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1st GF-TADs Regional Conference in the European region

Lumpy Skin Disease: experience from Italy

Italian Ministry of Health

Department of Human Health, Animal Health, Ecosystem (One Health) and International Relations Directorate General for Animal Health







How it began

Sardinia (Nuoro province)

First suspect on June 20th -> confirmed on June 21st
21 out of 131 cattle showed symptoms

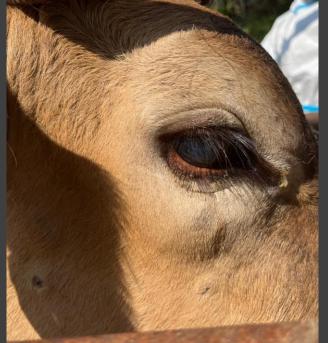


Sardinia (Nuoro province)

Second suspect on June 22nd -> confirmed on June 25th 9 out of 33 cattle showed symptoms (older lesions)



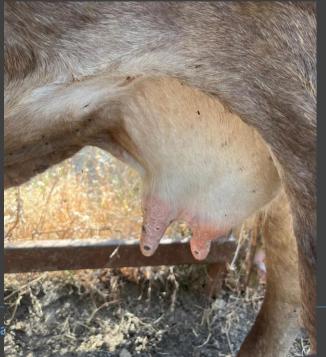












Clinical signs

- Hyperthermia, depression, lameness, anorexia.
- Profuse salivation, nasal and ocular discharge.
- Cutaneous nodules, initially on the neck, thorax, and perineal region.
- Scabs.
- Scars after scab detachment.
- Ulcerative lesions on the muzzle, nostrils, and oral mucosa, particularly on the hard palate.

Timeline of events (1)

Second suspect notified in Sardinia

Outbreak in Lombardy EUVET mission in Sardinia

First suspect notified in Sardinia

Establishment of restricted zones (RZ) in Sardinia

4th outbreak in Sardinia Stamping out completed in Lombardy

Outbreak in Lombardy solved

7th outbreak in Sardinia

20/06

21/06

22/06

23/06

25/06

26/06

27/06

28/06

30/06

First outbreak confirmed

Meeting of the Central Crisis Unit (CCU):

- Ban of animal movements from Sardinia
- Control measures according to Reg. (EU) 2020/687
- Trace-back of cattle movements in the last 3 months
- Entomological surveillance in outbreaks
- Clinical surveillance in the entire region

Meeting of the CCU:

- Establishment of RZ in mainland Italy
- Control measures according to Reg. (EU) 2020/687
- Clinical surveillance in RZ and following the trace-back
- Development of protocols for the management of carcasses, other ABP and milk products

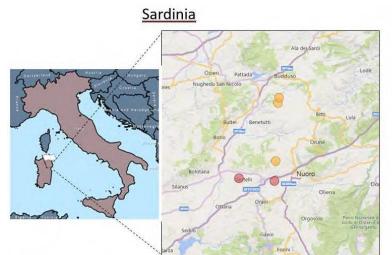
Establishment of RZ in mainland Italy

Meeting of the CCU:

- Increased alert on cattle movements in the entire national territory
- Decision to vaccinate all Sardinian cattle (OBP Lumpy skin disease vaccine for cattle (Neethling strain) provided by the EU vaccine bank)

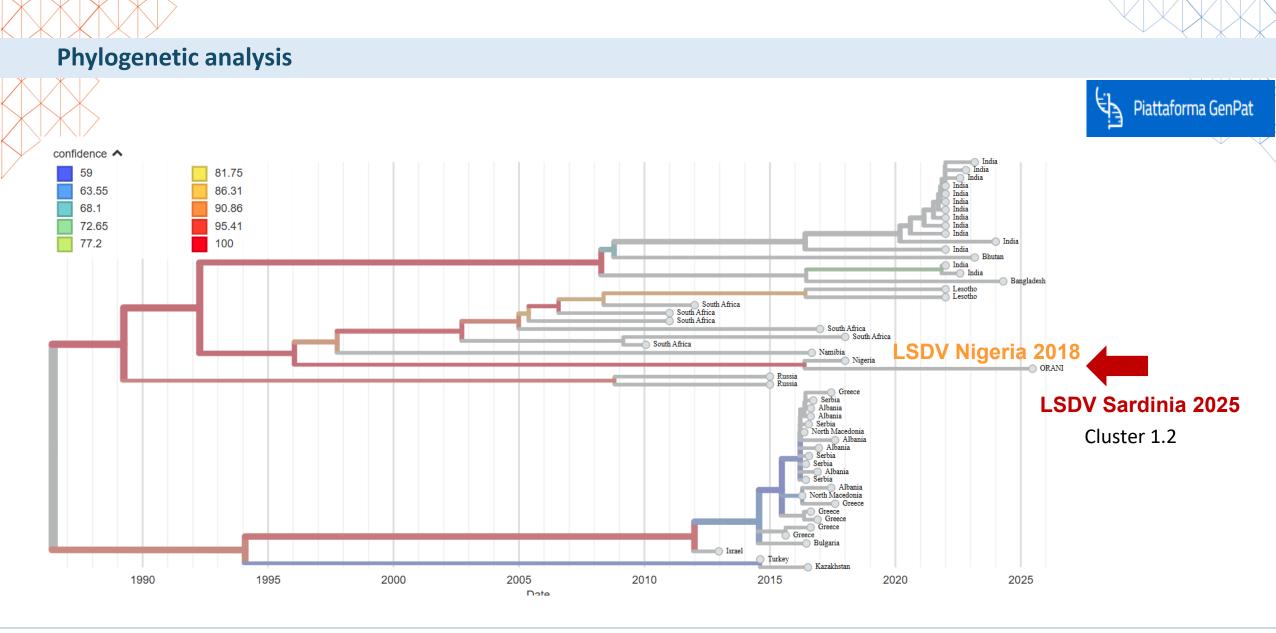
EUVET mission results and spread hypothesis

- Lesion dating suggested virus introduction occurred ~3 months before the first detected cases.
- Due to intra-regional movements, infection across the **whole region** could not be ruled out.
- So far, the infection dynamics, entry date, and origin **remain unknown**.
- Vaccination across the entire island was deemed the best approach to control the outbreak.









Timeline of events (2) 17th outbreak in France 34th outbreak in France activates a SZ in Valle even closer to the d'Aosta region Italian border Establishment of a FRZ including all Sardinia

Vaccination starts in Sardinia

Vaccination starts in Valle d'Aosta

01/07

02/07

03/07

12/07

22/07

23/07

07/08

09/08

10th outbreak in Sardinia

Webinar on LSD by NRL and Ministry of Health (1000 participants +recording)

Meeting of the CCU:

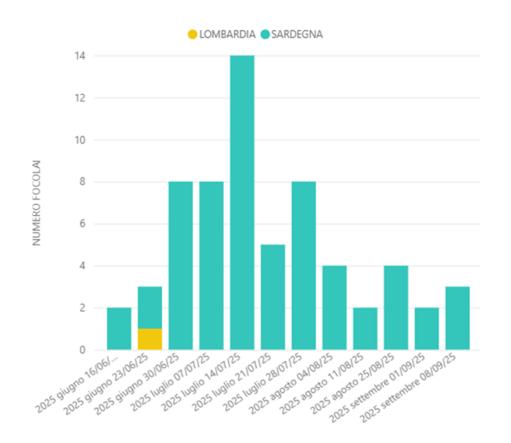
- Establishment of SZ in Valle d'Aosta
- Control measures according to Reg. (UE) 2020/687
- Clinical surveillance in SZ
- Decision to vaccinate all cattle in Valle d'Aosta

Meeting of the CCU:

- Movement restrictions according to Reg. (UE) 2023/361
- SZ in Lombardy to be lifted on 11/08/2025
- Derogations for milk and dairy products







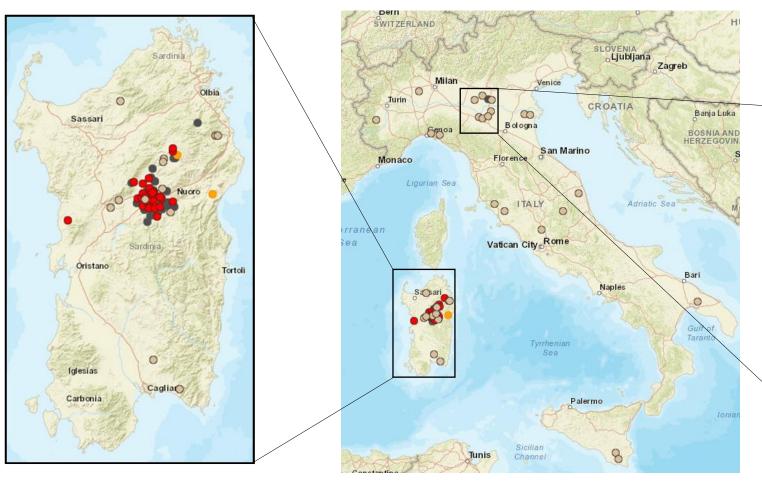
Region	Under investigation	Confirmed (ongoing)	Solved	Not confirmed (negative)
Sardinia	3	33	32	12
Lombardy	-	-	1	4
Other regions	-	-	-	17

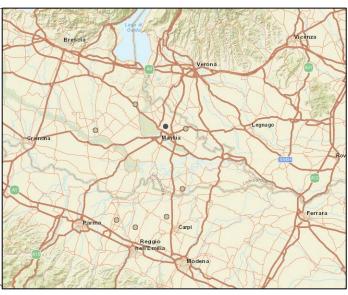
Mortality 6.2%

Morbility 21.4%

1,757 culled animals

Map of the outbreaks



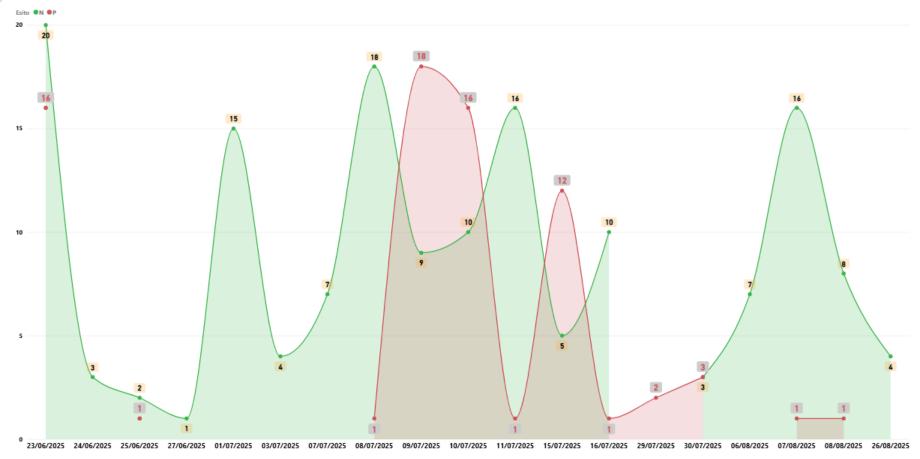


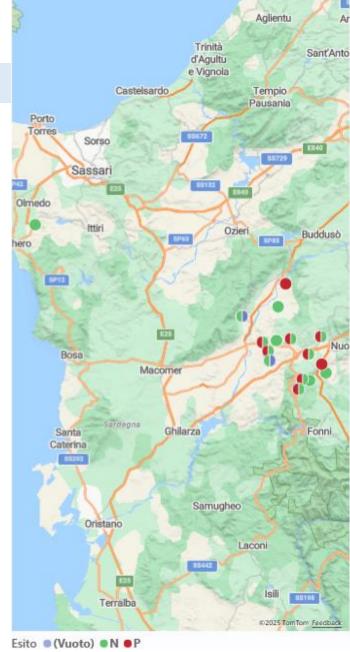
Key

- Confirmed (ongoing)
- Under investigation
- Solved
- Not confirmed (negative)

Entomological surveillance in Sardinia

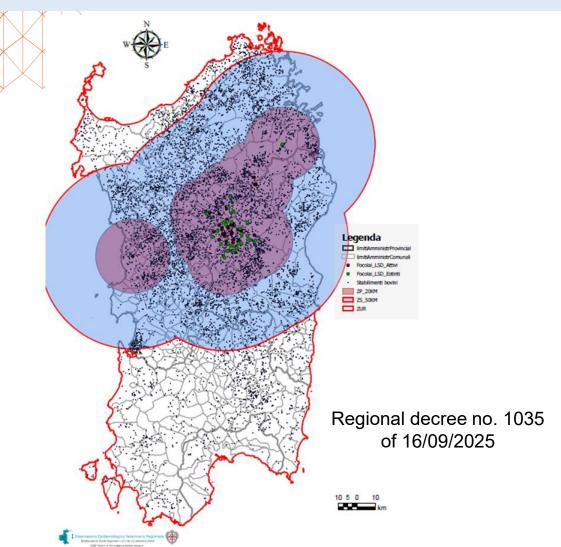
Positivity to LSDV in ticks (Hyalomma marginatum, Rhipicephalus bursa) and diptera (Musca domestica, Sarcophaga carnaria, Hippobosca equina)

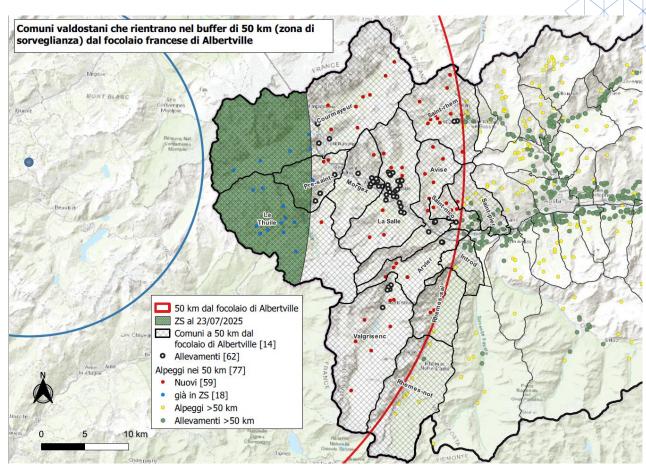




Restricted zones in Sardinia

Restricted zones in Valle d'Aosta





Regional decree no. 4094 of 23/07/2025

Vaccination campaign

<	Region	Number of establishments with vaccinated animals		Number of vaccinated animals	% vaccinated animals
	Valle d'Aosta	1,024	97.62%	33,291	98.01%
	Sardinia	6,010	78.40%	203,328	71.66%

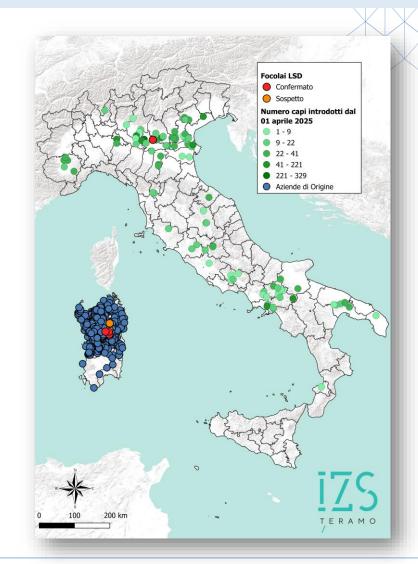


Side effects reported in 15 farms (**0.28%**): local reaction at injection site, Neethling disease, fever

SCHEMA VACCINAZIONI LUMPY SKIN DISEASE								
ASL	N DI STAB CAPI > 0	N DI STAB VACCINATI	% STAB VACCINATI	TOT CAPI BDN	N CAPI PRESENTI SU STAB VACCINATI	N CAPI VACCINATI	% CAPI VACCINATI SU PRESENTI	% CAPI VACCINATI SU CONSISTENZA
1 SASSARI	1788	1428	79,87%	55145	41946	40916	97,54%	74,20%
2 GALLURA	1497	1351	90,25%	32658	29591	29318	99,08%	89,77%
3 NUORO	1890	1399	74,02%	74083	50863	44077	86,66%	59,50%
4 OGLIASTRA	496	235	47,38%	30615	13997	12442	88,89%	4 0,64%
5 ORISTANO	1112	968	87,05%	60947	57064	55379	97,05%	90,86%
6 MEDIO CAMPIDANO	98	93	94,90%	3867	3537	3296	93,19%	85,23%
7 SULCIS	120	113	94,17%	3230	3002	3078	102,53%	95,29%
8 CAGLIARI	665	423	63,61%	23202	16696	14822	88,78%	63,88%
Totale	7666	6010	78,40%	283747	216696	203328	93,83%	71,66%

Strengths

- Fast intervention after first suspicion
 - Movement ban
 - Epidemiological investigation
- Coordination between local and central level
- Strong support of the NRLs (CESME, COVEPI)
- Back-tracing and clinical surveillance
 - Effective containment of the epidemic in mainland Italy
- Quick access to the EU vaccine bank



Challenges (1)

- Free-ranging/extensive farms
 - Shared pasture
 - Difficulties in handling animals (clinical examination, culling, vaccination)
- Availability of disposal plants for Category 1 materials under Reg. (EC) no. 1069/2009
- Economic impact
 - Culling and disposal costs
 - Depreciation of animals
 - Market restrictions on milk, dairy products, germinal material
 - Vaccine purchase costs for future vaccination campaigns





Challenges (2)

- Communication to stakeholders and the general public
- Acceptance of both stamping out and vaccination
 - Appeals to the Administrative Court (TAR)
 - Late compensation
 - Restriction of movements of vaccinated animals

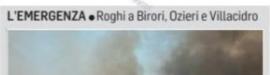
Le aziende. L'appello: no agli abbattimenti dei capi sani

«Effetti positivi dopo l'antidoto, ma servono rimborsi immediati e lo sblocco della movimentazione»

Il caso. Sullo sfondo del confronto sulla manovra da 800 milioni, il bubbone della dermatite

Bovini, la politica litiga sui ristori

Si cerca una mediazione per salvare gli aiuti destinati agli allevatori



La dermatite dei bovini blocca, con l'economia degli allevamenti, anche la politica regionale. Lo stallo è su una "leggina" per dare il via a 12,8 milioni di aiuti. Si cerca, a fatica, una soluzione bipartisan, chiave di volta anche per definire la partita ben più ampia dell'assestamento di bilancio, 800 milioni, Intanto va a rilento la campagna di vaccinazione. • A CARTA, LOCC, SERUS MALE PAGNE 2.3

L'EPIDEMIA

23 luglio 2025 alle 15:52, aggiornato il 23 luglio 2025 alle 16:05

Dermatite bovina, gli allevatori chiedono garanzie: «No all'abbattimento dei capi sani»

Assemblea infuocata a Orotelli: «Perché non si è chiesta una deroga per fare una vaccinazione

Regione. Dermartite, slitta la "leggina"

Divisi anche sugli allevatori

Sull'emergenza dermatite bovina salta l'accordo in Consiglio. Il provvedimento bipartisan per garantire ulteriori risorse agli allevatori slitta a settembre. Restano i 12 milioni previsti nell'assestamento di bilancio in discussione.

• MURGIA A PAGINA 5 L'EMERGENZA Cinquanta i focolai registrati nell'Isola, solo uno estinto (l'altro a Mantova)

Squadre di veterinari ridotte all'osso, la campagna vaccinale va a rilento

Attesi i rinforzi dei liberi professionisti: tempi lunghi nel reclutamento





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THANK YOU













