



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) in California

On April 25, 2003, California was classified as **Modified Accredited Advanced (MAA)**, because bovine TB had been confirmed in three dairy herds since May 2002 - two in Tulare County and one in Kings County. All three herds were quarantined, the cattle destroyed, and the affected premises cleaned and disinfected. Cattle sold from or associated with each herd are being traced and tested. California can reapply for Accredited Free status in April 2005, provided no additional infected herds are detected.

Update

As of February 1, 2004, 660,062 cattle in 503 herds have been tested for bovine TB since this investigation began, and about 13,000 cattle have been depopulated.

Cumulative Since May 13, 2002	
Number of herds tested	503
Number of animals tested	660,062
Number of herds quarantined	3
Number of cattle destroyed	~13,000
Average number of field personnel	30

California's Eradication Plan

CDFA, USDA and the cattle industry are currently:

- # Testing all dairies in Fresno, Kings and Tulare Counties.
- # Enhancing slaughter surveillance in all California's slaughter plants. The goal for good surveillance is to examine 1 sample per 2,000 adult cattle killed.
- # Enhancing live animal testing procedures through training and education.
- # Proposing restricting Mexican feeder cattle to "designated" pastures/feedlots.
- # Preparing to apply for Free status in April 2005.

Cattle Leaving California

All breeding cattle and bison leaving California require official identification and a negative official TB test within 60 days of being moved, unless they are:

- # Moved to slaughter at an approved slaughter plant,
- # From an accredited herd with a certificate showing the herd completed all testing for accredited status with negative results within one year before moving.

These TB requirements do not apply to sexually intact heifers moving to feedlots, or steers and spayed heifers until March 2004. Some states have more restrictive policies - always check with the state of destination when moving cattle.

Until California's TB status changes, breeding beef cattle, 24 months of age and older, moving to neighboring states annually for grazing on approved Pasture-to-Pasture permits require a TB test within 12 months of application for the permit and subsequently every three years to continue to move annually.

Cattle Entering California

As of August 15, 2003, California requires a TB test on all breeding dairy cattle entering the State.

TB Across the U.S.

Forty-six states are classified as Accredited TB Free. California, Texas and New Mexico are Modified Accredited Advanced, Michigan is Modified Accredited, and Arizona has just detected a TB infected heifer.

TB in Arizona

On January 12, 2004, Arizona announced that a single heifer in a Pinal County dairy feeding operation tested positive for bovine TB. Arizona has been classified as Accredited Free for bovine TB since 1981. More than 1,800 exposed heifers are being depopulating from this feedlot. Arizona must show there has been no spread of TB to maintain its Accredited Free status.

TB in Texas

On January 16, 2004, Texas announced its fourth TB-infected herd since 2001. Texas detected two infected herds in 2001 and a third in 2003. In November 2003, Texas began a program to TB test all 831 dairies and approximately 2,400 seedstock beef herds. Of the 57 purebred herds and 82 dairies tested since November, the Hamilton County dairy is the first found to be infected. Officials are working with the owner to determine the best plan for eradicating disease - depopulation or quarantine with repeat testing. An investigation into how infection was introduced into the dairy is ongoing.

TB in Michigan

On December 16, 2003, Michigan announced that a deer harvested in Roscommon County (part of the "disease free zone") during the 2003 hunting season was positive for bovine TB. Since January 2000, Michigan has tested nearly all cattle, goats, bison and privately owned cervid herds statewide (over 874,000 animals). Thirty-two cattle herds have been diagnosed with TB (6 dairy and 26 beef herds); 26 herds have been depopulated and 16 of those have been repopulated. One privately owned cervid herd has also been classified as infected. Michigan has also examined 123,249 free ranging white-tailed deer for TB, with 481 of those infected with TB.

TB in New Mexico

New Mexico is currently testing all herds associated with their two quarantined infected dairies. So far about 20 dairies have tested negative; there are about 200 dairies in the associated milk shed.

CDFA Animal Health Branch Offices	
Sacramento (HQ)	916-654-1447
Modesto	209-491-9350
Ontario	909-947-4462
Redding	530-225-2140
Tulare	559-685-3500
Tulare TB Task Force	559-687-1158
USDA/APHIS/VS	916-854-3900 or 877-741-3690