



APHA OV Briefing Note 04/15

Cross compliance – further advice on financial penalties for overdue TB tests in England

Purpose

1. Official Veterinarians (OVs) will be aware there is a Zero Tolerance approach in place with regards to the completion of TB tests within notified testing windows.
2. Changes to penalties for overdue TB testing in England from January 2015 were explained in APHA Briefing Note 10/14:
<http://ahvla.defra.gov.uk/documents/ov/Briefing-Note-1014.pdf>
3. On 16 February 2015 Defra issued further advice for cattle keepers on financial penalties for overdue TB tests:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bovine-tb-information-note-advice-for-cattle-keepers-on-cross-compliance-financial-penalties-for-overdue-tb-tests>
4. In particular, OVs will wish to be aware of a clarification with regard to the policy in England. Previously, the intention was that cattle keepers would be penalised if the reading of the TB test on their cattle was outside the test window. It has now been clarified that only the date of injection of all eligible cattle must take place within the testing window, although the reading of the test must still take place 72 hours after the injection date, as required by EU legislation. The change will be retrospective, so some cattle keepers will have their cross compliance penalties reimbursed.

Further information

5. Previous OV briefing notes can be found at: <http://ahvla.defra.gov.uk/official-vets/briefing%20notes.htm>
6. Defra TB Information Notes can be found at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/bovine-tb-information-notes>

Issued: 23 February 2015