



FMD After-action reviews and continuous improvement

Tuesday, 24 March 2026,

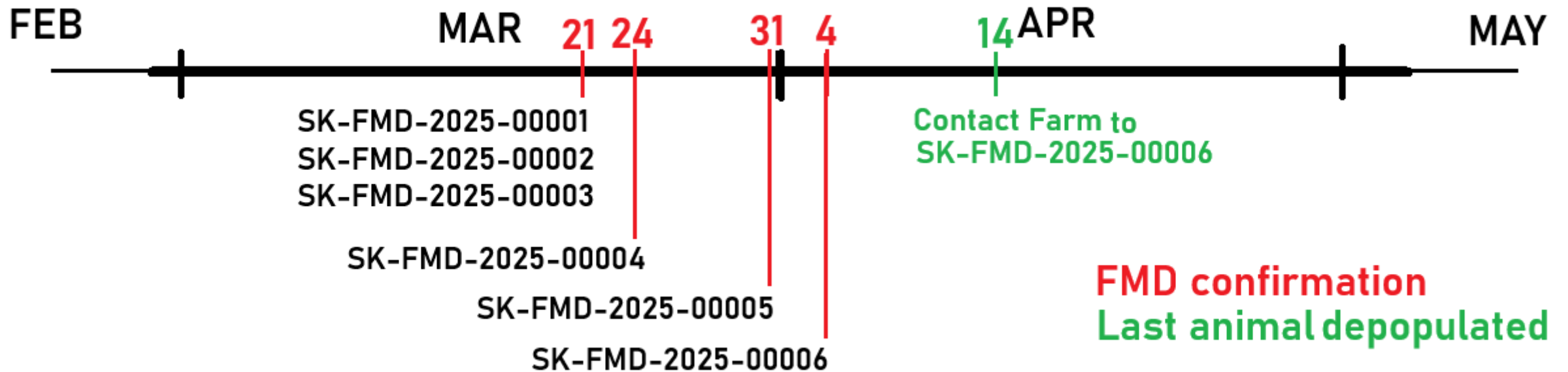
Strengthening Preparedness and Response to Biological Threats in Europe (WOAHA conference)

Martin CHUDY, DVM. Chief Veterinary Officer

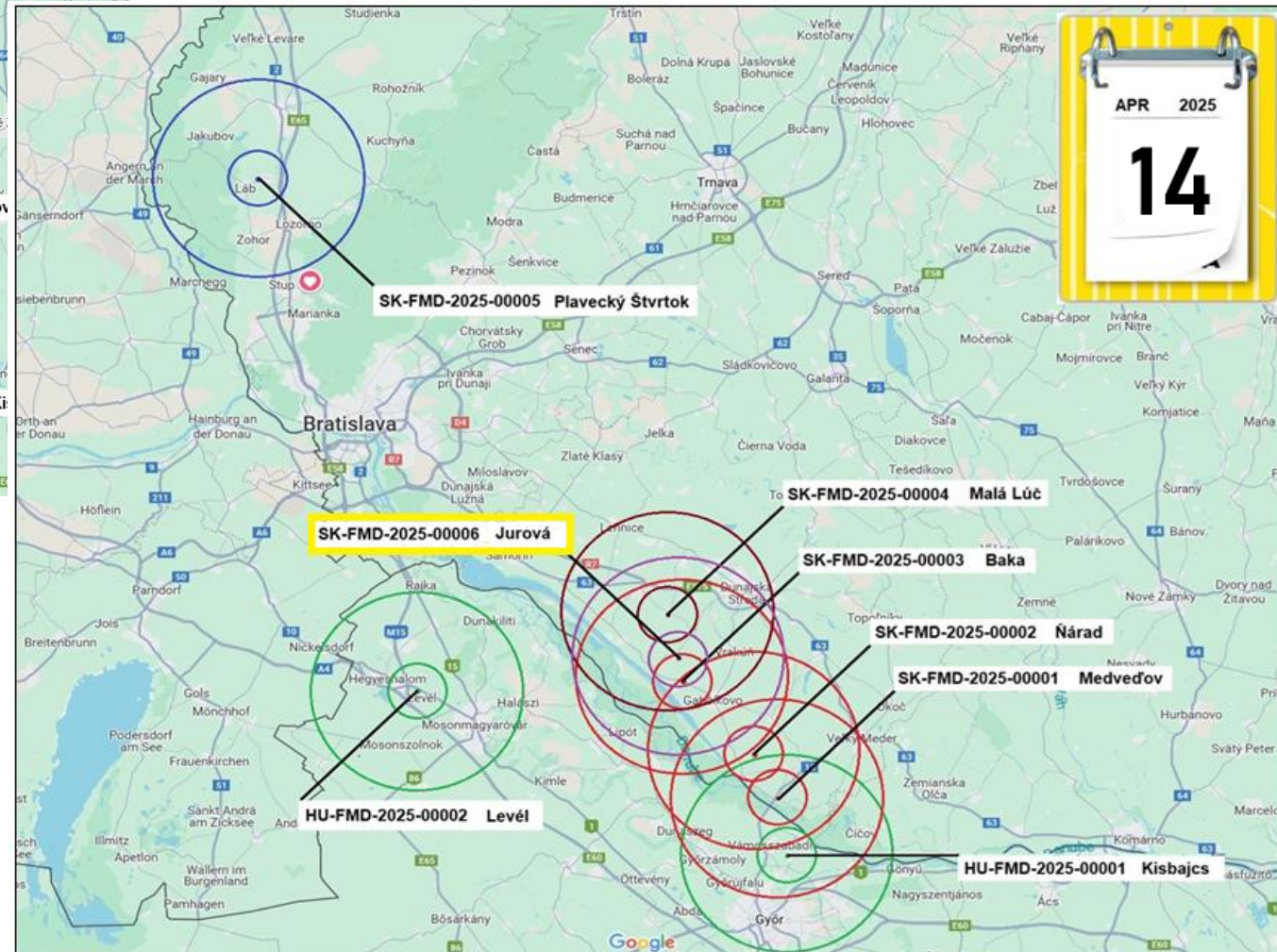
State Veterinary and Food Administration of the Slovak Republic

FMD – Story started

- 21 March 2025 – confirmation of FMD at 3 dairy cattle farms
- 14 April 2025 – the last animal depopulated



FMD – Slovak story March-April 2025



Brief overview-
FMD in
Slovakia -
2025

Depopulated COMMERCIAL farms

No.	Outbreak farm	Depopulation		Number of animals	Vaccinate d
		Start	Finish		
SK 01	Medved'ov	29.3.2025	30.3.2025	706	all
SK 02	Ňárad	30.3.2025	1.4.2025	806	all
SK 03	Baka	22.3.2025	26.3.2025	1 313	-
SK 04	Malá Lúč	27.3.2025	28.3.2025	268	all
SK 05	Plavecký Štvrtok	2.4.2025	7.4.2025	3 521	all
SK 06	Jurová	9.4.2025	10.4.2025	876	all
CONTACT FARM	Dolný Štál	11.4.2025	14.4.2025	851	all
			TOTAL	8 341	

BACKYARD farms

Bovine	9	animals
Ovine	52	animals
Caprine	35	animals
Porcine	141	animals
TOTAL	237	animals

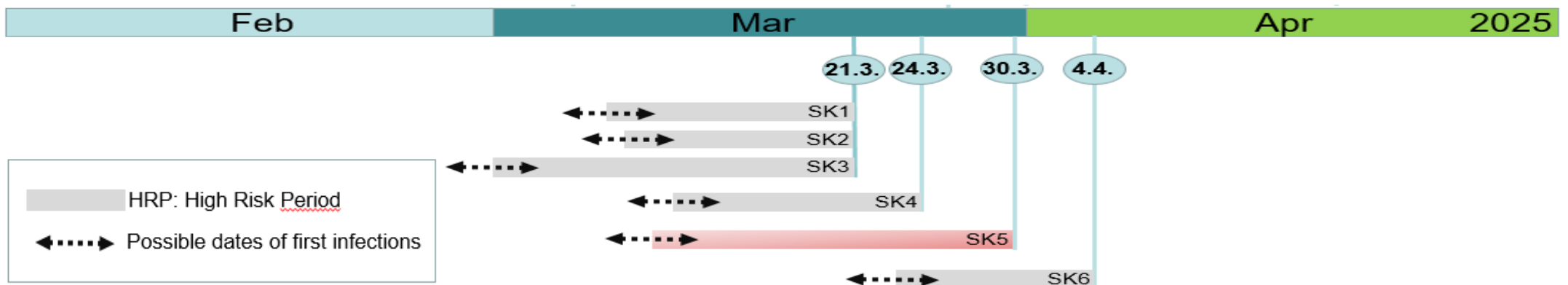
TOGETHER: 8 578 ANIMALS
DEPOPULATED

FMD – immediate actions in order to eradicate the disease – Operations following depopulation

- Preliminary cleaning and disinfection of the facilities
- Destruction or decontamination of all materials enable to carry FMD virus under veterinary supervision
- Final cleaning and disinfection of the facilities repeated in at least 7 days interval
- Installation of sentinel animals (PCR and ELISA negative for FMD)
- Clinical examination of animals (sentinels)
- Veterinary decision for restocking the farms following negative PCR and ELISA testing of all sentinel animals at every farm
- Continuous surveillance
- Paralel- Preparing **dossier for regaining WOAH status country free from FMD without vaccination**

FMD – review of possible incubation period in the light of last year occurrence

- The FMD incubation period generally known is 2-14 days, and from the perspective of epi-investigation, it is of course necessary **to take into account the maximum extent of this period**
 - take into account - **in the case of indirect transmission of the virus by fomites** (objects, vehicles, tools, feed, people with shoes/clothing/hands, etc.), **the date of contact** (e.g. vehicle entry to the farm) **may not mean** (and usually does not mean) **the date of infection of animals on the farm**.
 - **it is advisable not to stick exclusively to the interval of 14 days (WOAH) or 21 days** (i.e. the monitoring period according to EU legislation) from the first symptoms - but it should also be borne in mind that the introduction to the farm could have occurred several days or weeks earlier (overseen, not detected or not notified first symptoms)



FMD – Evaluation of the experience (lessons learned)

- Revision of the contingency plans !

FMD national contingency plan (an update)- actions review elements in details

- the assessment of clinical signs indicative of FMD
- All (new) sampling procedures for laboratory diagnosis at the national reference laboratory
- Description of options of **(emergency) vaccination plan**
- System of checking and controlling of outbreaks occurring within a short period
- An update of involved authorities and their contact persons
- Identifying of potencial burial locations in different regions
- National crisis centre – inclusion and cooperation of all stakeholders

By preparing the contingency plan – the elements which are to be taking into account

1. The spread of FMD can only be controlled and stopped by **immediate reactions and strict, correctly set measures and vigorous enforcement of their implementation.**
2. **The system of monitoring of all possible movements and other contacts** and determination the level of risk for additional contact farms.
3. **Measures in case of suspicion of FMD need to be ordered for all identified contact farms** or for an appropriate area considering the extent of contacts.
4. **Timely communication of measures and coordination of all components.**

FMD – Restoration of the free status

- 31. October 2025 - restoration of FMD free status (without vaccination) – evaluation of the dossier from WOAHA services
- Dossier – decrotopon of all issues done
- CREATION: summer 2025
- Evaluation WOAHA: several weeks (September/October 2025)
- ADVICE: be ready to answer /explain the elements for better understanding

Biosecurity

Veterinary measures related to biosecurity - control of entries into the farm (persons and vehicles)

- hygiene of persons entering and leaving the farm
- disinfection of transport vehicles before entering and leaving the farm
- enhanced biosecurity measures for all facilities displaying animals to the public, **including entering of necessary goods and services**
- prohibition of gathering animals in the same means of transport by loading them from multiple holdings of origin

Vaccination strategy

- The chosen vaccination strategy in the Slovak Republic
good /useful choice
 - emergency suppressive vaccination
- (according to the definition in Article 2(1)(c) of CDR(EU) 2023/361).
 - - clear knowledge of the objective/ the correctness of the choice of vaccine in terms of its effectiveness - correct serotype (O (SK) – CY (SAT 1)
 - **to suppress or reduce the spread of the virus** by kept animal species listed, located at the outbreak or in certain epidemiologically linked establishments to the lowest possible level until the animals concerned are slaughtered and safely disposed of.
- For discussion- vaccine to live (CY- March 2026) – the consequences and attitude of the trade partners - trade impact SCOPE AND DURATION

CRISIS MANAGEMENT BOARD

- HIGH IMPORTANCE
- daily meetings of CMB members (veterinary administration, police, customs, rescue system, army, anticonflict teams (psychologists), local government representatives...)
- THE ROLE: the analysis of previous day(s) development and planning activities for next 3-5 days in order to eradicate the disease

FMD – surveillance- after FMD crisis

- **passive surveillance system for FMD based on mandatory immediate notification of any clinical suspicion in susceptible animal species**
 1. all farmers, private veterinarians and official veterinarians are required to report without delay any occurrence of clinical signs or any other atypical clinical presentation compatible with FMD
 2. any reported suspicion triggers immediate official investigation, including clinical examination and sampling for laboratory diagnosis at the national reference laboratory
- clinical examination by private vets before movement of susceptible animals
- blood samples are routinely taken from animals following abortions and tested for a range of diseases, including FMD

The FMD surveillance system must be operational at all times,
including during the peacetime.

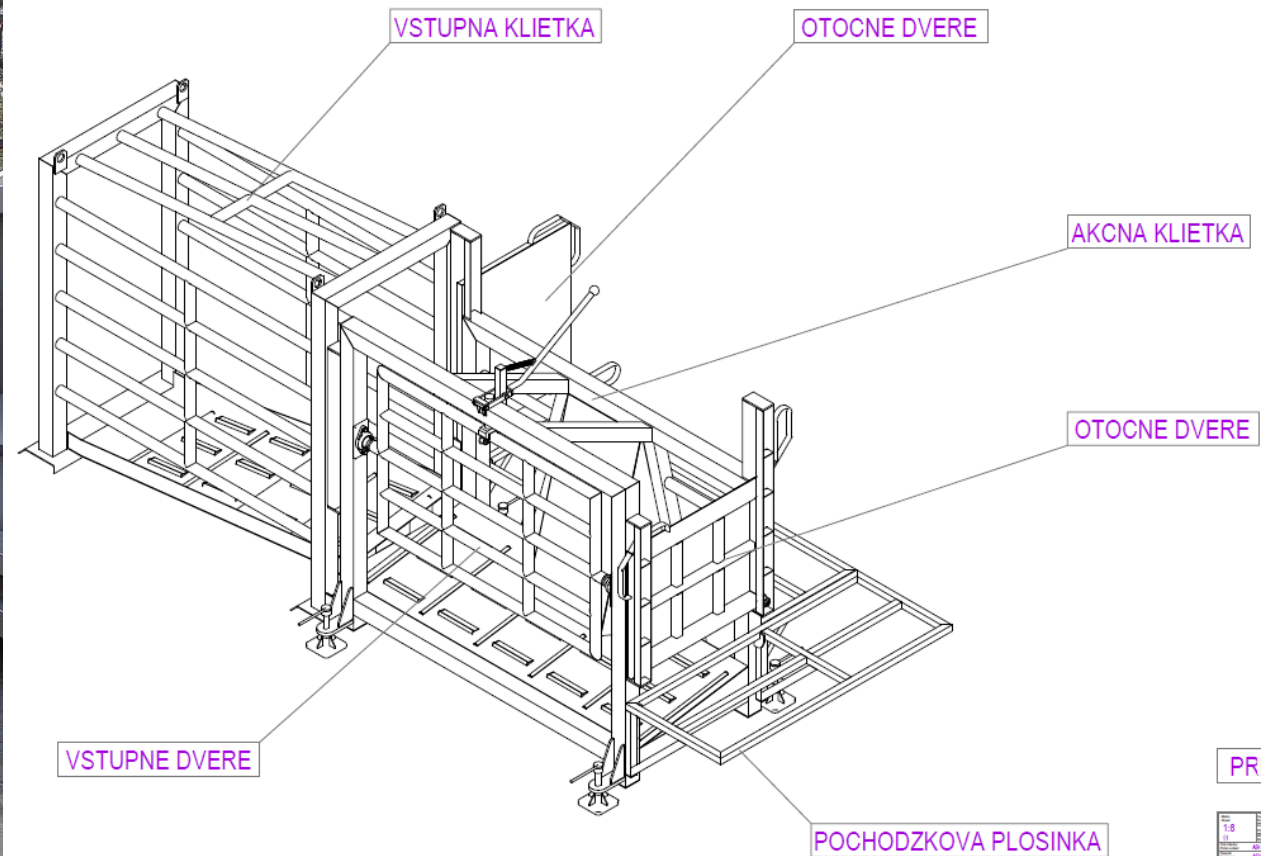
Measures wild animals (valid as from 1.9.2025)

- **Subject: sampling for foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) from susceptible wild game in the Slovak Republic - amendment to guideline 3.**
- The State Veterinary and Food Administration of the Slovak Republic ("SVFA SR"), in accordance with Section 6, paragraph 2, letter a) of Act No. 39/2007 Coll. on veterinary care, as amended, issues these guidelines on sampling for FMD from hunted and dead susceptible wild animals in the Slovak Republic, valid **from 01. 09. 2025.**
- **Samples are taken from susceptible wild game for FMD only from dead or hunted susceptible wild animals with symptoms of the disease indicative of FMD (ulcers on the lip, ulcers in the interphalangeal space, malaise, loss of timidity). After reporting such a finding to the DVFA, a sample for the virological examination is carried out by an official veterinarian. These samples are taken throughout the Slovak Republic.**

FMD – Evaluation of the experience

- Critical points:
 - Depopulation of outbreaks, with use of emergency suppressive vaccination
 - Killing of animals – description of methods
 - Safe disposal of carcasses- rendering plant + burial
 - Restrictions on movement through the municipalities where the infection occurred + the surrounding area
 - Contact farms within a radius of 3 km – **preventive killing** vis a vis citizens sufficient human resources
 - Financing of whole activities
 - Legislative power - emergency situation – authorizations/empowerments of the chief veterinary officer
 - Proper communication to public

*New equipment for eradication of outbreaks-
already ordered*



FMD - information campaign

- addressed to veterinary inspectors, private veterinarians, breeders' associations and hunting managers
- disseminate information and comments on clinical signs of FMD and reporting obligations to veterinarians and stakeholders
- Proper description and assessment of clinical signs indicative of FMD
- procedures for reporting suspected cases and sampling in case of suspicion
- FMD specialized web sub-site
- Risk of travelling from affected countries – non-commercial pet movement, food-souvenirs (untreated meat, milk and their products)



Slintačka a krívačka

Špecializovaná podstránka

Vytvorili sme podstránku, ktorá zhromažďuje všetky aktuálne informácie týkajúce sa ochorenia SLAK.

[Otvoriť SLAK podstránku](#)

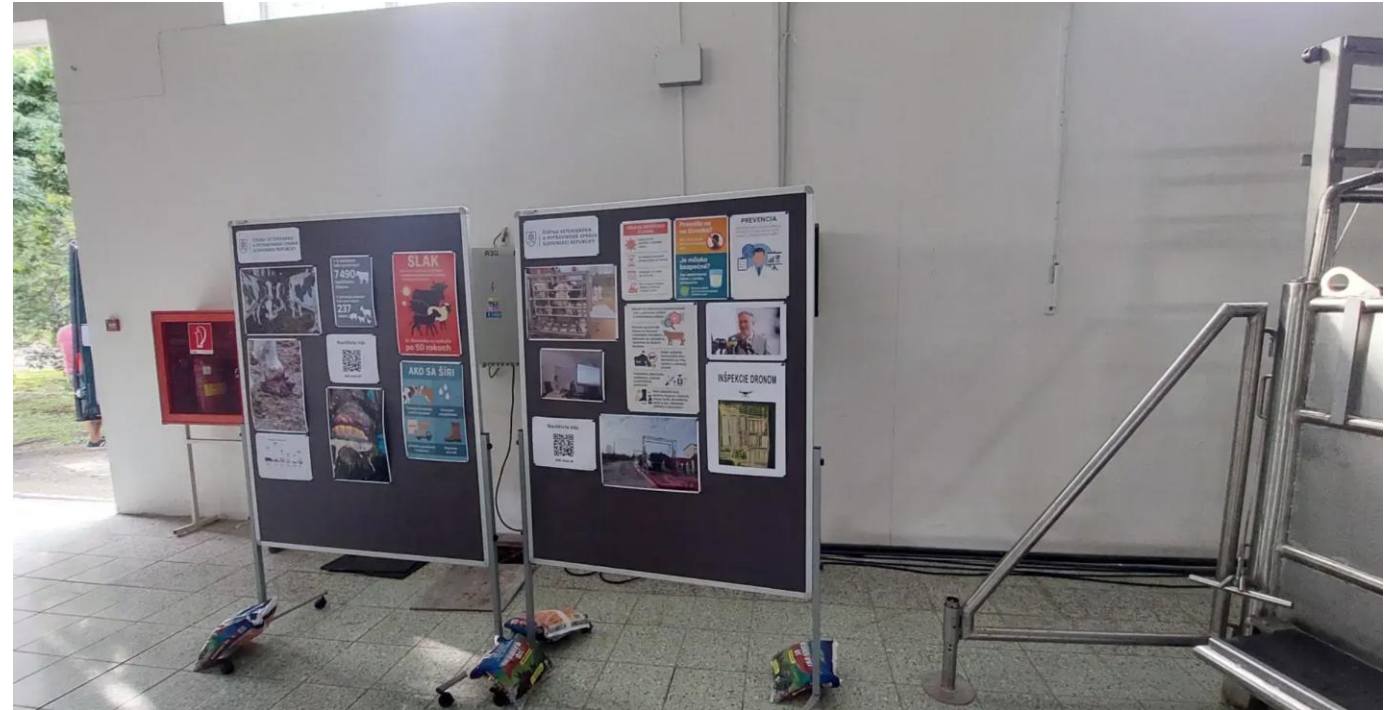


FMD
international
seminar –
september 2025
Nitra(SK)- an
example of



Raising public awareness

- Slovak agriculture exhibition- Agrokomplex 2025 – special pavilion dedicated to FMD



FMD – costs for eradication

Measure	Expense groups	Expenditure items	For groups of people
Emergency supplies and accommodation	Personal protective equipment	Personal protective equipment	• interfering components
	Desinfection and hygiene supplies	Desinfectants Hygiene supplies (soaps, gels, paper towels, etc.)	
	fuels	Fuels	• according to the decision of the district office
	services	Catering Accommodation	• intervening components
Other civil protection tasks and measures	services	Removal and disposal of waste, hazardous waste and used PPE	• intervening components
		Transportation and disposal of dead animals	• intervening components
		Desinfection of premises and equipment	• intervening components
	material	Animal killing equipment	• intervening components
		Other material	• according to the decision of the head of the district office
		Expenses related to the activities of the crisis staff	• members of Crisis staff
		Storage of material for the needs of the extraordinary event solution	• according to the decision of the head of the district office on the instructions of crisis management group
	general	Other tasks and measures necessary to manage the consequences of extraordinary event	• Intervening units, according to the decision office on the instructions
Personal performances	Financial compensation	DoV	• natural persons intended for personal use

Ministry of interior: 5 675 866,90 €

+

All other ministries + SVFA 5 345 888,34 EUR

out of this SVFA 2 329 280,27 EUR

Total: 11 021 755 EUR

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Slovak Republic	883 328,34 €
Ministry of Defence of Slovak Republic	2 082 591,48 €
Ministry of Transport of Slovak Republic	0,00 €
Slovak Road Administration	2 223,00 €
National Highway Company	39 992,21 €
Road Admin. of the Košice Self-Governing Region	6 979,04 €
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Develop. of SR	0,00 €
State Veterinary and Food Administration of SR	2 329 280,27 €
Ministry of Justice of SR	1 494,00 €
TOTAL	5 345 888,34 €



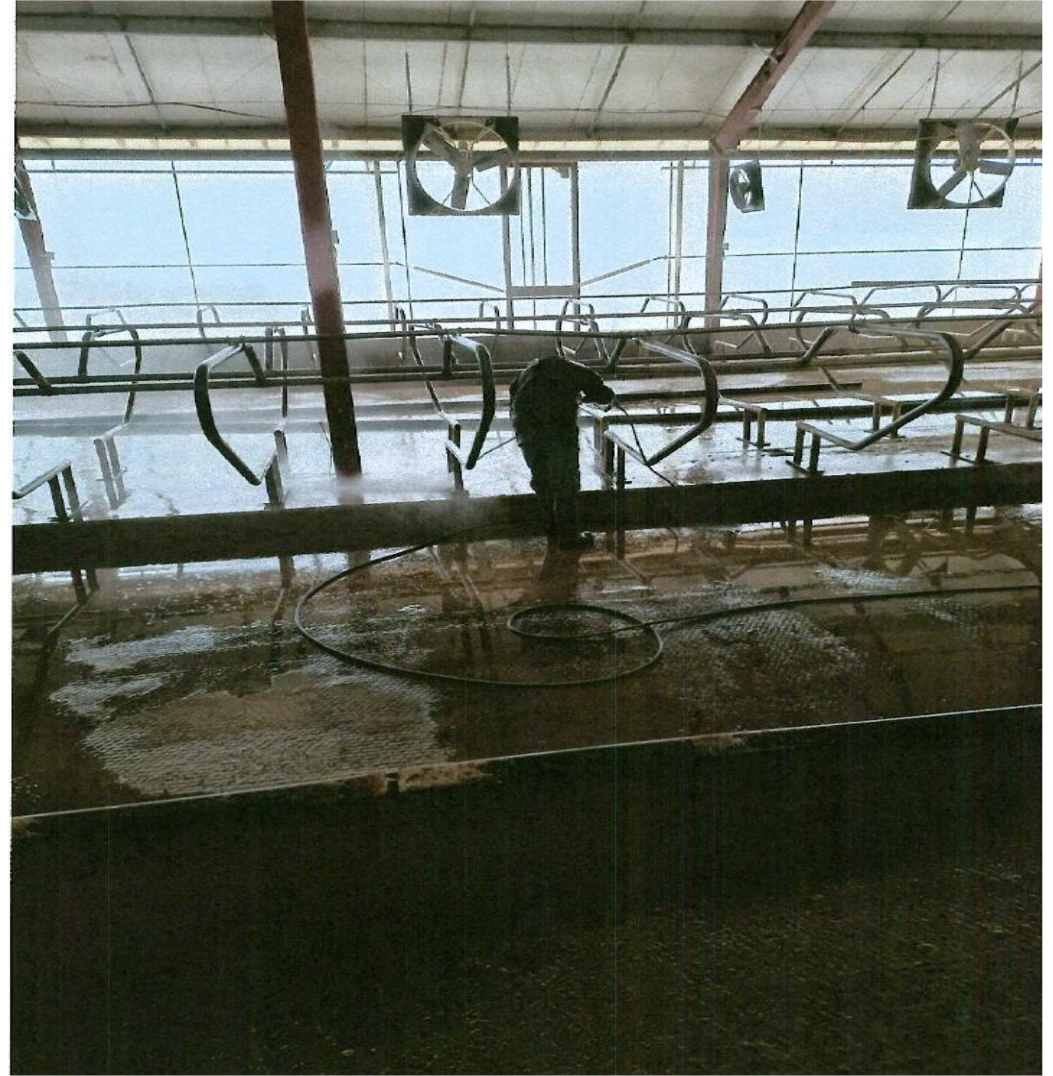








Final cleaning and disinfection



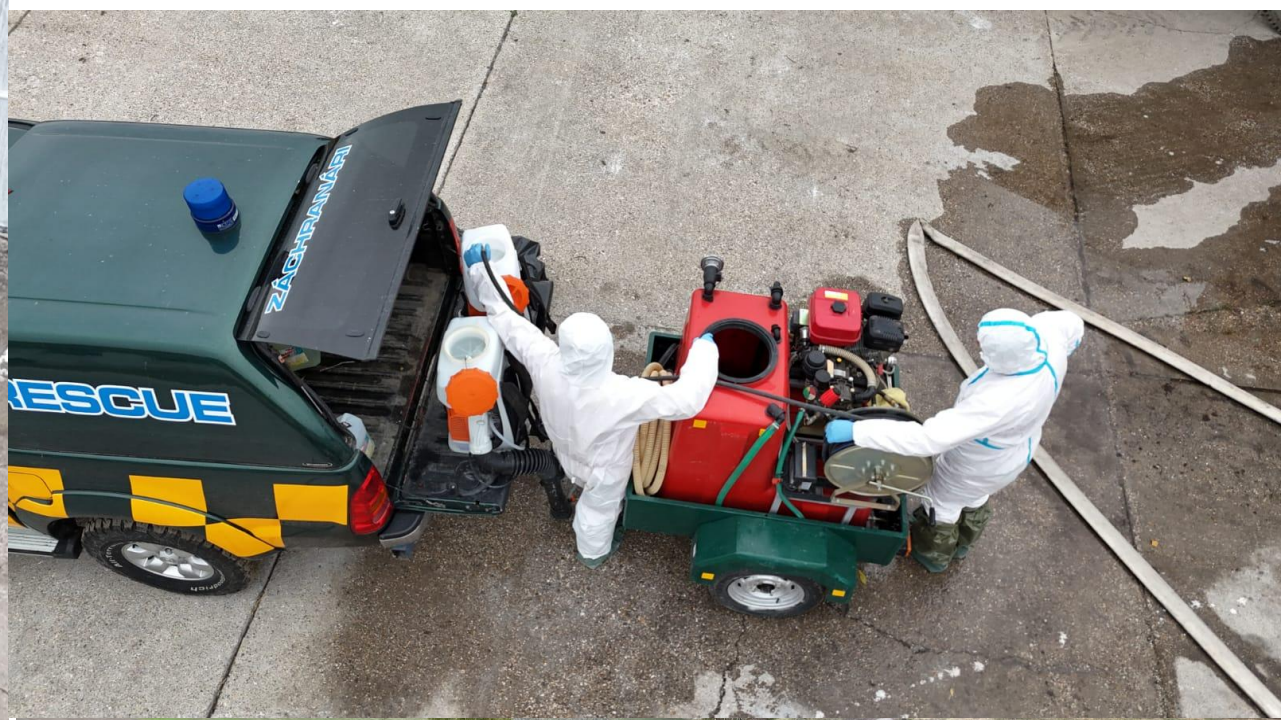


Dogařev



Ochranné olevy na likvidaci

















All stakeholders cooperation is crucial



Thank you for your attention