

TUBERCULOSIS

Accredited-Free Herd Plan for Cervids

Missouri

1. Definitions

(A) Accredited Herd – An accredited herd is one which has passed at least two consecutive tuberculin tests of all eligible animals conducted at 9 to 15 month intervals, has no evidence of, or exposure potential to, bovine tuberculosis and meets the standards of the Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication Uniform Methods and Rules. A completed herd plan for the herd must also be on file with the Missouri Department of Agriculture office for a herd to be classified as accredited.

(B) Anniversary Date – The herd anniversary date is based on the test observation date (month/day) of the second consecutive test in cervids with no evidence of tuberculosis disclosed (that is, the test on which the herd was recognized as accredited). Reaccreditation tests must be conducted between 33 and 39 months from the anniversary date (month/day) established on the accrediting test.

(C) Official Identification – The identification of cervids by means of an official eartag (approved by APHIS) that provides unique identification for each individual animal. Official eartags include metal tags approved by APHIS that conform to the Alphanumeric National Uniform Eartagging System (i.e. 43ABC1234 or 43AB1234 bearing a US shield on the tag) or official radio frequency ID (RFID) eartags (i.e. 15 digit RFID tags bearing a US shield).

(D) Official tuberculosis test in captive cervids – The official tests approved for testing of captive cervids are the Single Cervical Test (SCT) and the Stat-Pak® blood test. Accredited veterinarians must be trained by APHIS designated personnel before they are allowed to perform the SCT or submit a blood sample for Stat-Pak® testing.

NOTE: The Stat-Pak® blood test is approved for use in ONLY White-tailed deer, Elk, Fallow deer, Red deer, and Reindeer. All other cervid species must use the SCT (i.e. Sika deer must be tested with the SCT).

(E) Qualified Herd – A herd that has passed one official test for tuberculosis within a seven-month period. The qualified status remains in effect for 12 months following the qualifying test. In addition to a negative herd test, a completed herd plan for the herd must be on file with the Missouri Department of Agriculture office for a herd to be classified as qualified.

(F) Test Eligible Animals – All captive cervids 12 months of age and older as well as all other TB-susceptible hooved stock 12 months of age and older exposed to the cervid herd. Purchased additions under 12 months of age originating from an accredited-free herd need not be tested, however all other purchased additions under 12 months of age must be tested.

2. Accreditation and Reaccreditation

(A) For Initial Accreditation - The herd must pass at least two consecutive annual tuberculosis tests within an interval of 9 to 15 months with no evidence of bovine tuberculosis. All animals must be bona fide members of the herd. A completed herd plan must be on file with the Missouri Department of Agriculture office. Accredited herds will be issued a certificate by the local State and Federal officials.

(B) Accreditation Period - The accreditation period will be 36 months from the anniversary date and not 36 months from the date of the reaccreditation test. To qualify for reaccreditation, the herd must pass an official tuberculosis test within a period of 33 to 39 months of the anniversary date.

(C) For Continuous Herd Accreditation - The reaccreditation test must be conducted on the anniversary date or within a time period of three months prior to the anniversary date. If the reaccreditation test is conducted following the anniversary date, the accredited status of the herd will be suspended until the reaccreditation test is completed (animals are not considered to have an accredited status for sale purposes while the herd status is suspended). If the reaccreditation test is not completed within three months following the anniversary date, the requirements for reaccrediting the herd will be the same as for initial herd accreditation.

3. Animals to be Tested

(A) Testing of herds for accreditation or reaccreditation shall include all cervids 12 months of age and older.

(B) The method of testing must be either by a single cervical test (SCT) or Stat-Pak® blood test for official testing purposes. Only one of the two testing methods may be used each time an individual animal is tested. Accredited veterinarians **must** be trained by a State or Federal district veterinarian and classified as a Designated Accredited Veterinarian (DAV) before they are allowed to conduct the SCT or submit blood samples for Stat-Pak® testing.

(C) All natural additions shall be officially identified and recorded on the test chart as members of the herd at the time of the accreditation or reaccreditation test, even if they are not tested because they are under 12 months of age. Results for these animals should be marked as "Too Young to Test."

(D) All purchased additions shall be officially identified and recorded on the test chart as purchased addition (as indicated with 'PA') members of the herd at the time of the accreditation or reaccreditation test. The source herd the animals were purchased from shall also be recorded on the test chart.

4. Additions – Accredited herd additions must originate directly from one of the following and have no exposure to captive cervids (or other TB-susceptible hooved stock) from herds of lesser status than the additions' herd of origin:

(A) An accredited herd.

(B) A qualified herd; provided that the individual animals for addition had negative results on an official tuberculosis test conducted within 90 days prior to entry and were isolated from members of the accredited herd until these animals had a negative result on an official tuberculosis test conducted at least 90 days following entry.

Purchased additions originating from a qualified herd (as in B above) that are added to an accredited-free herd shall not receive the accredited herd status for sale or movement purposes until they have a negative result on a retest 90 days after entry.

(C) A herd not meeting the requirements of (A) or (B) in this section. Individual animals for addition must be isolated from all other members of the herd of origin and must have negative results on two official tests for tuberculosis conducted at least 90 days apart. The second of these tests must be conducted within 90 days prior to movement to the premises of the accredited herd. The additions must be kept in isolation from members of the accredited herd until the additions have a negative result on an official tuberculosis test conducted at least 90 days following the date of entry.

Purchased additions originating from a herd with no TB status (as in C above) that are added to an accredited-free herd shall not receive the accredited herd status for sale or movement purposes until they have a negative result on a retest 90 days after entry and until they have been included in a recertification herd test.

5. Breeding Loans and Fawn Raisers – Any animals temporarily leaving an accredited herd for the purposes of breeding, bottle feeding, etc. may only move to other accredited-free herds. If they are exposed to or commingled with non-accredited animals, they will lose their accredited status and if returned home, the herd of origin will also lose its accredited-free status.

6. Status of Newly Assembled Herds – A newly assembled herd shall assume the herd status of the herd from which the animals originated. Upon request and with proof of purchase, a new certificate with a new herd number will be issued in the new owner's name. If the new herd is assembled from more than one herd, it shall assume the status of the herd with the lowest status. A newly assembled herd shall also assume the testing schedule of the herd whose status it assumes. A completed herd plan for the new herd must also be on file with the Missouri Department of Agriculture office for a herd to be classified as accredited.

7. Authority to Test – State laws and/or regulations shall provide authority to apply a tuberculosis test to any animal or herd at such times as may be deemed necessary by the cooperating State and Federal officials. These officials reserve the right to supervise any test conducted by an accredited veterinarian. Federal regulations require any veterinarian conducting an official SCT or submitting a blood sample for Stat-Pak® testing to be approved by a state or federal animal health official. Veterinarians approved to do the SCT and Stat-Pak® testing will be added to a list maintained by the Missouri Department of Agriculture office in Jefferson City, MO

8. Report of Tuberculin Tests

(A) A report of all tuberculin tests (with results) and animals tested by the Stat-Pak® (without results) shall be submitted on a VS Form 6-22 Tuberculosis Test Record in accordance with the requirements of the cooperating State and Federal officials. A VS Form 10-4 listing all animals tested is required to be submitted with all blood samples for Stat-Pak® testing at the National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL).

(B) The testing veterinarian must submit the VS Form 6-22 Tuberculosis Test Record for all SCT or Stat-Pak® testing to the Missouri Department of Agriculture office in Jefferson City, MO for the test to be considered an official test.

(C) This record should include the individual identification of each animal by recording **ALL man-made eartag numbers (including at least one form of official ID)**, age, sex and breed. The test result interpretation must also be included for all SCT testing.

(D) Any response noted on the reading of an SCT shall be promptly reported by telephone to the cooperating State and Federal officials. The handling of the herd after a response as noted will be by a State/Federal regulatory veterinarian in accordance with State regulations and the Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication Uniform Methods and Rules (UM&R). All SCT responders will be retested with the Comparative Cervical Test (CCT) by a State/Federal regulatory veterinarian within 10 days of the SCT injection. All samples with a non-negative result for the Stat-Pak® will automatically be tested by the DPP confirmatory test at NVSL. There is no charge for these additional tests.

(E) In the far left-hand column of all reaccrediting test charts, natural additions shall be indicated by 'NA', retagged animals shall be indicated by 'RT' with the old tag number along with the new number provided if possible, and purchased additions shall be indicated by 'PA.' The herd of origin of all purchased additions should be indicated on the test chart.

9. Change in Herd Veterinarian – The owner agrees to contact the Missouri Department of Agriculture office in Jefferson City, MO at (573) 751-3377 to report a change in the herd veterinarian. A change in the herd veterinarian requires an updated herd plan to be signed by the owner and the new veterinarian.

10. Other requirements

(A) Complete records of all additions to the herd and sales from the herd must be maintained.

(B) Owners of accredited herds are required to maintain environmental conditions consistent with generally accepted standards of good sanitation and herd management.

(C) The use of milk or other dairy products for feeding is prohibited unless such products are from a known safe supply or have been pasteurized.

(D) Only properly cleaned and disinfected vehicles may be used for transporting cervids into accredited herds.

(E) The owner must provide necessary assistance and/or facilities to properly restrain all animals for testing in order to provide maximum protection to the animals and attending veterinarian.

(F) The owner agrees to make no claim whatsoever against the cooperating departments, or their representative for unavoidable injury to livestock during handling.

(G) Failure on the part of an owner to comply with the guidelines set forth in this document shall constitute sufficient cause for the revocation of the Accredited-Free herd status.

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I have carefully read the Tuberculosis Accredited-Free Herd Plan for Cervids for Missouri (*August 2013 version*) and hereby agree to comply with all the stipulations as set forth, and to cooperate with the Missouri Department of Agriculture and U.S. Department of Agriculture in maintaining my entire herd as a Tuberculosis Accredited-Free herd.

Herd Owner's or Representative's signature(s)

Herd Veterinarian's Signature

Date

Date

Herd Owner(s) name(s) – **All names must be listed**

Herd Veterinarian Name

Business/Farm/Herd Name

Clinic Name

Physical Address of the Herd

Address

City, State, Zip

City, State, Zip

County

Clinic Phone Number

Mailing Address (If different from above)

Clinic Email Address

Mailing City, State, Zip (If different from above)

Cell Phone Number

Email Address

***Only names listed on the Herd Plan
will be printed on the certificate**

**Keep a copy of this herd plan for your
records and mail/email or fax to:**
Missouri Department of Agriculture
P.O. Box 630
Jefferson City, MO 65102
Fax: (573) 751-6919
Animal.Health@mda.mo.gov
For inquiries about the program contact:
Dr. Sarah Reinkemeyer – Designated
Epidemiologist
(573) 751-3377