



Monitoring of *Francisella tularensis* and *Yersinia pseudotuberculosis* in Danish hares (*Lepus europaeus*) by fluorescent in-situ hybridization

Hansen, Mette Sif; Chriél, Mariann; Larsen, Gitte; Holm, Elisabeth; Jensen, Tim Kåre

Publication date:
2014

Document Version
Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

[Link back to DTU Orbit](#)

Citation (APA):

Hansen, M. S., Chriél, M., Larsen, G., Holm, E., & Jensen, T. K. (2014). *Monitoring of Francisella tularensis and Yersinia pseudotuberculosis in Danish hares (Lepus europaeus) by fluorescent in-situ hybridization*. Abstract from European Wildlife Disease Association congress, Edingburgh, United Kingdom.

General rights

Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the public portal are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

- Users may download and print one copy of any publication from the public portal for the purpose of private study or research.
- You may not further distribute the material or use it for any profit-making activity or commercial gain
- You may freely distribute the URL identifying the publication in the public portal

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.

MONITORING OF FRANCISELLA TULARENSIS AND YERSINIA PSEUDOTUBERCULOSIS IN DANISH HARES (*LEPUS EUROPAEUS*) BY FLUORESCENT IN-SITU HYBRIDIZATION

METTE SIF HANSEN¹, MARIANN CHRIÉL, GITTE LARSEN, ELISABETH HOLM AND TIM K. JENSEN

National Veterinary Institute, Technical University of Denmark, Frederiksberg, Denmark. ¹Email: <mesi@vet.dtu.dk>

The National Veterinary Institute conducts general health surveillance of wildlife by examination of dead animals submitted by private individuals and government agencies from across Denmark. During 2012 and 2013, 1265 terrestrial mammals, 76 marine mammals and 262 birds were examined. A total of 59 hares (*Lepus Europaeus*) have been screened for presence of the zoonotic bacteria *Francisella tularensis* and *Yersinia pseudotuberculosis* by fluorescent in-situ hybridization (FISH). Ten hares were positive for *Y. pseudotuberculosis* and one was positive for *F. tularensis*. *F. tularensis* and *Y. pseudotuberculosis* has a wide host range and causes high mortality in hares. When it comes to zoonotic potential *F. tularensis* poses the major risk for humans, where it causes tularemia - a potentially deadly disease. FISH is an easy, cheap and not at least safe method for monitoring *F. tularensis* and *Y. pseudotuberculosis*. Health surveillance of wildlife is vital in order to track changes in disease prevalence. The frequent detection of zoonotic agents in wild hares emphasizes the importance of handling game - and especially dead wildlife - with strict hygiene.