

ED Visit to the Slovak Republic

27 September 2016

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- on the occasion of the Slovak Presidency of the Council of the European Union
- 61st Advisory Forum meeting in Bratislava (28.-29.09.2016)

Objective of the session

- to enhance the scientific cooperation between EFSA and Slovak organizations on issues of food safety
- discussion on the structure of the Slovak Food Safety System and its interfaces with EFSA

- **Part I.** : Meeting with MA SR, experts and competent authorities (representative from Art.36 Org. and EFSA scientific networks)
- **Part II.** : Spread of the harmful organisms in terms of human and animal health - Slovak project
- **Part III.** : EFSA's mission and the vision for the future of cooperation for food safety (MARD, PHA)
- **Part IV.** : Press event

Part I.

- ED detailed EFSA's Strategy and vision on strengthening scientific cooperation to the Slovak authorities and experts
- EFSA representatives were informed about
 - the Slovak Food Safety System
 - the Scientific Cooperation
 - System of Communication in Slovakia
- Discussion on further engagement and possibility of strengthening cooperation with EFSA with participants
- Participants:
 - Slovak representatives from **Art.36 Organisations**
 - Slovak representatives from **EFSA Scientific Networks**

Part II.

The spread of harmful organisms in terms of human and animal health

National project 2016 -2017

- Objectives: **Protection of human health and animal health**
- Aim of the project: risk assessment as a basis for future national /regional risk management.

Organisation involved:

- State Veterinary and Food Institute – Veterinary and Food Institute Bratislava
- University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Košice
- Institute of Parasitology Slovak Academy of Sciences

Second Phase of the project 2017 – 2020 - is expected to be extended to other Central European countries - Austria, Hungary and the Czech Republic

The reason why this project.. ?

Problems - in the context of climate change, globalisation and changes of the Slovak nutrition habits:

1. Spreading vectors - did not occur before in our territory (e.g. winter ticks);
- or vectors that were present only in areas of lower altitude ;
2. Increase of the risk from tick-borne diseases for human and animals
3. Expansion of parasites from endemic areas to the whole territory of Slovakia (e.g. *Echinococcus*)
4. Increase the risk of parasite and vector-borne diseases transmitted **through food**

Occurrence of ticks in Slovakia

*Slovakia: endemic regions / TBE Western European subtype
principal vector - Ixodes ricinus*

years:

1980 -1990;

Max 800 m



years:

1992-2012

Max 1346m

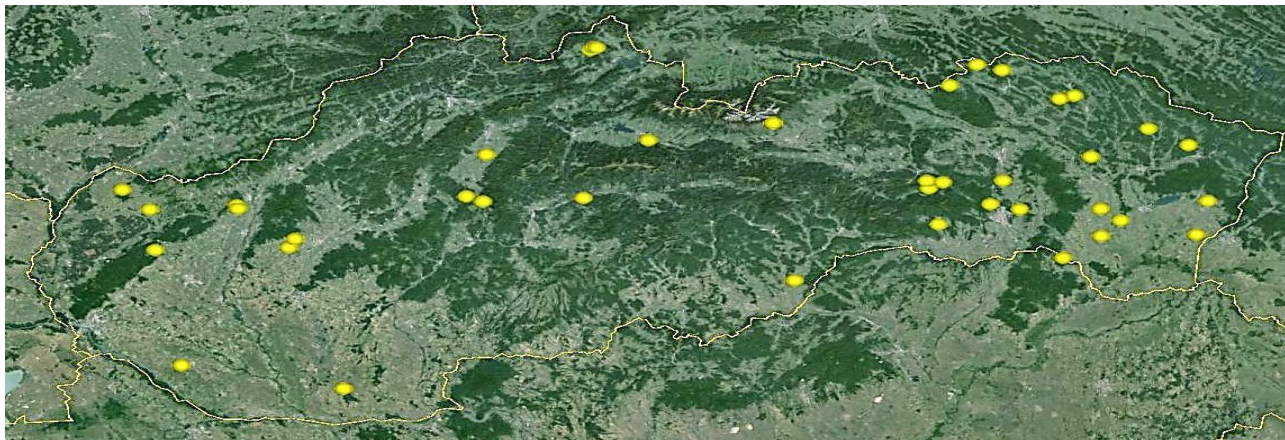


29TH MEETING OF THE FOCAL POINT NETWORK 2016, Uppsala

Occurrence of *Echinococcus* spp.



E. multilocularis - positive findings - foxes, Slovakia - 2011



E. multilocularis - positive findings - foxes, Slovakia - 2015

Changes of the nutrition habits in Slovakia

Before:

- Low consummation of goat milk and cheese;
- Milk and dairy products only from pasteurized milk – exception sheep milk and sheep cheese;
- Low consumption of game;
- Low consummation of raw meat as barbecue, steak....

Changes 2015

- increase of *Trichinella spp.* in **wild animals** 2008 -0,0002% positives
2015 - 0,175% (36% wolfs, fox, boar)
- increase of **human toxoplasmosis** about 65% compared with 5 years average
- increase of **human Lyme disease** about 34% compared with 2014
Ticks: - 7% positives from vegetation; 9,7% positives sucking on human
- increasing trend of **human TBE** from 1989
1989 morbidity – 0,32/ 100 000 population
2015 morbidity – 1,62/ 100 000 population
- Outbreaks TBEV transmitted by food:

Year	Number of outbreaks	Number exposed	Number patients	Transmission factor
2012	2	16	15	Goat milk and products
2013	1	15	5	Sheep cheese
2014	1	21	11	Sheep cheese
2015	4	24	14	Goat and sheep milk

Future results of the project

1. Trends of spreading vectors in Slovakia and new vectors
Current maps of the presence of vectors and parasites in the Slovak Republic shall be processed within the project.
2. The prevalence of zoonotic agents in vectors sucking on humans, animals and collected from the vegetation as well as the presence of them in wild animals will be monitored
3. Risk assessment for individual zoonotic agents in terms of parasite and vector dissemination

Part III.

- Session with:
 - State Secretary of MARD
 - Deputy of the Chief Hygienist of the Slovak Republic of the Ministry of Health
 - General Director of Section of Food and Trade of MARD
 - Director of Food Safety Department of MARD (AF, FP EFSA)
- explaining common initiatives for strengthening cooperation and engagement between EFSA and Slovak Republic in the area of food safety

Part IV.

Press event

Media participation:

TV:  
ROZHLAS A TELEVÍZIA
SLOVENSKA

Radio: 
ROZHLAS A TELEVÍZIA
SLOVENSKA

Newspaper:   HOSPODÁRSKE
NOVINY

News agency: 

Online web portals:  
SLOVENSKÁ TLAČOVÁ AGENTÚRA
SLOVAK NEWS AGENCY

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VIDEO: URL: Úroveň bezpečnosti potravín je v EÚ a SR na vysokej úrovni

TASR, 27. septembra 2016 17:21, aktualizované 27. septembra 2016 20:16

Séria potravinových škandálov v EÚ v 90. rokoch 20. storočia viedla EÚ k sérii opatrení, medzi ktorými bolo aj vytvorenie Európskeho úradu pre bezpečnosť potravín (EFSA).



Európsky úrad pre bezpečnosť potravín sídli v talianskej Parme a jeho poslaním je zabezpečovať vedecké hodnotenie rizika a komunikáciu o riziku, ako aj zabezpečovať vedecké poradenstvo pre právne predpisy a

2016 EU Slovak Presidency

Meetings, conferences and workshops organised by the Slovak Focal Point for EFSA



1. Advisory Forum, 27.-29.09.2016
2. Advisory Forum Communication Working Group, 04.-05.10.2016
3. HoA, 21.10.2016
4. Scientific network EREN, 14.-15.11.2016

Meetings

1. **5th Annual Scientific Congress on zoonoses, foodborne and waterborne diseases - protection of public and animal health, 18.-20.10.2016**
2. **Workshop – The spread of harmful organisms in terms of protection of the human and animal health, 16.11.2016**
3. **9th Annual Scientific Conference for young scientists - Safety of the food chain, 06.-07.12.2016**

Conferences and workshops



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