

P.12.- Ovine TSE confirmatory testing with the new TeSeE Sheep/Goat Western Blot assay

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The active surveillance program conducted by the EC for sheep and goats has resulted in the identification of increased numbers of TSE positive cases.

The Bio-Rad TeSeE™ screening rapid assay has been evaluated and approved by the commission for diagnosis of BSE in cattle and was also recommended for TSE testing in sheep and goats.

Positive samples identified during this surveillance program are systematically confirmed as TSE-affected by the demonstration of typical spongiform changes by histopathology, or by the detection of abnormal PrP by Immunohistochemistry (IHC), or of Scrapie Associated Fibrils (SAFs) by electron microscopy.

Bio-Rad has developed a new highly sensitive assay, which can be used as a confirmatory method in sheep and goats. The TeSeE™ Sheep/Goat WESTERN BLOT assay is based on the PAGE/WB technique.

It consists of the initial purification/concentration stages of the TeSeE™ screening rapid assay, a new combination of monoclonal antibodies selected for their high affinity to sheep and goat PrP^{Sc} and a chemiluminescent signal.

Keywords

Evaluation, rapid tests, TSE, sheep.