

WOAH Reference Laboratory Reports Activities 2023

Activities in 2023

This report has been submitted : 11 juin 2024 20:16

Laboratory Information

Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated WOAH Reference Laboratory:	Scrapie
Address of laboratory:	Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) Weybridge, Pathology Dept., Woodham Lane, New Haw, Addlestone, Surrey KT15 3NB, UNITED KINGDOM
Tel.:	+442080269755
E-mail address:	john.spiropoulos@apha.gov.uk
Website:	john.spiropoulos@apha.gov.uk
Name (including Title) of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official):	Mr David Holdsworth
Name (including Title and Position) of WOAH Reference Expert:	Dr John Spiropoulos, Senior Veterinary Pathologist
Which of the following defines your laboratory? Check all that apply:	Governmental

TOR1: DIAGNOSTIC METHODS

1. Did your laboratory perform diagnostic tests for the specified disease/topic for purposes such as disease diagnosis, screening of animals for export, surveillance, etc.?
(Not for quality control, proficiency testing or staff training)

Yes

Diagnostic Test	Indicated in WOAH Manual (Yes/No)	Total number of test performed last year	
		Nationally	Internationally
Indirect diagnostic tests			
Western blot		114	0
Direct diagnostic tests			
Immunohistochemistry		1061	0

TOR2: REFERENCE MATERIAL

2. Did your laboratory produce or supply imported standard reference reagents officially recognised by WOAH?

No

3. Did your laboratory supply standard reference reagents (nonWOAH-approved) and/or other diagnostic reagents to WOAH Members?

Yes

TYPE OF REAGENT AVAILABLE	RELATED DIAGNOSTIC TEST	PRODUCED/ PROVIDE	AMOUNT SUPPLIED NATIONALLY (ML, MG)	AMOUNT SUPPLIED INTERNATIONALLY (ML, MG)	NO. OF RECIPIENT WOAH MEMBER COUNTRIES	COUNTRY OF RECIPIENTS
Unstained sections	Immunohistochemistry	10	0	10	2	AUSTRALIA, BRAZIL,

4. Did your laboratory produce vaccines?

No

5. Did your laboratory supply vaccines to WOAH Members?

No

TOR3: NEW PROCEDURES

6. Did your laboratory develop new diagnostic methods for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

7. Did your laboratory validate diagnostic methods according to WOAHP Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

8. Did your laboratory develop new vaccines for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

9. Did your laboratory validate vaccines according to WOAHP Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

TOR4: DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FACILITIES

10. Did your laboratory carry out diagnostic testing for other WOAHP Members?

No

11. Did your laboratory provide expert advice in technical consultancies on the request of an WOAHP Member?

Yes

NAME OF THE WOAHP MEMBER COUNTRY RECEIVING A TECHNICAL CONSULTANCY	PURPOSE	HOW THE ADVICE WAS PROVIDED
AUSTRALIA	Provision of technical advice regarding immunohistochemistry	Via emails
BRAZIL	Provision of technical advice regarding immunohistochemistry	Via emails

TOR5: COLLABORATIVE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STUDIES

12. Did your laboratory participate in international scientific studies in collaboration with WOAHP Members other than the own?

Yes

Title of the study	Duration	PURPOSE OF THE STUDY	PARTNERS (INSTITUTIONS)	WOAHP MEMBER COUNTRIES INVOLVED OTHER THAN YOUR COUNTRY
Classical scrapie in genetically resistant goats: questioning current concepts and policies	3 years	Investigate the properties of clas. scrapie strains that affect goats which are genetically resistant to the disease.	APHA, ISS, IZT, ELGO-DIMITRA	GREECE ITALY SPAIN UNITED KINGDOM
Classical Scrapie in Iceland, a model for prion diseases worldwide	3 years	Investigate properties of clas. scrapie strains from Iceland and suggesting approaches for eliminating the disease from the country	FLI, APHA, ISS, INRA, INIS-CISA	FRANCE GERMANY ITALY SPAIN UNITED KINGDOM

13. In exercising your activities, have you identified any regulatory research needs* relevant for WOAHP?

No

TOR6: EPIZOOLOGICAL DATA

14. Did your Laboratory collect epidemiological data relevant to international disease control?

No

15. Did your laboratory disseminate epidemiological data that had been processed and analysed?

No

16. What method of dissemination of information is most often used by your laboratory? (Indicate in the appropriate box the number by category and list the details in the box)

a) Articles published in peer-reviewed journals:

0

b) International conferences:

1
Strain typing of two ovine atypical scrapie cases with unusual immunohistochemical characteristics

c) National conferences:

0

d) Other (Provide website address or link to appropriate information):

1
APHA TSE website (<https://science.vla.gov.uk/tse-lab-net/>)

TOR7: SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TRAINING

17. Did your laboratory provide scientific and technical training to laboratory personnel from other WOAAH Members?

No

TOR8: QUALITY ASSURANCE

18. Does your laboratory have a Quality Management System?

Yes

Quality management system adopted	Certificate scan (PDF, JPG, PNG format)	
ISO 9001:2015	ANIMAL PLANT HEALTH AGENCY - Certificate UK013916 - ISO 9001 - exp. 25-07-2026	ANIMAL PLANT HEALTH AGENCY - Certificate UK013916 - ISO 9001 - exp. 25-07-2026.pdf
GLP	GLPStatementofCompliance_APHA_25 April 2024	GLPStatementofCompliance_APHA_25 April 2024.pdf
ISO/IEC 17025:2017	ISO 17025	ISO 17025.pdf

19. Is your quality management system accredited?

Yes

Test for which your laboratory is accredited	Accreditation body
Immunohistochemistry	VETQAS
Western blot	VETQAS

20. Does your laboratory maintain a "biorisk management system" for the pathogen and the disease concerned?

Yes

Implementation of all necessary protective & preventative measures plus decontamination protocols in compliance with national legislation and the guidelines issued by the Advisory Committee on Dangerous Pathogens' Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy (ACDP TSE) subgroup.

TOR9: SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

21. Did your laboratory organise scientific meetings related to the pathogen in question on behalf of WOAAH?

No

22. Did your laboratory participate in scientific meetings related to the pathogen in question on behalf of WOAAH?

No

TOR10: NETWORK WITH WOAAH REFERENCE LABORATORIES

23. Did your laboratory exchange information with other WOAAH Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen or disease?

Yes

24. Do you network (collaborate or share information) with other WOAAH Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen?

Yes

NETWORK/DISEASE	ROLE OF YOUR LABORATORY (PARTICIPANT, ORGANISER, ETC)	NO. PARTICIPANTS	PARTICIPATING WOAHP REF. LABS
Scrapie	Organiser	4	IZT

25. Did you organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with WOAHP Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen?

Yes

PURPOSE OF THE PROFICIENCY TESTS: 1	ROLE OF YOUR REFERENCE LABORATORY (ORGANISER/ PARTICIPANT)	NO. PARTICIPANTS	PARTICIPATING WOAHP REF. LABS/ ORGANISING WOAHP REF. LAB.
Western blot	Participant	32	EU and affiliated countries / IZT
Immunohistochemistry	Participant	32	EU and affiliated countries / IZT
Pathology interpretation	Participant	32	EU and affiliated countries / IZT

26. Did your laboratory collaborate with other WOAHP Reference Laboratories for the same disease on scientific research projects for the diagnosis or control of the pathogen of interest?

No

TOR11: OTHER INTERLABORATORY PROFICIENCY TESTING

27. Did your laboratory organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with laboratories other than WOAHP Reference Laboratories for the same pathogen?

No

TOR12: EXPERT CONSULTANTS

28. Did your laboratory place expert consultants at the disposal of WOAHP?

No

29. Additional comments regarding your report:

Yes

This OIE scrapie reference laboratory has also produced and provided via VETQAS This OIE BSE reference laboratory has also produced and provided via VETQAS Proficiency Testing (APHA's independent, accredited, proficiency testing service) brain tissue to 25 participants for ELISA validation and to 9 participants for confirmatory western blot validation. The OIE reference laboratory was involved in tissue production, data interpretation and provided technical advice whenever it was required.