COMMISSION

COMMISSION DECISION

of 6 November 2000

amending Commission Decision 2000/552/EC on certain protection measures with regard to movement of equidae within and dispatch from certain parts of France affected by West Nile fever

(notified under document number C(2000) 3173)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2000/689/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 90/425/EEC of 26 June 1990 concerning veterinary and zootechnical checks applicable in intra- Community trade in certain live animals and products with a view to the completion of the internal market [1], as last amended by Directive 92/118/EEC [2], and in particular Article 10 thereof,

Whereas:

(1) In certain departments of France cases of West Nile fever, a non-contagious vector-transmitted viral disease accompanied by clinical signs of encephalitis, have been reported in horses.

(2) The presence of this disease is liable to constitute a danger for humans and equidae.

(3) The Commission therefore adopted Decision 2000/552/EC of 15 September 2000 on certain protection measures with regard to movement of equidae within and dispatch from certain parts of France affected by West Nile fever [3].

(4) In order to adapt the measures to the current epidemiological situation, it is necessary to amend Decision 2000/552/EC with regard to equidae dispatch from the affected parts of the territory of France.

(5) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Veterinary Committee,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Annexes I and II to Decision 2000/552/EC are replaced by the Annex to this Decision.

Article 2

Member States shall amend the measures they apply with regard to France to bring them into line with this Decision.

They shall inform the Commission thereof.

Article 3

This Decision shall apply until 30 November 2000.

Article 4

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 6 November 2000.

For the Commission

David BYRNE

Member of the Commission

[1] OJ L 224, 18.8.1990, p. 29.
[2] OJ L 62, 15.3.1993, p. 49.
[3] OJ L 234, 16.9.2000, p. 48.

ANNEX

'ANNEX I

In France the départements of:

— l'Hérault (34)

— Gard (30)

— the part of the *département* Bouches-du-Rhône (13) west of the N 7 road

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ANNEX II

Supplementary certificate

Reference No of animal health certificate: .....

The equine animal described in the abovementioned animal health certificate complies with one of the following conditions:

(1) either it comes from a holding situated in the centre of an area of at least 30 km radius around that holding where there has been no case of West Nile fever reported in equidae during the past 15 days, and has had no contact during the preceding 15 days with equidae which have been resident on holdings where West Nile fever has been confirmed during the previous 30 days (1),

or

(2) it comes from a holding situated within an area of 30 km radius around a holding on which West Nile fever has been confirmed in equidae during the previous 30 days and has prior to dispatch

— either undergone pre-movement isolation under vector-protected conditions for a period of at least 21 days, or since entry from a holding outside the areas identified in Annex I to Decision 2000/552/EC, and during that period the body temperature taken daily remained within the normal physiological range and has been subjected to an IG-M capture ELISA test for the detection of antibodies against West Nile virus with negative result, carried out on a blood sample taken not earlier than 17 days from the date the isolation commenced (1), or not more than five days prior to dispatch if it entered isolation on a holding outside the areas identified in Annex I to Decision 2000/552/EC for a period of less than 21 days (1),

or

— has been subjected to two tests for the detection of antibodies against West Nile virus, with negative result in the case of IG-M capture ELISA, and with positive result at a serum dilution of 1 in 100 in the case of either a IG-G capture ELISA (1), or a plaque-reduction neutralisation test (1), carried out on a blood sample taken within 21 days of dispatch (1).

Date and place	Name and function	Signature of the official veterinarian

(1) Delete as appropriate'