

Lumpy skin disease in Europe: Situation report as of 29 November 2016

International Animal Health Epidemic Intelligence (VSI) team – ESA Platform – France

Since the last situation update on 29 September 2016, new outbreaks of Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) have been declared in Greece (n=5), Albania (n=133) and Montenegro (n=2) (Table 1, Figure 1). The disease continues its spread North-East of Turkey with the first two outbreaks reported in Georgia beginning of November 2016. The number of outbreak declarations continued to decrease in the past weeks (Figure 2), which could indicate the end of the vector season and the efficiency of the vaccination campaigns carried out in all affected countries on all or part of their territory, but the two effects cannot be distinguished. However, the data from September to November 2016 might be incomplete due to delays between outbreak detection and declaration. The risk of further spread of LSD in the Balkans remains high.

Several countries have not yet declared LSD outbreaks but have started preparing for the arrival of the virus by implementing awareness campaigns or ordering provisional vaccine doses. According to EFSA, the vaccination of cattle is the most efficient way to control the spread of LSD, and if vaccination is meticulously carried out, partial stamping out of affected animals would be as efficient to eradicate the disease as total stamping-out, which is currently required by European legislation (EFSA 2016). Croatia is, for now, the only country to have started a preventative vaccination. Authorities started a vaccination campaign on 8th August 2016 in the South and Eastern provinces which are most at risk, and will progressively extend the campaign to the entire country. Romania is on alert and has organized awareness campaigns for veterinary services and farmers, simulation exercises and has decided to forbid cattle markets (source: Animal health regulatory committee – report from 13-14 September 2016). Bosnia-Herzegovina has ordered 100,000 vaccine doses financed by the European Union (EU), but will only start vaccinating once the first case of LSD is confirmed on its territory. Hungary is finalizing a vaccination plan and Slovenia is considering a vaccination strategy. The table below presents the situation by country starting with countries that have most recently declared their first LSD outbreak.

Table 1: Number of outbreaks of Lumpy skin disease (LSD) – situation as of 29 Nov 2016 (sources: ADNS, OIE, Empres-i, *Animal Health Regulatory Committee – report from 18th August 2016)

Country	Nb of outbreaks	Date of 1st outbreak	Vaccination*	Cattle population (approx)*
Montenegro	64	21/07/2016	- Vaccination campaign ongoing - Delivery of 25 000 vaccine doses on 31/07/2016 and order of 70 000 additional vaccine doses to extend vaccination to entire country	106,000
Albania	218	28/06/2016	- Vaccination campaign ongoing - Delivery of 25 000 vaccine doses on 25/07/2016	500,000
Kosovo	46	20/06/2016	- Vaccination campaign ongoing - Delivery of 25 000 vaccine doses on 01/07/2016	250,000
Serbia	221	08/06/2016	- Vaccination campaign throughout the whole country ongoing - Delivery of 400 000 vaccine doses in the week of 27/06/2016	950,000
Macedonia (FYROM)	113	22/04/2016	- Vaccination campaign throughout the whole country ongoing - Delivery of 50 000 vaccine doses on 22/05/2016	225,000
Bulgaria	217	14/04/2016	- Vaccination campaign throughout the whole country finished on 15/07/2016 - Delivery of 150 000 vaccine doses on 26/04/2016	700,000
Greece	221	21/08/2015	- Vaccination campaign in North-East in 2015 and vaccination in 2016 extended to West - Delivery of 50 000 vaccine doses on 27/04/2016 and 50 000 doses on 24/07/2016	700,000

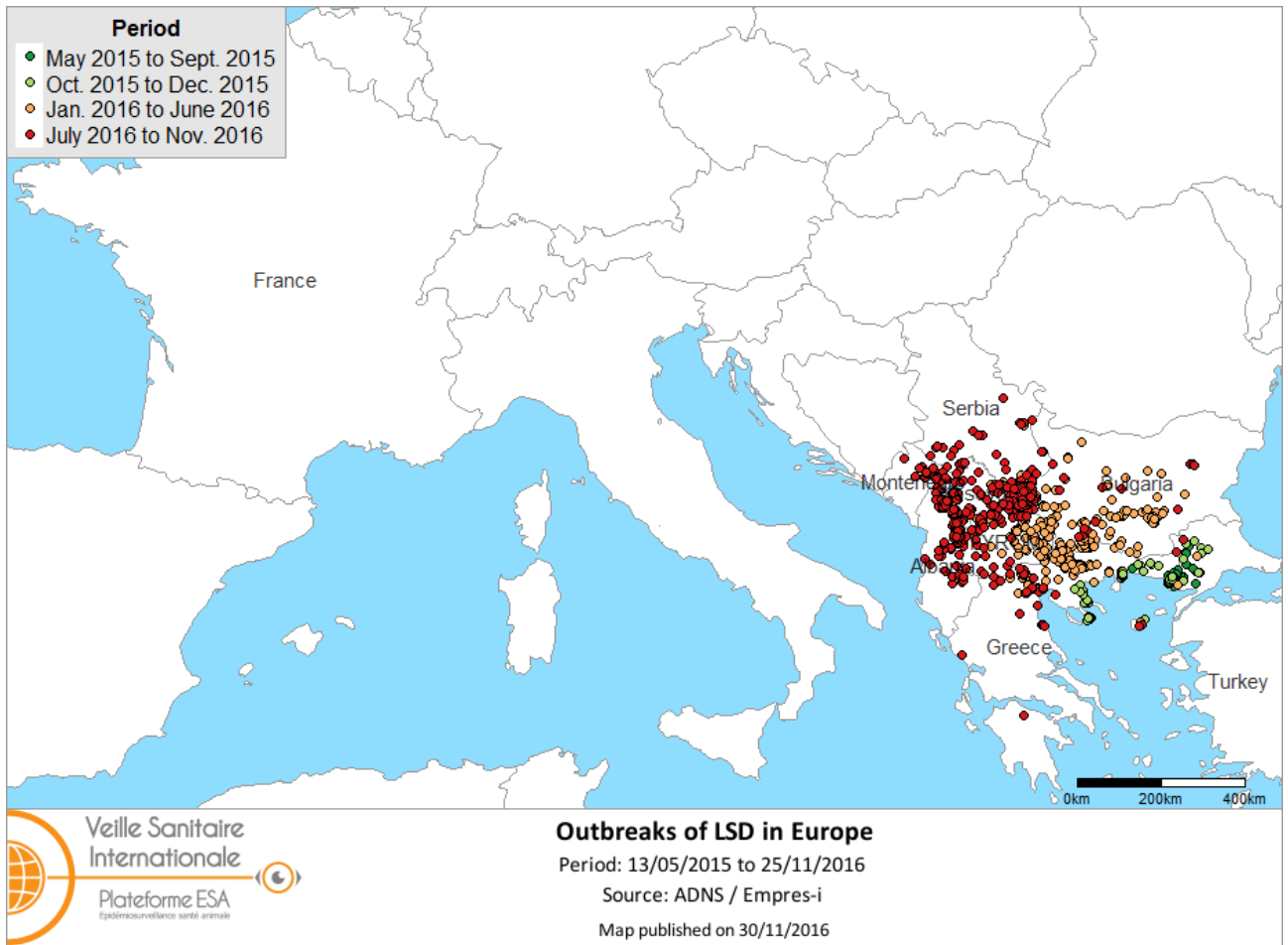


Figure 1: Outbreaks of Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) reported from May 2015 to November 2016 (as of 29 November 2016) (sources: ADNS/Empres-i)

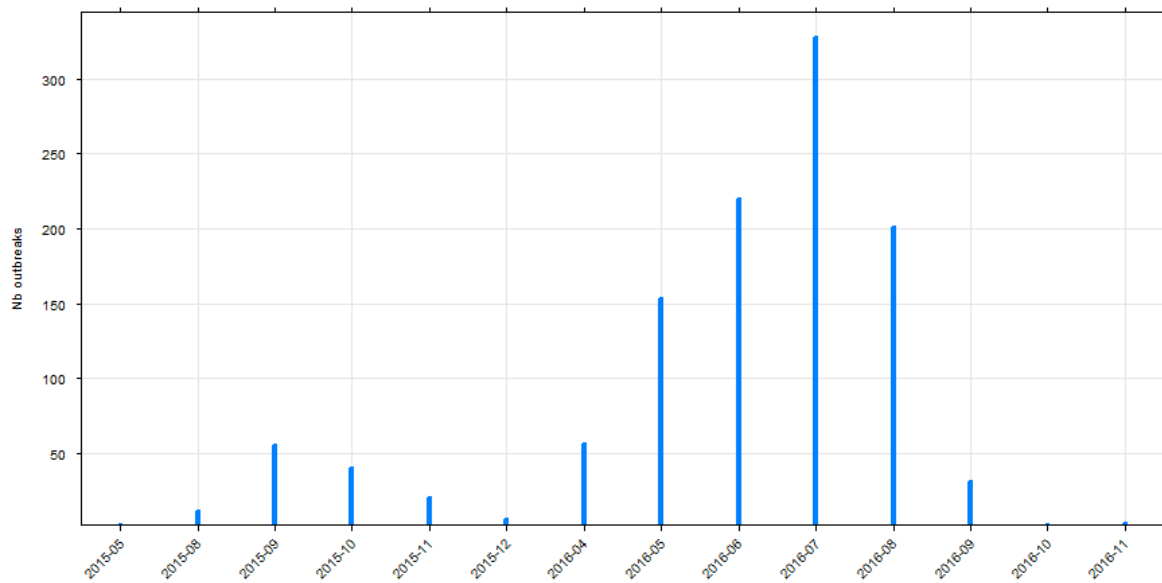


Figure 2: Time series of outbreaks of Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) reported in the Balkans from May 2015 to November 2016 (as of 29 November 2016) (sources: ADNS/Empres-i)