

## UK Surveillance: Rapid Analysis & Detection of Animal-related Risks (RADAR)– From Concept To Reality

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The UK government launched a strategy for veterinary surveillance (VS) in October 2003. An essential part of this, is the development of a new, integrated IT system called RADAR (Rapid Analysis and Detection of Animal-related Risks). RADAR will automatically collate and analyse surveillance data gathered from operational animal health systems around the UK, allowing disease data and disease risk factors to be compared directly against the population of animals. This will improve government's ability to prevent and control disease and help the UK identify changes in disease distribution sooner by being part of an early warning system.

RADAR is being developed in phases between now and 2013. The first release was delivered in March 2005, and consists of a data warehouse containing information on the cattle population and laboratory reports of Salmonella in Great Britain, together with specialist reporting and spatial analysis tools.

The next development phase has begun. This will expand the technical architecture to support the automatic publication of surveillance reports and the development of web-based, interactive mapping and reporting applications. It will also include the development of a database for managing 'surveillance profiles' which bring together key information about animal diseases. Data sources will be extended to include agricultural census data, sheep and pig movements, poultry population data as well as TB, BSE and Brucellosis data from across the UK.

This paper will describe the lessons learned from phase 1 and discuss in more detail the future challenges and developments for phase 2.