



Western Stock Growers' Association

BULLETIN # 6

December 19, 2016 Volume 4, Issue 8



UPDATE: Bovine TB in Alberta

The following information comes from conference calls with CFIA over the period of December 6 to December 15, 2016.

What we know:

- There are approximately 45 herds under quarantine.
- The total number of TB positive animals remains at six.
- 90 additional reactor animals have been slaughtered and no visible gross lesions were found. Samples were sent for culture, which will confirm if these animals are TB negative. All reactors from the eighteen premises declared infected are scheduled to be euthanized and post mortems performed by early January.
- Testing is on track to be completed on all the high-risk herds and the initial low-risk herds identified in the trace-outs by December 23.
- Humane slaughter of non-reactor animals from the eighteen premises is ongoing and expected to continue into the New Year. Approximately 750 head were slaughtered last week, with similar numbers scheduled for the next two weeks.
- CFIA has begun the methodical trace-in for the herd of origin for the six positive cases. This entails tracing where animals have moved in from over the past five years. There is expected to be a number of herds placed under quarantine as a result of this part of the investigation. Testing for some of these herds has been scheduled into the new year.
- As a result of TB being such a slow growing bacterium, we are still waiting for culture results on the all of the reactor animals that have undergone euthanasia and post mortem exams. These results will determine if the current trace-out was adequate. There could still potentially be some quarantines placed as a result of additional trace-outs depending on results from ongoing lab tests and continuing post mortems / tests on reactor animals.
- To date, six herds have been released from quarantine. These were low risk herds placed under quarantine as a result of trace-outs from the herd of origin of the six positive animals.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

For producers who have to undergo it, the cleaning and disinfecting (C&D) of a premises presents a significant burden.

The C&D process has six steps. While the process for C&D is similar for all infected premises, the specific requirements and needs must be tailored to address the disease risks and issues specific to each premises. In some circumstances not all six steps will be required.

There may be some companies or individuals who, working with CFIA, can provide some of the C&D services to the producers affected. If you are one of these companies or individuals, feel free to contact CFIA through the website or WSGA at 403-250-9121 or office@wsga.ca.

Compensation Update

This information is intended as a supplement to the compensation overview posted on the CFIA website at: <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/eng/1313712524829/1313712773700>

Evaluation methodology for compensation

All compensation awarded under the Health of Animals Act is based on the fair market value of the each animal ordered destroyed at the time of destruction (up to the maximum limit prescribed by the regulations). For breeding stock, the evaluation is not based on the harvest value when destruction is completed by slaughter. The evaluation is based on both individual producer records and available market data obtained from sources such as CanFax, AgriClear and local auction markets.

For cows, the evaluation will take into account the age of the animal but the Compensation for Destroyed Animals Regulations do not include the value of calves that the cow may have had in the future.

Compensation for pregnant cows

As of December 9, the CFIA has adjusted the compensation for cows that are identified as pregnant at the time of destruction. The compensation paid for pregnant cows will adjusted by \$700.00 per animal. Pregnancy status will be determined at the slaughter post mortem inspection.

For producers who have already had cows destroyed and compensation paid, your compensation will be adjusted and a supplementary payment issued. The adjusted payment will be based on herd history and producer records.

Possible single payment when animals are destroyed by slaughter

The possibility of sending producers a single payment (combining payment from the processor and payment from CFIA to bring compensation to the assessed value) was examined. The CFIA has received a legal opinion that this option is not possible.

The combination of a harvest value payment and a second payment from the CFIA does not affect the total compensation paid. In other words, if an animal is evaluated at \$4000, the producer will receive payments totalling \$4000. The amount that is paid as harvest value versus compensation will vary depending on the weight of the animal.

For example:

\$1000 harvest value + \$3000 compensation = \$4000

\$750 harvest value + \$3250 compensation = \$4000

\$0 for a condemned animal + \$4000 compensation = \$4000

Receiving payment for harvest value and compensation does not affect the evaluated price or the right to appeal compensation awarded.