

## **Bovine Leukemia Virus (BLV)**

#### WHAT IS BOVINE LEUKEMIA VIRUS (BLV)?

BLV is caused by the bovine leukemia virus. This immunosuppresive disease, found mainly in the white blood cells and causes inflammation and dysfunction in lymph nodes throughout the body. 88.5% of dairy herds and 38.7% of beef herds are infected with the virus.\*

#### **HOW IS BLV SPREAD?**

Once an animal is infected they are lifetime carriers and shedders. The virus is spread through animal to animal contact via blood, milk/colostrum and in-utero from dam to offspring.

#### WHAT ARE THE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF BLV?

Weight loss, decreased milk production and downer cows. Symptoms are only apparent in the late stages of the disease in older adult animals.

#### **IS BLV CURABLE?**

There is no treatment. Animals affected get progressively worse and are culled or die?

#### HOW DOES BLV AFFECT MY HERD?

- Decreased value of cull cows. Leukosis tumors are the number one cause of condemnation at slaughter facilities.
- Cow longevity
- Milk production decreases as BLV herd prevalence increases
- Inability to sell breeding stock. Many countries that have chosen to eradicate the disease have placed import restrictions on U.S. cattle.

\* USDA National Animal Health Monitoring Survey 1996

#### ABOUT THE BLV TEST

Animal Profiling International, Inc. uses an ELISA (enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay) for the detection of antibody to BLV. It is very accurate on either milk or serum. Test negative cows are BLV free.

API's service assists you in identifying infected cattle, allowing you to make informed decisions leading to the minimization of economic losses due to wasting and decreased milk production.

# FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT API CUSTOMER SERVICE: 877.278.1344 or sales@animalprofiling.com

#### SIMPLE STEPS TO TEST YOUR CATTLE

- 1. Visti our website or call API for sample collection and shipping protocols.
- 2. Collect a milk or serum sample according to API instructions.
- Ship the samples to the API laboratory according to instructions.
- 4. Results will be reported directly to you and/or your veterinarian.
- 5. Isolate and/or remove positive animals.

API will work with you and your veterinarian to design programs to best eliminate the costly effects of BLV.

#### ABOUT US

Animal Profiling International, Inc. is an American company dedicated to the improvement of animal health management through risk-assessment technologies.

API's industry experts provide the products and services that operators in the beef, dairy and food supply industries need to make their jobs more efficient and profitable.

The company has tested over 2.5 million head of cattle and dairy animals for BVD and currently services clients in over 40 U.S. states. In addition to BVD and BLV testing, the company also provides diagnostic services for the detection of Johne's disease, Mastitis, Neospora and pregnancy.

### www.animalprofiling.com