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Food & Rural Affairs

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IMPORTS AND EU POLICY TEAM

OVS Note/2015/36

Date: 13 October 2015

BLUETONGUE (BT) IN CANADA (ONTARIO)

Purpose

1. To advise you of latest situation in Canada following the declaration of Bluetongue (BT) South Western Ontario and the partial resumption of export to the EU of bovine semen.

Background

2. Canada declared an outbreak of bluetongue to the OIE on 3 September 2015 and immediately suspended certification for export to the EU of semen and embryos from susceptible animals.
3. On 2 October Canada advised the Commission of their wish to partially resume export of bovine semen to the EU. The Commission advised Canada that this is acceptable.
4. **However, for the present this will be limited to semen that was collected before the last negative test for BT carried out before the declaration of BT to the OIE.**
5. Semen collected after the last negative herd test remains blocked. Canada is working with the Commission to find a workable procedure for this.

Action for OVSS

6. To note that bovine semen collected in Canada and dispatched to the EU under the conditions noted in paragraph 4 above and accompanied by the applicable EU-Canada certificate is permitted.

Contact point for enquiries

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