

CHAPTER 1: RECALLS AND DEFINITIONS

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 LEGISLATION

Legislation is the set of laws and regulations in force in a country or those relating to a particular field (e.g., labor legislation, commercial legislation). It includes the constitution, laws enacted by the legislative power, as well as decrees, orders, and to a certain extent, circulars issued by the executive power.

1.1.1 Laws

A law is a text issued from the legislative power, voted by Parliament. The initiative for laws (i.e., the right to propose a new law or amend an existing law) belongs concurrently to the Prime Minister (government bill) or to a member of parliament (private member's bill). Government and private bills are filed with the bureau of one of the two assemblies where they are studied by specialized committees. Once adopted, the law must be promulgated by the President of the Republic and countersigned by the Prime Minister and the concerned ministers. For the veterinary field, it is the Minister of Agriculture who is responsible for its implementation. The law will be applicable after its publication in the Official Gazette.

1.1.2 Decrees

These are acts of the executive power and are not subject to a vote by the National Assembly. They establish the implementation details of laws. They are signed by the President of the Republic or the Prime Minister and countersigned by the ministers responsible for their implementation. They are then published in the Official Gazette.

1.1.3 Orders

These are enforceable decisions taken by ministers, walis, or presidents of APC (Communal People's Assemblies) towards their constituents. Depending on the case, they are ministerial (ministerial or interministerial orders), wali orders, or APC president orders (municipal order). The Minister of Agriculture signs ministerial orders concerning the field of animal health; they are then published in the Official Gazette.

1.1.4 Circulars and Service Notes

Circulars, directives, and service notes are addressed to civil servants and gather information and explanations on how to practically implement laws, decrees, and orders.

1.1.5 Promulgation

This is an act by which the President of the Republic attests to the existence and regularity of the law, orders its publication and execution. The law must bear the date of its promulgation.

1.1.6 Publication

This is an act by which a text is officially made known to the public by insertion in the Official Gazette of the Republic.

1.2 JUDICIAL ORGANIZATION

Justice is administered by a certain number of courts called "Mahkama" which sit at the wilaya level or at the दौरa level. Courts render judgments; appeal courts render rulings.

There are four types of jurisdictions summarized in the following table:

Table 1: The different types of jurisdiction in the Algerian judicial organization (JORA, 2023)

Criminal, Penal, or Repressive Jurisdictions	Administrative Jurisdictions	Civil Jurisdictions	Special Jurisdictions
- Assize Court (once a year)	- Administrative Courts	- Court of Appeal	- State Security Court
- Criminal Courts	- Court of Auditors	- Court of Cassation	- Court of Economic Offenses
		- Courts of Major Jurisdiction	
		- Commercial Courts	
		- Supreme Court	

1.3 VETERINARY LEGISLATION

Veterinary legislation enables authorities to fulfill their functions, notably:

- Epidemiological surveillance
- Early detection and notification of animal diseases (including zoonoses), as well as their prevention and control
- Rapid response to health emergencies
- Food safety of animal origin products
- Appropriate sanitary certification of animals and animal products intended for export

CHAPTER 2: INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

2.1 INTRODUCTION

The risks of contagious diseases spreading between countries through international trade in animals and their products have led some States to consider creating an international organization to monitor the evolution of these diseases worldwide and inform the veterinary services of different countries. These organizations can act as scientific and/or technical advisors in developing measures to be implemented. They can also conduct international programs in which Algeria may be involved.

Among these organizations are:

- World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- Codex Alimentarius
- World Trade Organization (WTO)

2.2 WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH (WOAH)

2.2.1 Status

WOAH is an intergovernmental organization created by the international agreement established on January 25, 1924, signed by 28 countries. In 2024, WOAH has 183 member countries, including Algeria. This organization maintains permanent contacts with nearly 75 other international and regional organizations and has regional and sub-regional representations on all continents.

2.2.2 Mission

WOAH is the intergovernmental organization responsible for improving animal health worldwide, in permanent institutional cooperation with global public organizations (WHO, FAO). Its objectives are:

- Guarantee transparency of the global animal disease situation

Each member country commits to reporting animal diseases detected on its territory. WOAHA then disseminates this information to all other countries so they can protect themselves. This information also concerns diseases transmissible to humans. It is disseminated urgently or with delay depending on the severity of the disease. These surveillance and monitoring objectives apply to both natural and intentional health events. Dissemination channels include email, health information, and the World Animal Health Information System database interface.

- Collect, analyze, and disseminate scientific veterinary information

WOAHA collects and analyzes all new scientific information related to animal disease control. It then provides this information to member countries to improve their methods for controlling and eradicating these diseases. Guidelines are prepared for this purpose by the network of 246 WOAHA collaborating centers and reference laboratories worldwide.

- Better guarantee food safety and promote animal welfare using a scientific approach

WOAHA member countries have decided to better guarantee the safety of animal-origin foods by strengthening synergies between WOAHA activities and those of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. WOAHA's standard-setting activities in this area focus on preventing hazards existing before animal slaughter or initial processing of their products (meat, milk, eggs, etc.), which could subsequently generate risks for consumers.

- Guarantee the safety of global trade by developing sanitary standards for international trade in animals and their products within the framework of the mandate conferred on WOAHA by the SPS Agreement (Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures) of the WTO

WOAHA develops normative documents relating to rules that member countries can use to protect themselves from the introduction of diseases and pathogens without establishing unjustified sanitary barriers. WOAHA standards are recognized by the World Trade Organization as international reference sanitary rules.

2.3 WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)

2.3.1 Status

The World Health Organization (WHO) is also an intergovernmental organization belonging to the United Nations system. Its constitution, adopted at an international conference held in

New York in 1946, officially came into effect on April 7, 1948. Its headquarters are in Geneva (Switzerland).

2.3.2 Mission

WHO's goal is to improve future prospects and future health for all populations worldwide. Through its offices spread across countries, WHO staff work alongside governments and other partners to bring all peoples to the highest possible level of health. WHO's constitution assigns it two main functions:

- Act as the directing and coordinating authority on international health work
- Foster technical cooperation for health within member states, aiming to bring all peoples to the highest possible level of health

WHO strives to combat diseases, whether infectious like influenza and HIV or non-communicable like cancer and heart disease. Some of its programs concern, in the field of veterinary public health, the control of zoonoses (e.g., rabies) and food safety.

2.4 FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION (FAO)

2.4.1 Status

FAO is an intergovernmental organization founded in 1945 in Quebec. Its headquarters have been in Rome since 1951. It has 197 member states and leads international efforts toward hunger elimination.

2.4.2 History

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations is the first specialized agency of the United Nations. It followed the commitment made by 44 heads of government at the Food and Agriculture Conference held in Hot Springs in 1943, convened at the initiative of the President of the United States, Franklin D. Roosevelt.

2.4.3 Mission

- Provide technical assistance to developing countries
- Provide information and harmonize standards in the fields of nutrition, agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, notably through its publications (e.g., periodic reports on agriculture, fisheries, and forests) and databases

- Advise governments and provide them with a space for multilateral debate
- Organize neutral forums among states to debate major issues related to agriculture, food, and food security
- Raise public awareness of chronic hunger issues

2.5 CODEX ALIMENTARIUS

2.5.1 Status

The Codex Alimentarius, or "Food Code," is a collection of standards, guidelines, and codes of practice adopted by the Codex Alimentarius Commission. The Commission was established by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) to protect consumer health and promote fair practices in food trade. It is the central element of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme. Since its creation in 1963, the Codex system has evolved in an open, transparent, and participatory manner to meet new challenges. The Codex Alimentarius does not deal with animal health but may be called upon to examine veterinary issues in the context of animal diseases or infections transmissible to humans through food or concerning the evaluation of veterinary drug residues in food products.

2.5.2 Mission

- Aims to guarantee safe and wholesome food for everyone, everywhere
- Contribute to the safety, quality, and fair trade of food products. Consumers can rely on the quality and safety of the food products they purchase, and importers are certain that the food they order meets Codex specifications
- Protect consumer health
- Remove trade barriers

2.6 WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION (WTO)

2.6.1 Status

The World Trade Organization (WTO) is an international organization dedicated to making trade flows smoother, more predictable, and freer. The WTO establishes standards and contributes to creating rules governing trade between countries. It also provides a forum for

governments to address trade disputes. WTO members are countries, not businesses. The WTO headquarters is in Geneva.

2.6.2 Mission

- The WTO provides a forum where agreements are negotiated to reduce obstacles to international trade
- Guarantee equal conditions for all and thus contribute to economic growth and development
- It also provides a legal and institutional framework for the implementation and monitoring of these agreements and for the settlement of disputes arising from their interpretation and application

CHAPTER 3: ORGANIZATION OF VETERINARY SERVICES IN ALGERIA

The Directorate of Veterinary Services under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development acts in the field of animal health protection, in application of Law No. 88-08 of January 26, 1988, relating to veterinary medicine and the protection of animal health, notably its Title IV and its implementing decree No. 95-66, establishing the list of notifiable animal diseases and the general measures applicable to them, amended and supplemented in 2002 and then in 2006. In this capacity, its mission is, among other things, to implement and ensure the application of legislative and regulatory provisions regarding the preservation and improvement of animal health and veterinary public health, and it primarily carries out missions of public utility and public authority.

3.1 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART OF THE DIRECTORATE OF VETERINARY SERVICES

The organization of the Directorate of Veterinary Services is detailed in the table below (see Table No. 9).

Table 9: Organizational chart of official veterinary services (JORA, 2023)

Sub-Directorate for Cross-Cutting Actions	Sub-Directorate for Animal Health and Welfare	Sub-Directorate for Food Safety and Sanitary Control at Border Posts	Sub-Directorate for Veterinary Pharmacy and Inputs
Office for the Registration of the National Veterinary Authority and Monitoring of Technical Competencies	Office for Health Surveillance, Epidemiological Investigations, and Early Warning	Office for Food Safety	Office for the Registration of Veterinary Products and Pharmacovigilance
Office for Quality Assurance and Regulatory Monitoring	Office for Prophylactic Programs and Animal Welfare	Office for Sanitary Control at Border Posts	Office for the Control of Veterinary Products and Animal Feed

Office for Information Systems and Communication	Office for Animal Identification, Traceability, and Movements	Office for Certification and Veterinary Health Agreements for International Trade	Office for the Algerian Program for the Monitoring of Contaminants and Residues in Food
Office for Veterinary Laboratories	Office for the Financial Monitoring and Evaluation of Veterinary Actions		

Law No. 19-12 of December 11, 2019, relating to territorial organization, initially divided the country into 58 wilayas, 548 dairas, and 1,541 communes, while modifying and completing the previous organization established by Law No. 84-09 of February 4, 1984, which set the number of wilayas at 48. This framework has recently been amended by a new law, adopted by the National People's Assembly (APN) on March 9, 2026, which increases the total number of full-fledged wilayas to 69. This reform provides for the promotion of eleven administrative districts to the status of full wilayas, namely Aflou, Barika, Bir El Ater, Ksar Chellala, Aïn Oussera, Messaad, Ksar El Boukhari, Boussaâda, El Abiodh Sidi Cheikh, El Kantara, and El Aricha. These new wilayas are expected to officially begin exercising their prerogatives as of January 1, 2027.

Furthermore, most communes have a hygiene office. Within this updated territorial framework, the health surveillance system connects the Directorate of Veterinary Services (DSV) with the Wilaya Veterinary Inspections (IVW), the Veterinary Laboratories of the National Institute of Veterinary Medicine (INMV), as well as the municipal hygiene offices, thereby ensuring the continuity and effectiveness of the sanitary control system across the entire national territory.

This system is supported by technical, scientific, and professional support structures. Under the authority of the minister, the central administration of the Ministry of Agriculture includes:

1. The Secretary General
2. The Chief of Staff
3. The General Inspectorate

4. The Directorate of Land Organization and Heritage Protection
5. The Directorate of Agricultural Development in Arid and Semi-Arid Zones
6. The Directorate of Regulation and Development of Agricultural Production
7. The Directorate of Plant Protection and Technical Controls
8. The Directorate of Veterinary Services
9. The Directorate of Investment Programming and Economic Studies
10. The Directorate of Agricultural Statistics and Information Systems
11. The Directorate of Training, Research, and Extension
12. The Directorate of Legal Affairs and Regulation
13. The Directorate of Resource Administration
14. The General Directorate of Forests

3.2 DIRECTORATE OF VETERINARY SERVICES

3.2.1 Mission

The Directorate of Veterinary Services has the mission to:

- Initiate and ensure the application of legislation and regulation concerning the improvement of animal health and veterinary public health
- Exercise national veterinary authority and define the veterinary health strategy
- Ensure the application of legislative and regulatory provisions relating to the importation, manufacture, distribution, and use of veterinary medicines
- Organize the development and protection of equine and camel breeding
- Define and implement support policies for the development and protection of animal health
- Prepare, monitor, control, and evaluate legislation and regulation relating to animal health and zoonoses, animal welfare and identification, as well as the safety of animal products and animal-origin products, including fishery and aquaculture products intended for human consumption and animal feed
- Control veterinary professional practice and veterinary pharmacy

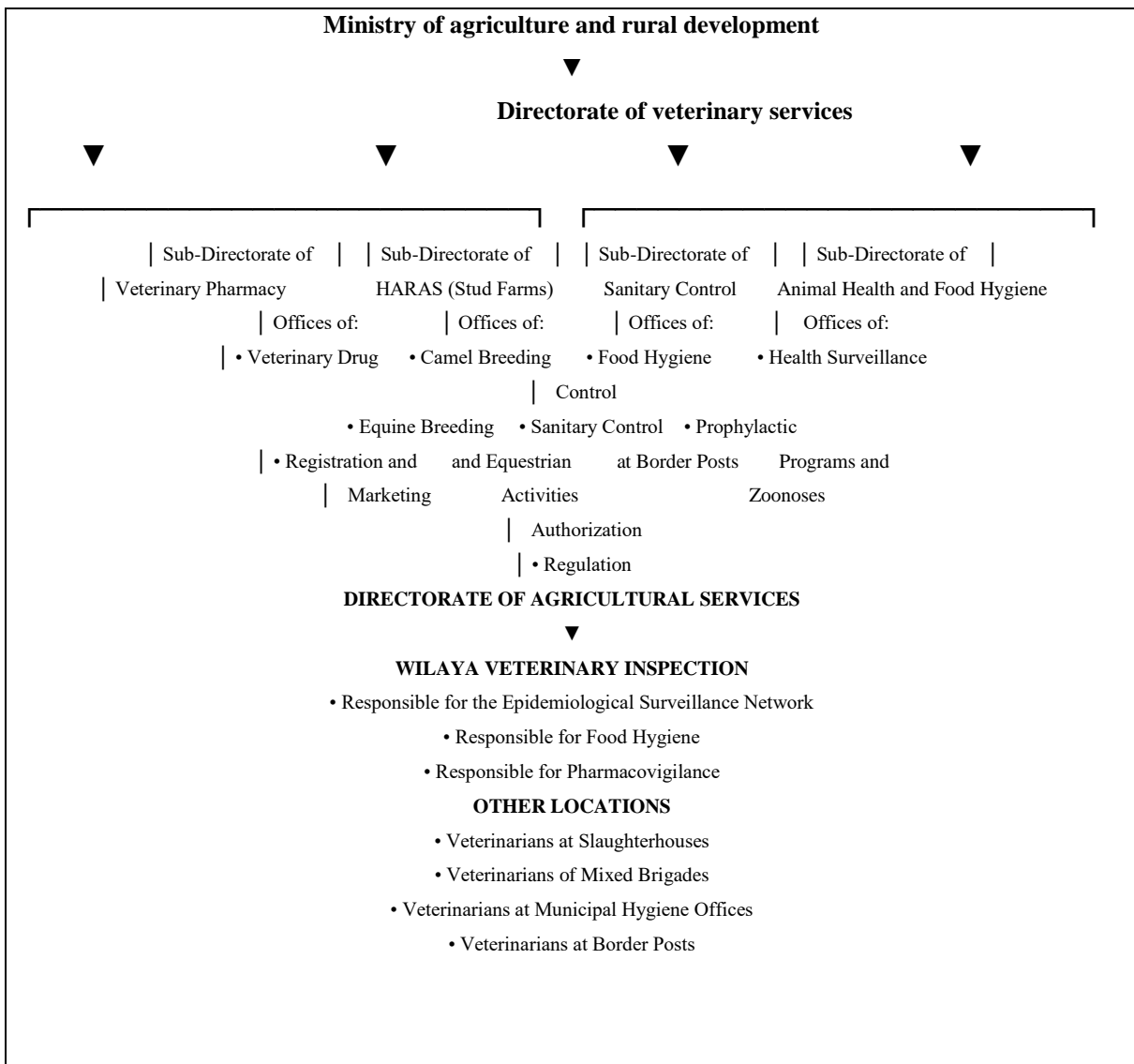
- Collaborate and participate with national and international organizations specialized in the veterinary field

3.3 ORGANIZATION

The Directorate of Veterinary Services is organized into 4 sub-directorates:

- Sub-Directorate of Animal Health
- Sub-Directorate of Veterinary Pharmacy
- Sub-Directorate of Sanitary Control and Food Hygiene
- Sub-Directorate of Stud Farms

Figure 1: Organizational chart of the Directorate of Veterinary Services DSA (2012)



3.3.1 Sub-Directorate of Animal Health

It is responsible for:

- Initiating and implementing all measures aimed at improving health surveillance and sanitary control of livestock movements and their transport
- Ensuring the application of current sanitary regulations, particularly those relating to notifiable diseases
- Developing, monitoring, and evaluating control programs for zoonoses and animal-specific diseases

3.3.2 Sub-Directorate of Veterinary Pharmacy

It is responsible for:

- Maintaining an up-to-date nomenclature of pharmaceutical and biological products for veterinary use
- Issuing marketing authorizations for veterinary medicines on the national market
- Coordinating and controlling distribution channels for pharmaceutical products and biological products for veterinary use
- Proposing any regulation relating to pharmaceutical products and biological products for veterinary use

3.3.3 Sub-Directorate of Sanitary Control and Food Hygiene

It is responsible for:

- Ensuring veterinary control at borders
- Issuing sanitary authorizations for the import and export of animals, animal products, and animal-origin products, including fishery products
- Monitoring, in coordination with specialized national and international organizations, the scientific and technological evolution in the fields of animal health and food hygiene

- Proposing regulations and veterinary sanitary standards for the handling, processing, storage, and transport of animal products and animal-origin products, including fishery products, and ensuring their application, particularly in slaughterhouses, processing facilities, marketing outlets, and storage facilities

3.3.4 Sub-Directorate of Stud Farms

It is responsible for:

- Monitoring and annually evaluating development and production plans for equine and camel species
- Controlling the keeping of equidae herd books and certifying official documents
- Ensuring the preservation of equine and camel breeds
- Contributing to the development and implementation of regulations concerning horse racing or modern or traditional equestrian sports and monitoring these activities

3.4 DIRECTORATE OF AGRICULTURAL SERVICES (DSA) OF WILAYA

Directorates of Agricultural Services (DSA) are established in each wilaya. Each wilaya has an average of 6 to 20 subdivisions, depending on the specificity and extent of agricultural land. Currently, there are 452 subdivisions throughout the national territory, for the 48 wilayas, and each subdivision covers between one and 8 communes on average. Decree No. 90-195 of June 23, 1990, defines the management and interest rules for wilaya agriculture and its functioning.

3.5 SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS FOR VETERINARY SERVICES

3.5.1 Laboratories

The Central Veterinary Laboratory and the Regional Veterinary Laboratories constitute the cornerstone of all logistical support resources for disease control programs and carry out official laboratory controls for animal products and animal-origin products at import and export. All activities of the veterinary laboratories are covered by the state budget.

- The Central Veterinary Laboratory in Algiers acts as the reference laboratory to which regional laboratories can send samples requiring special expertise
- Regional laboratories are responsible for diagnosing legally recognized contagious diseases

- There are eight Regional Veterinary Laboratories (LVR) located in: Tlemcen, Mostaganem, Laghouat, Constantine, El Tarf, Tizi-Ouzou, Béchar, and Batna
- By interministerial order of October 25, 2016, a new Regional Veterinary Laboratory (LVR), built as part of the program of His Excellency the President of the Republic for the development of the High Plateaus and South wilayas, will join the veterinary laboratory network of the INMV: LVR of El Oued
- It is also planned to strengthen the current network of veterinary laboratories with three (03) Veterinary Surveillance and Early Warning Laboratories (LVSAP): LVSAP of Tamanrasset, LVSAP of Tindouf, LVSAP of Adrar
- Each Regional Veterinary Laboratory comprises five (05) services:
 - Virology Service
 - Food Hygiene Service
 - General Histopathology and Parasitology Service
 - Quality Assurance and Epidemiological Surveillance Service
 - Bacteriology Service
- The Central Veterinary Laboratory of Algiers:
It comprises six (06) services:
 - Virology Service
 - Food Hygiene Service
 - General Histopathology and Parasitology Service
 - Quality Assurance and Epidemiological Surveillance Service
 - Bacteriology Service
 - Biochemistry-Toxicology Service
 - General Affairs Service

3.5.2 Institut Pasteur of Algiers

Important supplier of animal vaccines (sheeppox, rabies, anthrax, etc.), it can provide expertise in virological diagnosis.

3.5.3 National Office of Livestock Feed (ONAB)

A. Presentation

ONAB is a Public Economic Enterprise governed by the commercial code. It was created in 2007 following the restructuring of the parent company, namely ONAB SPA, as part of the spin-off of its trading division. Like major global trading houses, ONAB NUTRITION Spa sources supplies through monitoring the Chicago Board of Trade (CBOT) and commodity markets, with a team of traders who have solid experience in the foreign trade market. With a workforce of 420 employees distributed across the headquarters unit, four port units (Algiers, Béjaia, Skikda, and Oran), a laboratory unit, and two PREMIX units (east and west), thanks to its storage, handling, and transport infrastructure, ONAB Trade Spa efficiently handles the receipt and distribution of imported goods.

B. Mission

The subsidiary ONAB Nutrition ensures the supply of raw materials and additives to all subsidiaries of the parent company ONAB, as well as all its customers (manufacturers, breeders, and poultry farmers), notably corn and soybean meal which occupy an important place in livestock feed manufacturing (70 to 80%).

C. Production

A wide range of products is offered by our services to feed manufacturers, resellers, and wholesalers of the following materials:

- Corn
- Soybean meal
- Dicalcium Phosphate
- Methionine
- Trace elements (broiler, layer, bovine, ovine)
- Choline Chloride
- Butylated Hydroxytoluene

- Enzymes
- Anticoccidials
- Separate vitamins: (A 1000, AD3 1000/200, E50, K3, B1, B2, B6, B12, Folic Acid, Calcium Pantothenate, PP, C, Biotin)
- The manufacture of premixes, mineral vitamin supplements, and feed additives; it has acquired perfect technological mastery. It markets competitive and zootechnically effective products. Its main products are: Mineral Vitamin Concentrates (CMV) for: broilers, pullets, layers, turkey broilers, cattle, sheep, and dairy cows; Vitamin Concentrates

3.6 INTERSECTORAL COORDINATION

The current surveillance system connects the Directorate of Veterinary Services (DSV) with:

- The wilaya veterinary inspections
- The veterinary laboratories
- The subdivision inspection offices

3.7 DIRECTORATE OF VETERINARY SERVICES

The DSV has a surveillance system connecting it to the wilaya veterinary inspections (IVW) and the Veterinary Laboratories of the National Institute of Veterinary Medicine (INMV). This system was initiated in 1984, consolidated in 1988, following the promulgation of Law No. 88-08 governing veterinary medicine and animal health protection, notably its Title IV and its implementing decree No. 95-66 establishing the list of notifiable animal diseases and the general measures applicable to them, amended and supplemented in 2002 and then in 2006. To carry out their missions effectively, civil servant and private veterinarians received a procedure guide in animal epidemiology, which provides all information on the organization of the circuit as well as information exchange tools.

The operation and information circulation system within this network can be summarized as follows:

- The wilaya veterinary inspection collects data from field actors: private and public veterinarians located at border posts, slaughterhouses, hygiene offices, agricultural subdivisions, and breeders
- Field actors use approved laboratories for sample analysis

- Analysis results reach requesters in the form of test reports
- A declaration of suspected pathology is transmitted to the Directorate of Veterinary Services
- If the result indicates an exotic or transboundary disease, an urgent message reaches the DSV
- After confirmation of the suspected disease, the wilaya veterinary inspection transmits the information to the central unit in the form of a declaration form, monitoring report, and monthly veterinary activity report
- The central unit (DSV) collects, processes, and analyzes the data, which is then disseminated nationally and internationally through monthly and annual veterinary health bulletins
- The Epidemiology Unit of the Directorate of Veterinary Services centralizes all data from the various links; this data is processed, analyzed, and interpreted
- A monthly bulletin and an annual bulletin are established and then transmitted to the 48 Wilayas (wide distribution to private and state veterinarians), to Technical Institutes (Pasteur Institute, National Institute of Public Health), to veterinary schools and institutes, and to foreign countries with agreements with Algeria

3.8 WILAYA VETERINARY INSPECTIONS

- A veterinarian responsible for the epidemiological surveillance network is designated in each wilaya, positioned within the IVW to closely monitor the health situation and maintain permanent contact with the Health Surveillance Office at the DSV
- The various missions of the central administration are exercised by the IVW, including inspection in slaughterhouses and border inspection posts where permanent veterinarians are assigned
- A wilaya health situation report is established and then transmitted to the wilayas and to the DSV

3.9 VETERINARY INSPECTORS AT THE DAIRA LEVEL

- Presence of a civil servant veterinarian, with inspector rank, placed within the subdivision of the daira
- His role is to coordinate the actions of the sub-communal bureaus of the daira

- Any declared outbreak is monitored by civil servant veterinarians until its eradication
- Inspectors are responsible for controls in slaughterhouses at border posts
- They collect basic data and transmit them to the wilaya veterinary inspection and to the DSV through the mandatory declaration form, outbreak monitoring reports, and monthly reports

3.10 SUBDIVISION

As part of their activities, veterinarians assigned to subdivisions are required to report monthly on their program and action reports to both their communal authority and the DSA of the wilaya.

3.11 PRIVATE VETERINARIANS

- Practicing veterinarians are invested with the same functions as veterinary inspectors
- This involves collecting and transmitting basic data
- To strengthen their integration into the epidemiological surveillance network, a health mandate was assigned to them in 2004 for the implementation of certain official prophylactic programs ordered by the DSV

3.12 BREEDERS

- The links between breeders and the veterinary sector vary according to production sectors
- In the poultry sector and the dairy sector, producers benefit from close veterinary supervision
- In extensive sectors such as small ruminant farming, relationships with veterinarians are more limited; however, some associations are being established (e.g., sheep breeders' associations)

CHAPTER 4: LIABILITY AND FAULT

4.1 INTRODUCTION

Veterinary professional practice is subject to demands from clients who, in the event of a dispute, seek to demonstrate the existence of professional fault to engage the practitioner's liability and identify the type of fault.

4.2 LIABILITY

4.2.1 Definition of Liability

Liability is the fact of answering for one's actions, and more precisely, assuming their consequences. According to the Civil Code, Chapter III of Harmful Acts, Section I of Liability for Personal Acts, Art. 124: Any act whatsoever of a person that causes harm to another obliges the one by whose fault it occurred to repair it.

For a person's liability to be engaged, it is necessary to demonstrate the existence of three elements:

- A prejudice or damage
- A fault
- A causal link between the damage and the fault

4.2.2 Forms of Liability

There are several forms of liability that thus rest on the pre-existence of a fault:

A. Civil Liability

It corresponds to the legal obligation to repair the damage caused to others. It is governed by the Civil Code and falls within the domain of insurable risks. It is based on a civil fault, i.e., the transgression of the Civil Code, which can take different forms depending on the circumstances in which it was committed.

Article 139: The person who has custody of an animal, even if not the owner, is liable for damage caused by that animal, even if it has strayed or escaped, unless the custodian proves that the accident was due to a cause for which they cannot be held responsible.

B. Criminal Liability

It aims to sanction a person who commits an offense under the Penal Code. This liability is uninsurable.

C. Professional Order Liability

It results from an infraction of the Code of Ethics and can bring the veterinarian before a Disciplinary Chamber and aims to: sanction an established fault and not to repair it. It should be noted that professional order liability may be invoked simultaneously with civil and/or criminal liability.

D. Administrative Liability

It results from a service fault; the offense, when it falls under criminal law, is prosecuted by the courts and punished by application of the penal code. Therefore, an offense may fall under criminal law without being a civil offense when it results in no damage.

4.3 FAULT

4.3.1 Definition of Fault

"Fault" is the voluntary or involuntary action, or omission, that violates another's right by causing them damage.

4.3.2 Definition of Professional Fault

Professional fault is a fault committed by the veterinarian in violation of professional practices within the framework of their professional activities. It can be civil, professional order, or criminal.

4.3.3 Elements of Fault

Fault requires the combination of two elements:

- The material element
- Illegality

A. The Material Element

It can be:

- A positive act or fault by commission

Civil Code articles relating to liability for personal acts:

Article 124: Any act whatsoever of a person that causes harm to another obliges the one by whose fault it occurred to repair it.

- An abstention or fault by omission:

Inaction constitutes an omission that substitutes for a positive act. This includes failing to provide assistance to an animal in danger, or when the practitioner forgets to close their office door and, in doing so, allows the animal they clearly have custody of to escape.

B. Illegality

It is the fact that the material element must result from the violation of a duty.

4.3.4 Qualification of Fault

It is necessary, for sanctioning purposes, to qualify the fault. By degrees of severity, one can cite:

A. Intentional Fault

It corresponds to a fault that was intended by its author; it results from the intention to harm (premeditation).

B. Non-intentional Fault due to Carelessness or Negligence

It is morally less serious than intentional fault because its author did not intend its realization.

C. Inexcusable Fault and Gross Negligence

They are exceptional in the practice of the practicing veterinarian.

4.3.5 Proof of Fault

Referring to the most common situations the veterinarian may face, several cases may arise:

- In the case of a contractual type fault: If the obligation of result is retained, the veterinarian must provide proof that the non-performance comes from an external cause
- In the case of a tortious type fault: The veterinarian must prove, to be exonerated from fault, that the victim participated in the genesis of the damage
- Through their own fault (negligence, carelessness)

- The proven fact of force majeure (act of nature) is the cause

4.3.6 Types of Faults

A. Civil Fault

Every individual has the obligation to answer for their actions if they cause harm to others. This obligation corresponds to the concept of civil liability. However, civil liability rests on the pre-existence of damage and a fault. Civil fault can arise from non-performance of a contract or not. This distinction is fundamental: one then speaks either of contractual fault or tortious fault.

- Contractual Fault (non-performance of the care contract)

The practitioner commits to providing conscientious, attentive care conforming to current scientific knowledge. The veterinarian is therefore required to provide the owner with clear information. The owner must be informed of all foreseeable and usual risks related to the intervention, but also of serious risks and even exceptional risks that may occur. Note that the obligation to inform is presumed reciprocal, meaning that the owner must also communicate to the practitioner all information concerning the animal and its health.

- Tortious Fault

Damage caused by animals while they are under the responsibility of the veterinarian engages tortious civil liability.

B. Disciplinary Fault

- Code of Ethics
- Collegial attitude

The veterinarian must speak respectfully towards colleagues and the profession. They must refrain from any denigration of a colleague and must provide assistance, advice, and service.

- Relationship with clients

The duty to respect an owner's right to freely choose their veterinarian and the obligation to provide clear information to the owner about diagnosis, prophylaxis, therapy, and their consequences. The obligation of continuity of care, which implies that the veterinarian offers their clients an emergency care service.

C. Criminal Faults

Regarding animal protection, the penal code condemns any act of cruelty, mistreatment, or serious abuse, carelessness, imprudence, inattention, or negligence towards domestic, tame, or captive animals, and prohibits the abandonment of domestic animals.

Section V Offenses relating to animals Art 449 Law No. 82-04 of February 13, 1982:

"Shall be punished by a fine of 100 to 500 DA and may also be punished by imprisonment for up to ten days, anyone who, without necessity, publicly or otherwise, mistreats a domestic, tame, or captive animal. In the event of conviction of the animal's owner or if the owner is unknown, the court may order the animal to be handed over to an animal protection organization recognized as being of public utility or declared, which may freely dispose of it."

D. Administrative Fault

The main public mission of the sanitary veterinarian is the declaration of notifiable diseases and diseases considered contagious to veterinary services.

- Service fault

It arises from negligence, ignorance of a function, and imprudence (responsible jurisdictions: administrative courts)

- Personal fault or common law fault

It is detached from the function

- Tortious act, malicious act, abuse of authority (responsible jurisdictions: judicial courts)

CHAPTER 5: SALE OF ANIMALS

5.1 DEFINITION OF SALE

A sale is assimilated to a contract between two protagonists; each party contracts obligations: the buyer to pay the price and take delivery, the seller to deliver and guarantee the thing sold. The seller's two obligations are defined by the civil code.

According to Title VII of contracts relating to property, Chapter I of the sales contract, Section I, Article 351 of the civil code, the sale is mentioned as follows: The sale is a contract by which the seller undertakes to transfer ownership of a thing or any other patrimonial right to the buyer, who must pay the price.

Article 352: The buyer must have sufficient knowledge of the property sold. This knowledge is deemed sufficient if the contract contains the designation of the property sold and its essential qualities in a way that allows its identification. If it is mentioned in the sales contract that the property sold is known to the buyer, the latter no longer has the right to request the cancellation of the contract for lack of knowledge, unless they prove fraud by the seller.

Article 286: The provisions relating to sale, particularly those concerning the capacity of the parties, the warranty against eviction, and that of latent defects, apply to payment in kind, insofar as it transfers ownership of the thing given in replacement of the due performance. Those relating to payment, particularly those concerning the allocation and extinguishment of sureties, are applicable to it insofar as it extinguishes the debt.

5.2 THE DIFFERENT SALES CONTRACTS

The sales contract has the following characteristics: it is consensual, synallagmatic, commutative, and onerous.

5.2.1 The Consensual Contract

A consensual contract is a contract that is formed by an exchange of consents between the two parties, namely buyer and seller.

5.2.2 The Synallagmatic Contract

A synallagmatic contract is an agreement by which the parties reciprocally oblige themselves towards each other: the buyer to pay and the seller to deliver. It can also be referred to as a bilateral contract.

5.2.3 The Commutative Contract

The reciprocal obligations of the contracting parties are considered equivalent to each other, meaning that the price paid by the buyer represents the value of the thing.

5.2.4 The Onerous Contract

A contract made on onerous terms is a contract in which the performance of one party exists in the common interest of providing an advantage to the other. The condition for a contract to be considered onerous is therefore the relative equivalence of the value of the counterparts.

5.3 THE DIFFERENT FORMS OF SALE

5.3.1 Outright Sale

It is perfected between the two parties, and ownership is acquired by right by the buyer from the seller as soon as the thing and the price have been agreed upon, even if the thing has not yet been delivered or paid for.

5.3.2 Conditional Sale

Often, sales of animals are not perfected as soon as the thing and price are agreed upon. A condition in the sales contract can either suspend its existence until the occurrence of a future or uncertain event, or realize it at the time of the event. We then speak of a suspensive condition (cancellation) for the first case and a resolutive condition (execution) for the second case.

A. Sale under Suspensive Condition

Sale under suspensive condition is one in which the sale will be perfected upon the fulfillment of the condition, with the transfer of ownership occurring on that date. The stipulated suspensive condition may be full payment of the price, i.e., a date far removed from the initial act.

B. Sale under Resolutive Condition

A sale under resolutive conditions refers to the case where the sales agreement exists, but could be terminated if the notified condition occurs.

C. Sale on Trial

Before the sale is concluded, the future buyer takes delivery of the animal and judges its abilities by using it for the purpose for which it is intended. Thus, they can contract with full knowledge of the facts. It frequently occurs, in the case of a horse sale, that the buyer wishes to try it, examine it before the final conclusion of the sale. The contract will take effect when the buyer has expressed satisfaction with the animal's qualities.

D. Sale with Right of Redemption

This is the sale in which the seller reserves the right to take back the thing sold upon restitution of the price.

E. Promises of Sale

The promise of sale constitutes a sale when there is mutual consent of both parties on the thing and the price.

5.4 NULLITY OF SALE

The sale of domestic animals regularly raises disputes between the two parties; the sale can be annulled if a buyer realizes that the animal they have just bought is affected by contagious diseases or presents a redhibitory defect. The buyer who realizes that the animal they have just bought is affected by a contagious disease must comply with sanitary law by filing a declaration of infection with the APC president and summons their seller for nullity of sale before the court of first instance. To succeed, they must act within regulatory deadlines and prove that the sick or dead animal is identical to the one sold, establish the presence of the contagious disease, and finally demonstrate that the disease existed prior to the sale.

5.4.1 Legal Deadlines

Table 10: Regulatory deadlines for initiating a nullity of sale action (Goffaux 2017)

Status	Deadline
Live Animal	45 days from delivery
Dead Animal	10 days from the day of slaughter

5.4.2 Identification of the Animal

Very delicate if the animal has been slaughtered; the surest method is the ear tag, the identification record drawn up in the official report, and possibly witness statements.

5.4.3 Proof of the Existence of the Disease

They must be made either by a veterinarian acting as a judicial expert, or as a sanitary veterinarian, or finally as a slaughterhouse veterinarian. At the buyer's request, the court appoints an expert whose mission is to prove the existence of the contagious disease or redhibitory defect by all possible means. The sanitary veterinarian's report can be used as proof of the disease if they observed it in the course of their duties. If the animal was seized for a contagious disease at the slaughterhouse, the seizure report serves as an expert report.

5.4.4 Proof of the Disease's Antecedence to the Sale

This is done by the veterinarian acting either as a judicial expert, sanitary veterinarian, or as a slaughterhouse inspector.

CHAPTER 6: REDHIBITORY DEFECTS

6.1 DEFINITION

Redhibitory defects, from the Latin Redhibitio which means "the action of returning a purchased object, or retaking a sold object." A redhibitory defect implies a notion of warranty duration; a buyer cannot claim rescission of the contract for a latent defect if the deterioration of the property occurred after its acquisition.

A latent defect is then considered as such if and only if it is:

- Hidden, unknown to the buyer at the time of sale
- Serious enough to render the thing unfit for the use for which the buyer intends it
- Prior to the sale, and more precisely if the origin of the defect is prior to the sale

6.2 LIMITATIONS OF THE CIVIL CODE

Proof of the three essential and inseparable conditions of a latent defect is a delicate act that often requires an expert's opinion.

6.3 THE EXHAUSTIVE LIST OF REDHIBITORY DEFECTS IN HORSES, DONKEYS, AND MULES

The following diseases or defects are considered redhibitory defects and give rise to judicial actions, without distinction of localities where sales and exchanges take place:

- Immobility
- Pulmonary emphysema
- Chronic roaring (laryngeal hemiplegia)
- Crib-biting properly speaking with or without tooth wear
- Old intermittent lameness
- Isolated uveitis
- Equine infectious anemia

Animals are considered affected by equine infectious anemia and may give rise to redhibition if they have been subjected to testing for the disease using procedures and criteria approved by the National Veterinary Commission and whose result was recognized as positive by a laboratory approved by the Minister of Agriculture.

With the help of a veterinarian's diagnosis, the buyer must prove that the horse sold is affected by one of the following seven redhibitory defects, in support of their request for rescission of sale on the grounds of redhibitory defects.

Table 11: Diagnosis of redhibitory defects for donkeys, horses, and mules Gobert (2022)

Redhibitory Defect	Diagnosis	Observations
Immobility	Incoordination of the locomotor system	Delicate diagnosis. Often following meningoencephalic disorders.
Pulmonary emphysema	Pathology of the deep respiratory system (pulmonary alveoli). Characteristic cough.	Pay attention to animal housing conditions and the quality of dry feed distributed; they can trigger this pathology.
Chronic roaring	Characteristic noise during inspiration due to paralysis of the laryngeal dilator muscle.	Intensifies with exercise.
Crib-biting properly speaking with or without tooth wear	Crib-biting occurring with or without support. When it occurs, the horse bites, causing premature tooth wear and swallows air (aerophagia).	This tic is often imitated by conspecifics. "Stall weaving" is not a redhibitory defect, but a boredom tic.
Old intermittent lameness	Irregularity of gait due to a lesion or mechanical disorder. Lameness present when warmed up or cold.	The antecedence of the lameness (at sale) must be confirmed. Depending on the nature of the lameness, rely on radiographic examinations.
Isolated uveitis	Degenerative eye condition leading to blindness	The disease progresses in regularly occurring attacks (which explains the 30-day period to observe it).
Equine infectious anemia	Viral disease. Weight loss, intermittent fever. Demonstrated by Coggins test	Sometimes inapparent infection.

6.3.1 Deadlines and Actions for Bringing an Action

The deadlines for bringing an action are extremely short; the buyer only has 10 days following delivery. This period is extended to 30 days in cases of isolated uveitis or equine infectious anemia.

6.3.2 Some Jurisprudential Illustrations

Given the existence of an exhaustive list and relatively short action deadlines, sales rescissions pronounced by the judge on the grounds of redhibitory defect warranty are relatively rare. Here are a few examples.

Example 1: B.K. bought a horse on January 22, 2023. The purchased horse turned out to be affected by intermittent lameness. Proceedings were initiated on January 29, 2023. The judicial expert observed intermittent lameness in the horse after various clinical examinations and flexion tests. Since proof of intermittent lameness was provided, the rescission of the horse's sale was pronounced.

Example 2: A mare was purchased and then delivered on May 17, 2018. On June 30, 2018, the veterinarian observed that the mare was affected by uveitis. The action for rescission of sale was brought within the 30-day period. Proof of the existence of a redhibitory defect was provided. The seller was ordered to take back the mare and refund the purchase price, veterinary fees, transport costs, and to pay damages to compensate for the harm suffered by the buyer.

6.5 REDHIBITORY DEFECTS IN BOVINE SPECIES

6.5.1 Tuberculosis

The following are considered tuberculous and may give rise to redhibition:

- Clinically affected animals
- Animals that have reacted to the tuberculin test, exclusively performed according to procedures approved by the Advisory Committee on Epizootics, or which have been recognized as tuberculous by any other procedure approved by said committee

6.5.2 Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis

Animals that have been tested for the disease using procedures and criteria established by the minister responsible for agriculture with a positive result are considered affected by infectious bovine rhinotracheitis and may give rise to redhibition.

6.6 REDHIBITORY DEFECTS FOR BOVINE, OVINE, AND CAPRINE SPECIES

6.6.1 Brucellosis

Animals that have been tested for the disease using procedures and criteria approved by the National Veterinary Commission and whose result was recognized as positive by a laboratory approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development are considered affected by brucellosis and may give rise to redhibition.

6.6.2 Enzootic Leukosis

Animals that have been tested for the disease using procedures and criteria approved by the National Veterinary Commission and whose result was recognized as positive by a laboratory approved by the Ministry of Agriculture are considered affected by enzootic leukosis and may give rise to redhibition.

6.7 REDHIBITORY DEFECTS IN CANINE SPECIES

- Canine distemper
- Infectious hepatitis (Rubarth's disease)
- Canine parvovirus
- Hip dysplasia; concerning this disease, for animals sold before one year of age, the results of all radiographic examinations performed up to that age are taken into account in the event of an action resulting from redhibitory defects
- Testicular ectopia for animals over six months of age
- Retinal atrophy

6.8 REDHIBITORY DEFECTS IN FELINE SPECIES

- Infectious feline leukopenia (panleukopenia)
- Feline infectious peritonitis

- Feline leukemia virus infection
- Feline immunodeficiency virus infection

6.9 REDHIBITION DEADLINE

This is the warranty action deadline; it corresponds to the period during which a summons may be filed before the court to open the judicial phase. This deadline is common to redhibitory defects; it is 30 days from delivery.

6.10 SUSPICION DEADLINE

This deadline runs from the delivery of the animal. It varies for each disease and corresponds roughly to its incubation period:

- 8 days for canine distemper
- 5 days for parvovirus
- 6 days for infectious hepatitis (Rubarth)
- 5 days for feline infectious leukopenia
- 21 days for feline infectious peritonitis
- 15 days for FeLV infection (feline leukemia)
- No deadline for FIV (feline immunodeficiency virus)

Table 12: Suspicion and redhibition action deadlines in canine species Lavenas (2019)

Diseases	Suspicion Deadline	Redhibition Action Deadline
Canine distemper	8 days	30 days (15 if animal dies)
Parvovirus	5 days	30 days (15 if animal dies)
Rubarth's hepatitis (Infectious canine hepatitis)	6 days	30 days (15 if animal dies)
Hip dysplasia	—	30 days (X-ray valid before 1 year of age)
Testicular ectopia	—	30 days (animals over 6 months)
Retinal atrophy	30 days	—

CHAPTER 7: SANITARY POLICE MEASURES

7.1 DEFINITION

Sanitary police actions represent the succession of operations implemented in the event of suspicion or detection of a disease considered contagious. The state finances the various sanitary police operations. The wali requisitions the necessary means to combat the epizootic. Certain diseases, due to their hygienic importance, their socio-economic and/or health impact on the national economy, and also their significant consequences on international trade in animals and derived products, are specifically subject to specific regulations by public authorities.

Two categories of diseases are distinguished: diseases (legally) considered contagious and notifiable diseases. Diseases in both categories must be reported, but only those considered contagious trigger sanitary police measures.

7.2 DISEASES CONSIDERED CONTAGIOUS (MRC)

Introducing an animal disease into the nomenclature of Diseases Considered Contagious (MRC) allows health authorities to act appropriately but above all immediately upon the slightest suspicion on national territory, to prevent its spread and ensure its eradication. Indeed, an MRC triggers the application of sanitary police measures. This nomenclature is established by decree after consultation with the Advisory Committee on Animal Health and Protection. For each of these diseases (see Table No. 13), it specifies:

Currently, around fifty diseases are listed in the MRC nomenclature (see Table 13), some of which are present in Algeria (brucellosis, rabies, etc.), while others are only considered due to the possible risk of introduction into national territory because of international trade (rinderpest, African horse sickness, etc.).

The list of MRCs is not fixed, and the Prime Minister has the possibility, by decree, upon report of the minister responsible for agriculture and after consultation with the Advisory Committee on Animal Health and Protection, to add a disease considered contagious or remove one from the list, and even modify the species or clinical forms to follow the evolution of the epidemiological risk.

Table 13: List of diseases considered contagious OIE (2019)

Name	Agent	Species
Equine infectious anemia	Equine infectious anemia virus (Retroviridae, Lentivirus)	Equids
Botulism	<i>Clostridium botulinum</i>	Poultry
Brucellosis	Any <i>Brucella</i> other than <i>Brucella ovis</i>	All mammal species
Sheeppox	Sheeppox virus (Poxviridae, Capripoxvirus)	Sheep
Cowdriosis (Heartwater)	<i>Ehrlichia (Cowdria) ruminantium</i>	Cattle, sheep, goats
Lumpy skin disease	Lumpy skin disease virus (Poxviridae, Capripoxvirus)	Cattle
Dourine	<i>Trypanosoma equiperdum</i>	Equids
Japanese encephalitis	Japanese encephalitis virus (Flaviviridae, Flavivirus)	Equids
West Nile encephalitis	West Nile virus (Flaviviridae, Flavivirus)	Equids
Venezuelan equine encephalitis	Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis virus (Togaviridae, Alphavirus)	Equids
Eastern and Western equine encephalitis	Eastern and Western equine encephalomyelitis virus (Togaviridae, Alphavirus)	Equids
Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE)	Prion or agent of bovine spongiform encephalopathy	Cattle
Transmissible subacute spongiform	Prions or agents of transmissible subacute spongiform encephalopathies	Sheep, goats

Name	Agent	Species
encephalopathies		
Foot and mouth disease	Foot and mouth disease virus (Picornaviridae, Aphthovirus)	All susceptible animal species
Bluetongue	Bluetongue virus (Reoviridae, Orbivirus)	Ruminants and camelids
Anthrax	<i>Bacillus anthracis</i>	All mammal species
Rift Valley fever	Rift Valley fever virus (Bunyaviridae, Phlebovirus)	Cattle, sheep, goats
Clinical hypodermosis	<i>Hypoderma bovis</i> or <i>Hypoderma lineatum</i>	Cattle
Infestation due to <i>Aethina tumida</i> (Small hive beetle)	<i>Aethina tumida</i>	Bees
Infestation due to <i>Tropilaelaps</i>	<i>Tropilaelaps clareae</i>	Bees
Avian influenza	Avian influenza virus (Orthomyxoviridae, Influenza A)	All bird species
Enzootic bovine leukosis	Enzootic bovine leukosis virus (Retroviridae, Deltaretrovirus)	Cattle
American foulbrood	<i>Paenibacillus larvae</i>	Bees
Aujeszky's disease (Pseudorabies)	Porcine herpesvirus (Herpesviridae, Varicellovirus)	All mammal species
Nairobi sheep disease	Nairobi sheep disease virus (Bunyaviridae, Nairovirus)	Sheep, goats
Newcastle disease	Newcastle disease virus (Paramyxoviridae, Avulavirus)	All bird species
Glanders	<i>Burkholderia mallei</i>	Equids

Name	Agent	Species
Nosemosis of bees	<i>Nosema apis</i>	Bees
Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia	<i>Mycoplasma mycoides</i> subsp. <i>mycoides</i>	Bovines
Rinderpest	Rinderpest virus (Paramyxoviridae, Morbillivirus)	Ruminants and swine
Peste des petits ruminants (PPR)	Peste des petits ruminants virus (Paramyxoviridae, Morbillivirus)	Sheep and goats
African horse sickness	African horse sickness virus (Reoviridae, Orbivirus)	Equids
Contagious caprine pleuropneumonia	<i>Mycoplasma capricolum</i> subsp. <i>capripneumoniae</i>	Sheep and goats
Pullorum-typhoid	<i>Salmonella</i> Gallinarum Pullorum	All farm bird species
Rabies	Rabies virus (Rhabdoviridae, Lyssavirus)	All mammal species
Avian salmonellosis	<i>Salmonella</i> Enteritidis, <i>Salmonella</i> Typhimurium, <i>Salmonella</i> Hadar, <i>Salmonella</i> Virchow, and <i>Salmonella</i> Infantis	Poultry
Hemorrhagic septicemia	<i>Pasteurella multocida</i> type B and E	Cattle
Vesicular stomatitis	Vesicular stomatitis virus (Rhabdoviridae, Vesiculovirus)	Cattle, equids, and swine
Surra	<i>Trypanosoma evansi</i>	Equids, camelids
Theileriosis	<i>Theileria annulata</i>	Cattle
Trichinellosis	<i>Trichinella</i> spp.	All susceptible animal species

Name	Agent	Species
Trypanosomiasis	<i>Trypanosoma vivax</i>	Cattle
Tuberculosis	<i>Mycobacterium bovis</i> and <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i>	All mammal species
Goat pox	Goat pox virus (Poxviridae, Capripoxvirus)	Goats

7.3 NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (MDO)

Notifiable diseases (MDO) are diseases that give rise to declaration without application of sanitary police measures. Sanitation measures may, however, be applied outside the strict framework of sanitary police. The list of these diseases is established by decree taken by the Wali, after consultation with the Advisory Committee on Animal Health and Protection.

The list of targeted diseases is currently quite short:

- Tuberculosis due to *Mycobacterium bovis* and tuberculosis in all domestic or wild animal species (except species where it is already considered contagious)
- Brucellosis in bovine species in cases other than the form considered contagious
- Enzootic bovine leukosis, but should soon be expanded to include new diseases.

7.4 DECLARATION PROCEDURES

Declaration is the process by which administrative authorities are informed of the existence or suspicion of an MRC or a notifiable disease. Declaration is mandatory (including for veterinarians), and its non-execution is an offense punishable by a significant penalty.

The declaration must concern any animal affected or suspected of being affected, alive or dead, immediately after the discovery of the disease, and the measures provided for by the regulations will be applied immediately. Likewise, any owner, any person having, in any capacity whatsoever, charge of care or custody of an animal who suspects in that animal any of the diseases covered by the regulations, must declare this animal (alive or dead) to their veterinarian and to the president of the APC of the commune where the animal is located.

They must also sequester it and isolate it as much as possible from other susceptible animals.

They cannot transport it elsewhere, nor bury its carcass before the sanitary veterinarian has

examined it. They obviously cannot dispose of this animal, whose exhibition, sale, or offering for sale is prohibited.

Laboratory directors who, during analyses, diagnose any of these diseases are also required to make this declaration.

7.5 MEASURES TAKEN BY THE APC PRESIDENT

- As soon as notified, they ensure that the previously mentioned prescriptions (isolation, etc.) have been respected by the animal's keeper
- They ensure the visit of the animal (or autopsy of the carcass) by the sanitary veterinarian and, failing that, have it done. They can requisition a sanitary veterinarian for this mission
- They notify the wali (i.e., the IVW, representing the wali in this field) of the reported case(s)

7.6 MEASURES TAKEN BY THE SANITARY VETERINARIAN

They carry out an "information sanitary visit" as soon as possible (within 24 hours) after being contacted by the reporter or requisitioned by the APC president. On this occasion, they take the necessary precautions to avoid any dissemination of the disease: boots, protective clothing that can be disinfected and/or left on site. For certain diseases, they are required to have active products to disinfect their boots and vehicle wheels. For certain diseases, they may also be required to have, permanently in the vehicle used to visit farms, adequate equipment for taking samples intended for diagnosis.

Their role is to:

- Validate the suspicion (in this capacity, they examine animals and, if necessary, perform autopsies on carcasses to eliminate or confirm the existence of the disease or maintain suspicion), and assess the spread of the disease in the farm
- Prescribe, if necessary, the sequestration and isolation of the animals concerned
- Prescribe immediately necessary disinfection measures
- Provide the breeder with advice to avoid disseminating the disease
- And, depending on the disease, notify the IVW without delay, which will provide instructions
- They communicate the prescribed measures to the APC president

- They write an information report (using a declaration notebook, any other specific form issued by the IVW, or failing that, on plain paper) which they send, as soon as possible, to the IVW
- They dispatch (if assigned) any samples to the approved laboratory for processing. It is advisable to notify the receiving laboratory of this dispatch

7.7 MEASURES TAKEN BY THE WALI

The IVW analyzes the situation and informs the wali, who, if necessary, issues an order establishing the measures to be implemented. This is either:

- A placement under surveillance order
- An order declaring infection

This wilaya order is transmitted for execution (and execution control) to the breeder concerned, the sanitary veterinarian, the APC president of the commune where the animal is located, and the local gendarmerie (or police) authority. Some highly contagious diseases justify the establishment, at national and wilaya level, of an emergency plan to prevent their emergence and combat their spread should they occur on national territory. Upon suspicion, the IVW informs the Directorate of Agricultural Services (DSA), which triggers at the national level the provisions provided for in the emergency plans corresponding to the detected disease. A national crisis cell controls and coordinates actions implemented in the affected wilayas. At the wilaya level, the wali triggers an intervention plan involving significant resources requiring collaboration from various wilaya services, the gendarmerie, firefighters, and even certain professional agricultural organizations. Operations are managed by a wilaya crisis cell under the authority of the wali.

7.8 WILAYA PLACEMENT UNDER SURVEILLANCE ORDER (AWMS)

The wilaya placement under surveillance order (AWMS) is issued by the Wali in the event of simple suspicion of an MRC. It is not systematic, but rather reserved for the most serious diseases such as foot and mouth disease, Newcastle disease, etc. It allows maintaining the measures recommended by the sanitary veterinarian or reinforcing them, and consequently improving livestock surveillance while awaiting confirmation of the diagnosis, most often by the approved laboratory to which samples were sent. The corresponding measures are in

particular the sequestration and isolation of suspect animals, the prohibition of moving or disposing of susceptible animals, marking of animals, and additional disinfection measures.

- If the diagnosis is disproved, the order is lifted and the farm is immediately freed from these constraints

- If the diagnosis is confirmed, in the majority of MRCs it is replaced by an order declaring infection

7.9 WILAYA ORDER DECLARING INFECTION (AWPDI)

The wilaya order declaring infection (AWPDI) is issued in the event of confirmed MRC. It is drafted by the IVW, which submits it to the wali for signature. It establishes, depending on the disease, various measures whose choice (made on scientific, economic, political criteria, etc.) constitutes the national health decision. These measures include previous measures and complement them to avoid any spread of the outbreak and ensure its eradication. For major epizootics such as foot and mouth disease, they are integrated into an emergency plan as previously mentioned. These measures include: delimitation of an infected perimeter, prohibition, animal census, marking, isolation, slaughter, carcass destruction, treatment or vaccination, disinfection.

7.10 LIFTING OF THE AWPDI

The lifting of the AWPDI (issued by the Wali) is carried out when all prescribed measures have been completed and the risk has disappeared. It may be conditional upon a visit by the sanitary veterinarian, who, noting these facts, sends the wali a proposal to lift the order. The time limit for lifting the order may be left to the appreciation of the IVW, but most often a minimum period is set for each MRC by ministerial order: 30 days, for example, in Newcastle disease, 5 months in contagious bovine pleuropneumonia. The resumption of activity (restocking, etc.) on the farm may be conditional upon prior monitoring of sentinel animals. The farm may also remain under veterinary surveillance for a certain period after the lifting of the order.

CHAPTER 8: PRESENTATION OF ALGERIAN VETERINARY REGULATIONS

8.1 INTRODUCTION

Veterinary legislation is an essential element of national provisions that allow veterinary authorities to fulfill their key functions, notably:

- Surveillance
- Early detection and control of animal diseases and zoonoses
- Food safety of animal origin products during the production phase

*TO READ THE DECREES IN THE APPENDICES

8.2 COLLECTION OF TEXTS RELATING TO ZOO-SANITARY AND VETERINARY PROTECTION

The Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development, and Fisheries has a collection of regulatory texts consisting of international conventions, laws, and decrees. This collection is continuously updated and presented in electronic and printed format; it contains:

- 93 Articles
- 16 Presidential Decrees
- 30 Executive Decrees
- 37 Interministerial Orders
- 30 Ministerial Orders

8.3 LAW NO. 88-08 OF JANUARY 26, 1988

Relating to veterinary medicine activities and animal health protection; it is composed of four titles subdivided into chapters whose titles are:

Title I: National Veterinary Organization

Title II: Practice of Veterinary Medicine

Title III: Veterinary Pharmacy

- Chapter I: Conditions for Marketing

- Chapter II: Marketing

Title IV: General Measures for Animal Protection and Control of Animal Health and Animal Products

- Chapter I: Animal Protection and Health Prevention

- Chapter II: Notifiable Diseases

- Chapter III: Veterinary Sanitary Control at Borders

- Chapter IV: Sanitary Control of Meat and Rendering

8.4 DECREES

The following decrees must be read and understood by all veterinarians practicing in the public and private sectors to exercise their functions in accordance with Algerian regulations.

8.4.1 EXECUTIVE DECREE No. 95/363

This decree establishes the modalities for veterinary inspection of live animals and animal products or animal-origin products intended for human consumption, as well as the hygiene and sanitary conditions under which these products are prepared and preserved.

8.4.2 DECREE No. 96/236

This decree establishes the modalities of the specific compensation system applicable to veterinary medical officers and specialist veterinary medical officers.

8.4.3 DECREE No. 95/66

This decree establishes the list of notifiable animal diseases and the general measures applicable to them, including: isolation, sequestration, or confinement; census, identification, and/or marking; temporary prohibition of animal movements and gatherings; slaughter; carcass destruction; prophylactic treatment; disinfection; and compensation according to the diseases.