Practical Trade Inspections

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Federal Public Service for Public Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment
Animal Welfare Department
European legislation

Traces database

• Allows to be informed of animals coming into the Member State
• Allows to extract copies of certificates (past and coming)
  • Passport number, no microchip number
  • No tracing of repeated use of the same number
European legislation

European pet passport

- Microchip
- European pet passport
- Rabies vaccination

-> no ban on replacement of passport
-> no ban on reusing of microchip
-> no traceability
European legislation

Judgement of the European Court in joined cases C-42/10, C-45/10 and C-57/10 (implementation of Regulation 998/2003) : identification of the successive owners of a dog is decisive in the field of animal health
European legislation

29/12/2014:

- Vet has to keep record of
  - identification details of the dog
  - Personal data of the owner
  - Passport number

-> no ban on replacement of passport

-> no ban on reusing of microchip

-> traceability?
Belgian legislation

- Licensing of dog and cat breeders (and traders) since 1997
- Mandatory registration of dogs since 1998
  - 2004: European passport linked to registration
  - Ban on reusing of microchips
  - Ban on replacement of passports
Belgian legislation

-> allows tracing of the origin of dogs (+ consumer protection)
  • Statistics for trade within / to / from Belgium

-> crosschecking with Traces
  • Indication of legal vs illegal trade / private vs commercial movements
  • Dogs registered in Traces registered in database? Registered at address of
destination indicated on certificate?
  • Pups regularly travel back and forth several times

-> allows detection reusing of microchips and passports

-> allows tracking down illegal importers