



GF-TADs

GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE
PROGRESSIVE CONTROL OF
TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES



**Standing Group of Experts on Lumpy Skin Disease
in Europe**
under the GF-TADs umbrella

First meeting (LSD1)
Brussels, Belgium, 4-5 July 2016

Cyprus' Report
Dr. Christodoulos PIPIS

**LUMPY SKIN DISEASE INCIDENCE
IN THE AREAS OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
IN WHICH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS
CANNOT EXERCISE EFFECTIVE CONTROL**

CYPRUS' VETERINARY SERVICES

RUMORS

□ **December 3rd , 2014**

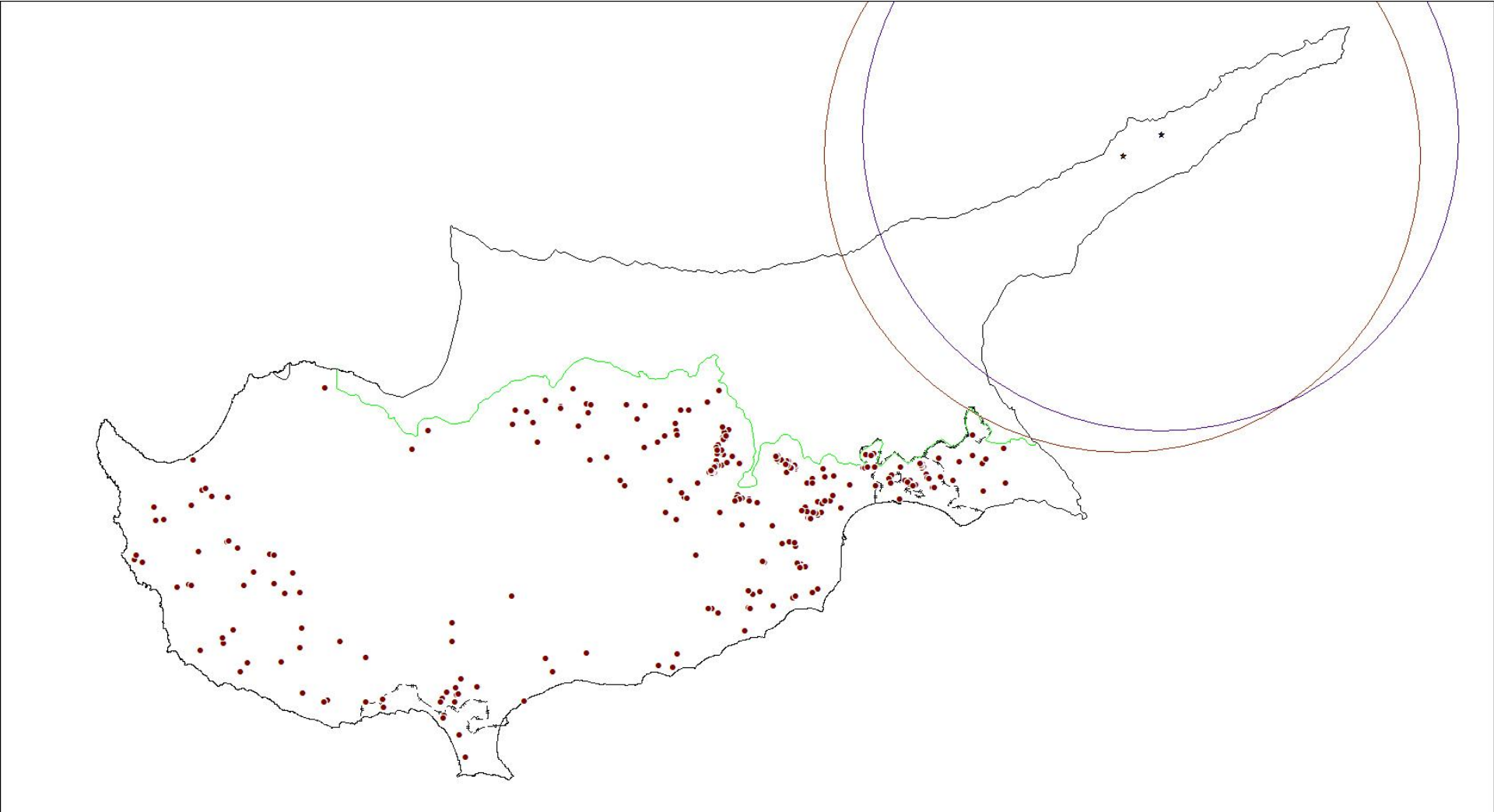
First non official information obtained in the afternoon through colleagues members of the Veterinary Technical Committee (VTC) functioning in the framework of the United Nations' (UN) Negotiations

According to them, the Turkish Cypriot colleagues members of the VTC have spoken, about two Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) suspicious cases in Karpasia peninsula, one at Ayios Andronicos and one at Ayia Triada villages respectively

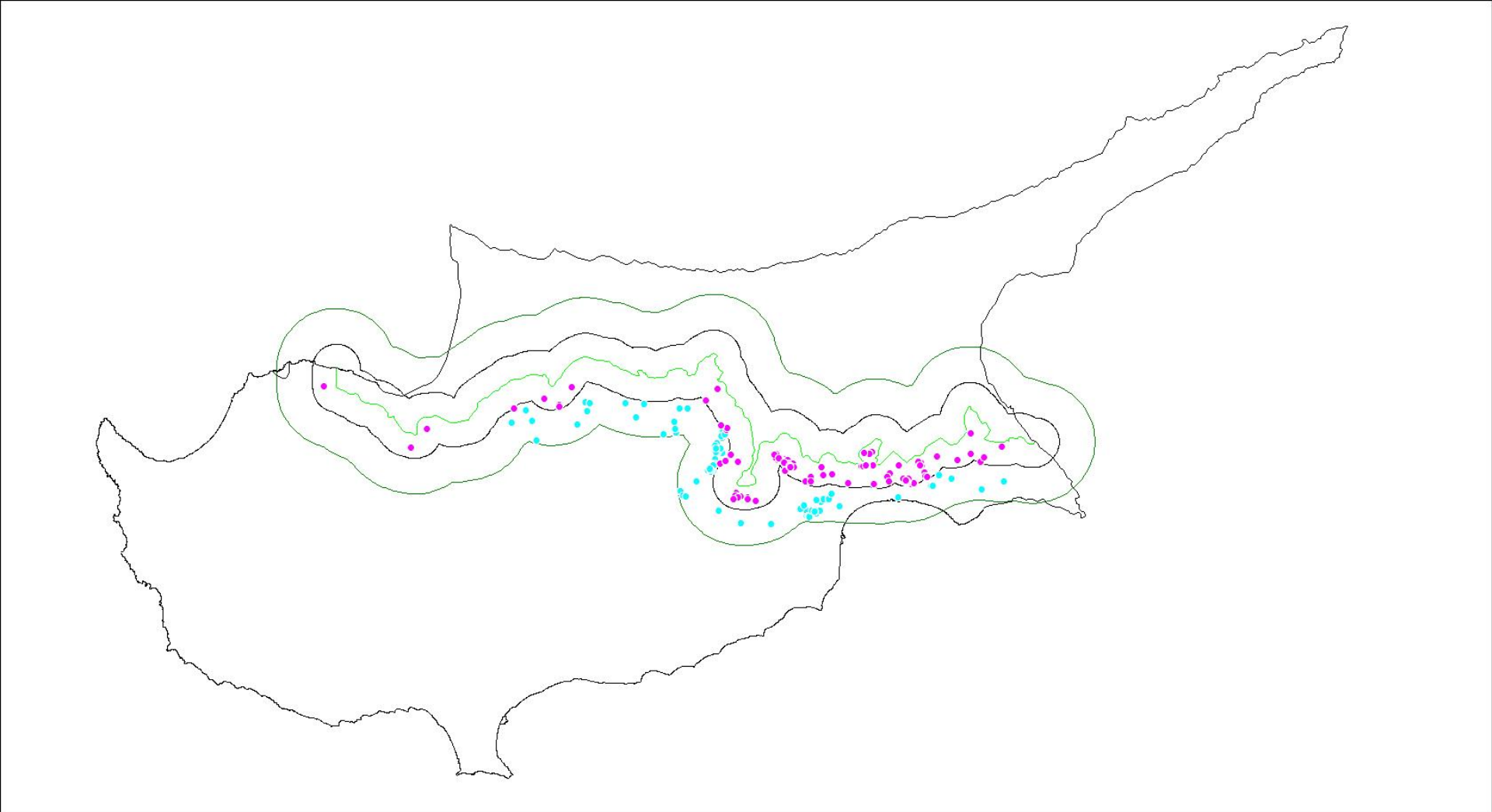
The initial actions taken consisted of

- **Movement restrictions and imposed a 3 km protection zone**
- **Suspect infected animals were culled and buried on the spot**
- **Samples were taken and sent to Turkey on December 2nd**
- **The UN have been notified of this event**

The two incidences were located 50 km from the green line and the closest to the green line bovine farms

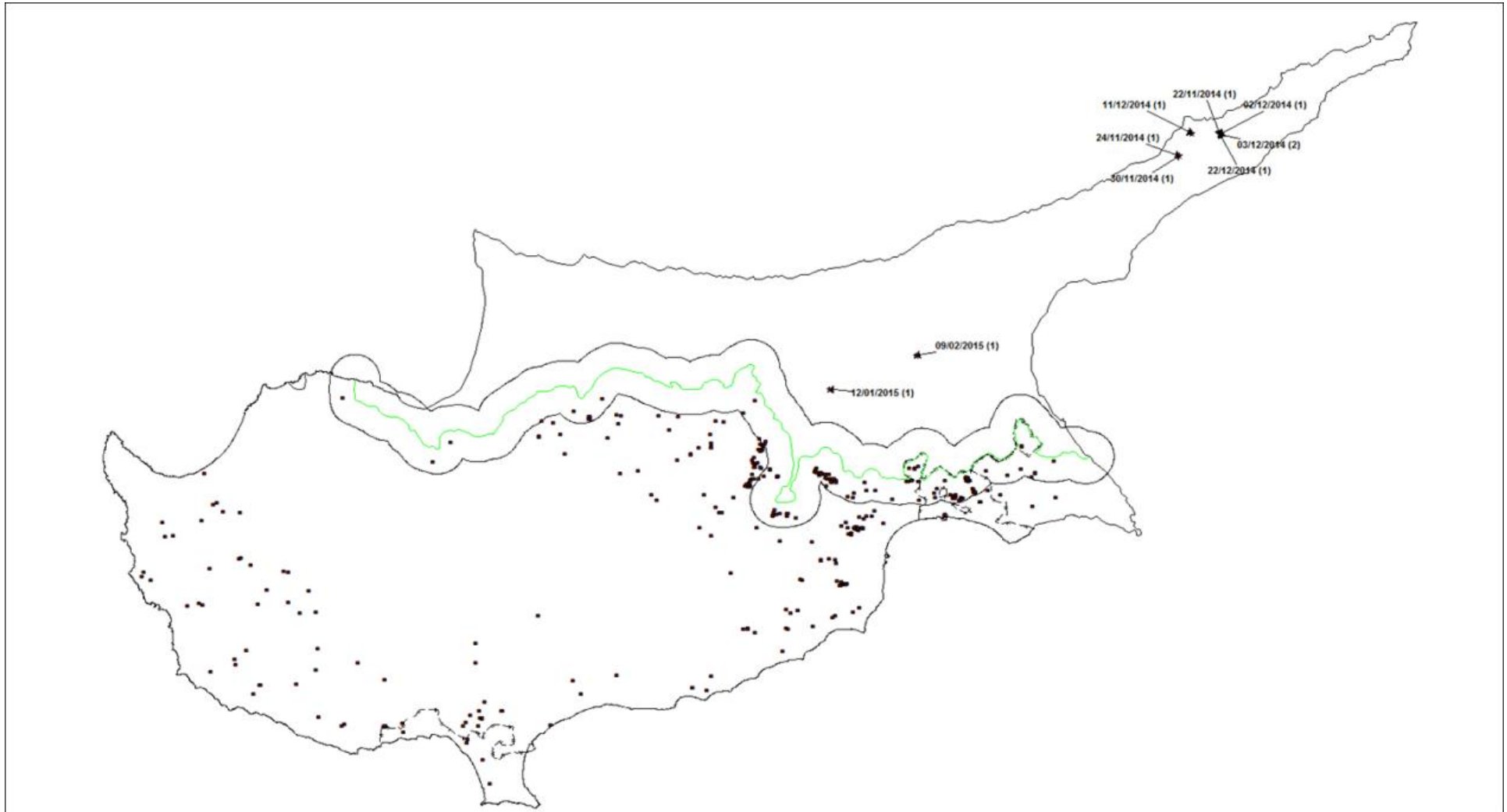


The bovine farms located at 3 and 10 km radius from the green line



- **Between the end of November and the end of December 2014, a total of eight outbreaks were detected in Karpasia peninsula**
- **Susceptible population in the eight outbreaks was 156 cattle, all of them put down**
- **In January and February 2015 another two outbreaks, located in high-cattle density areas**
- **There was no reported direct connection between the last two outbreaks and the cluster of eight outbreaks in the peninsula**
- **All outbreaks involved dairy herds**
- **In the middle of February, a vaccination campaign started in the areas in which the Government of the Republic of Cyprus does not exercise effective control**

Outbreaks in the Areas of the Republic of Cyprus in which the Government of Cyprus cannot exercise effective control due to the Turkish military occupation since July 1974



ORIGIN OF INFECTION

Community Veterinary Emergency Team report

- **Introduction of infected vectors (insects, ticks) either via importation of straw or hay originating from Turkey or wind-borne introduction of infected vectors from endemic countries, such as Turkey or Syria**
- **Unauthorized introduction of infected cattle**
- **Introduction through fomites, such as temporary farm workers, having contact in both Cyprus and on the continental areas where LSD is present, vehicles etc.**

ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE CYPRUS' VETERINARY SERVICES (CyVS)

1 of 3

- **The Cyprus' Veterinary Association and the Cattle Farmer Associations were informed of the first incidence and about the disease epidemiology and requested to: a) intensify the daily monitoring of their livestock, b) increase the biosecurity measures at farm level, c) apply insect and tick repellents at both animals and facilities, d) inform the CyVS immediately in case of suspicion for the presence of any symptoms attributed to the disease in any farm**
- **The Public Health Services were requested to coordinate with the UN so as to intensify the frequency of spraying the still water collections and the buffer zone area against insects**
- **The British Bases have been informed and requested to intensify the checks they perform at the crossing points in the Bases precluding the transport of hay and straw from the occupied areas**

ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE CYPRUS' VETERINARY SERVICES (CyVS)

2 of 3

- **The Cyprus Police and the Customs Department have intensified the patrols alongside the buffer zone and the checks performed at the crossing points**
- **Upon confirmation of the positive LSD result from the Turkish Laboratory on the 5th of December 2014, the incidence was reported by the CyVS to DG SANTE informing them of the actions/ measures taken**
- **On December 9th and January 21st , DG SANTE dispatched, on Cyprus' request, the Community Veterinary Emergency Team (CVET) to Cyprus for on the spot visits to review the actual facts**
- **District and Regional Veterinary Offices have been instructed to intensify the frequency of farm inspections, checking the animal health status as well as the origin of possible hay and straw present at the farm, especially for the farms located alongside the buffer zone.**

ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE CYPRUS' VETERINARY SERVICES (CyVS)

3 of 3

- **The Animal Health Laboratory in collaboration with the OIE Reference Laboratory set up in Cyprus the RT-PCR technique for the detection of LSD viral nucleic acid**
- **Eight seminars took place all over Cyprus and attended by cattle farmers, local authorities and veterinarians. The seminars highlighted the clinical signs, mode of transmission, preventive measures to be enforced and given instructions in case of suspected cases**
- **Meetings with other government departments and private companies that have responsibilities in the event of a disease outbreak**