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WI Johne's Disease Control Program

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July/2010

Greetings!

See below for important updates, reminders, and reviews regarding the Wisconsin Johne's Disease Control Program.

Program Updates

Producer Reimbursements!!

Producers eligible for reimbursement for Johne's related costs incurred during the 2010 calendar year will receive up to \$3.25 per head for testing and vaccination costs. New and renewal RAMP reimbursement will remain the same as in previous years.

RAMP Information

Veterinarians can use Johne's Disease Online Services to view their clients' Risk Assessment and herd Management Plan (RAMP) information. Go to [Johne's Disease Online Services](#) to:

- View RAMP expiration dates
- View previous RAMP details
- Renew RAMPs online
- Print off current versions of paper RAMP forms

You can also encourage your clients to go to Johne's Disease Online Services to view their RAMP details and expiration dates.

Vaccination Slips

Vaccination slips can be entered online through [Johne's Disease Online Services](#) instead of sending them by mail. Whether the vaccination slips are entered online or mailed, please submit them within 15 days of vaccination.

If you or your clients need log in information to access Johne's Disease Online Services, please contact us.

Dairy and Beef Newsletters

Please Share With Your Producers

The latest Dairy and Beef Johne's Disease Newsletters prepared by the National Johne's Education Initiative are now available.

Both of these Summer 2010 Editions contain research summaries about survival of *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis* (MAP) in the environment, including survival in biofilms (specifically associated with water tanks), soil, and manure slurry under varying conditions.

Beef producer testimonials are also included in the Beef newsletter. The dairy newsletter includes industry testimonial and a review of the new booklet highlighted in this newsletter last month - [The Cost of Johne's Disease to Dairy Producers](#).



Click [here](#) to view Johne's Disease - Beef Summer 2010.

Click [here](#) to view Johne's Disease - Dairy Summer 2010.

Information on the MAP in water tanks study is also available at the [USDA website](#).

Adult-Acquired Johne's Disease

Latest Research Results

Youngstock are considered to be most susceptible to naturally acquiring Johne's disease. However, information presented at the [6th Annual Johne's Disease Integrated Program Conference July 11-12, 2010](#) provided evidence to show adults are at risk for new infections as well.

One study evaluated animals raised in herds with a high probability of being uninfected that were introduced as adults into known Johne's infected herds. After being in the infected herd for over a year, some of these animals tested positive for Johne's disease.



Investigation of MAP strain typing suggested that most low shedders are truly infected and not passively shedding MAP. Results also suggest that supershedders may be the source of new infections in adults.

These findings may have implications for adult animal management within Johne's disease control programs.

True Johne's Infection Rates High

Test Prevalence Underestimates Infection Rate

Research presented at the [6th Annual Johne's Disease Integrated Program Conference](#) followed animals through their lifetime. Animals repeatedly testing negative for Johne's disease with commonly used tests were found to be tissue positive at slaughter.

A herd's infection rate may be up to 10 times greater than what is estimated by testing.

The test negative, Johne's infected animals are likely intermittently shedding low amounts of MAP into the environment - especially during times of high stress such as calving. These findings demonstrate a possible reason for the maintenance of Johne's disease in dairy herds and the difficulty in its eradication.

Click [here](#) for more information.



Photos courtesy of DATCP.

Please feel free to contact us at DATCPJohnes@wi.gov or 608-224-4893 with any questions about the Wisconsin Johne's Disease Control Program or suggestions for future newsletters.

Sincerely,

Wisconsin Johne's Team

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Wisconsin Dept. of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection
Division of Animal Health

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