

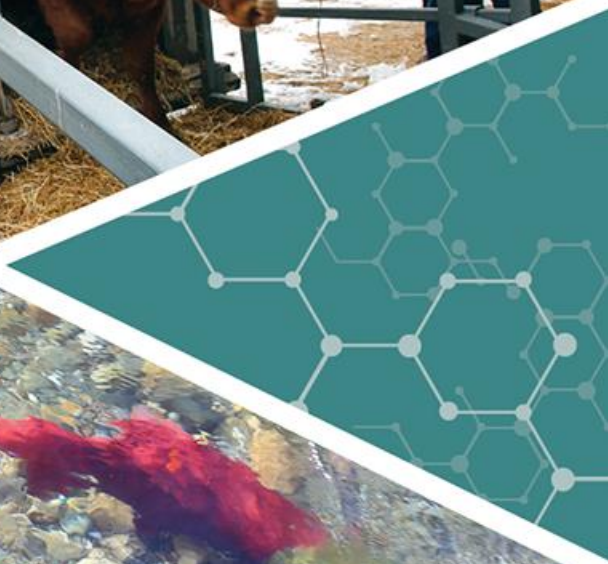


Canadian Food  
Inspection Agency

Agence canadienne  
d'inspection des aliments

# Bovine TB Saskatchewan 2023

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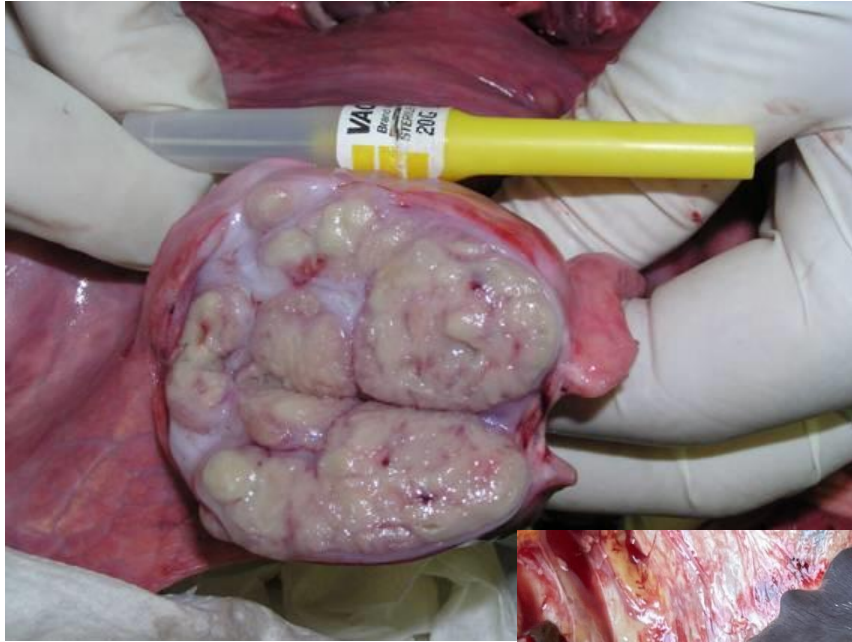


Canada

# Bovine Tuberculosis

- Bovine tuberculosis (TB) is a chronic contagious bacterial disease of livestock
- May lie dormant in an infected animal for years without causing clinical signs
- Bovine TB is a zoonosis (Public Health)
- Bovine TB is a federally reportable disease

<https://inspection.canada.ca/tb>



# Index case

- On Feb 23, 2023, CFIA was notified by USDA that a Canadian origin animal slaughtered in Nebraska was confirmed to be positive for Bovine TB by PCR test (new strain confirmed March 31, 2023).
- The heifer was traced via its CCIA tag to a small farm in NE Saskatchewan.
- Red angus heifer born in 2021, no specific birth records

- Small commercial beef herd with animals generally going to feedlots or slaughter; some sold animals used for breeding on other premises.
- Background own calves; no community pasture utilized
- Birth herd:
  - 76 cows
  - 3 bulls
  - 26 yearling heifers\*
  - 4 yearling steers
- Live animal testing postponed to be done one month after completion of calving.

# Important Notes re: Testing

- There is no single test that can detect every bovine TB infected animal due to the dynamics of *M. bovis* transmission, the microscopic size of early lesions, and the time it takes for an animal to mount a detectable immune response
- A suspect case requires ancillary testing in order to confirm the animal's health status
- Reactor animals require enhanced post-mortem inspection and laboratory testing (histopathology and culture) to rule out the presence of bovine TB.

- Live animal testing was completed on May 29, 2023. 107 animals were tested (2 escapees) – tuberculin injected for CFT, blood taken for bovigam and ELISA.
- A total of 29 Reactors:
  - 27 CFT reactors
  - 28 Bovigam reactors (including 23 that were also CFT reactors)
  - 1 ELISA reactor

- Reactors sent for enhanced post-mortem (EPM) and tissue collection in June 2023.
- Confirmation of reactors positive for bovine TB by PCR test.
- **Depopulation** of remaining animals in the index herd was completed in July 2023



- 32 cases confirmed by PCR or culture results from the reactors and suspect animals identified during herd depopulation.

*\*\*PCR and culture are confirmatory tests for TB\*\**

# Compensation

- Compensation is available to the producer under the *Health of Animals Act* and the *Compensation for Destroyed Animals Regulations*
  - Fair market value with maximums of \$4,500 for each commercial animal and \$10,000 for each registered animal
- Animals in other herds that must be destroyed for testing as part of the investigation are also eligible for compensation.

# Release from Quarantine / Resumption of operations

- Cleaning and disinfection must be completed by the producer under CFIA oversight
  - The producer is aware of this requirement but has not yet started.
- Following C&D, a 45-day vacancy period must be completed with specific temperature and precipitation requirements before CFIA controls are removed
- Restock animals on a previously infected premises will be subject to herd testing to ensure that no environmental infection has occurred.

# Investigation beyond Infected Premises

- A bovine TB investigation is conducted to determine if the disease has spread to other herds and to try to find any potential source of the disease.
- Tracing of movement in and out of the herd is typically done for the five years before detection.
- The investigation is progressing well with no confirmed cases in any other herds to date.

# Status of Ongoing Investigation

- Life line herd (herds traced from an infected animal in the infected herd)
  - The single life line herd has completed testing and has been released from quarantine
- Contact herd (herds that shared a fence line or may have co-mingled with the infected herd)
  - Currently located in Manitoba but had multi-year fence line contact while grazing in Saskatchewan
  - Considered higher risk because of the disease prevalence in the index herd
  - CFT testing for the whole herd
  - Bovigam ancillary testing for selected higher risk older animals

# Status of Ongoing Investigation

- Trace-in herds (herds that provided animals to the infected herd)
  - 1 trace-in herd in Saskatchewan and 1 trace-in herd in Manitoba have completed testing and have been released from quarantine
- Trace-out herds (herds that received animals from the infected herd)
  - Whole herd testing is required when a trace out herd is found in a breeding herd
  - 2 confirmed trace-out herds in Saskatchewan have been released from quarantine based on negative results from laboratory testing to date
  - 2 confirmed trace-out herds (1 in Alberta and 1 in Saskatchewan) have completed live animal testing and post mortem testing of reactors is underway

# Status of Ongoing Investigation

- Trace-out animals in terminal and non-terminal feedlots
  - If a trace-out animal is found in a terminal feedlot - the animal to be isolated from other animals and destroyed by slaughter with post-mortem inspection.
  - If a trace-out animal is found in a non-terminal feedlot where it may be in contact with breeding stock, the animal to be isolated from other animals and destroyed by slaughter with post-mortem inspection. ***An assessment of the disease risk status of other animals at the same premises will be completed and live animal testing will be completed as needed.***
- **In-transit premises** to be investigated (status to be determined and no movement controls in effect)
- **Tracing will continue**

# Status of Ongoing Investigation

- Wildlife:
  - In collaboration with provincial wildlife authorities
  - Assess the need for wildlife surveillance, develop an effective wildlife surveillance plan for an area surrounding an infected herd/premises.





# Status of Ongoing Investigation

Resources for all of the topics covered today can be accessed from this page:

<https://inspection.canada.ca/tb>



Questions?