TRIPP COUNTY TB UPDATE

A Tripp County beef herd is infected with Bovine Tuberculosis (TB). This is the second outbreak of TB in SD cattle in 2017. A four-year-old cow culled from the herd was identified in October by federal meat inspectors during routine inspection at a Texas slaughterhouse. Official animal identification records linked the cow to the index herd. Herd testing and laboratory confirmation has revealed additional infected animals in the herd.

State and federal animal health officials are testing herds adjacent to the index herd. Seven herds (3,711 cattle) have completed testing with no significant findings at this time and the remaining three herds should have testing completed by the end of the year. Records of sales out of the herd are being traced, most of which are feeder cattle. Animals have been traced out to six states including NE, IA, CO, MN, KS and WI. Very few animals have entered the breeding herd from outside sources in the past several years.

The genetic analysis of the M. bovis bacteria recovered from the index cow indicates that it is a novel strain that has not previously been identified in the U.S. It is a different strain than that which was identified in Harding Co. earlier in 2017. The source of TB has not been identified in this case.

ONLINE JOHNE’S TRAINING AVAILABLE

Although federal funding has been discontinued for the Voluntary Bovine Johne’s Disease Control Program, South Dakota cattle producers may still apply to SDAIB for a Johne’s disease Herd Classification Level. Producers who wish to participate in the program must work with a Johne’s Disease Certified Veterinarian to complete the herd testing and the written risk assessment and herd management plan required for herd classification.

Approved courses are available on-line for veterinarians who wish to become Johne’s Certified or who wish to update their Johne’s Certification. The Johne’s Re-certification course is not a requirement for maintaining certification, but is highly recommended as a good overview of the new Johne’s disease program standards.

The SDAIB has limited funding available to reimburse the fees paid by veterinarians who take the courses. Please contact the SDAIB if you are interested in becoming Johne’s Certified or Re-certified through these on-line courses.

Johne’s Certification Course for veterinarians: https://ce.vetmed.wisc.edu/Johnes_Disease_Certificate_Programs/13463