



Michigan Department of **AGRICULTURE**

Legislative Report

June 13, 2008

Bovine Tuberculosis Program Update

Provided by the Animal Industry Division
Michigan Department of Agriculture

Zonal Boundary Compliance

A total of 281 livestock vehicles were processed through the Agriculture Inspection Station north of the Mackinac Bridge in St. Ignace. Of the 281 processed, 100 vehicles contained cattle for inspection and all were in compliance with cattle movement requirements.

Sixteen livestock vehicles (six percent) drove by the Agriculture Inspection Station without stopping for an inspection. Of those, two were immediately pursued, stopped, detained, and found to be empty. These two vehicle operators were given a warning for not stopping for an inspection. MDA is working to contact horse haulers to inform them of the inspection station requirements. Signs have been posted on the major highways leading north to the bridge, employees working the toll booths have been informed of the requirements and the Mackinac Bridge Authority runs a warning on the bridge crossing radio station.

The Michigan State Police Traffic Safety Division conducted 80 hours of patrol duty along the border of the Modified Accredited (MAZ) and Modified Accredited Advanced Zones (MAAZ) and conducted six stops. Four of these vehicles were loaded with livestock and all were in compliance. A court date, from a previous stop earlier in the year, yielded a fine that will be waived if the driver has no more violations in the next six months.

The 18 haulers stopped in April 2008 at the Livestock Inspection Station (May 15 BTB Update) that had no paperwork were investigated and all were taking cattle directly to slaughter. Cattle going directly to slaughter do not need paperwork according to Michigan and USDA zone requirements.

The investigation into two potential movement certificate violations that occurred in April concluded the haulers were in compliance with MDA movement requirements.

There were 239 movement permits issued from MAZ premises.

Market Surveillance

There were 19,736 head of cattle scanned at Michigan Livestock Markets in April and 21,767 in May.

Slaughter Surveillance and Slaughter Verification

Slaughter facilities scanned 12,159 head of cattle in April and 11,069 in May 2008. One out-of-state slaughter facility is still having reader failure. This facility is scheduled to be repaired in mid-June.

TB Surveillance Testing

Zone	Annual Surveillance Requirement	Completed
Modified Accredited Zone	1,000 annual herd tests on individual farm anniversary dates	One herd is currently overdue for herd testing.
Modified Accredited Advanced Zone and Free Zone*	Minimum of 500 higher risk herds	Update – 419 herds 1. 91 in Iosco County 2. 171 in Shiawassee County 3. 92 in counties that border the MAZ (two deep) 4. 7 trace tests 5. 58 southern counties

*See map on page 3

Hiring New Staff

The Animal Industry Division (AID) is hiring additional field and office staff as we implement the bovine TB program changes required by recent program reviews. For several months, the bovine TB program pulled AID staff from other animal health programs to meet federal requirements. The recent discovery of Pseudorabies Virus (PRV) in several transitional swine facilities highlighted the fact that AID does not have sufficient staff to tackle both PRV (or other significant response efforts) and bovine TB at the same time.

Since the November 2007 review, we have hired one field veterinarian and two administrative staff for the Atlanta Regional Office. This past month, AID hired Richard Smith, DVM to serve as a bovine TB Program specialist in Lansing. Dr. Smith worked in both mixed and small animal practices in the United States prior to moving to Burkina Faso, West Africa in 1987. For over 20 years, Dr. Smith provided primary veterinary care for local cattle producers. During his work, he came in contact with both cattle and people who were infected with bovine TB. Dr. Smith is looking forward to using his extensive experience to help us identify practical and effective strategies for moving the bovine TB eradication program in Michigan forward.

Education and Outreach

MDA is working with the Michigan Department of Transportation to post signs on U.S., interstate, and Michigan highways between the MAZ and MAAZ that indicate the requirements for cattle movement.

Help Prevent Bovine TB posters are being distributed to grain elevators, hunting license outlets, and gas stations in the seven counties of the MAZ where baiting is banned. The Michigan Cattlemen's Magazine and Michigan Farm News will run a story on wildlife risk mitigation plans and risk based surveillance.

Both MDA and USDA will provide bovine TB program updates at the Michigan Cattlemen's' *Summer Round-Up* in Alpena in late June.

Bovine TB issues in the media:

DNR encourages deer hunting in TB zone, New state program aims to halt spread of disease

http://www.record-eagle.com/local/local_story_121095521.html

Editorial: Deer hunters can't be left out of TB solution

http://www.record-eagle.com/opinion/local_story_127094557.html

Wildlife Regulation Changes, By Hamilton Reef

<http://www.michigan-sportsman.com/forum/showthread.php?t=235255>

Virginia group tries to stop Michigan animal ID

<http://homesteadingthebackforty.blogspot.com/2008/05/legal-defense-fund-moves-to-stop-animal.html>

Forum: DNR counts on hunters to curb TB

http://www.record-eagle.com/opinion/local_story_155095209.html

