

WOAH Collaborative Centre Reports Activities 2025

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CENTRE INFORMATION

*Title of WOA Collaborating Centre	Infectious Reproductive Diseases in Europe
*Address of WOA Collaborating Centre	Laboratoire National de Contrôle des Reproducteurs
*Tel:	+33-(0)1 43.53.51.00
*E-mail address:	laurence.guilbert-julien@lncr.org
Website:	www.lncr.org
*Name Director of Institute (Responsible Official):	Dr Laurence GUILBERT-JULIEN
*Name (including Title and Position) of Head of the Collaborating Centre (WOAH Contact Point):	Dr Laurence GUILBERT-JULIEN
*Name of the writer:	Dr Laurence GUILBERT-JULIEN

TOR 1 AND 2: SERVICES PROVIDED

1. Activities as a centre of research, expertise, standardisation and dissemination of techniques within the remit of the mandate given by WOA

Category	Title of activity	Scope
Disease control (true)	Monitoring of health status regarding infectious diseases in the French breeding sector : Semen collection centres for bulls, boars, bucks and rams.	Regular controls for infectious diseases on breeders, in prequarantine, quarantine and Semen collection Centres. For ruminants and pigs. Also control of health status for embryo donor heifers or cows. These controls concern regulated and non regulated diseases, with a specific focus on diseases with an impact on reproduction and a risk of transmission by semen or embryos.
Epidemiology, surveillance, risk assessment, (true)	Epidemiology of vectorial diseases in France : BTV and EHD	After the large diffusion of BTV 8, BTV 3 and EHD in France in 2024, LNCr kept on monitoring these vectorial diseases in 2025 and worked closely with the vets, the representatives of ANSES Ref Laboratory and French and European organisations about control of breeders in SCC. LNCr teams performed many analyses on semen in bulls and rams in order to detect BTV virus (serotypes 3 and 8) and was still included in a Research Group managed by EHD WOA Rel lab to develop knowledge about the diffusion of the virus in the field and the risk of shedding by semen.
Training, capacity building (true)	Training program for the Laboratory teams throughout 2025	Training for Quality management, Teams management of teams, Safety at work. Training on Microbiology according to GTA 36.
Zoonoses (true)	Management of zoonotic diseases diagnostic on breeding stocks	Diagnostic of Brucellosis, Leptospirosis, Q Fever, Tuberculosis (by Gamma Interferon ELISA) are part of the main analyses performed by the LNCr year after year.
Wildlife (true)	Collaboration with zoos in Paris. Work with OFB (French Biodiversity Office).	With zoos in Paris, LNCr performed analyses on wild ruminants for some diseases : BTV PCR, paratuberculosis serology... In 2025 LNCr was also involved for quality control on semen for Lion and Jaguar. With OFB, LNCr performed Pregnancy tests and

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		progesterone dosage on blood for Ibex females in Alps (in the context of following the Ibex population infected by Brucellosis)
Diagnosis, biotechnology and laboratory (true)	Proficiency tests. Improvement of methods, evaluation of tests. Adoption of new tests according to needs of Semen Collection Centres. Boar semen extenders controls.	LNCR is involved every year in many proficiency tests with ANSES Laboratories in France and Laboratories from other countries : Scensiano, GD Animal Health, VetQas Apha Scientific, International Leptospirosis Society. For diagnostic of diseases, LNCR try to improve when it is possible the way to perform the analyses and to choose or test new kits (PCR for PRRS or for mycobacterium paratuberculosis in feces...). We add to our list of tests a new kit for detection both of BTV and EHD virus... Adoption of new tests : end of 2025, LNCR adopted new triplex PCR test for detection both of BTV and EHD viruses. LNCR performs physicochemical and microbiological controls for semen extenders. LNCR also test the efficiency of extenders for preserve semen over time to their shelf life (motility, viability, morphology of spermatozooids...)

TOR 3: HARMONISATION OF STANDARDS

2. Proposal or development of any procedure that will facilitate harmonisation of international regulations applicable to the main focus area for which you were designated

Proposal title	Scope/Content	Applicable Area
Update of French standard for diagnosis of Leptospira by MAT NF 47-009	LNCR is part of a group for updating French Standard NF U47-009. This group include the labs that are performing MAT for vet analyses in France, the Lab of the Vet School of Lyon and Pasteur Institute. We had several meetings in 2025 and proposed a revised version to AFNOR in autumn 2025.	Laboratory Expertise

3. In exercising your activities, have you identified any regulatory research needs* relevant for WOA?H?

Yes

Research need 1

Please type the Research need: As already written in 2024 report, it would be useful if the BTV virus or EHD virus genome detection by PCR on semen could become official tests for ruminants in case of infection. The PCR on blood stay positive very long time after infection but not the semen. These tests of PCR in semen could allow safe trade and safe use of semen. These tests could be included in the WOA recommendations for management of breeders in Semen Collection Centers. The Eu Ref Labs for BTV or EHD were interested to work on a validation for these PCR methods.

Relevance for WOA: Disease Control, Capacity Building, Other, Standard Setting, Animal Welfare, Facilitation of international collaboration,

Relevance for the Code or Manual: Code, Manual,

Field: Epidemiology and Surveillance, Diagnostics, Vaccines, Therapeutics,

Animal Category: Terrestrial, Aquatic,

Disease:

Bluetongue

Epizootic haemorrhagic disease

Kind of disease (Zoonosis, Transboundary diseases): Zoonosis, Transboundary diseases,

If any, please specify relevance for Codes or Manual, chapter and title

(e.g. Terrestrial Manual Chapter 2.3.5 - Minimum requirements for aseptic production in vaccine manufacture)

Answer:

Notes:

Answer:

4. Did your Collaborating Centre maintain a network with other WOA Collaborating Centres (CC), Reference Laboratories (RL), or organisations designated for the same specialty, to coordinate scientific and technical studies?

Yes

Name of WOA CC/RL/other organisation(s)	Location	Region of networking Centre	Purpose
ANSES National Reference Laboratory /WOAH RL for	Maisons-Alfort	Europa	Stephan ZIENTARA who is the manager of the ANSES lab and of the RL lab is also the Chairman of the Technical and Scientific Committee of

EHD/National RL for BTV			LNCR. We have regular discussion with him and his team about methods of diagnosis for these diseases.
ANSES National Laboratory for BVD, IBR and Leucosis.	Niort	Europa	Regular discussion about tests for diagnosis, confirmation of false-positive results for Leucosis serological analyses. Participation to proficiency tests.
ANSES National Reference Laboratory /WOAH/FAO/Ref lab for Brucellosis and Brucella ovis	Maisons-Alfort	Europa	Regular discussion about serological diagnosis of Brucella, false positive results. Participation to proficiency tests.
Nationale Reference Centre of Leptospirosis, Pasteur Institute.	Paris	Europa	Working together in a working group for updating the French Standard for diagnosis of leptospirosis by MAT. Technical discussions in 2025 with the new deputy manager of this Centre who worked previously at LNCR.
ANSES National Reference Laboratory for Besnoitiose, Visna-Maedi and CAEV.	Maisons-Alfort	Europa	Supply of virus-positive sera for validation of commercial serological kits for VISNA-CAEV diagnosis.
National Veterinary School of Toulouse. Cattle diseases service.	Toulouse	Europa	Contacts and work in commun with Professor François Schelcher about BTV and EHD viruses. In the Research working group managed by Stephan Zientara, LNCR performed many blood and semen PCR analyses to detect (or not) the 2 viruses BTV and EHD. Partial results of this work were presented by LNCR during the AIVETS Congress in October 2025.
Reproduction and Swine Health Department, New Bolton Centre.	University of Pennsylvania USA	América	Mr Gary Althouse, Professor of Reproduction and Swine Health validates the results of boars semen extenders carried out by LNCR every year. He made an audit of the lab in August 2025.
ANSES National Reference Laboratory for Classical Swine Fever	Ploufragan	Europa	Participation to a meeting about diagnosis, validation of tests for CSF in Novembre 2025.
Sciensano	Brussels	Europa	Participation in March 2025 to the Symposium of Animal Health "10 years in progress in Animal Health", organised by the Scientific Direction of Infectious Animal Diseases of Sciensano. Participation every year to the Animal PT meeting and Group Comm. Diagnosis VT organised by Sciensano.

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European Regional Focal Point for Animal Genetic Resources (ERFP)	Madrid (location of Chairman)	Europa	Scientific contribution to support the redaction of "Guidelines for the Development of National Animal Health Regulations for Material Intended to be Kept in Gene Banks", document available since July 2025. The aim of this document is to serve as a reference in the development of animal health regulations that facilitate the work of gene banks.
EFFAB and REPVET	Brussels	Europa	Several meetings in 2025 with EFFAB and into the REPVET group. Many discussion about BTV and EHD in 2025. Meeting with representative of the European Commission in Brussels in February 2025 to discuss about the opportunity to manage infected bulls individually in SCC and not as a group. These discussions should have contributed to an evolution of the regulatory text for SCC.
NEW National Reference Lab for PRRS in France.	Ploufragan	Europa	This new RL for PRRS in France was designated end of 2025, we had first discussion with the Chairman and will work with him in 2026.
National Vet School of Maisons-Alfort - Cattle Unit	Maisons-Alfort	Europa	Exchange with the teachers of the Cattle Medicine Team, realisation of the analyses after farms visits with the teachers and their students.

TOR 4 AND 5: NETWORKING AND COLLABORATION

5. Did your Collaborating Centre maintain a network with other WOAHC Collaborating Centres, Reference laboratories, or organisations in other disciplines, to coordinate scientific and technical studies?

Yes

Name of WOAHC CC/RL/other organisation(s)	Location	Region of networking Centre	Purpose
GIS Cryobanque Nationale	France	Europe	LNCRC is primary site for the French Biobank for domestic animal species. After first certification under ISO 9001 in 2024, the French Biobank and LNCRC obtained in 2025 the first renewal of this certification. In 2025 we received a group for a meeting organised by the GIS Cryobank and the ERFP to present the primary site.

TOR 6: EXPERT CONSULTANTS

6. Did your Collaborating Centre place expert consultants at the disposal of WOAHC?

Yes

Name of expert	Kind of consultancy	Subject
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Sofia POMBO and Laurence GUILBERT-JULIEN	We have been involved for updating the WOA Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Chapter on Trichomonosis. We were part of a working group including also Ala Tabor from Centre for Animal Science - Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation.	We have been informed in September 2025 that the Trichomonosis chapter was adopted at the General session in May 2025.
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TOR 7: SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TRAINING

7. Did your Collaborating Centre provide advice/services to requests from Members in your main focus area?

Yes

LNCR was involved in June 2025 during an audit with experts from New Zealand about sanitary management of breeders for semen production or embryos collection. The Ministry of Agriculture asked us to present the program of control of breeders and we add a specific focus on PCR detection of *Mycoplasma bovis* on semen, mandatory for the New Zealand authorities to export semen to their country.

8. Did your Collaborating Centre provide scientific and technical training, within the remit of the mandate given by WOA, to personnel from WOA Members?

Yes

a) Technical visit : 1

b) Seminars : 0

c) Hands-on training courses: 1

d) Internships (>1 month) : 6

Type of technical training provided (a, b, c or d)	Content	Country of origin of the expert(s) provided with training	No. participants from the corresponding country
A	Visit of a group for French Biobank and ERF	Europe and North Africa	10
B	Training on sanitary certification to export bull semen.	France	5
D	Work study program of 12 months training for a student in science for lab analyses. She worked on evaluation of PRRS serological tests and for validation of a new analyser for ELISA testing. At the end of the work student program she passed the entrance exam for the Alfort Vet school.	France	1
D	Work study program of 12 months training for a student in science for lab analyses. She worked in the andrology unit on a new serological test to evaluate the reproduction ability of bulls based on dosage of Pro AKP4 in semen. At the end of the work student program she passed the entrance exam for the Alfort Vet school.	France	1
D	Work study program of 12 months training for a student in science for lab analyses. He worked in the microbiology unit to improve the bacteriological analyses on embryos collection medias and straws of semen.	France	1
D	Internship to discover the role of a vet in a lab and training on serological analyses. Vet student from School University Vasco de Gama - Coimbra.	Portugal	1
D	Internship for a student in Science and Biotechnology for lab analyses. Training in the serological unit.	France	1
D	Internship for a student in Laboratory analyses and Quality. Training in reception unit and microbiology unit.	France	1

TOR 8: SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

9. Did your Collaborating Centre organise or participate in the organisation of scientific meetings related to your main focus area on behalf of WOA?H?

Yes

National/International	Title of event	Co-organiser	Date	Location	No. Participants
Internationally	AIVETS Congress	LNCr was part of the Scientific Committee to define the program of the 35ème AIVETS Conference in Budapest in Octobre 2025.	2025-10-20	Budapest (Hungary)	100

TOR 9: DATA AND INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

10. Publication and dissemination of any information within the remit of the mandate given by WOA?H that may be useful to Members of WOA?H

a) Articles published in peer-reviewed journals:

0

b) International conferences:

1

AIVETS Congress 2025 in Budapest : presentation by Laurence GUILBERT-JULIEN about results for PCR analyses on semen to detect BTV and EHD virus for infected bulls.

c) National conferences:

2

LNCr was co-author for a poster presented at the "57èmes Journées de la Recherche Porcine in SAINT MALO", 4 et 5 Feb 2025. The subject of the poster was : Evaluation of prevalence of Porcine Parvovirus in semen of vaccinated boars in Semen Collection Centres.

LNCr was also co-author of a poster presented at the ADILVA Congress in Octobre 2025. The title of the poster was : Development and validation of a new PCR test for multiplex detection of PRRS Virus type 1 and type 2 in Europe.

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

11. What have you done in the past year to advance your area of focus, e.g. updated technology?

We keep on working about vectorial diseases BTV and EHD while the extension of these viruses in France (particularly BTV 3 and BTV 8) had an impact for bulls in Semen Collection Centres.

We follow all the discussion about Lumpy Skin Disease, the emergence of this disease in France and the consequences for the SCC located in regulated zones. Unfortunately, the French Ministry didn't give us an agreement for LSD analyses at time of writing this report.

12. Additional comments regarding your report: