

# Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy in France

Surveillance, control and current  
epidemiological situation

**Christian Ducrot**

Animal Epidemiology Unit

**INRA**

National Institute for Agronomic Research  
Clermont-Ferrand-Theix Research Center

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Christian Ducrot - TSEAC - Washington - 00/06/01



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# Questions

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Surveillance and control measures ?

Efficiency of surveillance and control ?

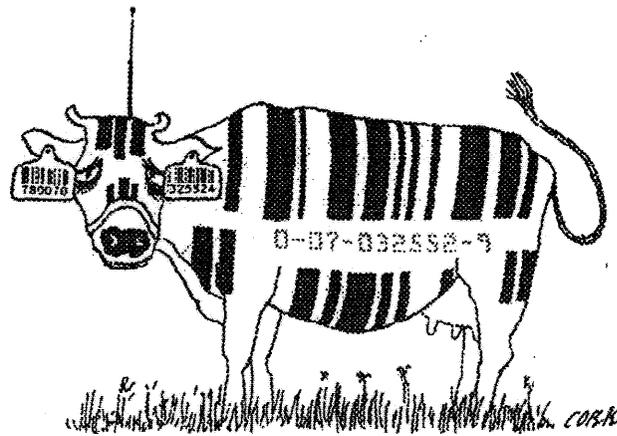
Current epidemiological situation ?

# Surveillance and control measures for BSE in France

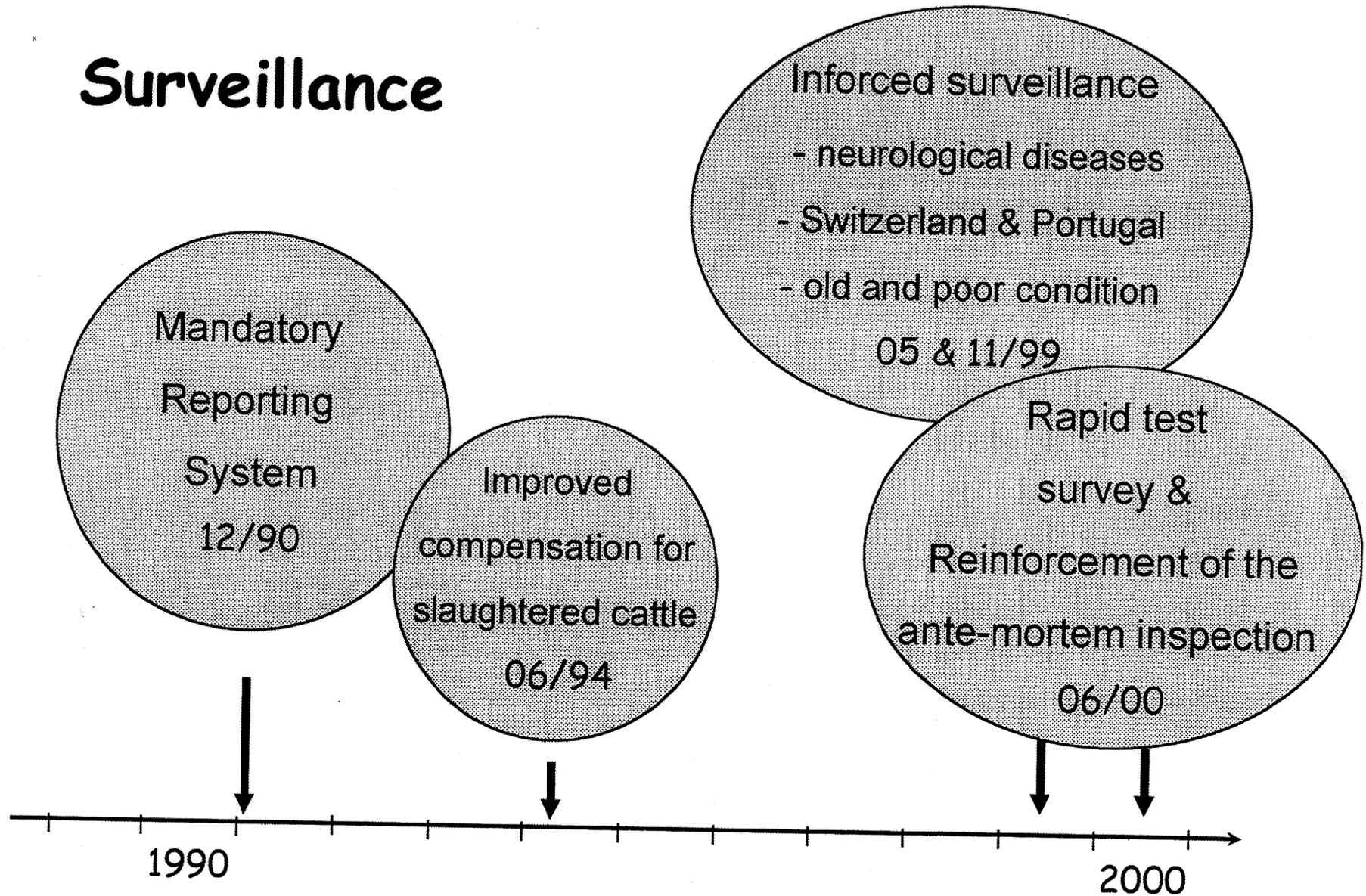
Surveillance

Control of transmission

Identification of cattle

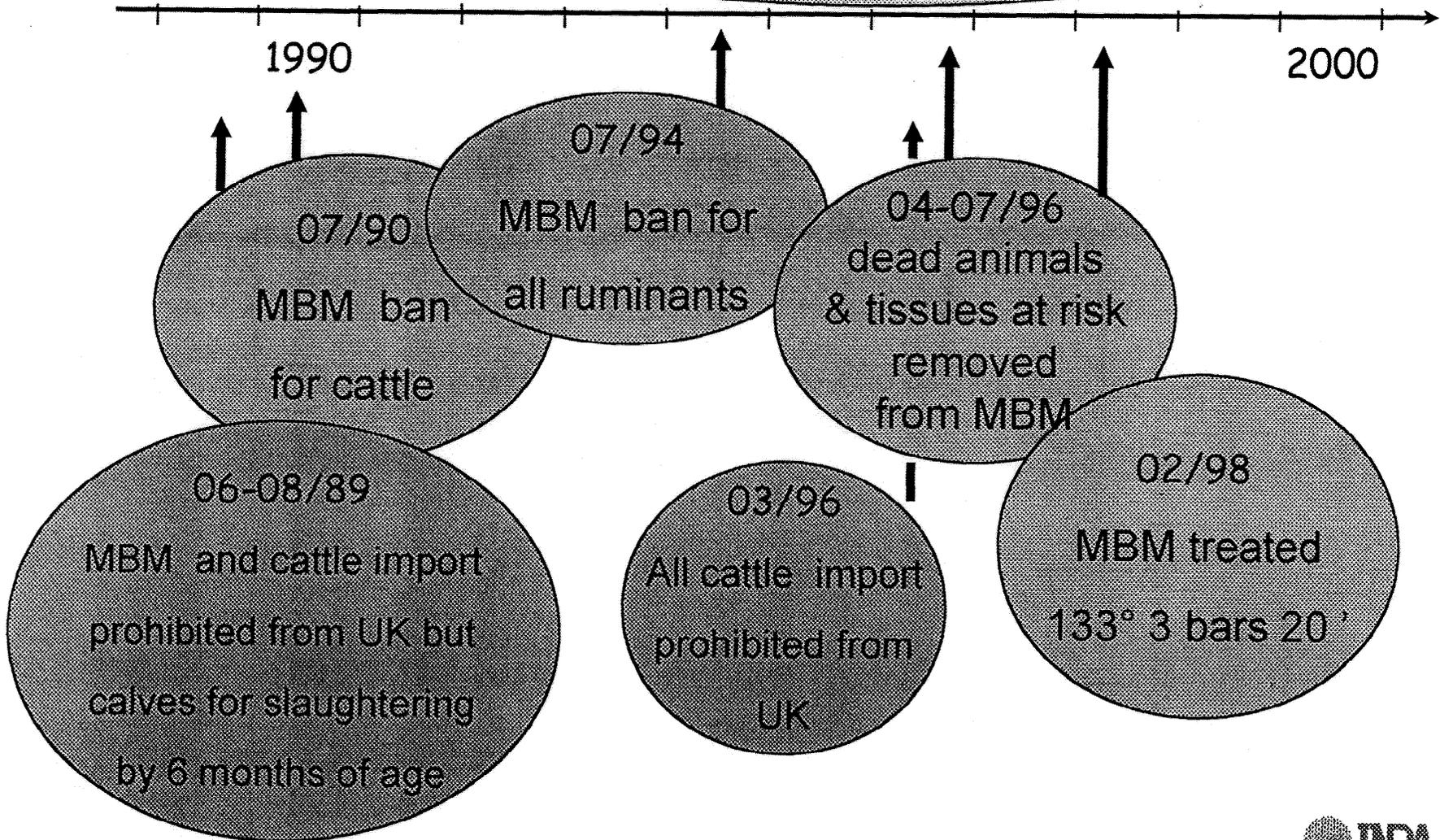


# Surveillance



# Control

Stamping out of affected herds  
animals of the same cohort sold elsewhere  
and progeny since 12/90



# Identification

To sum up, surveillance and control of BSE started in 1990 and have been improved regularly based on scientific knowledge

They also benefit from the

## **Mandatory and individual identification of the COWS**

- started in the seventies,
- has been computerized in several databases,
- will be merged in a unique database in 2000

# Efficiency of the surveillance and control

Negative clinical suspicions

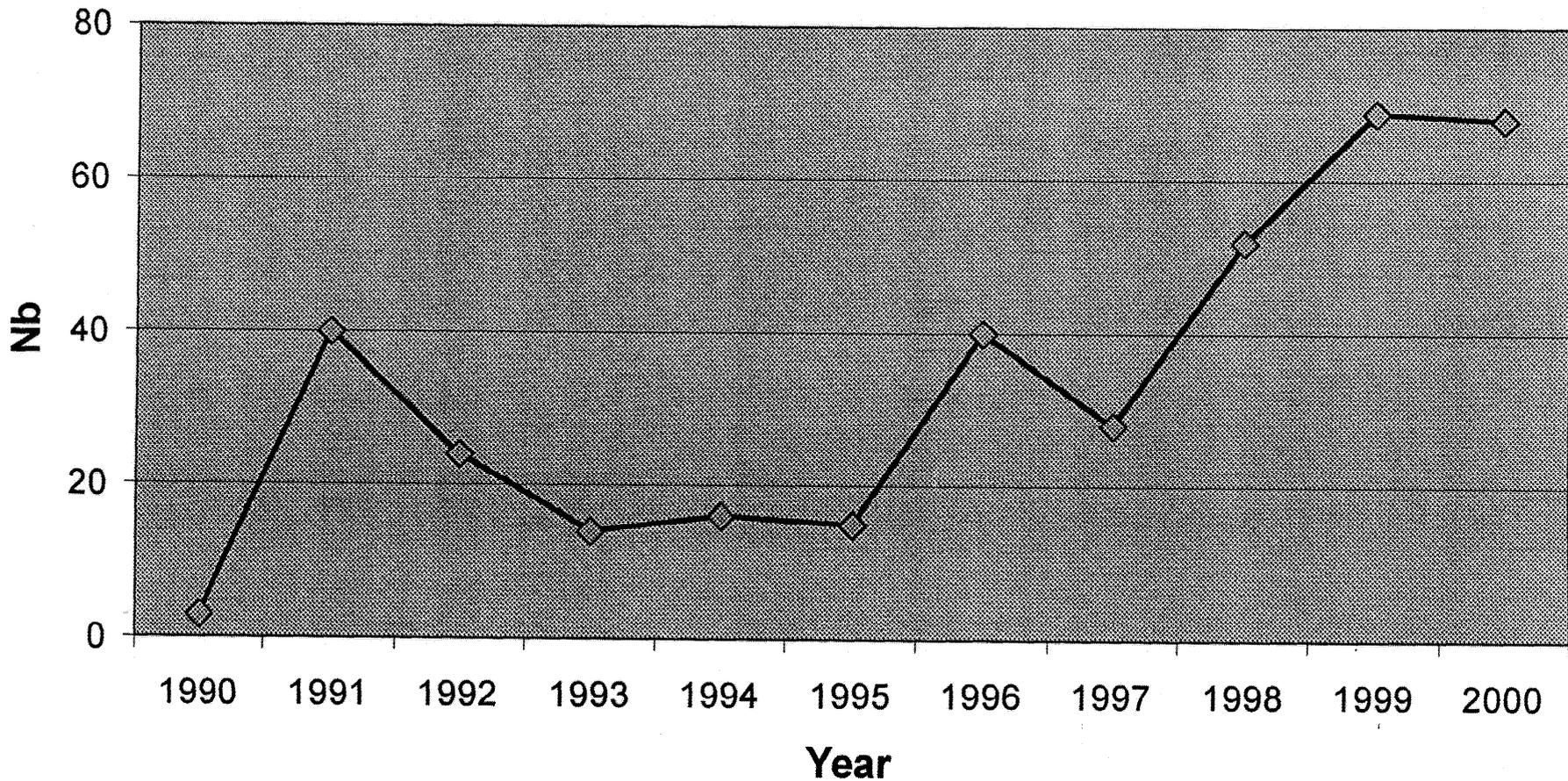
Controls on - Compound feed for ruminants  
- MBM processing

**Actualité Dossier ESB**

## Le dépistage de l'ESB pour mars

La publication récente de deux rapports d'enquête a propulsé une nouvelle fois l'ESB à la une de l'actualité. Au fil des semaines, et l'actualité nous le prouve une nouvelle fois, le dossier rentre progressivement dans le domaine politique, en abandonnant peu à peu ses aspects techniques et juridiques.

## Negative clinical suspicions per year



4 negative suspicions per year per million cows (8 in 1999)

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# Controls on compound feed for ruminants and MBM processing

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Ministry of Agriculture and Consumer Protection Office  
Controls since 1997

## Compound feed for ruminants

- MBM incorporation (bone fragments and fish scale)
- Compound feed process and labelling

## MBM

- Regular visits in all the factories
- Processing of the MBM (protein transformation due to the process, with Elisa method)

# Results of the control tests

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## Compound feed for ruminants

- 1372 samples since 1997 used to test MBM incorporation
  - Decrease in non-compliance situations (> 0.1% bone fragments) from 3.3% in 1997 to 0% in 2000

## MBM

- 55 samples used to test the MBM process
  - 2 did not comply with the recommendations

# Rapid test survey

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To estimate the prevalence of BSE infection on a population at risk

- Target population
  - Dead cattle + emergency slaughtering
  - Over 2 years old
  - In the West of France
- Sample
  - All eligible animals, up to 40 000 animals
  - June- December 2000
- Analysis with one of the rapid tests positively evaluated by the EU

# Epidemiological situation

Cases (up to May 15, 2000)  
 Temporal variation  
 Incidence rate



# BSE cases in France (up to May 15, 2000)

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97 cases, first one in 1991

One imported case (from Switzerland)

## Detection

92 through clinical suspicion

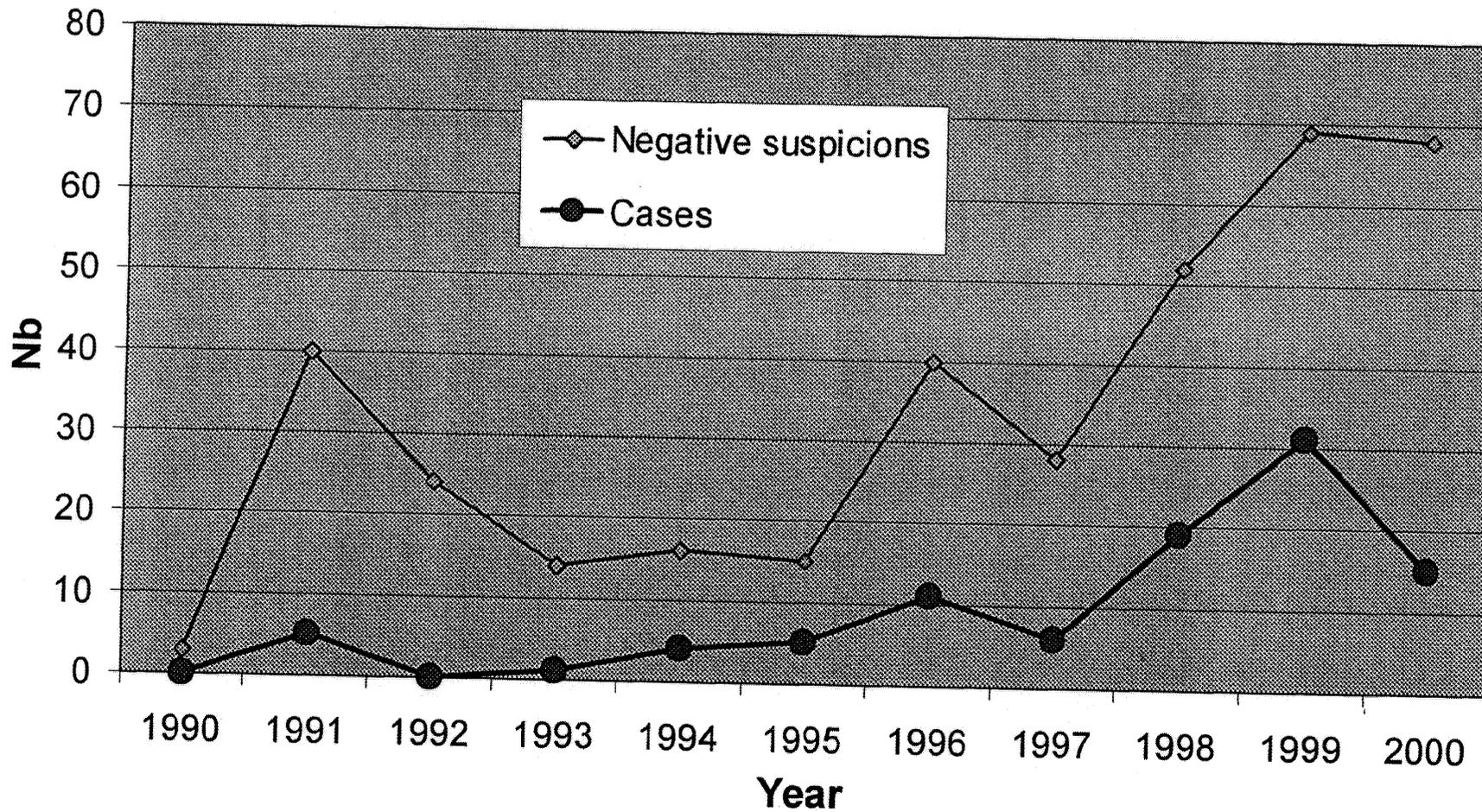
4 through reinforced surveillance (since 05/99)

1 through complementary surveillance on old and poor condition slaughtered cows (since 11/99)

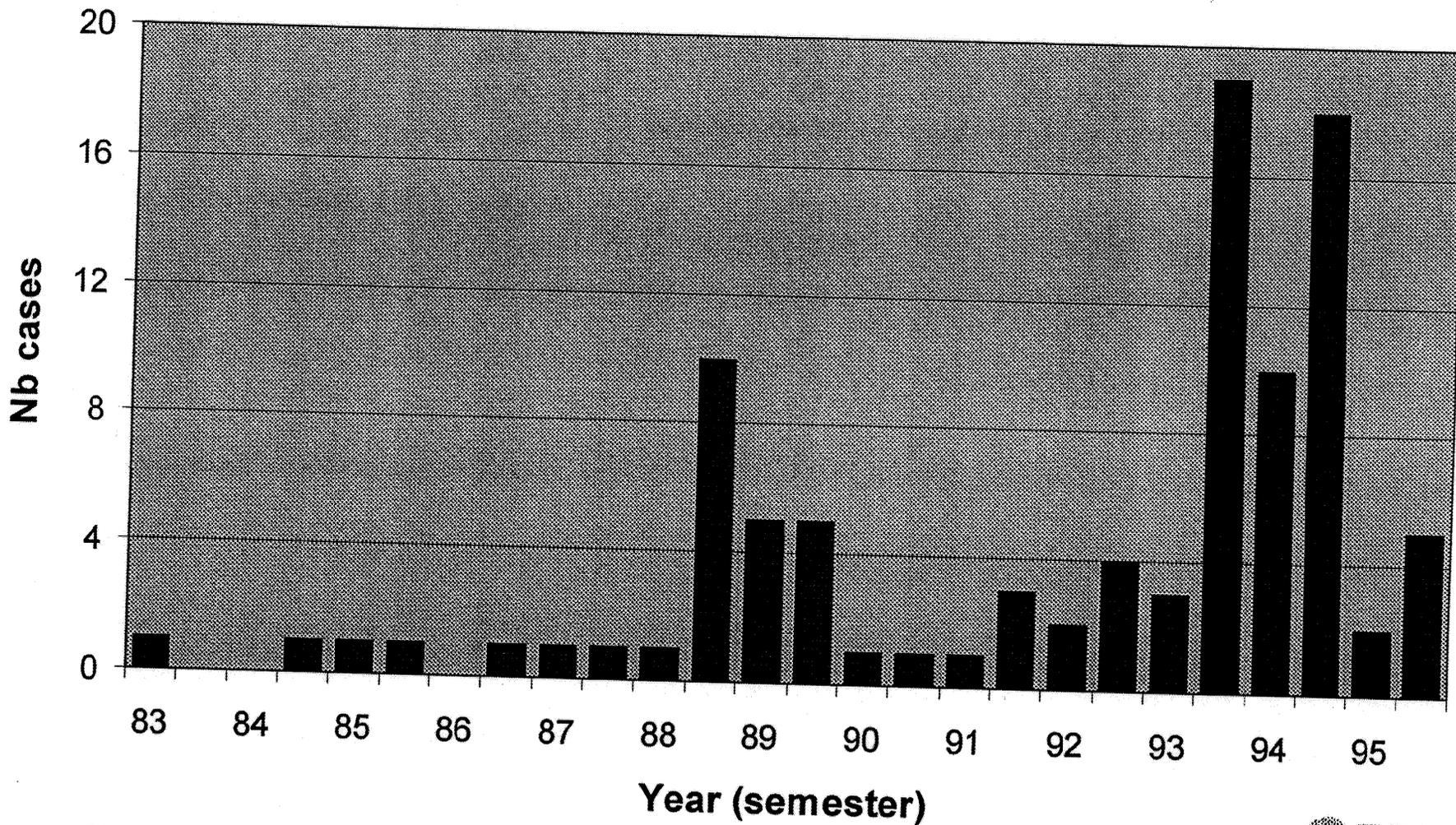
90 dairy cows and 7 beef cows

Always doubts about a possible cross-contamination of the compound feed with pig or poultry feed

## Cases and negative suspicions per year



# Birth date of the BSE cases



# BSE Incidence rate in France and other European countries

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Per million cattle over 2 years old

	1998	1999
<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>596</b>	<b>422</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>236</b>
<b>Switzerland</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>Irland</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>France</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Netherland</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

# Future trend ?

