After purchase

Once you have purchased your new animals there are additional measures that you should take on farm to further reduce the risk of introducing TB into your herd.

1. Separation

TB can be spread between cattle. Keeping new animals separate from the herd until they have tested clear for TB will reduce the opportunity for transmission and spread of the disease.

2. Post-movement testing

Before you introduce any new animals to the rest of your herd, you should arrange for them to be post-movement tested to ensure that they have not developed TB since their last test. This testing can be arranged with your private vet.

Post-movement testing is strongly recommended for any animal moving from a **High Risk Area** (annual cattle herd testing zone) to a **Low Risk Area** (four yearly cattle testing counties), which is not going to slaughter within 120 days.

It is illegal to knowingly sell or move an animal that has tested positive for TB to an officially TB free (OTF) herd. However, no test is 100% accurate and a negative test does not guarantee that an animal is free from the disease.

Requesting TB information can help you to make informed purchasing choices and to manage the TB risk in your herd. It does not eliminate that risk.



BOVINE TB RISK-BASED TRADING

GUIDANCE FOR OFFICIALLY TB FREE HERDS



Introducing new animals to a herd can be a potential disease risk. By asking for information about the disease history of an animal before you buy you will be able to assess that level of risk, and better understand how to manage it.

This guidance focuses on bovine TB (TB), but you should consider, along with your private vet, the full range of diseases that your herd could be vulnerable to.

Before you buy stock to add to any herd you should find out the animals' history.

As a minimum, you should ask for:

1. Date of the animal's last pre-movement test

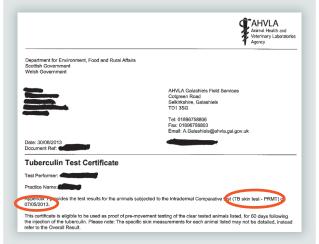
Not all animals require pre-movement tests, but those which do should have been tested within 60 days of the sale.

This date can be found on the test certificate (also known as a TB52). If you don't have a copy of this form, your private vet should be able to provide one.

Reducing TB risk on every farm benefits the whole industry

2. Date of the seller's last routine herd test

This date can be found on the test certificate (also known as a TB52) and on the test chart.



Knowing this date may offer additional reassurance if the herd has tested negative for TB recently; or it may prompt you to consider carrying out additional testing. If the last test was some time ago, you may wish to isolate the animal and ask your vet to conduct a post-movement test for additional reassurance.

It is possible that individual animals within batch sales were not on the holding at the time of the herd test, so other information such as the pre-movement test date (which is specific to an individual animal) will provide additional reassurance.

3. If the herd has ever had a TB breakdown, the date the herd achieved official TB Free status.

This date can be found on the TB10 form.



All animals offered for sale to an OTF herd should have tested negative for TB. However, the length of time that a herd has been TB free (and off movement restrictions) can be an indication of the risk level of that animal. A herd that has been free of restriction for some time may offer reassurance that the herd is lower risk. A herd that has recently come off of restrictions may be a higher risk.