

Conclusions



- Many of the results from the labs corresponded well.
- There were some discrepancies e.g. due to sensitivity or specificity issues.
- Generally a very good response from labs that are keen to monitor the quality of their diagnostic testing.



Introduction



- The European Reference Laboratories (EURLs) are directed to organise annual proficiency testing for the National Reference Laboratories (NRLS) of EU Member States.
- The WRL at Pirbright also fulfils this function for other regions for the control of FMD.
- This enables the harmonisation of testing between national and international reference laboratories.



Aim



- To complete a proficiency testing study for diagnostic methods for FMD and SVD during 2011.
- To enable a clear picture of the scale of activities, the state of QA accreditation and the tests being used by Member States during 2010/2011 to be compiled.



Sample preparation



Four panels were prepared for those labs requesting them:

- Panel 1: infectious material for virus detection
- Panel 2 : non-infectious material for virus genome/antigen detection.
- Panel 3: non-infectious material for FMD serology
- Panel 4: non-infectious material for SVD serology
- Ten panel sets were tested in order to set up the criteria to assess all the labs' performances.
- Each sample was randomly assigned a number and labelled accordingly.

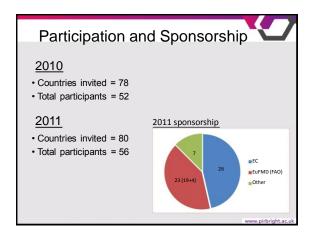
www.nirbright.ac.uk

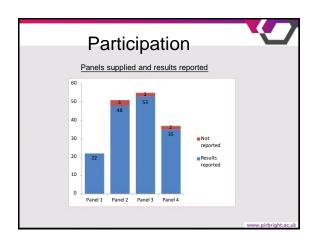
Sample Testing

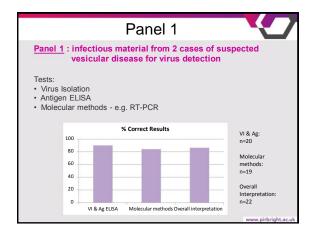


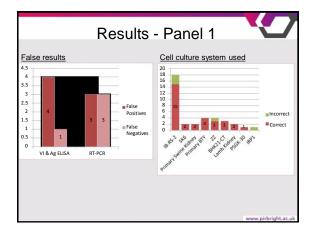
- The priority serotypes were O and Asia 1.
- Particular tests were not specified, but labs were invited to select tests and interpret results.
- Participating labs were asked to answer which samples were FMD/SVD positive or negative in which tests. Also an overall interpretation for each sample.
- Labs were asked to supply us with copies of the standard operating procedures (or methodologies) for the tests carried out.

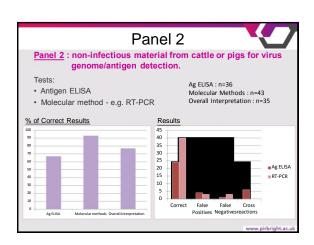
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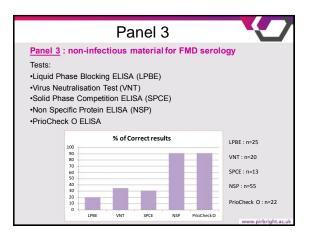


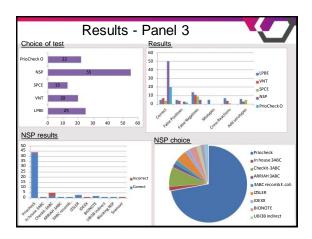


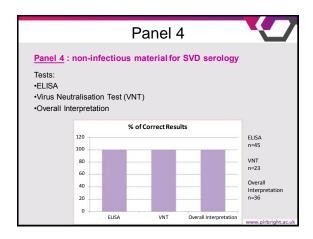


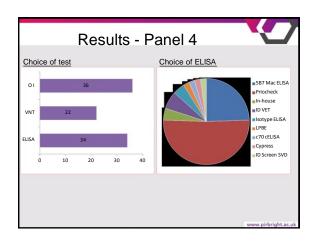












Conclusion

Some labs did not send the results back as requested.

Many of the results from the labs corresponded well, especially panel 4.

There were some discrepancies - e.g. due to sensitivity or specificity issues, leading to false results or mistyping.

In some labs there may be the need to establish certain tests, or certain serotypes/SVDV within a test.

A number of QA systems are used by the labs, including ISO 9001, 17025 and in-house systems.

Generally a very good response from labs that are keen to monitor the quality of their diagnostic testing.

