

Appendix 4: Actions to Control BVD in Dairy Herds – Checklist

Use this checklist to make sure all risks of viral introduction have been considered and mitigated.

Ensure that at least one box is ticked per section. In some sections, more than one box will need to be ticked to limit the risks.

1 Risks to the herd:

1.1 The risk from bulls

- Only BVD virus-negative vaccinated bulls come on to the property
- No bulls are used on the property

1.2 The risk from bought-in cows and Trojan calves

- Cows are never bought in
- Each cow is tested for the virus, as are all keeper calves from these cows
- The cow source is a herd with a clear BVD status
- Bought-in cows are tested once calved using the BTM PCR test, and all keeper calves from these cows are tested for the virus
- The cow source is a herd that is fully vaccinated (before pregnancy)*
- Cows in the owner's herd are fully vaccinated

1.3 The risk from neighbours' stock

- No neighbours have cattle
- All keeper calves are screened for the virus each year
- Nose-to-nose contact is not possible on any area of the boundary fence
- The herd is fully BVD vaccinated before pregnancy
- All neighbours who have cattle are known to have BVD-free herds

1.4 The risk to the milking herd from calves

- All keeper calves are tested for the virus before moving into paddocks
- The herd is fully BVD vaccinated before pregnancy
- No calves are kept from any animal that grazes off during pregnancy, and these are calved separately to the herd
- Calves are not kept from heifers and calved separately to the herd
- All keeper calves from all animals that graze off during pregnancy are screened for the virus before moving outdoors
- All animals that graze off during pregnancy are fully vaccinated (note that any PI animals in this group are still at risk of infecting the herd)

1.5 The risk from people

- Mitigated by having all cattle fully vaccinated before pregnancy
- Mitigated by having all keeper calves tested for the virus annually
- When veterinarians, technicians etc come on to the farm, all their equipment, boots and protective clothing is properly cleaned or replaced between herds
- Transporters do not have access to stock areas

* A vaccinated PI cow will produce a PI calf.