

# Beef and Dairy Herd Johne's Disease Testing Recommendations



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API advises screening beef and dairy herds according to the recommendations outlined in the brochure “Test for Johne’s Disease & Know Your Herd’s Johne’s Disease Status” presented by the National Johne’s Education Initiative. The recommendations table is re-printed on page 2 of this document.

To help prevent Johne’s disease and to limit the spread of Johne’s disease among herds, producers are encouraged to purchase replacement animals, including bulls and recipients, only from known source herds that are low risk or have a known herd status, based upon their Johne’s disease classification or herd testing history. Thus, producers who officially test their herds as low risk for Johne’s disease and have third-party verification of their Johne’s disease status have an advantage over herds without such certification.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> National Johne’s Education Initiative “Test for Johne’s Disease & Know Your Herd’s Johne’s Disease Status”

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**Recommended test regimen for the detection of Johne's disease in cattle based on herd type and testing purpose.**

TESTING PURPOSE	DAIRY		BEEF	
	Seedstock	Commercial	Seedstock	Cow-Calf
Confirm a clinical diagnosis in a herd with no prior confirmed JD cases	Biopsy specimens, necropsy, bacterial culture or PCR assay - individual animals	Necropsy, bacterial culture or PCR assay - individual animals	Biopsy specimens, necropsy, bacterial culture or PCR assay - individual animals	Necropsy, bacterial culture or PCR assay - individual animals
Confirm a clinical diagnosis in a herd with prior confirmed JD cases	Biopsy specimens, necropsy, bacterial culture or PCR assay - individual animals	ELISA, bacterial culture or PCR assay - individual animals	Biopsy specimens, necropsy, bacterial culture or PCR assay - individual animals	ELISA, bacterial culture or PCR assay - individual animals
Herd classification- infected or not infected*	Bacterial culture of environmental fecal samples	Bacterial culture of environmental fecal samples	Whole-herd testing, target testing or bacterial culture of environmental samples	Whole-herd testing, target testing or bacterial culture of environmental samples
Control disease in herd with known infection, high prevalence and clinical disease and owner is concerned	Bacterial culture - individual animals	ELISA	Bacterial culture - individual animals	ELISA
Surveillance (estimation of biological burden)	Not recommended	Bacterial culture of environmental samples	Not recommended	Bacterial culture of clinically suspect animals.
Eradication	Bacterial culture by individual or by pooled fecal samples (5 fecal samples/pool)**	Bacterial culture by individual or by pooled fecal samples (5 fecal samples/pool)**	Bacterial culture - individual animals	Bacterial culture - individual animals

\* For declaring Voluntary Bovine Johne's Disease Control Program Test Negative Status, use the testing strategies outlined in the Uniform Program Standards for the Voluntary Bovine Johne's Disease Control Program.

\*\* Pooled samples should be considered only with low prevalence herds. Pooled samples should be collected in accordance with the Uniform Program Standards.

<sup>1</sup> "Consensus recommendations on diagnostic testing for the detection of paratuberculosis in cattle in the United States," Michael T. Collins, DVM, PhD, DACVM; Ian A. Gardner, BVSc, MPVM, PhD; Franklyn B. Garry, DVM, MC, DACMIM; Allen J. Roussel, DVM, MC, DACVM; Scott J. Wells, DVM, PhD, DACVPM; JAVMA, Vol. 229, No. 12, December 15, 2006.