

REVISED PR. SEPTEMBER 2015

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THE VOLUNTARY MAEDI-VISNA/CAE SHEEP AND GOAT HEALTH PROGRAMME - SET OF RULES



The Voluntary Maedi-visna/CAE Health Programme for Sheep and Goats

The sheep and goat health programme covers the diseases Maedi-visna and CAE. The programme is administered by SEGES P/S. The day-to-day management of the programme is carried out by:

SEGES P/S
Cattle
Agro Food Park
15 DK-8200
Aarhus N
T +45 8740 5000 / F +458740 5010
M seges-faar-geder@seges.dk

Maedi-Visna and CAE

Maedi-visna (sheep) and CAE (goats) are fatal diseases caused by viruses (lenti-virus). Infection can be transmitted between sheep and goats. The diseases develop very slowly and the virus can lie "dormant" in an animal for several years, but the animal can pass on the infection during this period. For example, if you buy an animal that looks healthy but is carrying the disease, you risk up to 60% of the herd being infected before you are aware of the disease.

Maedi is seen in sheep when the virus attacks the lungs. Sheep show shortness of breath, especially when moved (fast moving). Visna is seen in sheep and CAE in goats when the virus attacks the nervous system. Animals develop balance problems and other nervous disorders. In all cases, there is loss of body condition and uncontrollability. Other typical symptoms are pneumonia, progressive paralysis, arthritis/joint inflammation and chronic mastitis (inflammation of the udder).

Inclusion in the Health Programme

With known status

A herd established by purchasing animals from herds of known health status and wishing to be included in the health programme must submit a DECLARATION OF OWNERSHIP immediately after establishment. The herd is normally assigned the same status as the herd for sale with the lowest status. In order for the newly established herd to maintain the health status of the seller herd, the deadline for the herd blood test must be met.

With unknown status

A herd of unknown health status wishing to enter the health programme must have a herd blood test and submit an OWNER'S DECLARATION. It takes a minimum of two years for a new and unknown herd to achieve Maedi-visna/CAE-free status (M3). Along the way, the herd is given M1 and M2 status. This is because it can take several years for infection with Maedi-visna/CAE to be detected in a blood test.

Without M3 status

Blood testing

The blood sample must include all animals over 12 months of age in the herd. The blood sample must be taken

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no earlier than 12 months and no later than 14 months after the last blood test.
When starting up larger flocks than 100 animals, 33% of all sheep/goats must be blood tested - but at least 50 animals in the first and third year. Where sheep/goats are introduced from more than one flock, at least 33 % of animals from each herd are blood sampled. Older animals are sampled first.

With M3 status

The blood test must include:

- 10 % of all animals over two years old in the herd - at least 10 animals
- For less than 10 animals over two years; all animals over two years
- between 10 - 100 animals over two years; 10 animals over two years
- If there are no animals over two years old; all animals over one year old.

The blood test must be taken within 36 months of the last blood test.

Status Only animals from herds with Maedi-visna/CAE free status (M3 status) are recommended for live use - i.e. buying, selling, ram/buck co-operation and showing. The status applies to the whole herd.

A herd cannot obtain either M1, M2 or M3 status if it has had contact with infected herds or cases of Maedi-visna/CAE in the past 30 months.

Status certificate The status certificate is issued together with the invoice when the owner's declaration and blood test results are submitted.

Validity of status Certificates of M1 and M2 status are valid for 14 months. Certificates of M3 status are valid for 36 months. Validity is conditional on the flock not coming into contact with sheep/goats from flocks of a lower health status.

Declaration of ownership Use the declarations of ownership. The owner's declaration can be printed from www.landbrugsinfo.dk/får under Health and Diseases. The herd owner is obliged to report immediately:
- Contact with herds of lower status.

Two months before the expected expiry date of the status certificate, the herd owner is normally notified of the blood test. However, it is the responsibility of the herd owner to submit the blood test results and the owner's declaration in due time.

Fee

The health programme is voluntary and financed by user fees. The fee of DKK 206.00 plus VAT must be paid immediately upon receipt of the status certificate. An invoice is enclosed. For imports of live animals, a handling fee of DKK 1,290.00 plus VAT is charged. This is done on arrival of the animals in the country. The prices listed are valid as of 1 January 2014 and are subject to change without notice.

Note

Specific rules apply to the import of live animals and the use of semen and embryos, see page 6 of the set of rules. See also Annex 2 on imports of live animals in the Health Programme's rules or contact SEGES P/S, Dept. Cattle, Agro Food Park 15, DK-8200 Aarhus N / Tel: +45 8740 5000 / Fax: +45 8740 5010 / Mail: seges-faar-geder@seges.dk

General about Health Programme

**The health programme covers the diseases Maedi-visna/CAE as well as rules on imports of live animals and the use of semen and embryos.
The health programme is nationwide and about one third of Denmark's sheep and goat herds participate in the programme.**

The health programme was initiated in 1979 following an agreement between the Danish Sheep Breeders' Association, the State Veterinary Serum Laboratory and the Veterinary Directorate. Later, the Danish Goat Union and the Danish Lamb Producers also signed the agreement.

Administration	<p>SEGES P/S is responsible for the operation of the Health Programme. The day-to-day operation is carried out by:</p> <p>SEGES P/S Cattle Agro Food Park 15 DK-8200 Aarhus N T +45 8740 5000 / F +458740 5010 M seges-faar-geder@seges.dk</p>
Purpose	<p>The aim of the Health Programme is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • control and eradicate Maedi-visna/CAE in participating herds • prevent the spread of infection to and between herds • minimise the risk of introduction and spread of sheep and goat diseases through imports. <p>The health programme is the tool for herd owners to implement this and to document the health status of the herd in relation to the movement of animals and other inter-herd movements.</p>
Health status	<p>The health programme assigns a status to the herd on the basis of blood tests and owner declarations.</p> <p>Due to the slow development of the disease and the uncertainty of the analysis of blood samples, it takes a minimum of two years for a new and unknown herd to achieve Maedi-visna/CAE free status (M3 status).</p>
Special rules for imports of animals	<p>Please note that for imports of live animals there are special rules, see Annex 2.</p>

The diseases Maedi-visna and CAE

Infection	<p>Maedi-visna (sheep) and CAE (goats) are fatal and fatal diseases caused by viruses (lenti-virus). Infection can be transmitted between sheep and goats. The diseases develop very slowly and the virus can lie "dormant" in an animal for several years, but the animal can pass on the infection during this period. For example, if you buy an animal that looks healthy but is still carrying the disease, you risk up to 60% of the herd being infected before you are aware of the disease.</p>
Symptoms	<p>Maedi is seen in sheep when the virus attacks the lungs. Sheep show shortness of breath, especially when driven (fast moving). Visna is seen in sheep and CAE in goats when the virus attacks the nervous system. Animals develop balance problems and other nervous disorders. In all cases, there is loss of motility and uncontrollability. Other typical symptoms are pneumonia, progressive paralysis, arthritis/joint inflammation and chronic mastitis (inflammation of the udder).</p>
Transmission of infection	<p>Infections can be transmitted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • by close contact between the animals and the use of common feeding and watering troughs • by contact with infected material (feed, livestock equipment, grass, etc.) • through the air in small liquid droplets (aerosol) from the mouth and through breast milk • with needles and other tools that transfer blood and body fluids.
Consequences	<p>Consequences of a Maedi-visna/CAE infection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • and 10 - 20 % mortality among sick animals • more disease in the herd, including pneumonia and mastitis • lower fertility • increased lamb mortality • reduced growth • lower durability and increased replacement rate.

English studies have shown that the production losses and costs in an infected flock amount to about 320 DKK per ewe. In addition, if the infection is widespread in the flock, the whole flock usually has to be culled to overcome the problem.

Health Programme structure

The health programme assigns a status to the herd based on herd blood tests accompanied by owner declarations. The status applies to the whole herd. The programme is structured in several steps as illustrated in Annex 1.

Status	The status M3 means that the herd is recognised as Maedi-visna/CAE free and that the imported animals in the herd are approved in accordance with the rules laid down in Annex 2. Status M1 and M2 means that the herd has not yet achieved Maedi-visna/CAE free status but is in the process of doing so. In addition, a herd may have infected and unknown status in the programme. Herds with imported animals may also have isolation or observation status.
Recommendation	Only animals from herds with M3 status (Maedi-visna/CAE- free) are recommended for live use - i.e. ram/buck co-operation, buying, selling and exhibitions.
Inclusion in the Health Programme	A herd established by purchasing animals from herds with known health status and wishing to be included in the health programme must submit an owner's declaration to SEGES P/S immediately after establishment . The herd is normally assigned the same status as the sales herd with the lowest status. In order for the newly established herd to maintain the health status of the seller herd, the time limit for the herd blood test must be respected.
Herd blood testing	<p>A herd with unknown health status wishing to join the health programme must have a herd blood test and submit an owner's declaration to SEGES P/S. It takes a minimum of two years for a new and unknown herd to achieve Maedi-visna/CAE free status (M3 status). In the process the herd is given M1 and M2 status. This is because it can take several years before infection with Maedi-Visna/CAE virus can be detected in a blood test and laboratory tests on individual animals are genetically uncertain.</p> <p>Blood samples are taken by a veterinarian and analysed for antibodies against Maedi-Visna/CAE virus at the Veterinary Institute. Approximately 12 days after submission of the herd blood samples, the veterinarian shall receive the analytical result from the Veterinary Institute.</p> <p>Remember to have the veterinarian write "COPY: SEGES P/S, Att: Cattle" on the submission to the Veterinary Institute. Alternatively, the herd owner can send a copy of the blood test result to SEGES P/S.</p>
Achievement of M1, M2 and M3 status	<p>The blood sample must include all sheep/goats of the flock aged 12 months or over. The blood sample must be taken not earlier than 12 months and not later than 14 months after the last blood sample. The herd must not have had contact with infected herds or cases of Maedi-visna/CAE in the past 30 months. Special rules shall apply to imports and movements of semen and embryos.</p> <p>At the start of larger flocks, 33% of all sheep/goats must be blood tested - but at least 50 animals. Where sheep/goats are introduced from more than one flock, at least three animals from each flock must be blood tested.</p>
Maintenance of M3 status	The blood sample shall cover 10 % of the sheep/goats of the flock aged 24 months or over, with a minimum of 10 animals. In flocks with less than 10 animals, the blood sample must include all animals 24 months of age or older. If there are no animals aged 24 months or over, the blood sample must include all animals aged 12 months or over. The blood sample must be taken within 36 months of the last blood sample.

Declaration of ownership

The declaration of ownership can be obtained from SEGES P/S at www.landbrugsinfo.dk/får under the section 'Health and Diseases'. The owner's declaration relates to the conditions of the herd over the past three years.

The completed and signed declaration of ownership must be sent to SEGES P/S, Att: Kvæg

- when taking a herd blood sample
- when applying for admission to the health programme (establishment)
- if there has been contact with a herd of a lower status
- if live animals are to be imported.

Note Special rules apply to imports of live animals, see Annex 2.

Assignment of herd status

Once SEGES P/S has received the results of the herd blood test and the owner's declaration, the health status of the herd is communicated to the owner in the form of a status certificate. The herd status is cancelled if the herd does not pay the fee on the invoice sent.

An assigned health status is a herd status and includes all sheep and goats on the property. All animals in a flock have the same status. The whole flock loses status if even one animal comes into contact with an animal from a flock with a lower status and is brought back into the flock.

Status INFECTED

If the results of the herd blood tests show positive reagents, the herd is designated as INFECTED.

Status M1

If the result of the herd blood test is negative and the herd has not been in contact with infected herds or had clinical outbreaks of Maedi-visna/CAE in the past 30 months, the herd achieves M1 reagent-free status.

Status M2

A herd with M1 status may achieve M2 status by sampling herd blood 12-14 months after the last herd blood sample. If the result of the herd blood test is negative and is accompanied by a satisfactory owner's declaration (a declaration that the herd has not been in contact with herds of lower health status), M2 status is granted without reagents.

Status M3

The status M3 means that the herd is recognised as Maedi-visna/CAE-free. A herd with M2 status can achieve M3 status by sampling herd blood 12-14 months after the last herd blood test. If the result of the herd blood test is negative and accompanied by a satisfactory owner's declaration, M3 status is granted.

A herd that has achieved M3 status may maintain M3 status by having herd blood testing (sampling) carried out every three years (36 months). If the result of the herd blood test is negative and is accompanied by a satisfactory owner's declaration, M3 status is maintained.

Status unknown

A herd is assigned the status unknown if

- the status of the herd is not known
- the flock comes into contact with sheep/goats from flocks outside the Health Programme
- the owner's declaration and/or blood test results are not submitted in due time.

Status certificate

Certificates of reagent-free M1 and M2 status are valid for 14 months. Certificates of Maedi-free M3 status are valid for 36 months. The validity of a status certificate is conditional on the flock not coming into contact with sheep/goats from flocks of a lower health status. In such cases, the flock owner must immediately inform SEGES P/S, which will assign a new status to the flock.

Deadlines

Crew owner responsibility

It is the responsibility of the herd owner to ensure that blood test results and declarations of ownership are submitted in a timely manner. Two months before the expected expiry of the status certificate, the herd owner will normally receive an owner's declaration and notification that it is now time for a new herd blood sample to be taken. However, it is

it is the responsibility of the herd owner to ensure that the owner's declaration and blood test results are submitted in a timely manner. The purchase of animals from other herds of the same status does not change the time of the next blood test.

Status Unknown If a herd blood test is not carried out before the expiry of the status certificate and SEGES P/S does not receive a completed and signed owner's declaration, the herd is considered to be OUT OF SERVICE in relation to the health programme.

However, if a herd blood test is carried out and an owner's declaration is submitted within two months of the expiry of the status certificate, the herd will be reintegrated into the programme. If the situation is not rectified within two months of the expiry of the status certificate, the herd shall be deleted from the Health Programme. The earliest such herd can achieve M3 status is after 24 months (three blood tests and owner declarations) as shown in Figure 1.

If the owner's declaration is not received by SEGES P/S within two months of the herd blood sample being taken, a new request will be sent. If no reply is received, the status of the herd is considered to be UKENDT for the purposes of the health programme.

Note Special rules apply to imports of live animals, see Annex 2.

Obligation to report

The herd owner is obliged to immediately report the following to SEGES P/S. Use the owner declarations.

- contact with herds of lower status
- expected imports of sheep/goats (to be notified one month before the import takes place)
- use of semen and embryos from herds of lower status.

Note Special rules apply to imports of live animals, see Annex 2.

Contact with other herds - buying and selling

Only animals from herds with M3 status are recommended for live use - i.e. breeding, buying, selling and showing.

In order to maintain an acquired health status, it is a requirement that animals from the herd are not brought into contact with animals from herds of a lower health status under any circumstances. Interaction and contact with herds of lower health status must be reported immediately to SEGES P/S.

In case of contact between herds of different health status, all herds involved will reach the same status as the herd with the lowest health status. For example, if an M3 herd has been in contact with animals from an M1 herd, both herds will then have M1 status.

A herd owner registered in the Health Programme may purchase animals from herds of equal or higher health status without affecting the health status of the purchasing herd or the timing of a new herd blood test.

Interaction and contact between animals/herds covers e.g.

- all direct contact between animals
- common grazing
- stay in uncleaned stable
- join
- coverage
- sperm and embryo transfer
- introduction of animals into the herd
- use of the same water- and feeding trough.

Sanitation of an infected herd

An infected herd can be sanitised by:

1. Slaughtered all positive reagents and their progeny
2. Slaughter the entire herd and clean/disinfect.

- Ad 1** If a herd owner with a INFECTED herd chooses to slaughter only the infected animals and their offspring, the herd can achieve reagent-free M1 status at the earliest by sampling herd blood after 30 months, as shown in Figure 1.

If the herd blood test is negative and SEGES P/S receives an owner declaration documenting that the herd has not been in contact with herds with UNKNOWN/INFECTED status during the past 30 months, reagent-free M1 status is granted.

It may be advisable to take two further blood samples, six and 18 months respectively after the last reagent and progeny have been applied. This will allow early detection of potentially infected animals.

- Ad 2** If a herd owner with a INFECTED herd chooses to slaughter the whole herd and clean/disinfect the stalls, tools, troughs, etc., a new herd can be established 14 days after disinfection.

Sperm and embryo transfer in relation to the health programme

Imports of semen and embryos must be notified to SEGES P/S on a special declaration of ownership immediately after the import takes place. This also applies to transfers from Danish herds with a lower health status than the recipient herd.

Other semen and embryo transfers, including from Danish herds with the same health status, are reported to SEGES P/S on the standard owner declaration in connection with the next regular blood test.

Import of semen The use of artificial insemination with imported semen shall not affect the status of the herd provided that

- the semen is accompanied on import by an additional veterinary certificate without Maedi-visna/CAE remarks in addition to the required official health certificate
- the semen transfer (insemination) takes place in accordance with the rules laid down by the Danish Veterinary and Food Administration (currently the transfer must be carried out by a veterinarian).

Import of embryos The use of embryo transfer with imported embryos does not affect the status of the herd, provided that:

- the embryos meet the requirements laid down by the competent authorities in the official health certificate
- the embryo transfer is carried out in accordance with the rules laid down by the Food Authority (currently the transfer must be carried out by a veterinarian).

Semen and embryos from Danish herds The use of semen and embryos from Danish herds does not affect the status of the recipient herd, provided that:

- the semen and embryos comply with the requirements set out in the official health certificate for imported semen and embryos
- the semen donor herd has the same health status as the recipient herd
- the semen and embryo transfer takes place in accordance with the rules in force from time to time laid down by the Food Administration.

This means, for example, that

- embryos from Danish M1, M2 and M3 herds do not affect the health status of the recipient herd
- semen transfer from Danish herds results in the recipient herd having the same Maedi visna/CAE status as the donor herd, if the donor herd has the same or a lower status than the recipient herd
- imported semen accompanied by the required official health certificate and the supplementary certificate as regards Maedi-visna/CAE does not affect the status of the recipient herd
- imported embryos accompanied by the required official health certificate do not affect the status of the recipient herd
- semen and embryos collected from animals in herds of unknown or infected status cannot be used without loss of status in the recipient herd.

Import of live animals in relation to Health programme

Obligation to report

Imports of live animals shall be considered as consignments of animals of unknown status, irrespective of the conditions. Therefore, imports of live animals are subject to notification. This means that SEGES P/S must be notified in writing of the **import one month before it takes place**. It must be stated who is buying the animals and where they are being kept (address of herd, CHR Number and name of owner). Use the declaration of ownership.

The detailed rules are described in Annex 2: Rules for the importation of live animals into herds in the health programme.

Control

SEGES P/S may, without prior notice, check that herds comply with the conditions for assigned status. The check may be carried out by means of herd visits, checking the herd list or using information reported to the CHR and the Sheep and Goat Register.

If, during a check, there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that the herd-owner has not complied with his obligation to register, the herd will lose its health status. The herd may be reintegrated into the programme after a specific risk assessment.

Public access to the information in the health programme

The health status of herds is freely available in the Maedi-visna/CAE Health Programme. This means that SEGES P/S informs third parties of the health status of herds and that, in the long term, it may be possible to establish electronic access to the programme.

Payment of fee

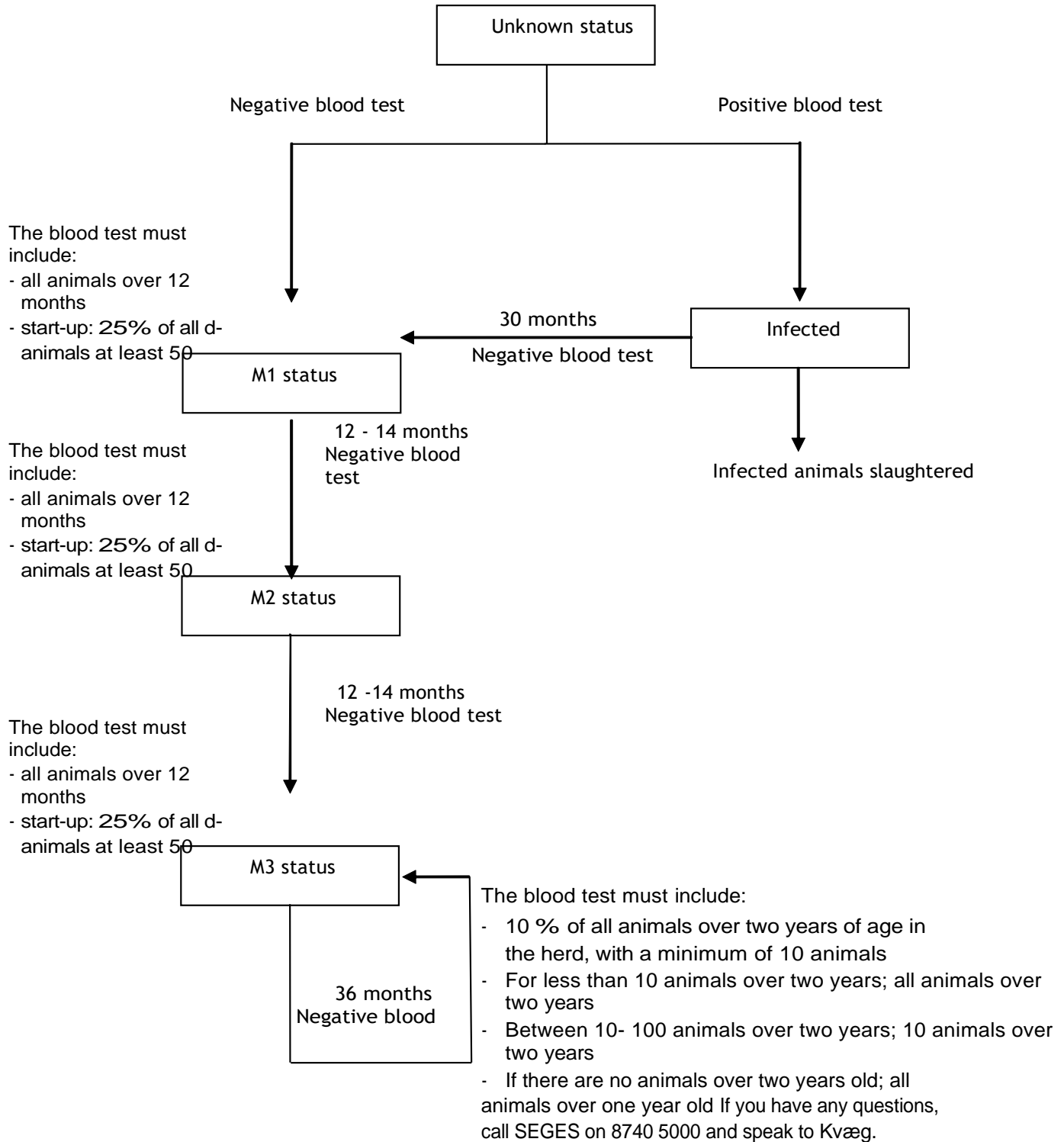
The health programme is voluntary and financed by user fees. The fee of DKK 206.00 plus VAT must be paid immediately upon receipt of the status certificate. An invoice is enclosed. For imports of live animals, a handling fee of DKK 1,290.00 plus VAT is charged. This is done on arrival of the animals in the country. The prices listed are valid as of 1 January 2015 and are subject to change without notice.

Appeals Committee

In cases where the herd owner does not agree with the status assigned or otherwise wants a decision reviewed, the case may be appealed. The appeal committee consists of a representative from the three organisations, the Danish Sheep Breeders' Association, the Danish Lamb Producers' Association and the Danish Goat Union, as well as a veterinarian from the Veterinary Institute and a veterinarian from the Danish Food Administration. The chairmanship is elected between the three associations. The chairman changes every two years. SEGES P/S, Afd. Cattle is the secretariat of the Appeal Committee. A fee is charged for appeals.

Quarantine is required for sheep and goats imported by flocks participating in the voluntary health programme. The import rules apply both to intra-EU/EEA trade and to imports from third countries.

Structure of the health programme



Each step also requires a declaration of ownership

Annex 2

Rules for the import of live animals for herds in the health programme

Risk of infectious diseases

The quarantine rules are introduced to give importers a tool to control and document the health status of animals and to discourage the introduction and spread of disease to the Danish sheep and goat population. The previous system of certificates alone has proved to be inadequate.

However, despite the quarantine rules, there will still be a risk of introducing diseases that are otherwise unknown in Denmark. Therefore, imports of live animals should be avoided. If you do choose to import, it is recommended that you import in the form of semen and embryos, which reduces the risk of introducing diseases.

Remember to use the supplementary veterinary certificate, which should be included in writing in the contract and be a condition for the purchase of semen and embryos as well as live animals. The veterinary certificate can be obtained from SEGES P/S.

Obligation to report

Imports of live animals shall be considered as consignments of animals of unknown status, irrespective of the conditions. Therefore, imports are always subject to notification. This means that SEGES P/S must be notified in writing of the import at least one month before it takes place. It must be stated who is buying the animals and where they are being kept (address of herd, CHR Number and name of owner). If the animals are to be housed on a property with other sheep or goats, the isolation area on the property and the means of preventing the transmission of diseases between flocks must be indicated. Imported animals are granted isolated status (status: IS).

If SEGES P/S has not received information on where the import animals are housed two weeks before the import takes place, the status of the importers' herds is assigned in isolation.

12 or 15 months quarantine

Imported ovine and caprine animals intended to be introduced into a flock participating in the health programme shall

- be accompanied on import by a full complementary veterinary certificate in addition to the required official health certificate
- isolated for a minimum of three months.

The quarantine period consists of the isolation period (3 months) and the observation period (9 or 12 months) and depends on the model used for pooling. During the quarantine period there must be no possibility of transmission of infection to other sheep and goats (isolation period). During this period, the status of the flock in the health programme is suspended

(observation period). In the case of with other herds is equated suspended with unknown.

Isolation pens shall be established to prevent the transmission of infection to other sheep and goats. This means that the animals must be either on another holding (i.e. another holding number) without sheep or goats or on the same holding but housed as follows the transmission of infection between the imported animals and the own animals of the herd is avoided. In both cases, the herd owner shall, prior to importation, describe in writing the location of the isolation zone and the precautions that will be taken to avoid the spread of infection between the animals in isolation and the rest of the herd. The isolation plan must be approved by SEGES P/S before the animals are placed in isolation. If the animals are introduced before the plan has been approved, all animals in the herd will be placed in isolation (status: IS). Subsequently, the practising veterinarian shall ensure that the description of the isolation zone location and infection control measures is in accordance with the actual conditions.

Approval of the isolation zone will be based on a case-by-case assessment. The assessment will take into account:

- Distance between imported animals and other sheep and goats
- Securing of enclosure/stable where double fencing or at least two doors between flocks is required
- Planning of internal traffic between flocks
- Use of changing clothes and dust disinfection
- Use of machinery or implements used in both flocks.

As a general rule, small herds (less than 10 animals) can be used as isolation areas, whereas in larger herds a separate isolation area must be established as described above.

Two models for the rearing of imported and own animals

1. The imported animals are left alone in isolation for three months. Only after these three months may the imported animals be introduced into a herd at the earliest and only after approval from SEGES P/S.

After three months of isolation, imported animals may be accepted for introduction into a herd. Approval is based on import certificates, blood samples from the imported animals and declarations from the owner and the veterinarian.

After that, the herd's status in the health programme is suspended for 12 months, during which the herd is under observation. At the end of the 12 months the status of the herd is reassessed on the basis of blood samples taken from the imported animals and declarations made by the owner and the veterinarian.

2. During the isolation period, at least three females from the same holding as the imported animals may be

crew. Imported animals and animals from the same herd must stay together for at least three months. The animals from the own herd lose their status and get "status isolation".

If the imported animals have been in isolation with three females from their own herd for three months, and the isolation period has been approved by SEGES P/S, the animals (imported animals + own animals) may be crew. Approval is based on import certificates, blood samples from the imported animals and declarations from the owner and the veterinarian. The status of the herd will be suspended for 9 months during which the herd is under observation. At the end of every 9 months, the status of the herd shall be reassessed on the basis of blood samples taken from the imported animals and declarations made by the owner and the veterinarian.

The isolation period

Three months

Imported sheep and goats may not be introduced into a flock participating in the health programme until three months after import and only after approval by SEGES P/S. Approval is based on import certificates, blood samples from the imported animals and declarations from the owner and veterinarian.

Model 1

When, after three months of isolation, imported animals are approved for introduction into an M3 herd, this herd is granted temporary status (M3) (free of Maedi-Visna/CAE) for 12 months during which the herd is under observation. If the imported animals are placed in M1 or M2 herds, the herds are granted temporary M1 or M2 status on the same basis as temporary M3 status.

Model 2

When, after three months of isolation, imported animals, together with at least three females from their own herd, are approved for introduction into an M3 herd, this herd is granted temporary status (M3) (free of Maedi-Visna/CAE) for 9 months during which the herd is under observation. If the imported animals are placed in M1 or M2 herds, the herds are granted temporary M1 or M2 status on the same basis as temporary M3 status.

Documentation

If the importer cannot prove that the imported animals come from herds where surveillance for Maedi-visna/CAE is carried out in a programme where both surveillance and handling of positive reactors are at least equivalent to the Danish one, the herd cannot be granted a temporary Maedi-free status (M3).

Contact with other animals

During the isolation period, the imported animals shall not have contact with other ovine and caprine animals. Contact with other sheep and goats must be approved by SEGES P/S. It must be ensured that no transmission of infection to other sheep and goats can take place (e.g. by thorough hygiene, separate clothing and separate tools).

In the event of death, illness or abortion

During the isolation period, the herd owner must immediately have diagnoses made and post-mortems carried out in the event of suspected disease and abortions, as well as deaths of animals in the isolation herd. The results must be reported to SEGES P/S at the time of application for approval of the isolation period.

Approval of the isolation period

After 70 days of isolation

- the herd's usual veterinarian sees the animals and signs a declaration concerning their state of health
- the owner of the herd signs an equivalent declaration
- the imported animals are tested for Maedi-visna/CAE and Border disease (virus isolation) if they are more than 12 months old at that time.

The completed declarations and copies of diagnoses, test results, post-mortems and import certificates are sent to SEGES P/S. Declarations are available from SEGES P/S.

SEGES P/S, in consultation with a veterinarian from SEGES P/S and on the basis of the material submitted, must approve the import animals and the isolation period before the imported animals are introduced into a herd participating in the health programme. SEGES P/S may request additional information/testing and carry out inspections in the herd.

Temporary M3 status

Imported animals, if accepted after the isolation period, can obtain temporary M3 status, valid for 9 or 12 months depending on the grouping model. During this period the animals can be moved if a logbook is kept of where the animals are moved to. The temporary status affects herds in contact or buying animals from the importing herd. These herds will have the same temporary M3 status. The herds in contact with animals in temporary status must be made aware of the temporary status of the animals, for example when they are sold.

During the period of temporary M3 status, the herd owner must have immediate diagnosis and post-mortem examinations carried out in the event of suspected disease, abortion or death of animals in the importing herd. The results must be reported to SEGES P/S.

After 8 or 11 months

- the usual veterinarian of the herd must inspect the entire herd and sign a declaration concerning the health status of the entire herd
- the owner of the herd signs an equivalent declaration
- the imported animals are tested for Maedi-visna/CAE and Border disease (virus isolation), if they were not tested for these during the isolation period (were younger than 12 months at 70 days).

The completed declarations and copies of diagnoses, test results, post-mortems and import certificates are sent to SEGES P/S. The declarations can be obtained from SEGES P/S, tel. 8740 5000.

Assignment of status after the isolation and observation period

The imported animals, and the herd they were imported into, can only achieve normal M3 status 12 or 15 months after importation at the earliest.

At the end of the temporary M3 period, the status of the herd shall be reassessed on the basis of blood samples taken from importing The imported animals, and the herd they were imported into, can only achieve normal M3 status 12 or 15 months after importation at the earliest.

At the end of the temporary M3 period, the status of the herd shall be reassessed on the basis of blood samples taken from importing declarations by the owner and the veterinarian and other information available/obtained. Normally the duration of the status assigned will depend on the latest date of blood testing.

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In addition to the Maedi-visna/CAE status, the status certificate may contain remarks concerning the import.

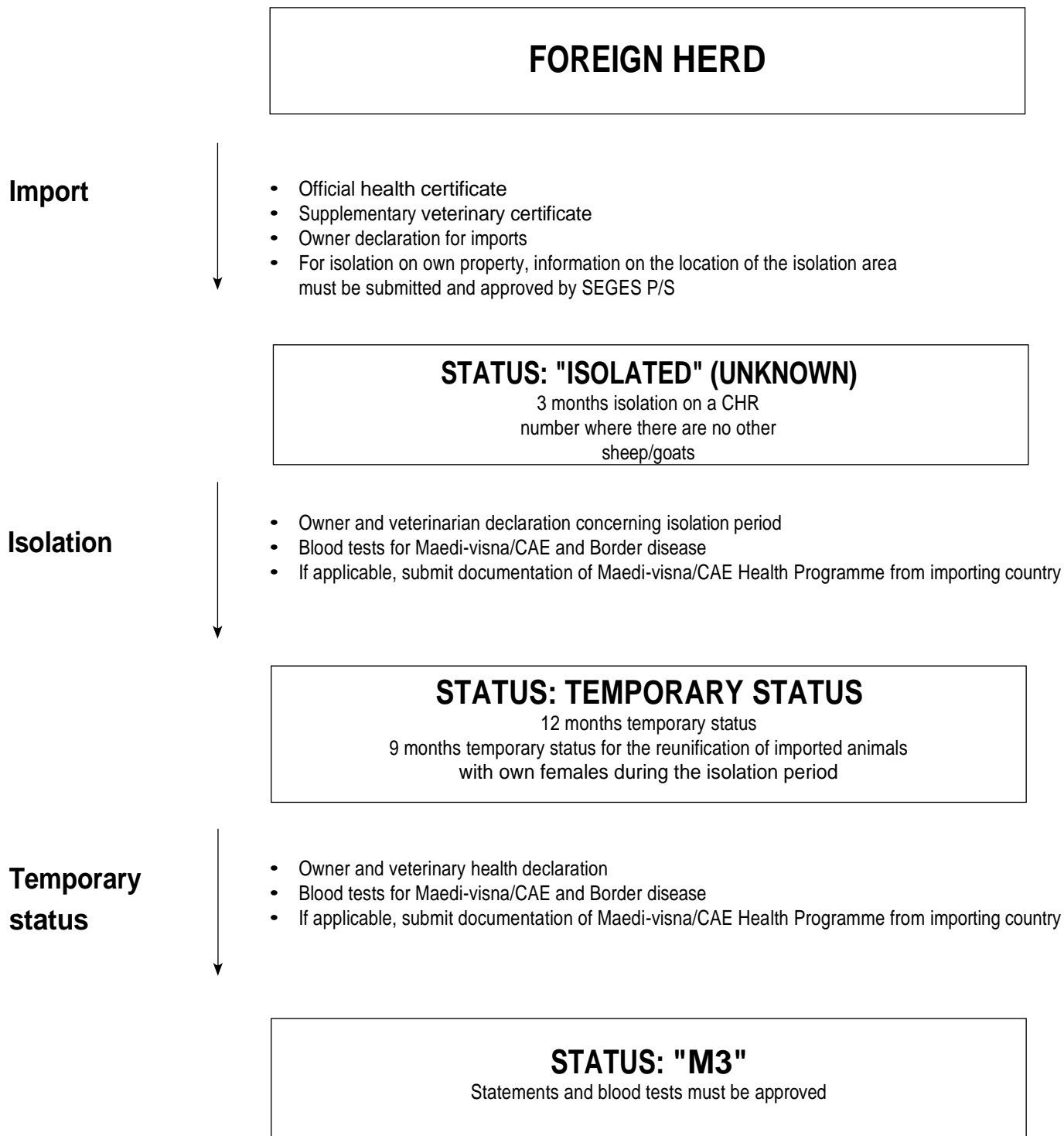
Follow-up of diseases during the observation period

In the case of justified suspicion or diagnosis of an infectious disease in herds with temporary Maedi-free status, SEGES P/S must trace and contact herds that have been at risk of transmitting the disease.

Fee

When handling an import case related to the health programme, a handling fee of DKK 1,290 plus VAT per herd is charged. The price quoted is as of 1 January 2014 and is subject to change without

Imports of sheep and goats for fattening in the Voluntary Maedi-visna/CAE Health Programme



SEGES P/S
Agro Food Park
15 DK 8200
Aarhus N

T +45 8740 5000
E info@seges.dk W
seges.dk

