmallenberg\\_virus/scientific\\_seminar\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/diseases/schmallenberg_virus/scientific_seminar_en.htm)**