February 16, 2018

Dear Producer:

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) recently received test results confirming a bovine tuberculosis (TB) positive cattle herd located in Ottawa County.

On February 14, 2018, the director of MDARD signed an order establishing a “Special Surveillance Area” with a three-mile radius around the affected farm which includes the following portions of Ottawa County:

- Blendon Township (T6N-R14W) sections 1-30 and 32-35
- Georgetown Township (T6N-R13W) sections 7, 18, and 19
- Allendale Township (T7N-R14W) sections 32-36

You have received this letter because our records indicate your farm falls within this three-mile circle. This designation requires all cattle and bison, twelve months of age and older, and all non-natural additions of any age, to be tested for bovine TB within six months - that is by August 14, 2018. Additionally, all goats six months of age or older, and all farmed deer twelve months of age and older, which are comingling with cattle or bison, must also be tested for bovine TB. This testing can be done by either a regulatory veterinarian or by an approved private fee-basis veterinarian. There are no restrictions on your herd until the TB test begins. Once the test begins, the herd will be under quarantine until the test is completed. Those who do not complete the test within the six-month time frame will be placed under quarantine until the TB testing is completed. Any herd which received a whole herd test within six months prior to the designation will not be required to re-test as part of this “Special Surveillance Area.”

A meeting will be held to discuss the TB Program and the designation of the Special TB Surveillance Area at the following time and location:

Tuesday, March 6, 2018, at 7:00 p.m.
Grandville Public Middle School Auditorium
3535 Wilson Ave. SW, Grandville, MI 49418

We encourage you to contact the MDARD at 517-284-5675 to schedule a testing date and for any questions you may have about the circle test designation.

Sincerely,
Jarold Goodrich, DVM
Acting Assistant State Veterinarian- Food Animal Programs
Bovine TB Eradication Program Coordinator
Animal Industry Division