



APHA Briefing Note 08/14

Enhancements to TB Zero Tolerance in Wales - reduction in cross-compliance payments when TB tests completed late

Purpose

1. Official Veterinarians (OVs) will be aware that there is a Zero Tolerance approach in place with regards to the completion of TB tests within notified testing windows. This approach has been in place since 2008 and is an integral part of the Welsh Government's TB eradication Programme.
2. From the 1 Jan 2015, TB tests that are not completed¹ on or after 1 January 2015 as notified by the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) will be reported to Rural Payments Wales as a breach under the cross compliance rules, which will result in a financial penalty being applied to any Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) payments.
3. Please make sure your clients are aware of these changes so that they arrange their testing dates with you early enough to make sure the tests are completed within their notified testing windows.

Background

4. The reduction in CAP payments will, as a general rule, be 3% but this can be reduced to 1% or increased to 100%, dependant on the circumstances.
5. The Policy enhancement is effective from 1 January 2015; this will affect TB tests with testing windows that are open on or after the 1 January 2015.
6. TB tests that are completed one or more days after the test window has closed will be reported to the Rural Payments Wales.
7. Welsh Government will be providing further detailed information on all the cross compliance changes being introduced from 1 January 2015 by publishing revised farmer factsheets, updated verifiable standards and penalty calculators, in December 2014.

¹Completion of test means that all eligible animals have been injected and read (TT2 date) before or on the last date of the testing window as notified by APHA.

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