



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

APHA Briefing Note 32/23

Amendment of the TB Order (Wales) coming into force on 1 February 2024 - UPDATE

Date issued: 21 December 2023

Purpose

1. To inform Official Veterinarians (OV) and Approved Tuberculin Testers (ATT) that APHA Briefing Note 28/23 released on 28 November 2023 has been cancelled and is replaced by this Briefing Note.

Background

2. Following a [consultation on a refreshed approach to TB Eradication in Wales](#) and the subsequent [delivery plan, published in March 2023](#), an amendment is being made to the Tuberculosis (Wales) Order 2010.
3. Briefing Note 28/23 informed you of several TB policy changes to be implemented in Wales from 1 February 2024 following the amendment of The Tuberculosis (Wales) 2010 Order.
4. Welsh Government have decided not to proceed with the inclusion of the amendment to prohibit the feeding of untreated milk produced in TB restricted herds to any calves or other mammals on the premises. The decision not to proceed was made following further discussion with farming representatives. The other TB policy changes, under the Tuberculosis (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2023, remain and come into force from 1 February 2024.

What are the changes?

Pre-movement testing

5. In response to an increase in the local spread of TB in the low TB area (LTBA), some of which is due to localised movements of untested cattle, pre-movement testing will

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be re-introduced in the LTBA.

6. From 1 February 2024, any bovine animals 42 days old or over moved from premises in the LTBA, other than to slaughter, will need to have been tested with negative results within 60 days prior to the movement. A number of exceptions apply (see Further Information below).
7. It will be the keeper's responsibility to book and pay for a pre-movement test (PRMT) with their private vet, although keepers can move bovine animals that have tested clear at a government-funded routine surveillance test, such as an annual test of the whole herd.
8. As usual, clear PRMT results are valid for 60 days from the date of injection of the skin test (30 days if the bovine animals are moving to Scotland). And if any animal fails the test or has an inconclusive result, movement restrictions will automatically and immediately be applied to the whole herd.
9. The current requirement to post-movement test bovine animals that have moved into a herd in the LTBA from the high and intermediate TB areas of Wales, the high risk area (HRA) and edge area of England, and from Northern Ireland remains.
10. Welsh Government is writing to all keepers in the LTBA in early December to inform them of this policy change so they can plan animal movements and any tests required appropriately. A copy of the letter is in Annex 1.

Post-movement testing

11. All bovine animals that move into herds in the intermediate TB areas (ITBAs) from the high TB area of Wales, the HRA of England and from Northern Ireland on or after 1 February 2024 will need a post-movement test (PoMT).
12. Welsh Government is making this change in response to an increase in the spread of TB into the ITBAs, some of which is due to movements into these areas from higher risk areas of the UK.
13. The PoMT must be no sooner than 60 days and no later than 120 days after their arrival on the holding in the ITBAs.
14. Bovine animals requiring a PoMT may only be moved off the holding before their PoMT in certain limited circumstances, for example, if the animal is sent to slaughter.
15. It will be the keeper's responsibility to book and pay for the PoMT with their private vet. A government-funded routine surveillance test, e.g. the annual test of the whole herd will count as a PoMT provided it is carried out 60 to 120 days after the movement on.

16. A government-funded post import test carried out after an animal is imported from APHA is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and also works on behalf of the Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Food Standards Agency to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy.

Northern Ireland will count as a PoMT provided it is done between 60 and 120 days after the animal arrives on the holding in the ITBAs.

17. If any test finds a reactor or inconclusive reactor, movement restrictions will automatically and immediately be applied to the whole herd.
18. APHA will write each month to keepers who have moved on bovine animals that may require a PoMT. It is the keeper's responsibility to arrange testing of all eligible animals and to ensure it is completed within the required timeframe, even if this information is not provided by APHA.
19. Welsh Government is writing to all keepers in the ITBAs in early December to inform them of this policy change so they can plan animal movements and any tests required appropriately. A copy of the letter is in Annex 2.

Other measures

20. From 1 February 2024, information on how long a herd has been officially TB free will be published through the [ibTB webpages](#). This information can help keepers assess TB risk when buying bovine animals. Keepers in the LTBA and ITBAs are being informed of this change (see letters at Annex 1 and 2)
21. Bovine animals that have been injected with tuberculin on day one (TT1) are not permitted to move off the holding until the results of that test have been read on the reading day (TT2). Bovine animals that have had a sample taken for a TB blood test cannot be moved off until the results of the test are received. In exceptional cases, APHA will issue a licence to allow such moves.
22. A requirement for written authorisation from APHA/Welsh Ministers to perform a TB test on a sample also comes into force on 1 February 2024. This augments existing legislation requiring written authorisation to perform a test for TB on a bovine animal.

Action

23. OVs and ATTs should familiarise themselves with the updates to the [OV/ATT TB instructions](#) in the APHA Vet Gateway when they are released nearer to the date of implementation on 01 February 2024 so they can advise their clients accordingly.

Further Information

24. Further information about the measures being introduced on 1 February 2024 and why they are necessary to stop TB spreading, will be available progressively towards 1 February 2024 at <https://www.gov.wales/bovine-tb-eradication-programme-frequently-asked-questions> and <https://www.gov.wales/bovine-tb>
25. The guidance on pre- and post-movement TB testing on GOV.UK will be updated closer to the date of implementation:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bovine-tb-pre-movement-and-post-movement-testing-in-great-britain>
26. Please refer any other queries to Apha.CymruWales@apha.gov.uk.

Annex 1



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

December 2023

Dear Keeper,

Changes being introduced from 1 February 2024 in the Low TB Area

Following the consultation on a refreshed approach to TB Eradication in Wales and the subsequent delivery plan, published in March 2023, changes are being made to the Tuberculosis (Wales) Order to allow the introduction of several measures supported in the consultation.

Cattle moving out of your herd

The re-introduction of Pre-Movement Testing into the Low TB Area (LTBA) of Wales where your business is based. This is in response to an increase in the local spread of TB in the LTBA, some of which is due to legal localised movements of untested cattle.

This means from 1 February 2024, any cattle or other bovine animals 42 days or older moving from your premises, other than to slaughter, will need to have been tested with negative results within 60 days of the movement. It will be the farmer's responsibility to book and pay for a pre-movement test with their private vet. Clear pre-movement test results are valid for 60 days from the date of injection of the skin test (30 days for cattle moving to Scotland). However, if any test finds a reactor or inconclusive reactor, movement restrictions will immediately be applied to the whole herd. Farmers can also move cattle within 60 days that have tested clear at a government funded routine surveillance test such as an annual whole herd test.

Cattle moving into your herd

The current requirement to post-movement test cattle that have moved into your herd from the high and intermediate TB areas of Wales, the high risk area (HRA) and edge area of England, and from Northern Ireland remains. There is no requirement to post-movement test animals moving into your herd from the low TB areas of Wales.

ibTB Webpages

From 1 February 2024, information on how long a herd has been officially TB free will be published through the ibTB webpages, [ibTB - Mapping bovine TB \(bTB\) in England and Wales](#). This information can help keepers assess TB risk when buying cattle.

Further information about the measures being introduced on 1 February 2024 and why they are necessary to stop TB spreading, will be available in due course at: <https://www.gov.wales/bovine-tb>.

Support is available to you, including in some cases, Government funded Cymorth TB visits. Speak to your local veterinary practice or alternatively phone APHA on 0300 303 8268 for further information.

For information about other organisations that can provide support including pastoral support, please visit: <https://farmwell.wales>

Yours sincerely,

TB Team

Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer

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Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Rhagfyr 2023

Annwyl Geidwad,

Newidiadau sy'n cael eu cyflwyno ar 1 Chwefror 2024 yn yr Ardal TB Isel

Yn dilyn yr ymgynghoriad ar ddiwygio'r Rhaglen Dileu TB yng Nghymru a'r cynllun cyflawni gafodd ei gyhoeddi wedi hynny ym mis Mawrth 2023, mae newidiadau'n cael eu gwneud i Orchymyn Twbercwlosis (Cymru) i ni allu cyflwyno mesurau gafodd eu cefnogi yn yr ymgynghoriad.

Gwartheg sy'n symud o'ch buches

Ailgyflwyno Profion Cyn Symud ar wartheg yn yr Ardal TB Isel (LTBA) yng Nghymru lle mae'ch busnes. Mae hyn yn ymateb i gynnydd yn y TB sy'n lledaenu'n lleol yn yr LTBA. Gwartheg heb eu profi sy'n cael eu symud yn gyfreithiol yw cyfran o'r cynnydd hwn.

O 1 Chwefror 2024 ymlaen, bydd angen i unrhyw wartheg 42 diwrnod oed neu fwy sy'n cael eu symud o'ch safle, heblaw ar gyfer eu lladd, gael prawf â chanlyniad negatif o fewn 60 diwrnod cyn eu symud. Cyfrifoldeb y ffermwr fydd archebu a thalu am brawf cyn symud gyda'u milfeddyg preifat. Mae canlyniadau profion cyn symud clir yn ddilys am 60 diwrnod o ddyddiad chwistrellu'r prawf croen (30 diwrnod ar gyfer gwartheg sy'n symud i'r Alban). Ond os bydd anifail yn cael adwaith neu adwaith amhendant i'r prawf, bydd cyfyngiadau symud yn cael eu rhoi ar unwaith ar y fuches gyfan. Bydd ffermwyr yn cael symud gwartheg o fewn 60 diwrnod hefyd ar ôl prawf gwyliadwriaeth rheolaidd clir gan y llywodraeth, fel prawf blynyddol y fuches gyfan.

Gwartheg sy'n cael eu symud i'ch buches

Mae dal gofyn cynnal prawf ar ôl symud ar wartheg sy'n cael eu symud i'ch buches o ardaloedd TB uchel a chanolradd Cymru, yr ardal risg uchel (HRA) ac ardal yr 'edge' yn Lloegr, ac o Ogledd Iwerddon. Nid oes gofyn cynnal prawf ar ôl symud ar wartheg sy'n symud i'ch buches o ardaloedd TB isel Cymru.

Tudalennau Gwe IbTB

O 1 Chwefror 2024, bydd gwybodaeth am ba mor hir y mae buches wedi bod â statws 'heb TB swyddogol' yn cael ei chyhoeddi ar dudalennau gwe ibTB, <https://www.ibtb.co.uk/>. Dylai'r wybodaeth fod o help i geidwaid asesu risg TB wrth brynu gwartheg.

Bydd rhagor o wybodaeth am y mesurau sy'n cael eu cyflwyno ar 1 Chwefror 2024 a pham bod eu hangen i atal TB rhag lledaenu, ar gael maes o law yn: <https://llyw.cymru/tb-mewn-gwartheg>.

Mae help ar gael i chi, gan gynnwys ymweliadau gan Cymorth TB a ariennir gan y Llywodraeth. Siaradwch â'ch milfeddygfa leol neu ffoniwch APHA ar 0300 303 8268 i gael rhagor o wybodaeth.

I gael gwybodaeth am sefydliadau eraill a all eich helpu gan gynnwys gyda chymorth lles, ewch i: <https://farmwell.cymru>.

Yn gywir,

Tim TB

Swyddfa'r Prif Swyddog Milfeddygol

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Annex 2



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

December 2023

Dear Keeper,

Changes being introduced from 1 February 2024 in the Intermediate TB Area

Following consultation on a refreshed approach to TB Eradication in Wales and the subsequent delivery plan published in March 2023, changes are being made to the Tuberculosis (Wales) Order, which will allow the introduction of several measures.

The introduction of post-movement testing (PoMT)

We are writing to inform you of the introduction of post-movement testing (PoMT) into the Intermediate TB Areas (ITBAs) of Wales where your business is based. This is in response to an increase in the spread of TB into the ITBAs, some of which is due to movements into these areas from higher risk areas of the UK. The existing pre-movement testing requirements remain. This change will apply from 1 February 2024.

All cattle or other bovine animals that move into your herd from the High TB Area of Wales, the High Risk Area of England and from Northern Ireland on or after 1 February 2024 will need a PoMT. This must be no sooner than 60 days and no later than 120 days after the cattle arrive on your holding. Cattle requiring a PoMT may only be moved off your holding before their PoMT in certain limited circumstances, for example, if you want to send the animal to slaughter. It will be your responsibility to book and pay for the PoMT with your private vet. A government funded routine surveillance test, such as an annual whole herd test, will count as a PoMT provided it is carried out 60 to 120 days after the movement on. If any test finds a reactor or inconclusive reactor, movement restrictions will automatically and immediately be applied to the whole herd.

ibTB Webpages

From 1 February 2024, information on how long a herd has been officially TB free will be published through the ibTB webpages, [ibTB - Mapping bovine TB \(bTB\) in England and Wales](#). This information can help keepers assess TB risk when buying cattle.

For further information outlining the measures being introduced on 1 February 2024 and, why they are necessary to stop TB spreading will be available in due course at: <https://www.gov.wales/bovine-tb>

Support is available to you, including in some cases, a government funded Cymorth TB visits. Speak to your local veterinary practice or alternatively phone APHA on 0300 303 8268 for further information.

For information about other organisations that can provide support including pastoral support, please visit: <https://farmwell.wales>

Yours sincerely,

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Rhagfyr 2023

Annwyl Geidwad,

Newidiadau sy'n cael eu cyflwyno ar 1 Chwefror 2024 yn yr Ardal TB Ganolradd

Yn dilyn yr ymgynghoriad ar ddiwygio'r Rhaglen Dileu TB yng Nghymru a'r cynllun cyflawni gafodd ei gyhoeddi wedi hynny ym mis Mawrth 2023, mae newidiadau'n cael eu gwneud i Orchymyn Twbercwlosis (Cymru) i ni allu cyflwyno nifer o fesurau.

Cyflwyno profion ar ôl symud

Rydym yn ysgrifennu atoch i ddweud ein bod am gyflwyno profion ar ôl symud yn yr Ardal TB Ganolradd (ITBAs) yng Nghymru lle mae'ch busnes. Mae hyn yn ymateb i'r cynnydd yn y TB sy'n lledaenu i'r Ardaloedd TB Canolradd, gyda symudiadau o ardaloedd risg uwch yn y DU yn rhannol gyfrifol am hyn. Mae'r gofyn o ran cynnal profion cyn symud yn parhau. Bydd y newid hwn yn cael ei gyflwyno ar 1 Chwefror 2024.

Bydd angen cynnal prawf ar ôl symud ar bob anifail sy'n perthyn i deulu'r gwartheg sy'n cael ei symud i'ch buches o Ardal TB Uchel yng Nghymru, o Ardal Risg Uchel yn Lloegr ac o Ogledd Iwerddon ar neu ar ôl 1 Chwefror 2024. Peidiwch â'i gynnal cyn 60 diwrnod nac ar ôl 120 diwrnod ar ôl i'r gwartheg gyrraedd eich daliad. Dim ond o dan amgylchiadau prin penodol y cewch symud gwartheg sydd angen prawf ar ôl symud cyn rhoi'r prawf ar ôl symud iddyn nhw, er enghraifft, os ydych am eu hanfon i'w lladd. Eich cyfrifoldeb chi fydd archebu a thalu am y prawf ar ôl symud gyda'ch milfeddyg preifat. Bydd profion gwyliadwriaeth rheolaidd y Llywodraeth, fel prawf blynyddol y fuches gyfan, yn cyfrif fel prawf ar ôl symud cyn belled â'i fod yn cael ei gynnal 60 i 120 diwrnod ar ôl y symudiad. Os bydd anifail yn cael adwaith neu adwaith amhendiant i'r prawf, bydd cyfyngiadau symud yn cael eu rhoi'n awtomatig ac ar unwaith ar y fuches gyfan.

Tudalennau Gwe IbTB

O 1 Chwefror 2024, bydd gwybodaeth am ba mor hir y mae buches wedi bod â statws 'heb TB swyddogol' yn cael ei chyhoeddi ar dudalennau gwe <https://www.ibtb.co.uk/>. Dylai'r wybodaeth fod o help i geidwaid asesu risg TB wrth brynu gwartheg.

Bydd rhagor o wybodaeth am y mesurau sy'n cael eu cyflwyno ar 1 Chwefror 2024 a pham bod eu hangen i atal TB rhag lledaenu, ar gael maes o law yn: <https://llyw.cymru/tb-mewn-gwartheg>.

Mae help ar gael i chi, gan gynnwys ymweliadau gan Cymorth TB a ariennir gan y Llywodraeth. Siaradwch â'ch milfeddygfa leol neu ffoniwch APHA ar 0300 303 8268 i gael rhagor o wybodaeth.

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