

Research project IZS VE 05/10

Evaluation of injectable transponder's use in sheep in order to elaborate an identification method in addition to authorised devices in Italy

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According to the Reg.(EC) N. 1560/2000, in all EU countries electronic identification has become compulsory for sheep and goats born after 31/12/2009. Electronic Identifiers Include bolus, ear tag, tag on the pastern or injectable transponder. At the moment none of these meets completely the characteristics of non-invasiveness and safety, permanence, durability, readability, ease of recovery post-mortem and needs practices found in breeding.

The first purpose of this project is to identify the type and location of inoculum optimal for injectable transponders, verifying its applicability for farms. The experimental evidence will be useful for the authorization of electronic devices' inoculation in sheep and goats also in Italy.

Moreover those activities will be integrated in the Information System already developed in Veneto Region: particularly with a specific tool for the computerized management of the farm register and sharing of the information relating to examined animals with the programs who manage activities performed by Local Public Health Units (LPHUs) and Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie (IZSVE). In this way it will be possible to join Veterinarian Service's surveillance activities of flocks with IZSVE Lab's related analysis and then link them to single animals movements and clinical history of each sheep farm. The automation both of sample acceptance and single ovine identification, will not only simplify administrative procedures but also will improve data quality and recording activities from each sanitary operator involved.