

Ask Before You Buy!

Attention Cattle Buyers in TB Free zone and MAAZ Subzones 2 and 3

- Beginning January 4, 2010, breeding cattle sold from farms located in the Modified Accredited Zone (MAZ) and Subzone 1 of the Modified Accredited Advanced Zone (MAAZ) without a verified Wildlife Risk Mitigation Action Plan in place, will be required to have an individual TB test within 60-120 days of the date of purchase. (See reverse side for a map of the various zones and subzones.)
- This post-movement testing will apply to individual cattle from the MAZ and Subzone 1 moving to herds located in MAAZ Subzones 2 and 3 and the TB Free zone of Michigan.
- Note: If you buy breeding cattle from a MAZ or Subzone 1 farm that is not verified as Wildlife Risk Mitigated, testing will be at the your expense.
- Testing in instances where the animal no longer resides at the movement destination (sold, etc.) will be handled as follows:
 - If you sell an animal which requires a test and can document where the animal moved to, the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) will locate and inform the new owner that the animal will need to be TB tested within 60-120 days from the original date when you purchased the animal.
 - If you sell an animal which requires a test and can't document who purchased the animal then your herd must undergo a whole herd bovine TB test within 6-12 months from the date of purchase at your expense.

Wildlife Risk Mitigation Project

The Wildlife Risk Mitigation Project is designed to help Michigan farmers reduce the risks of bovine TB spreading between wildlife and livestock. The project provides risk-reduction information, on-farm assessment, and technical assistance to help producers develop and implement Wildlife Risk Mitigation Action Plans. Once the action plan is implemented, MDA will do an inspection and verify those farms are following their plan. Verified farms will receive a dated letter from MDA stating they are wildlife risk mitigated.

If you are making farm-to-farm purchases from breeding herds in the MAZ or Subzone 1 of the MAAZ, make sure you ask to see a copy of that farm's MDA wildlife risk mitigation verification letter. If you are buying breeding cattle in a market, make sure you understand the status of the cattle you are bidding on.

Why Post-Movement Testing For Unmitigated Cattle?

Michigan's new risk-based bovine TB program focuses the TB testing on cattle who pose a greater risk - cattle from unmitigated farms. One of the benefits of doing risk based testing is there will no longer need to be random testing of cattle herds in the TB Free Zone (Upper Peninsula) or in the majority of the lower Peninsula.

Buy cattle from verified wildlife risk mitigated farms!

For more details, visit: www.michigan.gov/emergingdiseases

Michigan Bovine Tuberculosis Zones

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