

## USDA Releases Sixth Report from Beef 2007–08 Study

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has released the latest report from its Beef 2007–08 study. The interpretive report, *Prevalence and Control of Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus on U.S. Cow-calf Operations, 2007–08* was produced by APHIS' National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS).

Beef 2007-08 is NAHMS' third national study of the U.S. beef cow-calf industry. The latest study was designed to provide participants, industry and animal health officials with information on the nation's beef cow-calf population that will serve as a basis for education and research. Twenty-four states participated in the study. These states accounted for 79.6 percent of U.S. beef-cow operations and 87.8 percent of the nation's beef cows. Here are a few highlights from the new Beef 2007–08 report:

- Only 12.3 percent of producers had not heard of bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVDV).
- Only 4.2 percent of operations had tested any calves for persistent infection with BVDV in the previous three years.
- Overall, 46.6 percent of producers were unsure if removing calves that tested positive for persistent infection with BVDV would affect the value of the remaining calves in the herd.
- Overall, 33.1 percent of operations vaccinated calves against BVDV at 22 days through weaning; 25.1 percent vaccinated weaned replacements heifers through breeding; and 28.1 percent vaccinated cows.
- Of operations that vaccinated at least some cattle against BVDV in 2007, more than 8 out of 10 used a vaccine that included both type 1 and type 2 BVDV on all cattle groups vaccinated.

- A higher percentage of operations used a killed virus vaccine than a modified live virus vaccine on bred replacement heifers precalving, on cows precalving and on bulls.
- Overall, 8.8 percent of operations had a calf persistently infected with BVDV.
- Only 0.12 percent of calves tested were positive for persistent infection with BVDV.

*Prevalence and Control of Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus on U.S. Cow-calf Operations, 2007–08* is available at the NAHMS website: <http://nahms.aphis.usda.gov>.

Note to Stakeholders: Stakeholder announcements and other APHIS information are available on the Internet. Go to the APHIS home page at [www.aphis.usda.gov](http://www.aphis.usda.gov) and click on the "Newsroom" button. For additional information on this topic, contact Lindsay Cole at (970) 494-7410 or e-mail: [lyndsay.m.cole@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:lyndsay.m.cole@aphis.usda.gov).

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