

Bovine Tuberculosis and Brucellosis Surveillance Results
Monthly Reports, Federal Fiscal Year (FY) 2015
March 1–31, 2015

New Information – Bovine Tuberculosis (TB)

- No new TB cases or infected herds were detected in March.

Update of Previously Reported Information

- Bovine TB was confirmed in four Holstein steers slaughtered in the Texas panhandle during December and January. Tissues were compatible for mycobacteriosis and PCR was positive for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex. *M. bovis* was isolated from each of the four steers, and isolates do not match the strains from the two Texas dairies quarantined in October 2014, based on whole genome sequencing results. These steers trace to another northern Texas dairy, where a whole-herd test is being administered in early April.
- The first Texas dairy quarantined in October 2014 was whole-herd tested a second time. Based on CFT and other tests, nearly 1000 cattle were removed from the dairy and killed. The estimated prevalence of TB based on gross lesions found was 5.9%, nearly triple the estimated 2.0% prevalence after the first whole-herd test. The prevalence in cows had increased, and 60% of 4- to 7-month-old calves examined had gross lesions of tuberculosis. Emergency funds are being requested for depopulation.
- Officials have detected three infected cows from the second quarantined Texas dairy. During the third whole-herd test, over 11,000 cows were injected and 27 responders identified. This second dairy is under the same ownership as the dairy noted above, but is located on a separate premises.

Table 1. Bovine TB cases found through routine slaughter inspection, FY 2015.^a

Laboratory Status	New TB Cases March 1-31, 2015		Cumulative TB Cases October 1, 2014 – March 31, 2015		
	Fed cattle	Adult cattle	Fed cattle	Adult cattle	Total
<i>M. bovis</i> cases, confirmed ^b	0	0	5	1	6
PCR pending	0	0	0	0	0
PCR negative, culture pending	0	0	0	0	0

^a Animals detected through routine slaughter inspection. Animals sent to slaughter with a 1-27 permit, “Permit for Movement of Restricted Animals” are not included.

^b Confirmed by PCR testing and/or culture.

Table 2. Livestock herds confirmed infected with bovine TB, FY 2015, including test-and-remove managed herds under quarantine and carried forward from previous fiscal years.

State	Federal Fiscal Year Detected	Method of Detection	Herd Type	Herd Management Plan	Closest Isolates by WGS (Number of SNP Differences) ^a	Wildlife Surveillance Planned?	Approximate Number of Animal Traces	States With Traced Cattle
MI ^b	2008	Surveillance	Cervid	Test and removal	MI	Ongoing	None	None
MI ^b	2008	Surveillance	Cervid	Test and removal	MI	Ongoing	None	None
TX	2015	Slaughter	Dairy	Pending	2004 TX (16), 2007 NM dairies (15), 2011 AZ roping steer from CHI (25)	Pending	Pending	Pending
TX	2015	Epidemiology	Dairy	Test and remove	Same as above	Pending	Pending	Pending

^aWGS = whole genome sequencing, SNP = single nucleotide polymorphisms; () = number of SNP differences to the most recent common ancestor compared to other isolates in the National Veterinary Services Laboratories database.

^bTwo herds detected in previous fiscal years are included.

Brucellosis - Herds Remaining under Quarantine and Test-and-Remove Procedures or Awaiting Assurance Test Results

FY 2015

Montana:

- Affected beef herd: On November 8, 2014, one reactor (an 8-year-old cow) was detected during testing of a group of 171 head in a Madison County commercial cow-calf beef herd. The herd had a Designated Surveillance Area (DSA) herd plan in place as a portion of the herd grazes within the DSA. On November 12, the reactor's seropositive status was confirmed; the herd was placed under verbal quarantine and milk samples submitted for culture. Milk samples were found negative for *Brucella*. Tissues were collected on November 19 and NVSL reported *Brucella abortus* biovar 1 isolation on December 3. Entire-herd testing was completed December 10, and among 2338 head tested no additional seropositive animals were found. An Affected Herd Plan was put in place December 11. All the DSA adjacent herds have been identified and have tested negative. All non-DSA adjacent herds have been identified and testing is in progress with no more reactors found at the beginning of January 2015. Whole-herd test post-removal of the reactor was completed in January 2015 and all animals were negative.

Updates: Herd is in the middle of another whole-herd test scheduled to be completed by 24 April, 2015. All animals are negative so far.

- Affected beef herd: On October 23, 2014, one reactor (a 3-year-old cow) was detected during testing of a group of 262 head in a Park/Carbon County commercial cow-calf beef herd. The reactor animal was part of a cohort that grazes seasonally in the DSA and was tested when leaving the DSA per state law. The herd was placed under verbal quarantine October 25. An Affected Herd Plan has been finalized. On October 31, the reactor's seropositive status was confirmed, and the milk samples submitted to NVSL for culture on November 12 were found negative for *Brucella* spp. On December 4, tissues were collected and submitted to NVSL; on December 12, NVSL reported isolation of *B. abortus* biovar 1. Whole-herd testing was completed December 18, and no additional seropositive animals were found. All the Park County adjacent herds have been tested and are negative. The Carbon County adjacent herds are in the process of being identified for testing. Whole-herd test post-removal of the reactor was completed in January 2015 and all animals were negative.

Updates: Whole-herd test was completed 11 March 2015 and all animals were negative. Quarantine was lifted 16 March 2015. Assurance test is tentatively scheduled for Fall 2015

FY 2013

Montana:

- Affected beef herd: On September 5, 2013, a single brucellosis reactor (2-year-old female) was detected on a DSA brucellosis pre-slaughter test of 42 head in Madison County. *B. abortus* biovar 1 was confirmed September 25, 2013. A herd brucellosis test (1116 head) detected one reactor and one suspect. The tissues were submitted but no *B. abortus* isolation was made from either animal. DSA herd and affected herd plans are in place. Epidemiological work has determined the exposure occurred sometime in the spring of 2013. Nine adjacent herds have tested brucellosis negative. A whole-herd test conducted on January 8, 2014 was negative. No *Brucella* was isolated from tissues submitted from the

suspect cow, detected on January test, or its fetus. There were no trace-in animals identified. Nineteen of 22 trace-out epidemiological investigations, covering 467 cattle in 9 States, have been completed. The post-calving whole-herd test in late March was negative and the quarantine for the herd was lifted in late March. The fall assurance testing was completed in October; all cattle tested negative.

Updates: Awaiting disposition of final two traces.

FY 2012

Idaho:

- Affected beef herd: A cattle herd (65 head) was traced from a slaughter blood sample collected in California. This herd was outside of the Idaho's DSA; the DSA has been expanded since detection of this herd. This herd is under quarantine with movement controls and an affected herd management plan in place. All trace-out and trace-in epidemiological investigations associated with this herd have been completed and closed. The herd had its second negative whole-herd test on October 11, 2013. A post-calving whole herd brucellosis test of 86 head performed on 28 April 2014 was negative for all animals. All 2014 heifer calves were bled mid-October and all tested negative. Herd test conducted on 80 head of adults/yearlings on November 26, 2014. All animals tested negative. Retained 2013 heifers will be tested after calving in late April-early May as part of a post-calving whole-herd test. If all test negative at that time, the quarantine will be lifted and an assurance test will be scheduled for fall 2015 or spring 2016.

Updates: Whole-herd test (including 2013 heifers) is scheduled for mid-May. A negative test will trigger the release of quarantine.

- Affected privately owned bison herd: A privately owned bison herd (268 head), assembled and located in the DSA in 2010, was brucellosis tested to meet Idaho's DSA requirements. Quarantine and movement controls are in place. An updated affected herd management plan is pending owner's signature. All trace-out and trace-in epidemiological investigations associated with this herd have been completed and closed. A whole-herd brucellosis test was conducted on December 4-5, 2013 and all animals were negative. This was the first negative whole-herd test. Herd test completed on November 2014 – all 278 animals were test negative. This was the second negative complete whole-herd test. On December 15-16, 2014, 214 bull and heifer calves (2014 calves) were tested with all having negative results. Next herd test is scheduled for Fall 2015.

Updates: None

FY 2011

Montana:

- Affected privately owned bison herd: A brucellosis-affected privately owned bison herd was detected in Gallatin County in November 2010. This herd was detected as part of Montana's DSA herd management plan testing. This herd is under quarantine with movement controls and an affected herd management plan in place. All trace-out and trace-in epidemiological investigations associated with this herd have been completed and closed. The fall 2013 test detected 13 seropositive (*B. abortus* biovar 1 isolated) animals out of 4050 head of bison tested. Annual fall testing began October 20, 2014 and was completed November 21, 2014. At

the conclusion of the annual fall testing, 16 reactors and 3 suspects had been identified.

Updates: None

Wyoming:

- Affected bison herd: A brucellosis-affected privately-owned bison herd inside the Wyoming DSA (Park County) was disclosed in November 2010. This herd consists of two groups – the Main herd and the Preferred herd. The Preferred herd has undergone four negative brucellosis tests and was released from quarantine in late January 2012. Preferred herd was bled early October- all negative. The Main herd remains under quarantine with movement controls and an affected herd management plan in place. In fall 2013 herd brucellosis testing of Main herd, all 462 cows and calves tested negative. Bulls will be tested in the spring/summer of 2014. Main herd (293 adult cows plus the 2014 calves) were bled October 26, 2014 – all negative. All trace-out and trace-in epidemiological investigations associated with this herd have been completed and closed. Nineteen bulls from the Main herd tested negative on July 10, 2014. One yearling heifer in the replacement heifer group tested positive November 9, 2014. Breeding bulls will be bled spring 2015 coinciding with their breeding soundness examinations. Cows with 2014 calves tested negative on fall herd test.

Updates: Heifer group tested late March, test revealed one suspect which was retested April 15, 2015. Next whole-herd test is scheduled for June. Heifer group will be included in the June whole-herd test.

Table 3: Livestock herds confirmed as brucellosis affected, FY 2011-2015.

State/ FY	Method of Detection	Herd Type	Affected Herd Management Plan	Genotyping Descriptive Results	Wildlife Surveillance Planned	Animals Being Traced	States Receiving Traced Cattle/Bison
MT 2015	DSA Herd Plan Test	Beef	Quarantine with test & remove	Most closely related to 2 elk isolates (2009 – 2010)	Yes	Pending	Traces are pending
MT 2015	DSA Herd Plan Test	Beef	Quarantine with test & remove	Closest common ancestor – wild bison (1985)	Yes	Pending	Traces are pending
MT 2013	DSA Required pre-slaughter testing	Beef	Quarantine with test & remove	Common ancestor with wild elk from the same area	Yes	424	0 trace-in States 9 trace-out States: 20 of 22 traces completed (MN-1, ND-1; open) (CA-1, CO-1, IA-1, KS- 1, MN-1, MT-12, SD-1, NE-2; closed)
ID 2012	MCI trace	Beef	Quarantine with test & remove	Similar to 2006 & 2010 ID cattle isolates	Yes	48	All trace-ins closed. All trace-outs closed.
ID 2012	DSA required test	Bison	Quarantine with test & remove	Similar to ID elk isolates	No	349	All trace-ins closed. All trace-outs closed.
MT 2011	DSA herd management plan testing	Bison	Quarantine with test & remove	Exact match to a 2009 MT elk isolate	Yes	7510	All trace-ins closed. All trace-outs closed.
WY 2011	Pre-sale test on farm	Bison	Main herd remains under quarantine with test & remove.	Similar to 2007 & 2010 WY elk & 2010-2011 cattle isolates.	Yes	870	All trace-ins closed. All trace-outs closed.