

Appendix 3: Full Risk Assessment for BVD Virus Introduction in Dairy Herds

Name

Date

Address

Veterinarian

Herd Code Dairy No. Milking Herd Size

1 Purchase of cattle

i. Do you ever buy-in cattle (e.g. cows, heifers, calves, bulls, freezer beasts)?

Yes

No Go to Q2

ii. If Yes:

Are these animals always tested free of the BVD virus? (These tests could be BVD PCR or BVD Ag Elisa)

Yes, before entering the farm

Yes, after entering the farm but before they contact other animals

No

iii. Are all calves kept from introduced pregnant cows tested free of the BVD virus?

Yes

No

iv. If the bought-in cattle or their subsequent calves are not always tested, do they always come from a farm(s) known to be BVD virus free (BTM Ab S/P <0.75)?

Yes

No

Don't know

Appendix 3: Full Risk Assessment for BVD Virus Introduction in Dairy Herds

2 Movement of your own stock off and on farm

Stock includes lease cows, show cows, bulls for breeding, beef animals, aborted and carry-over cows to be milked somewhere else over winter. In this section, do not include heifer replacement stock or accidental movement of stock through the boundary fence (see later for these).

i. Are there occasions when stock go off the farm and return later?

Yes Where to?

No Go to Q3

ii. What is the BVD status of the property to which these animals go?

Tested BVD free

Likely infected

Unknown

iii. Are all of these cattle fully vaccinated before they leave your property?

Yes

No

3 Contact with neighbours

i. Do you have any neighbours who graze cattle periodically on your boundary?

Yes

No Go to Q4

ii. Are the neighbours' herds free of the BVD virus?

Yes State neighbours' status if known

No

Don't know

iii. Does the standard of boundary fencing on the farm prevent:

a. All movement of animals across the boundary fence?

Yes

No

b. Nose-to-nose contact between your animals and the neighbours' animals?

Yes

No

c. If Yes, what is the shortest distance separating a neighbour's animals from your own?

metres

iv. Do you share yards or animal equipment, such as dehorner, with your neighbours?

Yes

No

Appendix 3: Full Risk Assessment for BVD Virus Introduction in Dairy Herds

4 Heifer replacements

i. Do some or all heifer replacements move off the farm at any stage?

Yes

No Go to Q5

ii. If Yes:

a. Are other cattle present on the farm where the heifer replacements are grazed?

Yes

No

b. Are your heifers grazed with these other stock, or could they have contact with them from time to time (e.g. across fences)?

Yes

No

c. What is the BVD status of this other stock (as assessed from the herd of origin's status and/or direct testing of these animals)?

Clear

Probably infected

Unknown

iii. Does the standard of boundary fencing where the heifer replacements are grazed prevent:

a. All movement of animals across the boundary fence?

Yes

No

b. Nose-to-nose contact between your animals and the neighbours' animals?

Yes

No

c. If Yes, what is the shortest distance for possible contact between heifers and animals from neighbours' farms?

metres

Appendix 3: Full Risk Assessment for BVD Virus Introduction in Dairy Herds

5 Calves

i. Are calves ever kept from first calving heifers (as replacements or freezer animals, beef animals, for fundraising schemes etc)?

Yes

No

ii. Are calves ever kept from:

a. cows that are brought into the herd pregnant? or

b. cows that are on another property for some time during the first four months of pregnancy?

Yes

No

iii. Do calves and/or older replacement stock have direct contact on the dairy farm with pregnant cows (e.g. when a few calves are grazed in each paddock, or cows and replacements are in adjacent paddocks, or calves are adjacent to the race)?

Yes

No

iv. Are cows and heifers that were off farm during the first four months of pregnancy calved down with cows from which replacements are kept?

Yes

No

6 Others

i. Are off-farm embryos ever transferred into your cows?

Yes

No

ii. Do people working with animals who go from farm to farm (vets, AI technicians, calf dehorner, scanners etc) practice good disease control procedures, such as washing boots, having clean overalls, disinfecting non-disposable utensils and using new syringes and needles?

Yes

No

iii. Do livestock and deadstock transporters have contact with live animals when on farm, or have access to areas to which the herd has access?

Yes

No

iv. Do you have sheep, deer or alpaca on the property that come into contact with cattle?

Yes

No