Texas TB Status 2019

Susan N. Rollo MS DVM PHD DACVPM
State Epidemiologist
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Status of the 2015 infected herds in Parmer and Lamb Counties

- Two organic dairies and a feed yard (~12,000 head) completed an assessment test in April 2015 then 13 removal tests.
- The 14th removal test is pending completion.
- Last culture positive was on the 10th test.
- On the 13th test, there was a histocompatible positive result; culture negative.
- To date, there are 68 histocompatible samples disclosed.
Status of the infected dairy in Bailey County (feedyard and associated dairy in Parmer/Bailey Counties)

- Two organic dairies and a feed yard (~6500 head) completed an assessment test in the spring 2016
- One positive disclosed
- Additional two complete whole herd tests did not reveal any additional TB
- Herd complex just completed the 6 month verification test in August and negative cultures are pending
- Whole genome sequence indicates association with complex #1 and both are under the same management
Status of infected dairy in Sherman County

• The ~8,700 head dairy was previously tested annually 2015-2017 with negative test results.
• During the annual December 2018 test, a high rate of responders were disclosed.
• To date, 63 cows are confirmed since the first diagnosis in February 11, 2019.
• The second removal test is pending completion.
• Based on whole genome sequencing, two unique strains have been identified.
• WGS on 2nd strain is closest to a distant strain from the Iberian peninsula.
• All traces distributed with the exception of culls.
Status of first infected grower operations in Dallam county linked to the Sherman County dairy

• One associated grower facility is a ~70,000 head calf ranch.

• To date, one positive heifer was disclosed on 3/1/2019.

• Approximately 12,000 head are considered exposed.

• In addition to testing at the premises, epidemiologically linked dairies including 1 in Oklahoma, 2 in Kansas, and 1 in Texas also have required whole herd testing.

• The associated dairies are tested at the same time as the grower operation to help coordinate movement tests between states.
Status of second infected grower operations in Dallam county linked to the Sherman County dairy

• One positive heifer was disclosed on a grower facility that manages heifers for the index dairy (~4,500 head) on April 8, 2019.

• Heifer was born on infected dairy, raised in calf hutch then moved to this facility around ~6 months of age.

• This facility also growths heifers for a sister dairy in Colorado.

• Testing is scheduled at the same time as the index dairy to allow coordinated movements of the springing heifers.

• Last movement to the dairy from index was in June-July time period.

• Facility will phase out contract with index.
Status of infected beef herd in Austin County

• In June 2019, a positive beef herd was disclosed from a slaughter trace back.

• After the whole herd assessment test, an additional positive cow was identified.

• Whole genome sequencing describes a unique strain to the US with Mexican origin.

• Beef herd plans to sign a test and remove herd plan
Bovine Tuberculosis (TB)

• Lessons Learned
  • Unable to apply a sensitive enough test early on to stop the extended testing schedules
  • Dairies can live with extended testing schedule but the removal of all CFTs becomes burdensome over successive years
  • Organic values are an issue with indemnity
  • Organic milk values play a part in indemnity decisions
  • Larger dairy sizes and complexity (i.e. larger ones and more grower operations)
  • Good recordkeeping is very helpful
  • Unable to truly assess the human contribution to TB transmission
Questions?

Thank you

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