



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Animal And Plant Health
Agency
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(Insert Recipients Name and Address)

Our reference:

00 Month 20XX

Dear Sir/Madam,

Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) – Post-Movement Testing in the Low Risk Area in England

Our records show that cattle recently moved to your holding may require post-movement testing for TB.

Compulsory post-movement testing of cattle entering the Low Risk Area (LRA) of England from annual (or more frequent) TB testing areas of GB came into force on 6 April 2016 under the Tuberculosis in Animals (England) Order 2021.

Cattle Tracing System (CTS) records indicate that in month you received xx bovine animals from an area in England/Wales that is subject to annual or more frequent TB surveillance testing, see the Annex for the ear tag numbers. **Unless these animals, or the type of movements, are exempted from post-movement testing they will need to be tested between 60 and 120 days after they arrived on your holding.** The fact sheet overleaf gives you more detail on the post-movement testing requirements, including a list of the exemptions.

You are responsible for arranging and paying for the post-movement tests, and should contact your veterinarian to arrange the test, requesting a 'POSTMOVVOV' test.

Bovine animals requiring a post-movement test **must not be moved off** your premises until the test has been completed with a negative result. Failure to comply with post-movement testing rules may result in referral to the Local Authority (LA).

This letter is for information purposes to remind you of the legal requirement to post-movement test certain bovine animals. Failure to complete post-movement testing when it is required is an offence under the TB Order and could result in your herd being assessed as high risk. High risk herds are required to complete annual whole herd TB tests and ensure cattle moving out of the herd have a valid pre-movement test (exceptions apply).

Any failure on our part to notify someone of this requirement or a failure to provide accurate and/or complete information (e.g. number of animals) does not discharge a cattle keeper from their legal obligations.

If you have already completed the necessary post-movement tests for the animals detailed in the Annex, then no further action is required.

Further information on post-movement testing is available on www.tbhub.co.uk.

If you believe there is an issue with the movement information, please contact the British Cattle Movement Service on 0345 050 1234.

Yours sincerely

APHA TB Compliance Team

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Post-movement Testing Summary Sheet

Moving cattle on:

- when a bovine animal (cattle, water buffalo or bison) is moved into the LRA of England from a herd located in another part of England, or in Wales, the keeper who receives the animals must arrange and pay for a post-movement skin test. The test must be undertaken no fewer than 60 days, but no more than 120 days, after the date of the animal's arrival at the receiving premises, unless the herd or type of movement meets any of the exemptions listed below. **Failure to do this is an offence under the Tuberculosis in Animals (England) Order 2021**
- where a bovine animal is required to have a post-movement skin test, no person may move that animal from the receiving premises until the skin test has been completed with negative results, unless the type of movement meets any of the exemptions listed below. **Failure to do this is an offence under the Tuberculosis in Animals (England) Order 2021**
- all post-movement tests must be arranged and paid for by the herd owner
- routine TB surveillance tests will count as post-movement tests for animals included in that test if undertaken within the correct time frame
- you will be given a copy of all clear post-movement TB test charts which you must keep as evidence that animals in your herd have been tested
- where you move animals without post-movement testing you are advised to keep evidence of exemption.
- Non-compliance with post-movement testing requirements may result in the herd being assessed as high risk. A high risk herd on four-yearly Routine Herd Testing (RHT) would change to annual Whole Herd Testing (WHT). This would result in testing of all bovines 42 days old and over every year, plus a requirement to pre-movement test.

When bringing cattle on:

- you should assure yourself that cattle bought from herds in the LRA previously originating from outside of the LRA have been post-movement tested
- you should request to see a copy of the evidence of testing
- if you receive cattle that were not post-movement tested you should isolate the cattle immediately, inform APHA and arrange and pay for a TB test to be carried out between 60 days and 120 days of the animal(s) arriving to the LRA. **Failure to do this will result in the herd being put under movement restrictions until they have had a TB skin test with negative results.**

What cattle or type of movements are exempt from post-movement testing?

- cattle that are slaughtered within 120 days of arrival at the receiving premises
- cattle that are moved solely for veterinary treatment inside the LRA, or are returning to the LRA following veterinary treatment elsewhere, provided that they are returned directly to their premises of origin after the treatment, or are killed or go directly to slaughter;
- cattle that are moved to an agricultural show in the LRA, or that return to the LRA from an agricultural show outside the LRA, provided that:
 - the move does not involve a stay of more than 24 hours or the housing of those animals at the showground, and
 - they are returned directly to their premises of origin after the show, or are killed or go directly to slaughter after the show
- cattle that are moved directly to one of the following in the LRA:
 - a market from which all animals go direct to slaughter
 - an exempt market
 - an approved collecting centre, or
 - a licensed finishing unit
- cattle that are moved under the authority of a movement licence issued by an inspector.

What type of movements for animals that require post-movement testing are permissible before the test has been completed with negative results?

- movements direct (or via a slaughter gathering or market) to slaughter
- movements to a licensed finishing unit or an approved finishing unit, or

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- movements made under the authority of a movement licence issued by an inspector.

For more general information, refer to pre-movement and post-movement TB testing of cattle in GB guidance on GOV.UK or contact APHA.

Annex Ear Tags

Sample

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