



TENDER N. SANCO/2008/E2/010 – LOT 3

Training workshop on AW during stunning and killing in disease control situations

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**COLLI DEL TRONTO
(ASCOLI PICENO – ITALY)**

Case study n. 1

Contractor:
Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale dell'Abruzzo e del Molise "G. Caporale"
Partner:
Areté Srl



CASE STUDY N°1: “DECISION MAKING”

Main topic: during animal disease epidemics, the speed of reaction is of a paramount importance. But speed sometimes does not go very well with accuracy. The team may be in a situation plenty of elements of uncertainty. Nevertheless a decision has to be taken.

Objectives:

- ✓ To cope with uncertainty
- ✓ To be prepared for different possible scenario
- ✓ To use a decision making procedure

Description: you are the Official Vet and you are running a routine check visit in a sheep farm. All of a sudden you start to notice a relevant number of lame animals even though the animals look fine. Then you start to get worried and you want to investigate further. You visit one lame animal, and another one, and another one: most of them present foot lesions referable to FMD or Foot Rot. You don't find any lesions in the mouth neither signs of fever in none of the animals. According to symptoms and to your professional judgement, it could be 80% Foot Rot or 20% FMD. You remember that you read on the newspaper that just recently a major FMD outbreak occurred in a region 200 km away.

You decide to collect samples and to forward it to the closest laboratory. You will receive the results in 48 hrs.

Now if you declare the FMD contamination, all susceptible animals of the farm, and of the neighbouring ones, must be immediately killed. Otherwise you have to wait the laboratory results.

The Regional Divisional Vet Manager, who contacted you over the mobile phone, leave the decision in your hands.

Problems:

1. Which provisions would you take in order to face this case?
2. How would you plan all the operations?
3. Would you declare the farm infected in the meanwhile?