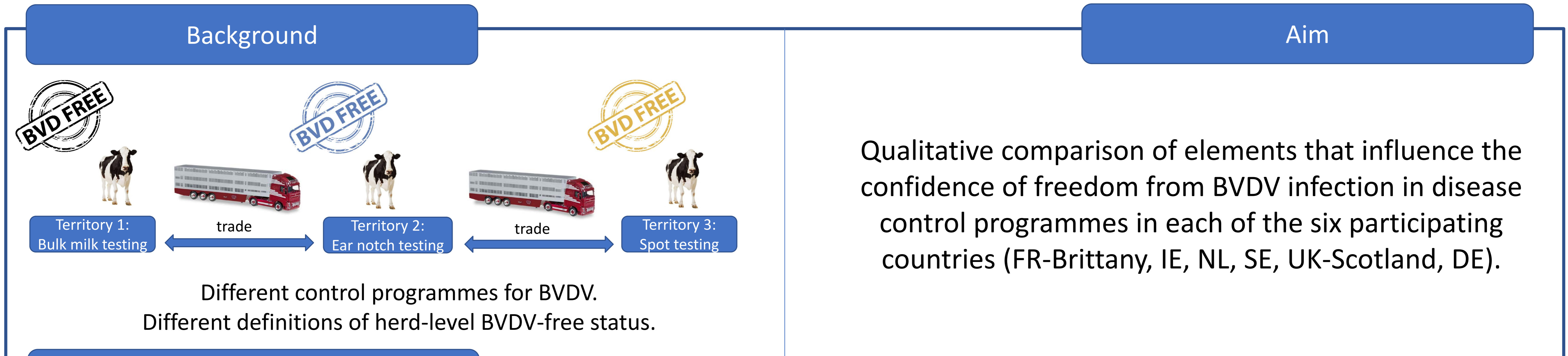


Challenges when comparing disease control programmes

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Results

	Brittany	Italy	Netherlands	Sweden	Scotland	Germany
Different BVDV control programmes	Bulk milk testing	Ear notch testing	Ear notch / Spot testing	Bulk milk testing	Spot testing	Ear notch testing
Individual vs group	Group	Individual	Individual	Group	Group	Individual
Disease indicator	Ab	Virus	Virus / Ab	Ab	Ab	Virus
Target population	Dairy cattle	Newborn calves	Newborn calves / 5 cattle 8-12 mo.	Dairy cattle	5-10 cattle 9-18 mo./6-18 mo./18+mo.	Newborn calves
Different contexts: ranking per aspect						
Herd-level prevalence of BVDV in breeding herds	3 2%	3 2%	5 10.4%	1 0%	4 10%	2 0.08%
Type of programme	2 Mandatory screening / Voluntary follow-up	1 Mandatory	3 Voluntary	1 Mandatory	1 Mandatory	1 Mandatory
Cattle density (cattle/km ²)	4 74 cattle/km ²	5 93 cattle/km ²	6 104 cattle/km ²	1 4 cattle/km ²	2 23 cattle/km ²	3 32 cattle/km ²
No. of imported cattle	5 154k	2 3k	6 918k	1 11	3 11k	4 75k

Test frequency, timeliness of testing, test used, definition BVDV pos. herd, follow-up, duration of testing until free status etc.

Conclusion

- Comparing control programmes is very complex: many factors collectively influence the confidence of freedom
- It was a challenge to precisely define the data of interest and to collect the information in such a way that it allows comparison between territories
- Because the territories included in this study were at very different phases of control or eradication, it was difficult to compare control programmes, therefore they were ranked per aspect
- It was impossible to qualitatively determine the relative contribution of each element to the overall confidence of freedom and a quantitative approach is needed

Acknowledgements: This study was awarded a grant by EFSA and was co-financed by public organisations in the countries participating in the study.

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