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Subzone 1 of the Modified Accredited Advanced Zone *Frequently Asked Questions and Answers*

1. What is the requirement for bovine TB surveillance testing (the whole herd test) in Subzone 1 of the Modified Accredited Advanced Zone?

For surveillance testing in Subzone 1 all cattle and bison 18 months and older will be tested according to the following scheme:

- Farms selling one or more breeding animals will be whole herd tested annually.
- Farms selling only deacon calves coming from dairies and/or feeder calves (non-breeding animals) will be whole herd tested every 2 years.
- Farms moving all cattle to slaughter only will be whole herd tested every 3 years.
- Freezer beef herds are exempt from TB testing, but must pass an annual inspection, which includes doing an inventory reconciliation.

2. Who do I call to schedule a bovine TB whole herd test?

Call the MDA Atlanta Office (1-888-565-8626) at the MDA Atlanta Office to schedule your whole herd test.

3. Who do I call for information about my herd's TB test results?

Begin by calling the veterinarian who performed the test. If the veterinarian cannot be reached call the MDA Atlanta Office at 1-888-565-8626. If they can't answer your question they will be able to direct your call to someone who can answer it.

4. What are the requirements for bovine TB movement testing in the Subzone 1 of the Modified Accredited Advanced Zone?

The amount of testing a herd owner needs to do is different depending upon whether the herd has a verified wildlife risk mitigation plan (WRM) or not. If the herd has a verified WRM plan no testing for movement is required within the lower peninsula of Michigan. If the herd owner chooses to not have a verified WRM herd then the owner must conduct TB testing on any cattle 2 months of age or older in order for them to move to any destination other than slaughter. The details are as follows:

For cattle moving within the MAAZ:

- No movement test is required for cattle originating from a farm that has been verified as Wildlife Risk Mitigated.
- All cattle 2 months of age or older moving from a farm that is **NOT** verified as Wildlife Risk Mitigated must have a movement test within 60 days prior to the movement.

For cattle moving to the MAZ from a farm that has been verified as Wildlife Risk Mitigated:

- No movement test is required.

For cattle moving to the MAZ from a farm that has been NOT been verified as Wildlife Risk Mitigated:

- A negative movement test is required within 60 days of movement for all cattle greater than 2 months of age.

For cattle moving to the TB Free Zone (Upper Peninsula) from a farm that has been verified as Wildlife Risk Mitigated:

- No movement test is required for cattle less than 6 months of age or for steers of any age.
- Sexually intact cattle 6 months of age or older must receive a negative TB test within 60 days prior to the movement to any other zone unless they meet one of the following criteria:
 - They originate directly from a bovine TB accredited free herd.
 - They originate from a farm which has been winter verified as Wildlife Risk Mitigated and has had a negative whole herd test either concurrently or subsequently to the winter verification.
 - They are moved directly to slaughter or through one saleyard directly to slaughter.
 - They are sexually intact heifers that are moved directly to USDA approved feedlot.

For cattle moving to the TB Free zones (Upper Peninsula) from a farm that has NOT been verified as Wildlife Risk Mitigated:

- No movement test is required for cattle less than 2 months of age.
- All cattle 2 months of age or older (including steers) must receive a negative TB test within 60 days prior to movement to any other zone unless they meet one of the following criteria:
 - They are moved directly to slaughter or through one saleyard directly to slaughter.
 - They are sexually intact heifers that are moved directly to USDA approved feedlot.

Note: As of June 1, 2010 the MDA will no longer be providing movement testing to Subzone 1 cattle producers. This means that producers who move cattle which come from farms that are not Wildlife Risk Mitigated must, at their own expense, hire a private veterinarian to do their movement testing. The MDA strongly encourages all producers who move cattle to seek Wildlife Risk Mitigation verified status.

5. What are the requirements for moving deacon calves?

Deacon calves (calves less than 2 months of age) may move without a movement test provided they are coming from a herd that is current on its TB surveillance testing. A RFID eartag is required to move deacon calves. Unless moving to the Gaylord market a movement certificate is required to move deacon calves. Deacon calves are NOT subject to post-movement testing if they originate from a farm that is not wildlife risk mitigated.

6. Do I need a movement certificate to move my cattle from the Subzone 1 of the Modified Accredited Advanced Zone to another location in Michigan?

A producer in Subzone 1 must get a movement certificate before moving any cattle to another location in Michigan. Cattle can be moved from Subzone 1 herds to the Gaylord market without getting a movement certificate in advance, as they will be checked in upon arrival. Cattle moving directly to a federally inspected slaughter plant do not need to have a movement certificate, but cattle moving to a custom slaughter plant will need a movement certificate prior to leaving the farm.

7. Does a Michigan movement certificate replace an interstate health certificate to move out of state?

No. Prior to moving cattle to another state you must contact the state veterinarian's office in that state and ask for their entry health requirements. Your private veterinarian will fill out and certify that the animals meet their requirements and sign the interstate health certificate. You can contact the MDA Animal Industry Division at (517) 373-1077 if you need the phone number for the state veterinarian's office in another state.

8. When do I need to put a Radio Frequency Identity (RFID) tag on my cows?

Any time cattle leave a Subzone 1 farm to move to any another location they must first be tagged with an RFID. At the time a TB test is performed all tested animals must be tagged with an RFID eartag.

9. Where can I order or purchase RFID tags?

RFID tags can be ordered by calling:
Holstein Association 1-800-952-5200
Northstar Corporation 1-888-203-3398

All of the licensed livestock saleyards, including the Gaylord Market, sell RFID tags. RFID tags may also be purchased at the following locations:

Ellsworth Farmers Exchange (at this address only)
6509 Center St
Ellsworth , MI 49729
1-231-588-2300

Cheboygan Cooperative Company
418 Cuyler St
Cheboygan , MI 49721-1940
1-231-627-4605

10. Will I need to stop at the Mackinac Bridge check point?

Yes, all cattle and bison and livestock transportation equipment (vehicles) moving north across the Bridge must stop for inspection.

11. What documentation do I need to go north across the Bridge?

Anyone moving cattle across the Mackinac Bridge must ensure that all the cattle have an RFID eartag, and they must have a copy of the movement certificate for all cattle on the load. For cattle going to a USDA inspected slaughter plant, a copy of the saleyard invoice or owner-shipper statement must be presented for inspection.

12. How do I obtain a premises ID?

Call the MDA Atlanta Office during regular business hours, Monday through Friday from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., at 1-888-565-8626. You will be assisted in locating or establishing the premises ID at that time. After hours you can leave a message and someone will return your call the next business day to assist you. A premises ID can also be requested online at michigan.gov/mda.

13. Why has MDA established zones?

Establishing zones is an option in the National Bovine TB Eradication Program that states can use. Developing zones is the way that a state can focus disease control efforts in areas that are higher risk of the disease, and reduce the cost and burden of the Michigan Bovine TB Eradication Program on producers that are in areas that are of low risk for the disease. As an example, this has been used to allow us to move from a program that required whole herd and movement testing on all of Michigan's 14,000 cattle herds to approximately 1,500 herds located in higher risk areas.

Since 2000, the Michigan Legislature has given the MDA Director the authority to develop and implement zones under Public Act 466 of 1988, as amended, the Animal Industry Act.

14. What are the different TB zones in Michigan?

Michigan has three bovine TB zones (see map on MDA website: michigan.gov/mda):

The **Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) Free Zone** is Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

The **Modified Accredited Zone (MAZ)** is the area known to have TB in cattle and deer. The MAZ includes the entirety of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, Oscoda, and Presque Isle Counties, and those portions of Iosco and Ogemaw Counties that are north of the southernmost boundaries of the Huron National Forest and the Au Sable State Forest.

The **Modified Accredited Advanced Zone (MAAZ)** includes all remaining counties of the Lower Peninsula of Michigan.

Subzone 1 of the MAAZ is comprised of Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Crawford, Emmet, and Otsego Counties.