

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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Danny Kennedy MLA
Northern Ireland Assembly
Parliament Buildings
Ballymiscaw
Stormont

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51404/11-16

Danny Kennedy asked:

To ask the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development to detail the number of herds in County Armagh (i) currently closed due to TB; and (ii) affected in each of the last three years.

ANSWER

Cattle herds are closed due to TB for disease reasons and for outstanding test reasons. Our published statistics provide data on herds that have had their Official Tuberculosis Free (OTF) Status removed, not “closed” herds.

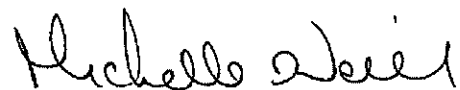
The statistics below are for herds that have had their OTF status removed due to both disease reasons and outstanding test reasons.

DARD records TB data according to Divisional Veterinary Office (DVO) Area and not on a county basis. The map attached shows the division of the north of Ireland into DVO Areas, a copy of which has also been placed in the Assembly library.

The table below shows the number of herds in Armagh DVO Area which had their OTF status removed on 30 September 2015 and on 31 December in the years 2012, 2013 and 2014. Because of the time it takes to confirm TB in herds, the most recent data relates to September 2015. Also included in the table is the number of OTF herds in Armagh DVO Area on each of the selected dates.

Date			Non-OTF herds	OTF herds
30/09/2015			303	2601
31/12/2014			311	2543
31/12/2013			351	2441
31/12/2012			368	2434

Note that in the case of herds with an inconclusive animal and which have not had TB confirmed in the last 3 years, while their OTF status is removed and are included in the Non-OTF statistics above, the herd is not closed and trade of animals within Britain and the north of Ireland is permitted.



MICHELLE O'NEILL MLA

Divisional Veterinary Office (DVO) boundaries

