

Alberta TB Case Update – August 24, 2017

- Roughly 11 premises remain under quarantine including sites that no longer have cattle. This represents approximately 1,000 animals.
- To date, there are still only six confirmed cases of bovine TB (including the original cow found in the U.S.).
 - All six confirmed cases are the same strain of bovine TB.
- Ninety-four sites have been released from quarantine including low risk trace-out feedlot cattle, fenceline contact herds, trace-out herds, and land.
- The bulk of trace-out herds have been identified and tested.
- To date, all other culture results have been negative.
- CFIA has currently identified approximately 80 premises to be tested as part of the trace-in investigation, which is fewer than originally anticipated. Please note this number will change as more information is gathered.
- CFIA is currently working with the trace-in herds to schedule testing for each individual herd at times that are convenient for their production cycle.
- Herds confirmed to be part of the trace-in investigation will **not** be quarantined until testing begins on their operations.
- Trace-in testing will include two tests – the regular caudal fold (tail test) and an ancillary test in order to eliminate the majority of false positive reactors. Only animals that react to both tests will be considered true reactors and be slaughtered to undergo enhanced post mortems.
- Most trace-in herds will be under quarantine for a relatively short period of time (~1 month), however; statistically speaking, there are likely to be a few herds that will have to stay under quarantine until histopathology or culture results are obtained. These herds will be eligible for early release from quarantine if the histopathology results are negative.
- Trace-in cattle are the lowest risk category as they are presumed to have the same TB status as the rest of the Canadian herd.
- There are no restrictions on the movement or sale of animals from herds on early release from quarantine including shipping to feedlots or immediate slaughter.
- Cleaning and disinfection procedures on the 18 infected and presumed infected premises continues with most premises having completed the necessary fallow period.
- The first phase required restocking test on those premises that were depopulated will also occur this fall.
- Source remains an outstanding question and given the lack of obvious connections, we need to be prepared that the source may remain an unknown.
- No evidence of bTB was discovered during the 2016/17 hunting season in Alberta (more information here: <http://aep.alberta.ca/fish-wildlife/wildlife-diseases/documents/BovineTB-SurveillanceAB-2016-FactSheet-May2017.pdf>).
- The province and CFIA are actively discussing and collaborating on a strategy for bTB wildlife surveillance moving forward. This will be led by the province with support from CFIA.
- Additional information about the trace-in component of the investigation is available at <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/terrestrial->

[animals/diseases/reportable/tuberculosis/investigation-western-canada/trace-in-activities/eng/1496361145780/1496361146178](#)

- Further information is available at www.albertabeef.org or <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/terrestrial-animals/diseases/reportable/tuberculosis/investigation-western-canada/eng/1477438380160/1477438380659>