

USAHA TB Subcommittee Farmed Cervid Working Group Update

- Farmed Cervid Working Group formed in April 2017
- **Charge of the working group**: Review and discuss the potential for reducing the cost of TB testing to the cervid industry. Specifically, the work group should address:
 1. The potential to advance state status in an effort to recognize minimal risk for transmission of TB by farmed cervids in interstate movement.
 2. The potential to reduce the frequency of official herd testing intervals for TB-Accredited herds.

Background

Three farmed cervid herd statuses

- Accredited (9 CFR 77.35 and other parts)
- Qualified (9 CFR 77.36 and other parts)
- Monitored (9 CFR 77.37 and other parts)

Background

TB State Status level

- TB Free (0% prevalence)
 - Nearly all states have achieved TB Free status for cattle
- Modified Accredited Advanced (MAA, < 0.01% prevalence)
 - Individual animal test for interstate movement
- Modified Accredited (MA, <0.1%)
 - *All states have MA status for Bovine TB in farmed cervids*
 - Requires an annual whole herd test plus individual animal test for interstate movement
- Accreditation preparatory (AP, < 0.5%)
- Nonaccredited, prevalence $\geq 0.5\%$

Evaluation of TB testing data farmed cervids

- To provide support to consider reducing the herd testing frequency in accredited herds, we summarized TB testing information from TB-accredited herds in selected states
 - Colorado, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Wisconsin
- TB testing information from accredited herds requested for 6 years
 - Used herd inventory from State Veterinarians April 2016 survey
 - Summarized two 3-year testing cycles: 2011-2013 and 2014-2016

Assessment of TB testing data in TB-accredited farmed cervid herds

- Simplifying assumptions
 - Herd inventory has not changed
 - Reported number of white-tailed deer (WTD) and elk herds were non-overlapping
 - All reported tests were screening, not confirmatory
- Limitations
 - A more complete analysis could refine these results

Results

- About 30% of farmed cervid herds and 50% of farmed cervids have been represented in each 3 year cycle of *M. bovis* testing in the 4 states that provided testing data
- During 2014-2016, there were 13,302 TB tests performed from 325 TB-accredited herds in the 4 states
- The estimated true prevalence upper bound is 0.03% (95% confidence interval) using 2014-2016 test data
 - This estimate represents the tested farmed cervid population (TB-accredited herds) and should not be extrapolated to untested populations

Questions?