



**MINTRAC – GOLD COAST OCTOBER 2019**

**ERADICATING BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS FROM NZ**



# OUTLINE

- National Pest Management Plans
- Risk Based Testing
- Post-Mortem Surveillance
- Keeping Meat Inspectors Motivated
- Open Forum

# NZ TB CONTROL UNDER THE BIOSECURITY ACT

Series of progressive National Strategies & Plans leading towards the ultimate goal of eradication:

- NPMP 1 (1998-2001): **Stabilisation of TB situation**
- NPMP 2 (2002-2011): **OIE country freedom**
- NPMP 3 (2012-2015): **Proof of concept TB eradication**
- **NPMP 4 (2016-2055): Biological eradication in NZ**

# OUR NEW GOALS

## ERADICATING TB FROM NEW ZEALAND



2026



2040



2055

**<0.2% PERIOD PREVALENCE**

# OBJECTIVES FOR RBT

- **Implement a new TB surveillance system of sufficient sensitivity to find disease when it occurs to ensure that TB Plan objectives are met.**
- **Such a system will:**
  - Reduce unnecessary TB testing – numbers and costs
  - Provide alternate means of surveillance where on-farm testing removed
  - Allow for TB risk to be assessed, recorded and managed at multiple levels (premises; cohort/consignment; individual animal)
  - Be (relatively) simple and easy to understand in implementation



# **RISK-BASED TESTING**

On farm testing is planned to reduce over the term of the plan, thereby increasing the reliance of meat inspection for TB surveillance.

# POST MORTEM TB SURVEILLANCE





**TB surveillance through on farm testing and slaughter of reactors, alongside **routine inspection** of cattle and deer, continues to be a cornerstone of the TB programme.**

**Quality decisions at inspection points provide confidence where the disease is, and just importantly, where it is not .**





# OSPRI'S POST-MORTEM SURVEILLANCE PROJECT

- Aims to increase awareness of Bovine TB
- Assist Official Assessors in identification and submission of suspicious lesions
- Provide feedback on submission rates and results
- Help New Zealand become Biologically free of TB by 2055

# CHALLENGES/ISSUES

- Slaughter plant process
- Additional work involved when sampling – Memorandum of Understanding
- Difficulty in getting TB reactor cattle processed

# CHALLENGES/ISSUES

- Processing young cattle
- On plant decisions made without validation that granuloma is not typical of TB.
- Company Meat Inspectors

# KEEPING MEAT INSPECTORS MOTIVATED

- Implement a feedback process
- Share photos of submitted lesions
- Provide TB herd infection rates
- Lesions submitted per slaughter plant



# KEEPING MEAT INSPECTORS MOTIVATED

- TB Pest management operations
- Incentives
- Key on plant rep – ownership
- Biennial refresher



# Keeping Meat Inspectors Motivated - Open Forum

- What learnings can we utilise in NZ
- What worked well in Australia
- What did not work
- How was motivation maintained in Australia
- Findings will assist OSPRI in its approach to on going Skills Maintenance for TB granuloma recognition at Post Mortem Inspection



**POST MORTEM  
SURVEILLANCE IS  
VITAL TO THE  
ERADICATION OF  
BOVINE TB IN NZ.  
GOOD DECISIONS  
COUNT!**

**OFFICIAL  
ASSESSOR**

CONDEMNED

**THANK YOU.**

