



UPDATE: Bovine TB in Alberta

The following information is from updates from CFIA to industry groups.

What we know:

- The CFIA has their protocol in place for the upcoming trace-in part of the investigation which tries to address the question – how was the disease introduced to the index herd?
- CFIA has identified approximately 150 farms that could have sent animals to the index herd over the past five years. The trace-in phase of the investigation includes premises in Alberta, Saskatchewan, British Columbia and Manitoba.
- Each trace-in farm will receive a letter and a follow-up epidemiological interview with CFIA to confirm that herd testing needs to be done. Herd testing will be scheduled for between September 2017 and February 2018.
- Trace-in herds will not be under quarantine until the day testing starts on the farm. These herds will remain under quarantine until testing is complete. The expectation is that will take approximately a month for most operations.
- There is still expected to have 2-4% of reactors to the caudal fold test. These reactors to the caudal fold test will undergo secondary testing on the farm. Around 5% of the animals that undergo secondary testing can give false positives. Any animals that have a positive result in the secondary testing will have to undergo enhanced post-mortem, histological testing and tissue culturing. If there are any ranches that require culture testing, the quarantine will stay in place until the tissue culture results are received – about four months.
- There are no movement controls on herds that have been identified as a trace-in herd until testing begins so ranchers can finish fall run before they schedule their testing.
- As of June 30, 2017: 27 premises are still under quarantine (approximately 2,200 animals), 77 premises have been released from quarantine (estimated 16,500 animals) and an estimated 11,500 animals have been destroyed.

