



**Teaming up for  
animal health, in the  
interest of animals,  
their owners and  
society at large**



# Control of *Salmonella* spp. in Dutch dairy herds

Maarten F. Weber,

*GD Animal Health, Deventer, The Netherlands*



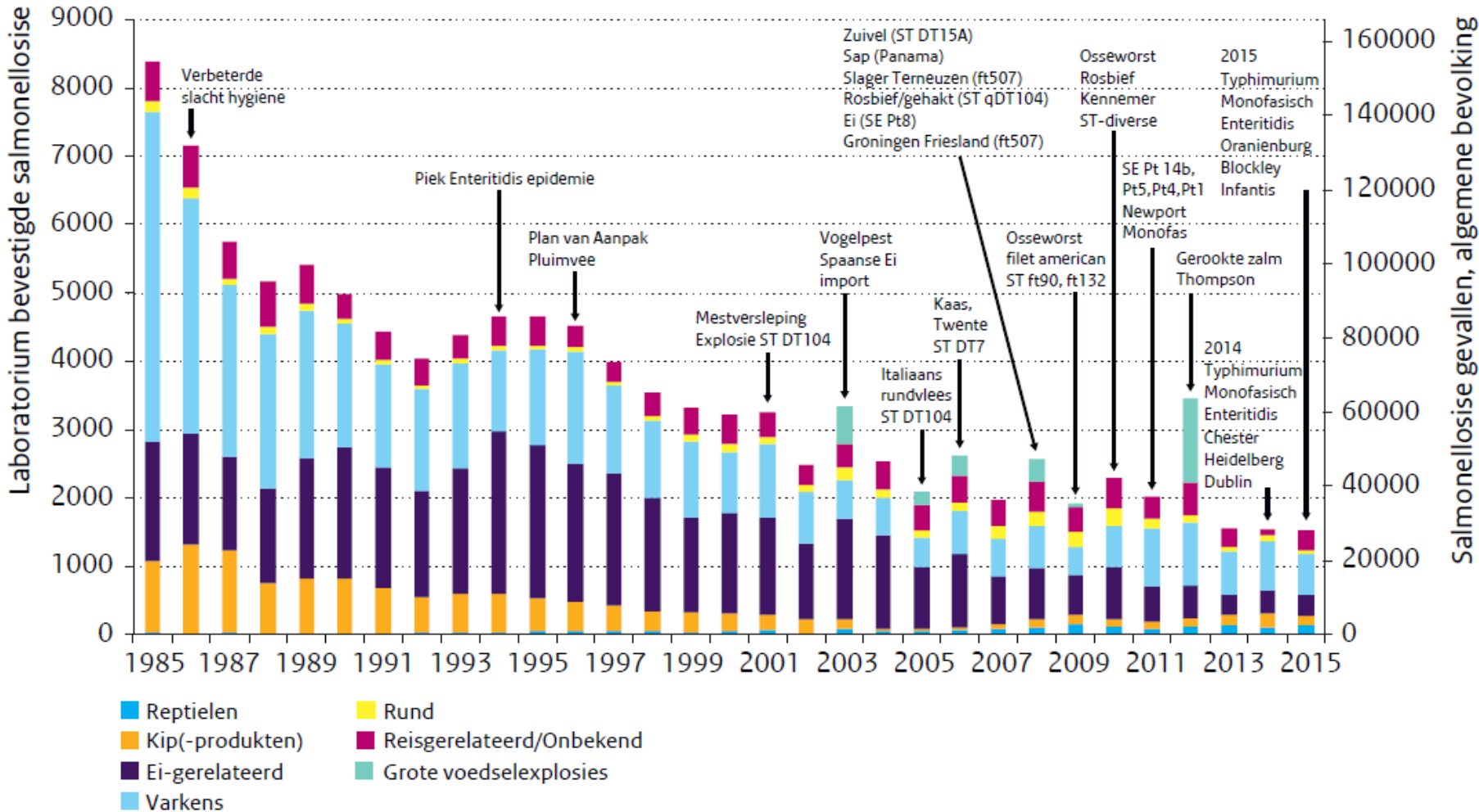


# Human salmonellosis (NL)

Human salmonellosis cases (per 17,000,000 humans)			
	2013	2014	2015
General population	28,000	27,500	27,200
General practitioner	4,200	4,100	4,380
Hospitalised	1,100	1,080	1,068
Death	27	27	25



**Figuur 2.19.2A** Geschatte bijdrage aan de humane, laboratoriumbevestigde salmonellose (linker y-as) door reizen (of onbekend), landbouwhuisdieren of hun producten. Omvangrijke explosies die niet representatief zijn voor de *Salmonella*-status van de Nederlandse vee- en pluimveestapel, zijn in groen aangegeven. (Bron: Laboratoriumsurveillance RIVM)



*Epidemiol. Infect.* (2009), **137**, 1548–1557. © Cambridge University Press 2009  
doi:10.1017/S0950268809002337 Printed in the United Kingdom

---

## **A prolonged outbreak of *Salmonella* Typhimurium infection related to an uncommon vehicle: hard cheese made from raw milk**

---

Y. T. H. P. VAN DUYNHOVEN<sup>1\*</sup>, L. D. ISKEN<sup>1</sup>, K. BORGES<sup>1,2</sup>, M. BESSELS<sup>3</sup>,  
K. SOETHOUDT<sup>3</sup>, O. HAITSMAN<sup>3</sup>, B. MULDER<sup>4</sup>, D. W. NOTERMANS<sup>1</sup>,  
R. DE JONGE<sup>1</sup>, P. KOCK<sup>5</sup>, W. VAN PELT<sup>1</sup>, O. STENVERS<sup>6</sup>  
AND J. VAN STEENBERGEN<sup>1</sup>, on behalf of the Outbreak Investigation Team†

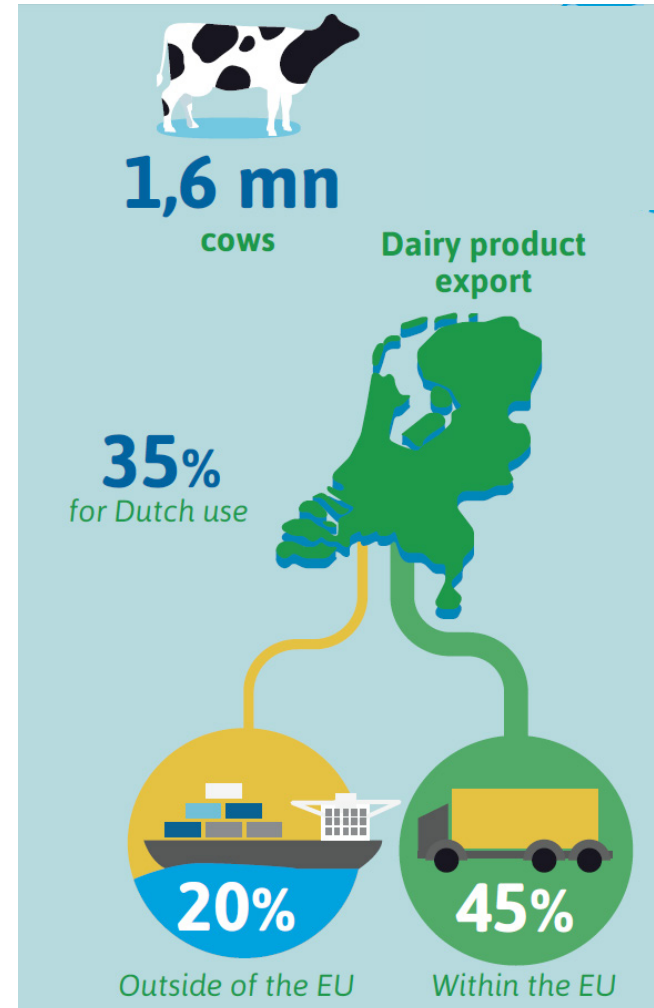
<sup>1</sup> Centre for Infectious Disease Control Netherlands, National Institute of Public Health and the Environment (RIVM/CIB), Bilthoven, The Netherlands

<sup>2</sup> European Programme for Intervention Epidemiology Training, European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, Sweden



Dairy's contribution  
to the Dutch trade  
balance

**9%**









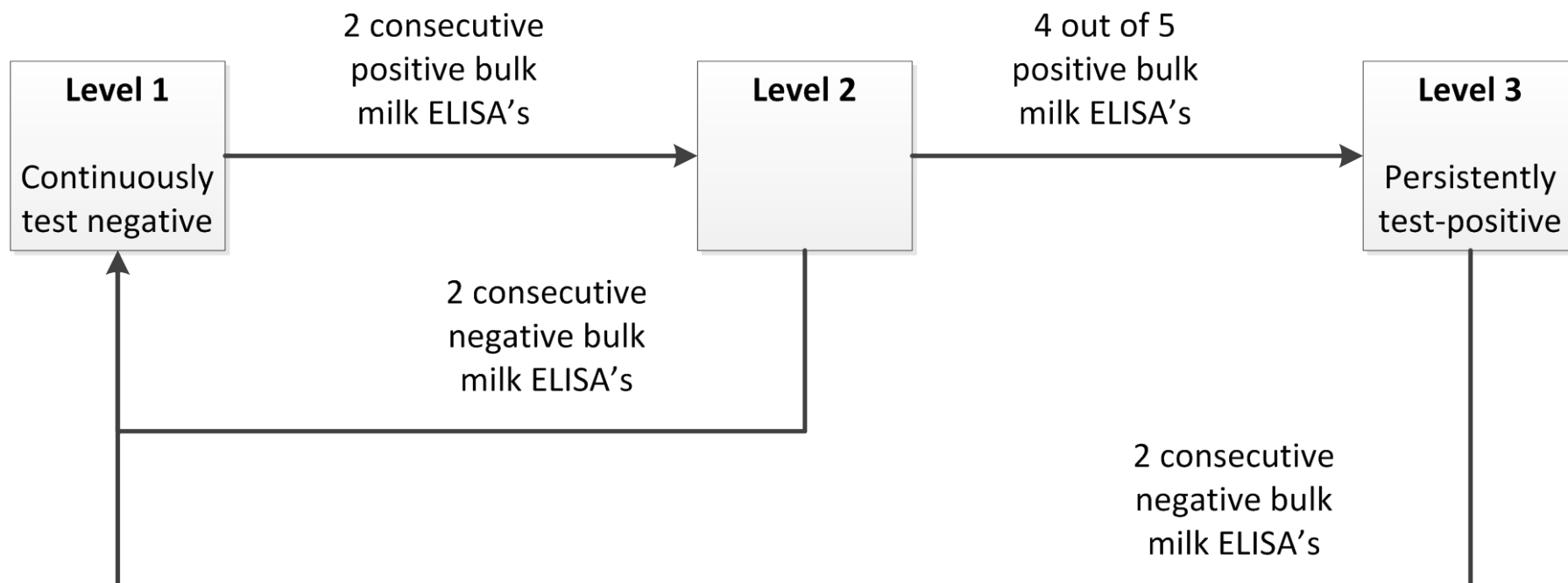
# Control in Dutch dairy herds

- Certification-and-surveillance programme (2000 – present)
  - enable low risk trade of cattle between herds
  - alert farmers to an infection in their herd
  - reduce human exposure
- Control programme dairy processors (2008 – present)
  - stimulate farmers to control infection in their herd
  - reduce prevalence of infection



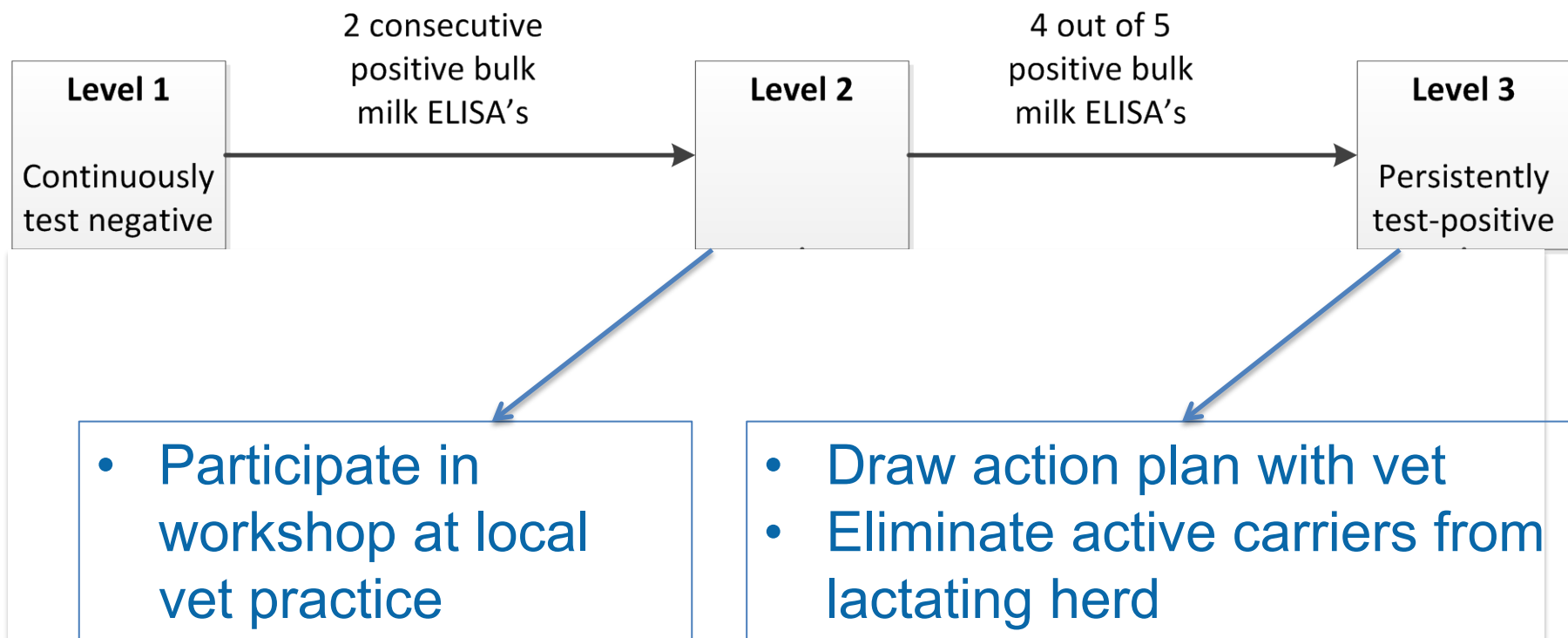
# Scheme of dairy processors

- Bulk milk ELISA @ 4 month intervals



# Scheme of dairy processors

- Bulk milk ELISA @ 4 month intervals





**Test round (1 to 11)**

OR = 0.91

**Province (1 to 12)**

**Season: Sept - Dec**

OR = 2.1

**Soil type:**

Sand: reference

Clay: OR = 1.8

Sandy loam: OR = 1.4

**Surface water area**

$\leq 2\%$ : reference

$>2\%$ : OR = 1.3

**Dairy herds within 500 m:**

No herds: reference

Test-negative herd(s): OR = 0.8

Test-positive herd(s): OR = 2.0



### **Distance to pigs:**

>2 km: reference  
0 km: OR = 1.9

### **Net profit**

Average: reference  
10% highest: OR = 0.5

### **Herd size**

Average: reference  
< 36: OR = 0.7  
36-75: OR = 0.9  
73-137: OR = 1.1  
>137: OR = 1.6

### **Cattle introduced from other herds**

None: reference  
Test-negative herd(s):  
OR = 1.2  
Test-positive herd(s):  
OR = 1.4

### **Increase of herd size (1 yr)**

Average: reference  
>12.5% increase: OR = 0.9





# Concept of control

- Preventive measures
  - reduce rate of introduction of infection
  - increase probability of extinction of infection

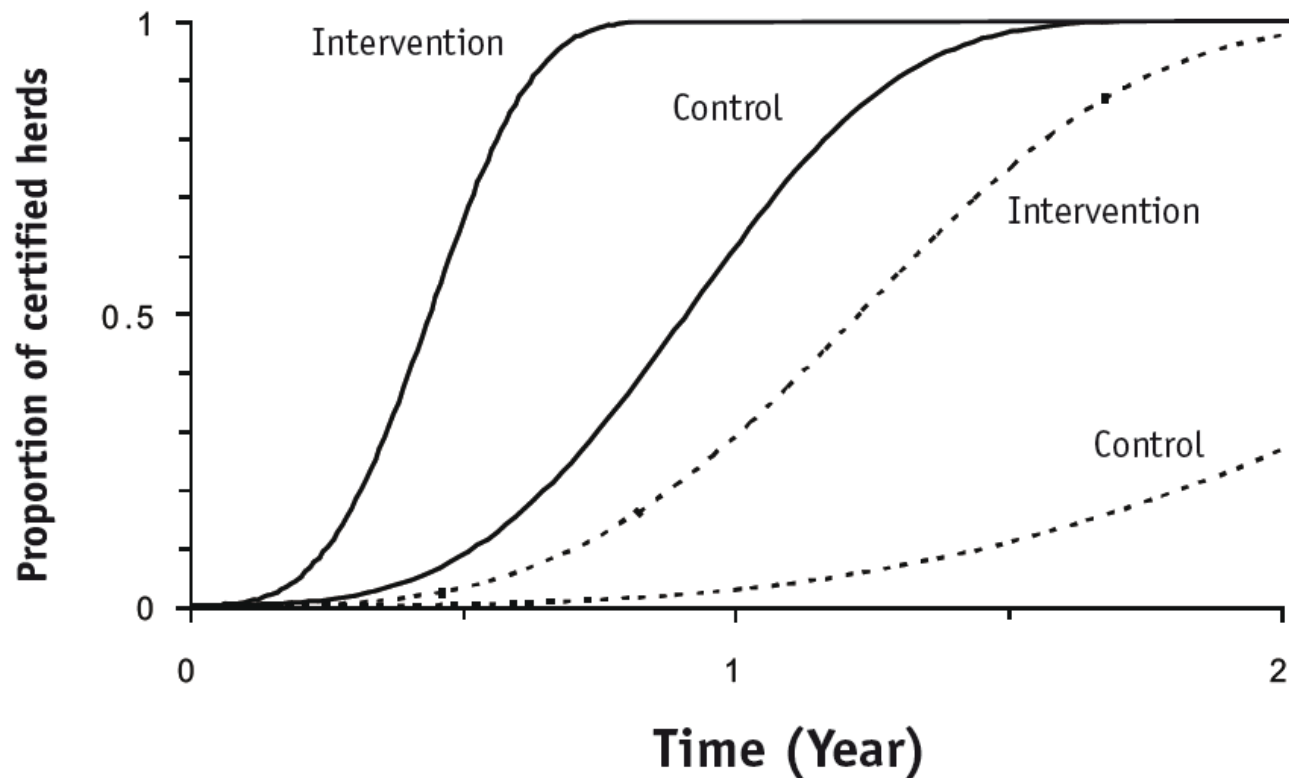


## Clinical trial (2005-2008)

- 50 herds, > 1 year infected
- intervention: identification of salmonella carriers & advice to eliminate them
- aim: evaluate efficacy of intervention, adjusted for differences in herd management

# Clinical trial

- Fitted time until 'salmonella-unsuspected'



— = good and - - - = poor herd management

# Clinical trial

- Probability of achieving 'salmonella-unsuspected' status within 1 year:

Culling salmonella carriers:



30%

Preventive herd management:



57%

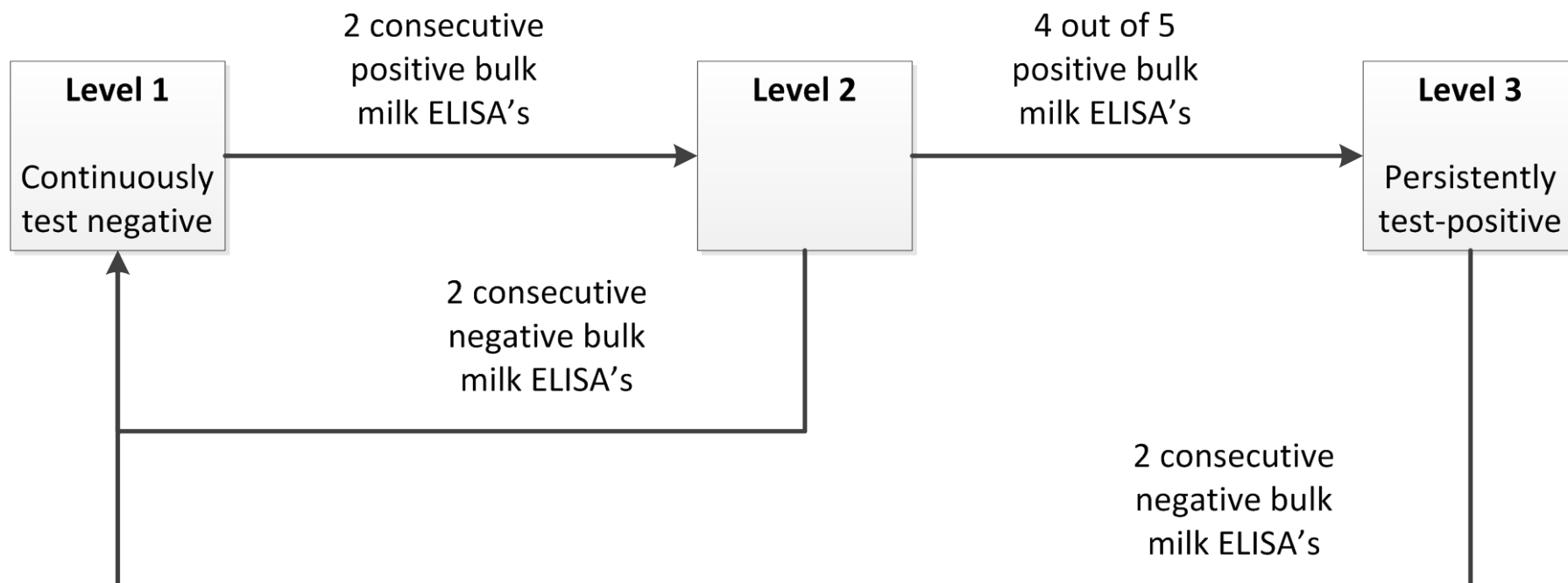
Combined approach:

>95%



# Scheme of dairy processors

- Bulk milk ELISA @ 4 month intervals



## Field study (2012-2014)

- 100 dairy herds, level 3 after test round 2012-2:

Herds	2012-3	2012-3	Number of herds
Control	N	N	30
	P	N	20
Case	P	P	50

**Concentrates 14 days  
ante partum**

Yes: reference  
No: OR = 4.0

**Calves 1st week water**

Yes: reference  
No: OR = 4.2



**Calving shed**  
Individual: reference  
Group: OR = 14  
None: NS

**Cats: OR = 7.2**

**Soil:**

Sandy loam, low moor  
bog, clay >> sand

**Harvesting silage  
between fertilisation  
with slurry and  
summer barn feeding**  
Yes or N/A: reference  
No: OR = 6.1



# Field study (2012-2014)

Further analyses confirm effects of

- Infection pressure
- Hygiene and separation of groups
- Resistance to infection
- Soil type





# Field study (2012-2014)

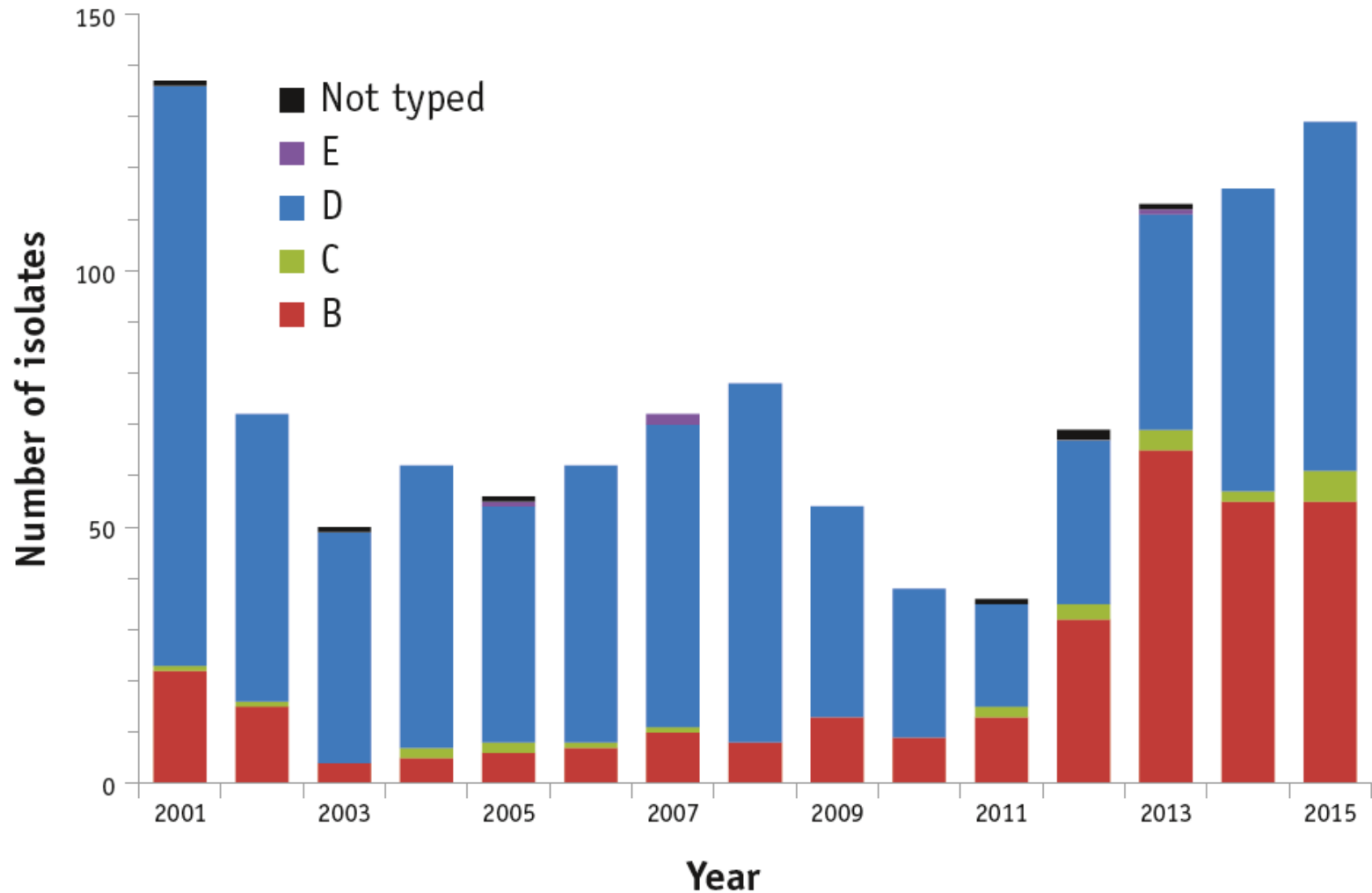
## Action plans

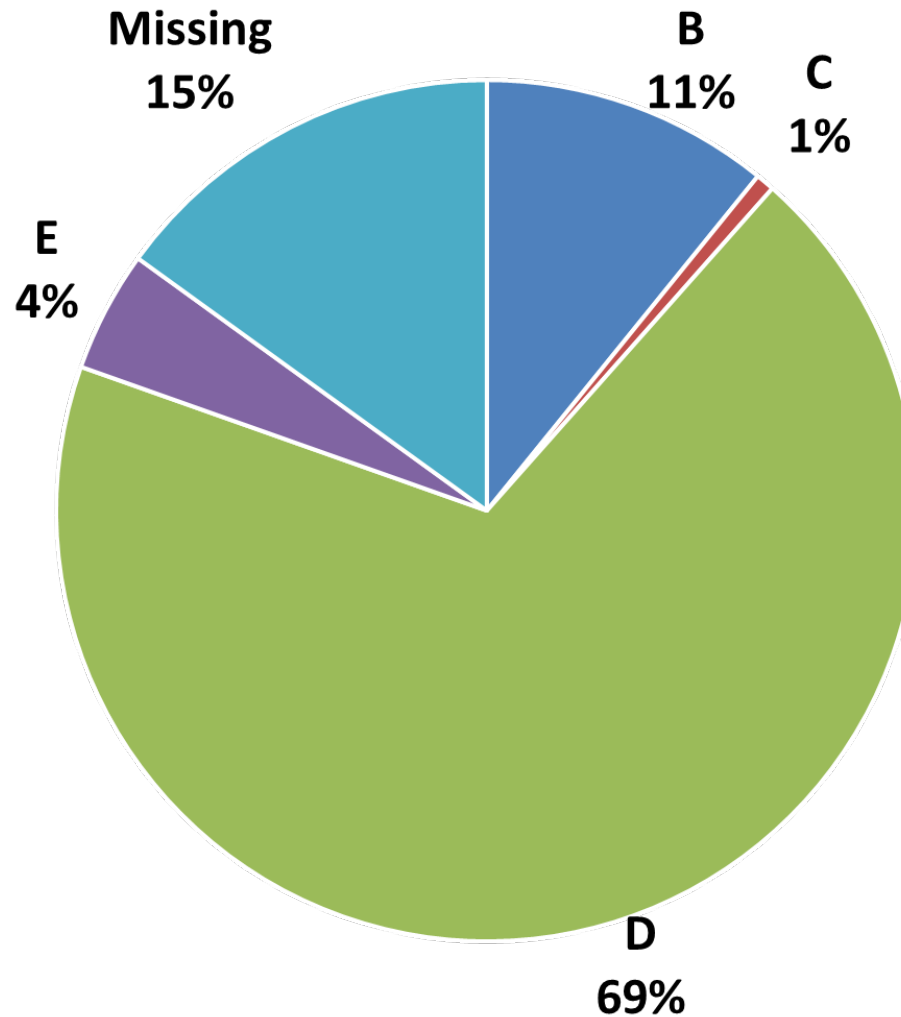
- Important preventive measures frequently not identified
- Poor compliance
- Often only part of herd tested to identify active carriers
- Identified active carriers not always eliminated

## Results

- 1/3 of Level 3 herds achieved Level 1 during 16 months study period

# Post mortem (dairy herds)





Active carriers, 2008-2012 ( $n = 286$ )



## Discussion

- Control in infected herds is feasible, provided the farmer is prepared to take vigorous action
- Progress on national level less than anticipated





# Discussion

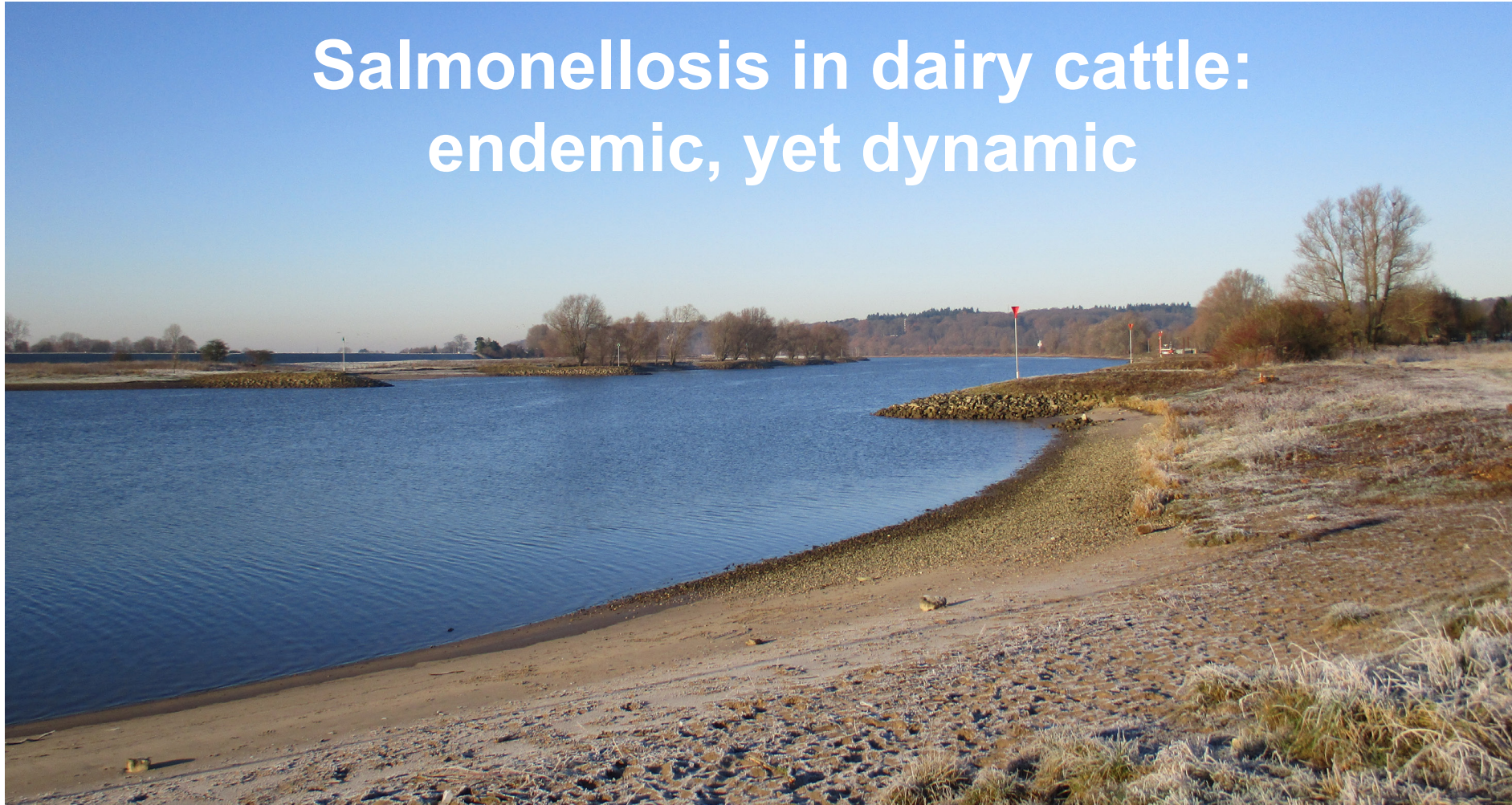
## Challenges for the future:

- Influence contact structure between herds
- Stimulate farmers to take action, right now
- Study dynamics of various serotypes and adapt, if needed, control measures



# Conclusion

**Salmonellosis in dairy cattle:  
endemic, yet dynamic**







[m.weber@gdanimalhealth.com](mailto:m.weber@gdanimalhealth.com)