

TB CONTROL PROGRAMME

ACTION	DETAIL
Testing	<p>Annual testing of all herds is mandatory.</p> <p>TB testing is undertaken only by DARD approved Veterinary Surgeons, using the Single Intradermal Comparative Cervical Test (SICCT) for internal control.</p> <p>All animals slaughtered for human consumption undergo Post Mortem Examination (PME). Results are available on the Animal and Public Health Information System (APHIS) immediately.</p> <p>All herds in NI at all times are allocated an official tuberculosis (OT) herd status, a herd status reason, and a next test type. The herd status may only be officially tuberculosis free (OTF), officially tuberculosis suspended (OTS), or officially tuberculosis withdrawn (OTW).</p> <p>Failure to test a herd on an annual basis results in the OTF status being suspended immediately in all cases.</p> <p>Further delay in testing will result in automatic increased movement sanctions and downgrading the herd status to OTW.</p> <p>In NI, animals are allowed one skin test with an inconclusive result without compulsory removal.</p> <p>A non-negative result at a second consecutive test results in mandatory removal as a reactor animal.</p> <p>Herdkeepers may be advised to slaughter the animal at any time during this period.</p> <p>Contiguous tests are undertaken in herds that are in close proximity to infected herds, usually neighbouring them.</p>
Slaughter of TB reactor animals	<p>Confirmed TB reactors are removed by DARD subcontracted hauliers for immediate slaughter.</p> <p>Slaughter may occasionally include full herd depopulation if considered necessary to stop spread of the disease.</p> <p>In the case of total herd depopulations the following action is taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No animals are allowed to move into the premises for one month following the depopulation. • A full cleansing and disinfection is required after depopulation.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The herdkeeper is advised of the control of risk from slurry. • Two months after re-stocking a TB test is required. If this test occurs within a year of the breakdown it is classed at a reactor (RH1) test. If the RH1 is clear the restriction is removed and then a post restriction test (CHT) is set for six months later and an Annual Herd Test set twelve months after the completion of the post-restriction test. If a farm premises is depopulated for more than 12 months then the restriction is removed at 12 months and the test following the purchase of animals is classed as an Annual Herd Test.
<p>Movement controls</p>	<p>All calves born after 1 January 1998 must be identified with an ear tag in each ear within 20 days from the birth of the animal. All cattle identification numbers are authorised by DARD and recorded on the Animal and Public Health Information System (APHIS) computer database so that no duplication should be possible.</p> <p>Movement control from all herds, at all times, is controlled by a combination of the OT herd status and status reason applicable to the herd. As all movements must be recorded on APHIS, including those to market and abattoir, immediate movement control is applied.</p> <p>Since the year 2000 the implementation of movement control documents require a producer to notify the Department within 7 days of an animals either leaving or arriving on his/her farm. Markets are required to notify movements on and off to the Department by the end of the next working day. However, in the case of a restricted animal the producer is required to obtain a movement licence from the Department in advance of moving the animal out of his/her herd. All movements are recorded and can be traced on APHIS.</p> <p>Herds with either OTS or OTW status applied are both subject to movement restrictions immediately. This is controlled through APHIS.</p> <p>Where a test becomes overdue, increasingly stringent movement controls are applied routinely as below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediately overdue, no live moves to market, export, or other holdings. • 1 month overdue, no live moves to market, export, other holdings or slaughter. No moves in are allowed except one breeding bull on exceptional licence. <p>All animals over 42 days are subject to the single intradermal test and interpretation within 30 days of export.</p>

Compensation	<p>Currently DARD pay compensation for animals testing positive for TB at 100% of the market value for the animal/animals involved.</p> <p>Valuations to determine market value are decided by agreement between a Department valuer and the owner of the animal, or failing agreement the owner can select and pay for an independent valuer (drawn from a DARD list) to assess the value of the animal/animals concerned.</p> <p>As a result of Article 11A of the Tuberculosis Control (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2005.</p> <p><i>The Department (DARD) or the owner of the animal may submit an appeal to a tribunal of persons, appointed by the Department for the purpose, if dissatisfied with the determination of the market value of any animal –</i></p> <p><i>(a) in the case of an appeal by the Department, under Article 11(6)(b), or</i> <i>(b) in the case of an appeal by the owner, under Article 11(6)(b), (7) or (11).</i></p> <p>DARD is currently undertaking a review of the compensation arrangements for Bovine TB and Brucellosis.</p>
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