

HELLENIC REPUBLIC
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
D.G. OF VETERINARY SERVICES
ANIMAL HEALTH DIRECTORATE
DEPT. OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES,
EPIDEMIOLOGY & DOCUMENTATION

Athens, 19 March 2002

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Subject : Annual Technical Report on TSEs in Greece for the year 2001

Dear Dr. Poudelet,

Please find attached the Annual Technical Report on surveillance and control of TSEs in Greece for the year 2001.

Kindly note that the report is submitted in compliance with article 6, paragraph 4 of Regulation (EC) No.999/2001 and the format is conforming with Annex II, Chapter B, Point 1 of Regulation (EC) No.999/2001 as amended by Regulation No.270/2001.

In addition, some supplementary and relevant information have been included so that the same technical report may also satisfy the conditions for a Community co-financing of actions approved by article 32 of Commission Decision 2000/774/EC.

My Services remain at your disposal for further information and clarifications,

Sincerely yours,

Vasilios STYLAS
Director General

**TO : Dr. Eric Poudelet, Head of Unit
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ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT ON TSEs IN GREECE FOR THE YEAR 2001

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1. Number of suspect cases, per animal species, subject to movement restrictions in accordance with article 12, paragraph 1 - Table 1.

Prefecture	Species	BSE suspect cases	Scrapie suspect cases	Comments
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a. Scrapie

Xanthi	Sheep	-	1	-
Ioannina	Sheep	-	1	-
Ioannina	Sheep-Goats	-	1	-
Pella	Sheep	-	1	-
Pella	Sheep-Goats	-	1	-
Kilkis	Sheep	-	1	-
Evros	Sheep	-	1	-
Kastoria	Sheep	-	1	-
Kozani	Sheep	-	1	-
Total		-	9	

b. BSE

Drama	Bovines	1	-	Clinical suspicion
Imathia	Bovines	1	-	Clinical suspicion
Karditsa	Bovines	1	-	Clinical suspicion
Chalkidiki	Bovines	1	-	Clinical suspicion
Kilkis	Bovines	95	-	94 of the besides mentioned bovines constitute the entire bovine livestock population, aged >24 months old, of the holding where the single BSE positive case was detected (BSE-contacts). Upon detection of this single positive animal, all the rest within the same holding were subsequently slaughtered and tested for BSE, none of them producing positive results. The remaining one was a clinical suspicion raised elsewhere within the same prefecture.
Evros	Bovines	1	-	Animal imported on 1998 from a Netherlands' holding in which a positive diagnosis for BSE was established on May 2001.
Attiki	Bovines	1	-	Suspicion raised due to inconclusive results of the initial BSE rapid test (animal > 30 months old, for human consumption)
Magnesia	Bovines	1	-	Suspicion raised due to inconclusive results of the initial BSE rapid test (animal > 30 months old, for human consumption)
Total		102	-	

Comments on Table 1 :

- In the case of sheep / goats, suspicions refer to Scrapie and a "case" is considered to be a flock.
- In the case of bovines, suspicions refer to BSE and a "case" is considered to be an individual animal. Naturally, even in bovines movement restrictions were imposed on the entire herd.

- Geographical distribution of suspect cases presented in Table 1 is indicated in Map 1.

Map 1: Map indicating the location of TSE suspect cases subjected to movement restrictions in the course of 2001.



● Bovine herds suspect of BSE

★ Sheep-Goat flocks suspect of Scrapie

2. Number of suspect cases, per animal species, subject to laboratory tests in accordance with article 12, paragraph 2, and results thereof - Table 2.

Case No	Prefecture	Species	Animals sampled	Scrapie		BSE		Alternative Diagnosis
				Pos	Neg	Pos	Neg	

a. Scrapie

1	Viotia	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	Coenouriasis
2	Viotia	Sheep/goats	2	-	2	-	-	-
3	Grevena	Sheep/goats	5 ^a	3	2	-	-	-
4	Grevena	Sheep/goats	2	-	3	-	-	-
5	Evros	Sheep/goats	6	3	3	-	-	Maedi (diagnosed in 4 of these samples)
6	Evros	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
7	Imathia	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	Coenouriasis
8	Imathia	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
9	Thes/niki	Sheep/goats	12 ^a	12	-	-	-	-
10	Thes/niki	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
11	Thes/niki	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
12	Thes/niki	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	Brain abscess
13	Ioannina	Sheep/goats	5	5	-	-	-	-
14	Ioannina	Sheep/goats	1 ^a	1	-	-	-	-
15	Ioannina	Sheep/goats	3	3	-	-	-	-
16	Kavala	Sheep/goats	3	-	3	-	-	Visna suspects
17	Kavala	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
18	Kavala	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
19	Kavala	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
20	Kavala	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
21	Kavala	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
22	Kavala	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
23	Kavala	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
24	Kavala	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
25	Kavala	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
26	Kavala	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
27	Kavala	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
28	Kastoria	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
29	Kastoria	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	Coenuriasis
30	Kastoria	Sheep/goats	7	3	4	-	-	-
31	Kastoria	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	Maedi
32	Kilkis	Sheep/goats	3	-	3	-	-	-
33	Kilkis	Sheep/goats	3	-	3	-	-	Choriod Plexus Neoplasia in 1 out of 3
34	Kilkis	Sheep/goats	2	-	2	-	-	-
35	Kilkis	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	Maedi-Visna
36	Kilkis	Sheep/goats	2	2	-	-	-	-
37	Kilkis	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	Maedi-Visna
38	Kilkis	Sheep/goats	2	-	2	-	-	Maedi-Visna
39	Kilkis	Sheep/goats	2	-	2	-	-	Enterotoxaemia in 1, Encephalitis the other

40	Kozani	Sheep/goats	24	7	17	-	-	2 out of 24 were diagnosed with Coenuriasis
41	Kozani	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	Listeriosis
42	Kozani	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
43	Kozani	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
44	Kozani	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
45	Kozani	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
46	Kozani	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
47	Kozani	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
48	Kozani	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
49	Kozani	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
50	Kozani	Sheep/goats	2	-	2	-	-	-
51	Larisa	Sheep/goats	2	-	2	-	-	1 suspect for Visna
52	Larisa	Sheep/goats	3	-	3	-	-	Coenuriasis in all 3 , 1 was also affected with Visna
53	Xanthi	Sheep/goats	20	13	7	-	-	-
54	Xanthi	Sheep/goats	2	-	2	-	-	-
55	Xanthi	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	-
56	Pella	Sheep/goats	17	8	9	-	-	1 out of 17 diagnosed with chronic lobular pneumonia
57	Pella	Sheep/goats	5 ^a	5	-	-	-	-
58	Pella	Sheep/goats	2 ^a	2	-	-	-	-
59	Pella	Sheep/goats	2	1	1	-	-	-
60	Pieria	Sheep/goats	2	-	2	-	-	-
61	Rethimnon	Sheep/goats	2	-	2	-	-	Both diagnosed with Coenuriasis , and Visna
62	Serres	Sheep/goats	7	-	7	-	-	All affected with Maedi-Visna and Intestinal parasites
63	Serres	Sheep/goats	1	-	1	-	-	Maedi
64	Florina	Sheep/goats	2	-	2	-	-	Listeria in both animals
65	Chalkidiki	Sheep/goats	3	-	3	-	-	1 diagnosed with acute acidosis

b. BSE

1	Drama	Bovines	1	-	-	-	1	-
2	Imathia	Bovines	1	-	-	-	1	Malignant Catarhal Fever
3	Karditsa	Bovines	1	-	-	-	1	Lobular pneumonia
4	Chalkidiki	Bovines	1	-	-	-	1	-
5	Kilkis	Bovines	96	-	-	1	95	-
6	Evros	Bovines	1	-	-	-	1	-
7	Attiki	Bovines	1	-	-	-	1	-
8	Magnesia	Bovines	1	-	-	-	1	-
9	Xanthi	Bovines	1	-	-	-	1	Listeriosis

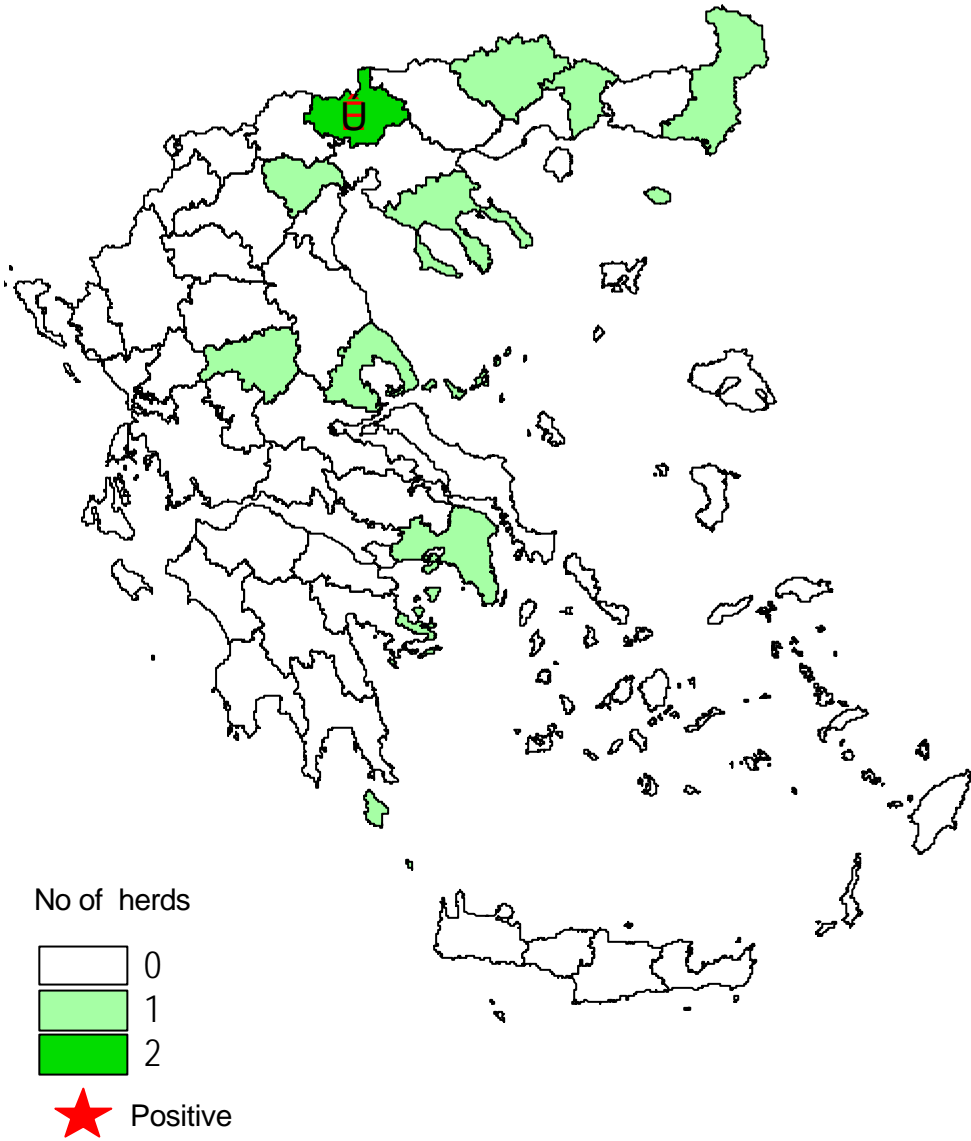
^a Flocks in which a Scrapie diagnosis was originally established in 2000

Comments on Table 2 :

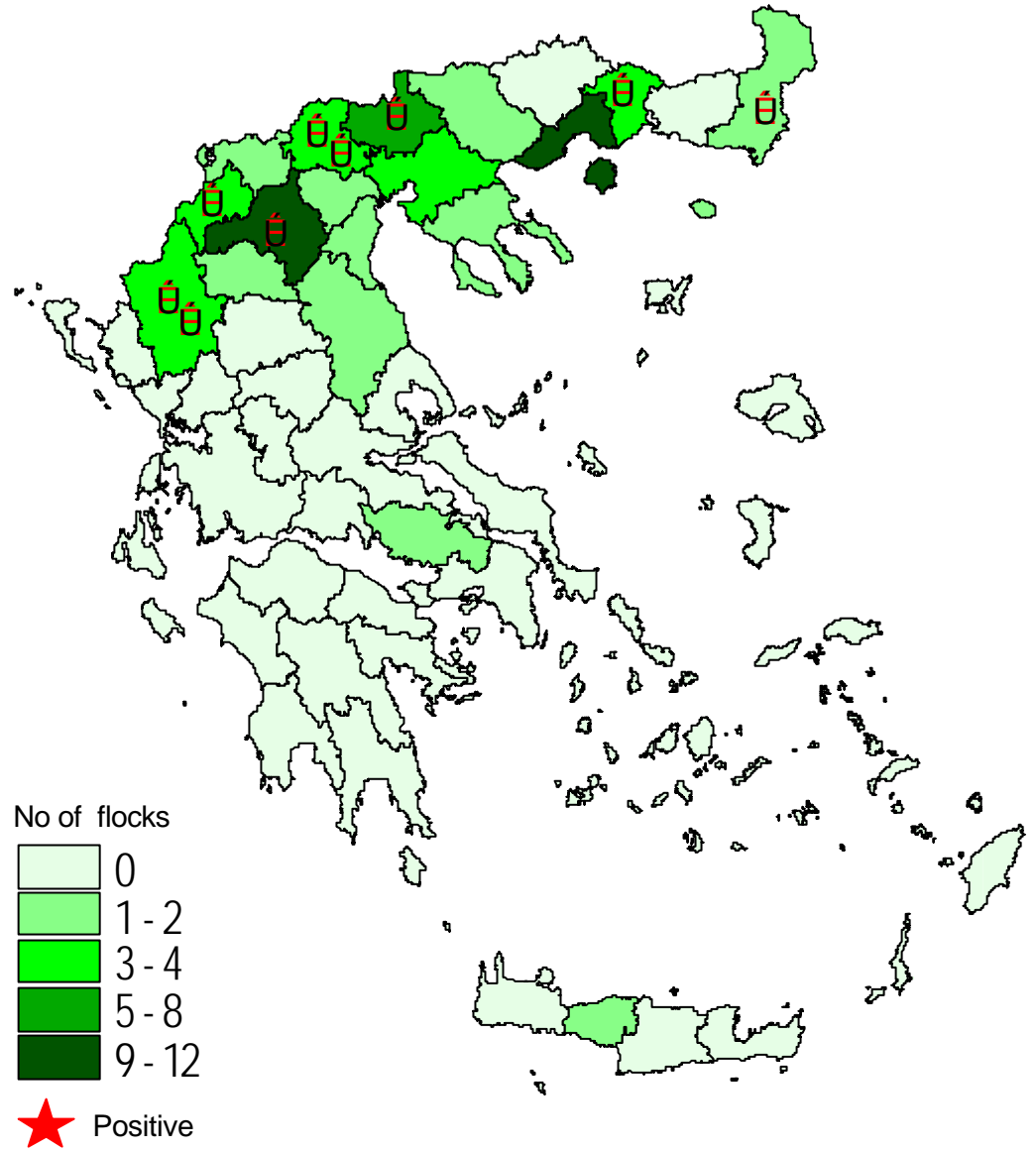
- In all investigated cases TSE (BSE or Scrapie depending on the species) was ruled out irrespectively of whether an alternative diagnosis was established or not.

- **Geographical distribution of investigated bovine and ovine / caprine cases is indicated in Maps 2 and 3 respectively.**

Map 2: Geographical distribution of BSE suspect cases subject to laboratory examination, in 2001, and results thereof



Map 3: Geographical distribution of Scrapie suspect cases subject to laboratory examination, in 2001, and results thereof



3. Number of sheep / goat flocks where suspect cases have been reported and investigated in accordance with article 12 paragraphs 1 and 2- Table 3.

Prefecture	No of TSEs' suspect flocks (sheep and goats)	Scrapie positive cases detected in 2001
Viotia	2	0
Grevena	2	0
Evros	2	1
Imathia	2	0
Thes/niki	4	0
Ioannina	3	2
Kavala	12	0
Kastoria	4	1
Kilkis	8	1
Kozani	11	1
Larisa	2	0
Xanthi	3	1
Pella	4	2
Pieria	1	0
Rethimnon	1	0
Serres	2	0
Florina	1	0
Chalkidiki	1	0
Total	65	9

4. Estimated size of subpopulations referred to in Chapter A, Part I, Points 3 & 4

- a) Total bovine population aged > 24 months old is 300.000 heads. Based on the working hypothesis that 1% of these animal may be found dead or dying on the farm irrespective of causes, the number of fallen stock on a year-on-year basis can be assumed to be in the neighborhood of **3000** animals.
- b) Bovines purchased for destruction in the framework of Regulation (EC) 716 / 96 are **0** because this Regulation is not applicable in the Greek territory.

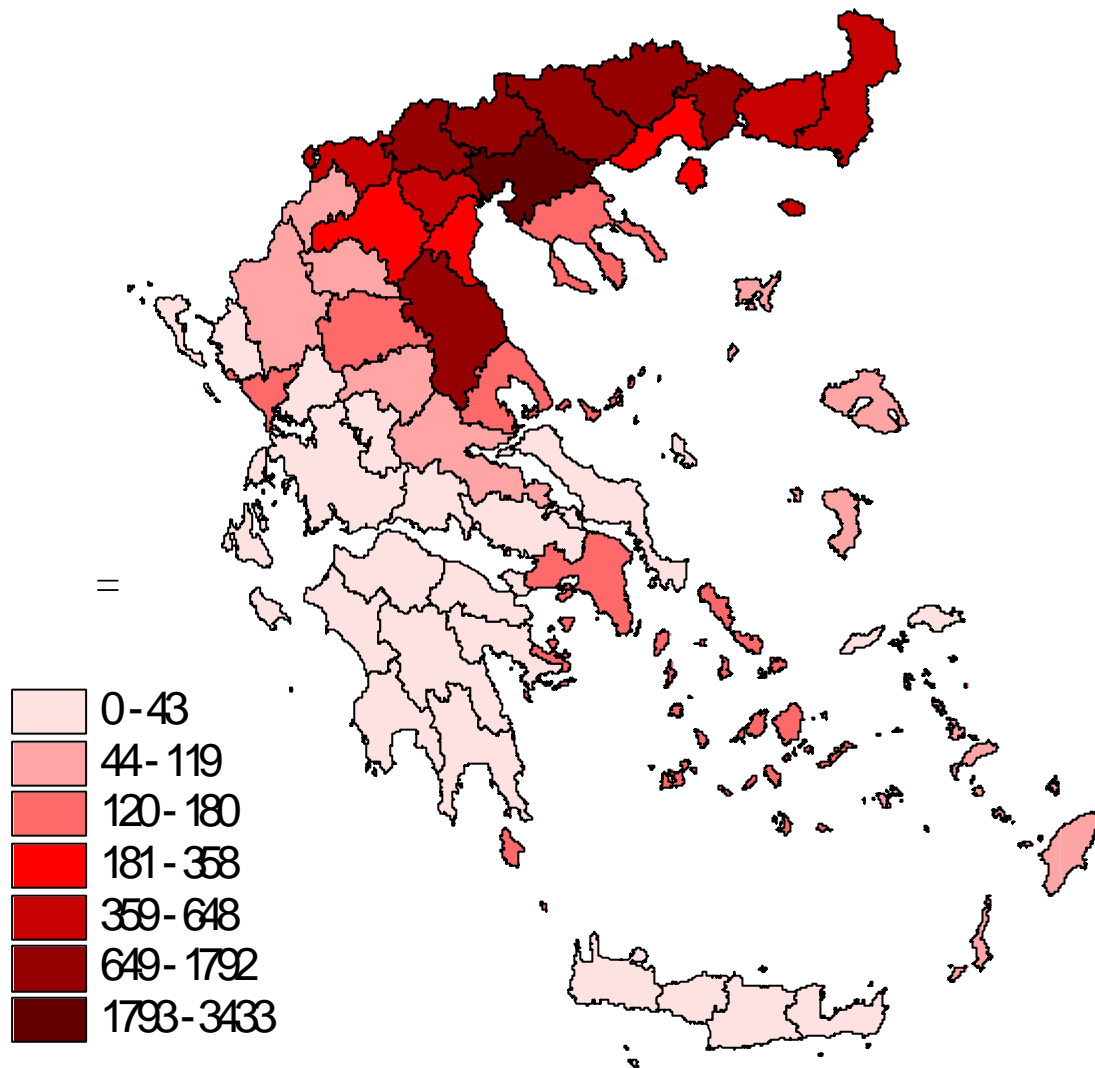
5. Number of bovines in each subpopulation subject to a test referred to in Chapter A, Part I, Points 2 to 5, the method of choice and the results of the Tests - Table 4.

Selection method	No of samples	Positive
Bovines > 24 months old subject to "special emergency slaughter" (point 2.1)	224	0
Bovines > 30 months slaughtered for human consumption (point 2.2)	15.326	1
Bovines aged > 24 months not slaughtered for human consumption (point 3)	1.429	0
Bovines purchased for destruction in the framework of Regulation (EC) 716/96 (point 4)	0	0
Other bovines* (point 5)	95*	0
Total	17.074	1

Comments on Table 4:

- “Other bovines” includes BSE-contacts with BSE confirmed cases (either indigenous or imported).
- The spatial distribution of the above samples appears in Map 4.

Map 4: Map of Greece indicating the spatial distribution of bovine samples tested for BSE in the framework of active monitoring scheme.



6. The estimated size of the subpopulations mentioned in Chapter A , Part II, Points 2 and 3 , which have been selected for sampling .

Implementation of active monitoring of TSEs in sheep and goats was introduced on January 2002 an, therefore, no such data are available for 2001.

7. The number of ovine and caprine animals and flocks tested within each subpopulation referred to in Chapter A , section II , points 2 to 4 .

Implementation of active monitoring of TSEs in sheep and goats was introduced on January 2002 an, therefore, no such data are available for 2001.

8. Positive TSE cases (number, age distribution , geographical distribution):

a. Scrapie positive cases (Table 5)

Case No.	Prefecture	Species Involved	No of animals positive	No of animals present	Age distribution (years)
1	Xanthi ^b	Sheep	13	505	3, 4, 8
2	Ioannina ^b	Sheep	5	129	2, 3, 4, 5
3	Ioannina ^b	Sheep -Goats	3	51	4
4	Ioannina ^a	Sheep-Goats	2	93	3
5	Pella ^b	Sheep	8	144	4, 7, 10
6	Pella ^b	Sheep -Goats	1	620	1,5
7	Pella ^a	Sheep -Goats	7	674	Ranging from 2,5 to 5
8	Pella ^c	Sheep	2	181	4 , 5
9	Kilkis ^b	Sheep	2	190	3,5 , 4
10	Evros ^b	Sheep	3	110	2 , 4
11	Larisa ^c	Sheep-Goats	4	398	3 , 4, 5
12	Larisa ^a	Sheep	4	307	2,5 3,5 4
13	Kastoria ^b	Sheep	3	130	4
14	Kozani ^b	Sheep	7	165	7
15	Grevena ^a	Sheep-Goats	3	410	Ranging from 2 to 4
16	Thessaloniki ^a	Sheep-Goats	12	230	Ranging from 2 to 9

^a Flocks in which Scrapie was diagnosed for the first time in 2000 (=prevalence).

^b Flocks in which Scrapie was diagnosed for the first time in 2001 (=incidence).

^c Flocks in which Scrapie was diagnosed for the first time in 1998 - 1999

In the course of 2001 a total of 16 affected flocks comprising 4337 animals were stamped out in the framework of actions aiming to eradicate Scrapie.

These flocks were either detected in previous years and carried over into 2001 under official supervision and movement restrictions, or diagnosed for the first time in 2001.

b. BSE positive cases (Table 6)

Data pertaining to the single BSE case detected in Greece throughout 2001, are summarized in Table 6 :

Birthdate	17 November 1996
Sex	Female
Breed	Holstein (pure bred)
Location	Pontoiraklia village, Prefecture of Kilkis (see Map 1)
Reason for testing	> 30months, for human consumption

9. Positive TSE cases in species other than Bovines, Sheep and Goats.

No such cases were detected in Greece throughout 2001.

10 . Genotype of animals sampled within the sub-populations mentioned in Chapter A , part II, points 6.1 and 6.2

Genotype determination of sheep and goats in relation to Scrapie susceptibility was not a standard procedure connected with a national scale surveillance programme . Data, however exist, derived from research studies carried out by specialists on especially selected sub-populations. A summary of published results of such a study is attached hereto.

