



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
LANSING

DON KOIVISTO
DIRECTOR

MDA Bovine Tuberculosis Program – USDA 2010 Review

USDA's overall observations of the TB Program are positive. USDA recognized the momentum established by John Tilden has been continued by James Averill.

Accredited Herds

Files in good order.

Recommendation: Two annual inspections may not be necessary. A risk analysis could be done to determine whether there should be one or two inspections. If one inspection is deemed appropriate - it would be winter.

Wildlife Risk Mitigation Project

The project is doing very well and is accepted by producers.

Recommendation: Continue the project.

Captive Cervid Surveillance

Five percent of premises are not current with the program. Actions are being taken for these premises.

Two infected herds – there is no tagging/inventory reconciliation/surveillance is weak on these premises.

Recommendation: Continue enforcement of regulations, mitigation plans, and herd quarantines. Also increase level of inspections in infected herds.

USAHerds

It was recognized that whenever there is a major change that there will be problems.

Recommendation: Continue development. Include field staff on technical management team and solicit feedback from field.

Infected Herd Management

From the last review - a better definition of Team Epi was requested. Team Epi is now a very good tool. The team working with the producer all at once is commendable.

Very thorough reports.

Recommendation: Continue efforts.

Herd Plans

Process for development and implementation is good and following up monthly in first year is good.

Slaughter Surveillance

Readers not always working.

Recommendation: Communication plan with USDA is needed so USDA can put pressure on those facilities.

Custom Kill Plants

Recommendation: Continue efforts to get ID tags.

TB Skin Testing

Data from 2008 and 2009 reviewed. Veterinarians are in compliance with 2005 UM&R Appendix C (USDA Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication Uniform Methods and Rules Effective January 1, 2005).

Terminal Operations and Freezer Beef

Files are in good order. However USAHerds data does not match up with hardcopies. The inventories for Freezer Beef Operations are not current. The USAHerds transition has been slow and is causing difficulties.

Recommendation: Communicate regular updates on USAHerds. Solicit input from the field. Update Freezer Beef brochure so language is more clear regarding RFID tags.

Movement Certificates

TB Program is doing an excellent job. Transition from FAIR database to USAHerds database lacked the web interface for producers. Atlanta/TB Program staff are available for evenings and weekends.

Recommendation: Incorporate web-based movement certificates into USAHerds.

Identification at Markets

High level of identification compliance.

Recommendation: Double tag cattle within the MAZ with RFID and Bright tag. Link back tags with official identification and have on movement certificates.

Mackinac Bridge

Diligent employees. There are fewer drive-bys than in past years.

Recommendation: Increase signs on I75 northbound. Increase lighting at the station.

Surveillance in Wildlife (MDNRE)

Review team looked at active and passive surveillance. The number of deer harvested in the Shiawassee and Iosco circles met the requirements of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Feed and baiting ban is not being enforced and the ban is therefore ineffective.

Recommendation: Surveillance efforts may need to be directed outside the core area. Hunter harvest may not be adequate. MDNRE needs to develop a plan to reduce TB in northeastern lower peninsula.

Overall: The entire TB Program team is to be commended. The staff in northern Lower Peninsula is doing a great job and their commitment to stakeholders is appreciated. The aggressive testing and progress made in wildlife risk mitigation is commendable.