

# Appropriate legislation for surveillance

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By ensuring the health surveillance of livestock, the Veterinary Services participate in food security and the safety of food of animal origin. The fulfilment of these fundamental missions depends on the implementation of techniques and decisions that require a wide range of relevant, up-to-date information. Surveillance systems in all areas of veterinary public health as well as documentary intelligence systems are a major tool to achieve this end. In the first section, the key areas of surveillance are placed within their general veterinary context, as seen 'from farm to fork'.

In the second section, surveillance systems are discussed in terms of the legal environment of a constitutional State so as to show, with the help of several examples, that the revision or development of veterinary legislation systems must take into account aspects relating to the ownership of data and conditions governing their collection and use.

**Keywords**

Surveillance – Veterinary legislation.

