



## **Detection of Schmallenberg virus made possible by bioMérieux: the ADIAGENE PCR kit has been validated by ANSES**

Marcy l'Etoile, France – March 27, 2012 – ADIAGENE, a member of the bioMérieux group and specialized in diagnostics for animal health, has obtained ANSES validation for a kit for the detection of Schmallenberg virus, responsible for the epidemic currently affecting livestock in Europe. Based on molecular biology techniques, the new ADIAVET™ Schmallenberg virus PCR detection kit was developed by ADIAGENE in close collaboration with the French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety (ANSES, Maisons-Alfort, France). The Direction Générale de l'Alimentation (DGAL) has just authorized its use in certified French public veterinary laboratories.

Specialized in the development and production of molecular diagnostic kits, ADIAGENE developed this test in response to the sanitary emergency impacting ovine, bovine and caprine farms. Within the framework of the outbreak monitoring plan, the ADIAVET Schmallenberg virus PCR kit enables the specific detection of the presence of the virus in just a few hours.

“ADIAGENE recently joined bioMérieux as part of the AES Laboratoire acquisition and we are very pleased to benefit from their expertise and to complete our offer with molecular biology tests for the detection of veterinary pathogens,” said Jean-Marc Durano, bioMérieux Corporate Vice President, Industrial Microbiology. “We would like to commend their responsiveness, which allowed us to react in record time to an issue of great importance for the livestock industries impacted by this outbreak.”

Schmallenberg virus (SBV) was isolated for the first time in November, 2011, in Germany near the town of Schmallenberg, for which it is named. It has since been detected on several farms in the Netherlands, Belgium, the United Kingdom and France. To date, nearly 2,400 farms in Europe have been struck by the virus. Transmitted by insects, it is not contagious from one animal to another and, based on currently available knowledge, it does not appear to be transmissible to humans.

SBV infection is manifested in ruminants by diarrhea, hyperthermia, loss of appetite, a drop in production, miscarriage in pregnant females and congenital malformations.

### **About ADIAVET Schmallenberg**

ADIAVET Schmallenberg is a real-time molecular biology detection test using PCR gene amplification technology. It detects the presence of virus in brain or blood samples from infected animals.

## About ADIAGENE

ADIAGENE is a biotechnology company, which is a subsidiary of AES Laboratoire, recently acquired by bioMérieux. It is specialized in the research, development and production of innovative molecular diagnostics for animal pathologies. In addition to the production of reagents, its specific know-how in the development and use of molecular biology techniques allows the company to offer a panel of tests and to provide contract research and development services as well as training and laboratory audit services.

ADIAGENE markets the ADIAVET™ product range, which today includes over 40 diagnostic kits for the detection of about thirty veterinary pathogens. The kits all use DNA-based PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) technology, which gives these products a high level of technical performance, including a very short time-to-results (less than 5 h from sample reception to results).

Visit the website: [www.adiagene.com](http://www.adiagene.com)

## About bioMérieux

### *Advancing Diagnostics to Improve Public Health*

A world leader in the field of *in vitro* diagnostics for over 45 years, bioMérieux is present in more than 150 countries through 39 subsidiaries and a large network of distributors. In 2011, revenues reached €1.427 billion with 87% of sales outside of France.

bioMérieux provides diagnostic solutions (reagents, instruments, software) which determine the source of disease and contamination to improve patient health and ensure consumer safety. Its products are used for diagnosing infectious diseases and providing high medical value results for cancer screening and monitoring and cardiovascular emergencies. They are also used for detecting microorganisms in agri-food, pharmaceutical and cosmetic products.

bioMérieux is listed on the NYSE Euronext Paris market (Symbol: BIM - ISIN: FR0010096479). Other information can be found at [www.biomerieux.com](http://www.biomerieux.com).

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