



Bird's-eye view

### Did you know that?

■ In Germany, it is possible to work with the most dangerous pathogens in laboratories with the highest biosafety level S4, for example at the Robert Koch Institute or the Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine. But only three laboratories worldwide, in Winnipeg in Canada, in Geelong in Australia and on the island of Riems in Germany, are able to research infections with highly dangerous pathogens such as Ebola in large animals such as pigs or cattle.

■ The FLI employs not only specialists in veterinary medicine and biology, but also in agricultural sciences, chemistry, bioinformatics and animal care – a total of around 830 dedicated employees!

■ With over 150 international projects and collaborations in 85 countries, the FLI is networked with experts all over the world.

■ In 1897, Friedrich Loeffler was commissioned by the state to research foot-and-mouth disease. The pathogen identified by him and Paul Frosch was smaller than the smallest bacterium. Loeffler and Frosch thus concluded that a new type of pathogen existed: the virus. Today, Friedrich Loeffler is considered the founder of virology.

■ The name of the institute is written with an "oe" instead of an "ö" as both Friedrich Loeffler and his father signed their names in this way.

■ With the German Gene Bank for Farm Animals, the FLI supports the conservation of genetic diversity in livestock. More than 200,000 semen samples are stored there.



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Photo sources: pexels, Max Pixel

Print: Druckbetrieb Lindner GmbH & Co. KG | Copyright: FLI, October 2025

Research for animal and human health



The Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut (FLI) conducts research into the health and welfare of farmed animals (e.g. cattle, pigs, goats, sheep, bees) and the protection of humans from infections that can be transmitted between animals and humans (zoonoses).

The institute's headquarters are located on the island of Riems near Greifswald. The infectious disease physician Friedrich Loeffler (1852-1915) founded the FLI at this location on October 10, 1910 – making the FLI the oldest virus research institute in the world.

Over the years, the institute has continued to develop: today, around 830 employees nationwide pool their expertise in twelve

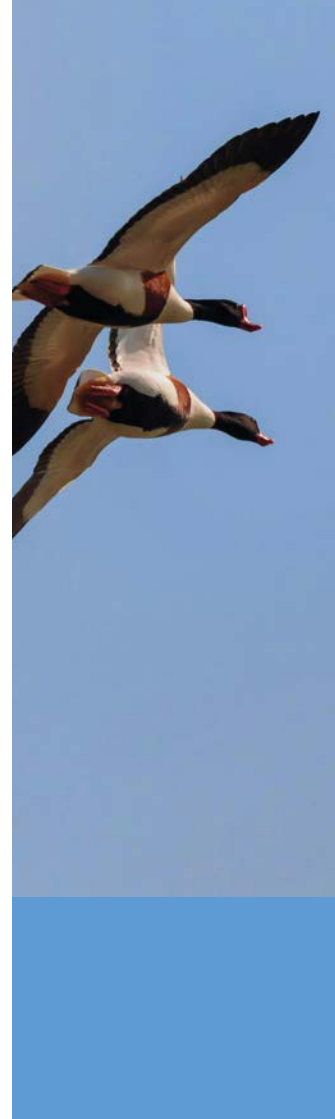
specialized institutes at a total of five locations (Riems Island, Jena, Braunschweig, Celle and Mariensee/Mecklenhorst). We use state-of-the-art methods, for which we have the appropriate equipment as well as buildings of various biosafety levels and the necessary technical and scientific know-how. As a federal research institute for animal health, the FLI is part of the departmental research of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity (BMLEH).

The FLI has laboratories and animal houses that make it possible to work with the most dangerous pathogens, even in large animals, in order to study various pathogens directly on animals and develop suitable vaccines.

### Our diverse tasks include:

#### Prevention

- Consulting: As part of our political consulting, we prepare recommendations and statements for the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity. We advise the Federal Government in the areas of animal diseases, animal welfare, animal husbandry, animal nutrition and farm animal genetics. In accordance with our statutory duties, we also inform the general public.
- Risk assessment: Our scientists carry out risk assessments and evaluations of various infectious diseases in farmed animals.



#### Diagnostics

- We are working on improving and accelerating diagnostic procedures for animal diseases and zoonoses.
- The reference laboratories at the FLI clarify suspected cases of notifiable animal diseases (such as avian influenza, African swine fever, anthrax) and reportable animal diseases (toxoplasmosis or Bornavirus infections in animals) from all over Germany. They officially confirm outbreaks of animal diseases.

#### Controlling

- If necessary, we support epidemiological investigations of animal disease outbreaks on site together with the responsible federal state authorities.
- The Standing Committee on Veterinary Vaccines at the FLI makes recommendations on the use of vaccines, advises the Federal Government and evaluates the use of vaccines.

#### Animal Welfare

- We are conducting intensive research into how the welfare of farm animals can be improved. In addition to the appropriate design of stables, animal-friendly husbandry also includes the early detection of problems (e.g. tail biting in pigs or feather pecking in chickens).
- We want to preserve and promote genetic diversity, both in research projects and with the German Gene Bank for Farm Animals.

