

# **TUBERCULOSIS**

## **PROGRAM PROFILE**

<b>Program Goal</b>	To eradicate bovine tuberculosis from the United States.
<b>Enabling Legislation</b>	21 USC 114; Animal Industry Act of 1884.
<b>Economic Significance</b>	A 1972 study estimated that if this program were discontinued, the annual losses after 40 years would increase to \$238 million. The benefit/cost ratio is estimated at 3.64 to 1. A more comprehensive computer model developed by Canada in 1979 indicates that annual U.S. losses with no program would be substantially greater, estimated at over \$1 billion.
<b>Principal Approach and Methods Used to Achieve Goals</b>	Cooperative Federal-State eradication program. Investigation, epidemiology, testing, depopulation, and indemnity are the program methods.
<b>History</b>	The program began in 1917, when the rate of tuberculosis in the United States was 5 percent of cattle tested. The U.S. achieved modified accredited-status in 1940 when the reactor rate fell below 0.5 percent of the animals tested. In March 1987, import regulations were amended to require the branding of all steers imported into the United States from Mexico. A regulation was implemented in November 1987, making owners of bison eligible for indemnity for bison destroyed due to tuberculosis infection. In December 1993, import regulations were amended to require that all steers imported into the U.S. from Mexico be identified by numbered eartags issued by the Mexican government. In May 1994, the Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication Uniform Methods and Rules (UM&R) were amended to include Cervidae species. These rules provide for accredited standards for cervid herds, official tuberculosis tests, and requirements for interstate movement.
<b>State and Local Cooperation</b>	No matching fund requirements, but most States have spent large sums on the disease. States provide personnel to trace and test animals suspected of having TB at slaughter, and some States provide indemnity to owners. Public health services require TB tests of herds that sell milk.

**Involvement of Other Agencies**      FSIS, ARS

**RESOURCE DATA**

-----Obligations-----

	<u>Direct</u>	<u>Reimbursement</u>	<u>User Fees</u>	<u>Staff-Years</u>	
FY 1997	4,413,532	--	--	38	
FY 1998	4,765,116	--	--	35	
FY 1999	4,612,035	--	--	36	
FY 2000 (est.)	4,916,000	--	--	37	
FY 2001 (est.)	4,974,000	--	--	37	
	<u>APHIS</u>	<u>Coop</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>CCC</u>	<u>Contingency Fund</u>
Cum.	\$282,383,931	\$360,719,726	\$643,103,657	--	\$4,617,224

**RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**Newly Infected Herds**

In FY 1999, we found four newly infected cattle herds and one newly infected elk herd. We identified two beef herds in northeastern Michigan, believed to be infected from wildlife, and two dairy herds, one in North Dakota and another in Texas. The program depopulated the herd in North Dakota but could not identify the source of infection. The source of infection was not identified after an extensive investigation. The Texas herd has been infected before, and we are investigating the cause. We depopulated the elk herd, found in Wisconsin, and the epidemiological investigation is underway.

**Herds Under Quarantine**

Presently, two cattle herds are under quarantine for bovine TB. Both are in the El Paso milkshed area of Texas. Both herds are in the process of quarantine release testing.

**Status of Tuberculosis Program**

At the end of FY 1999, 45 States and the U.S. Virgin Islands were in accredited-free status for bovine TB in cattle and bison. Four States, California, Pennsylvania, New Mexico, and Texas, were in modified accredited status. Puerto Rico also was in modified accredited status. Michigan was in accredited-free suspended status because of the two infected beef herds disclosed in FY 1999. By the

end of calendar year 1999, APHIS expects California, Pennsylvania, and Puerto Rico to obtain accredited-free status. Michigan and Texas are working toward a split status zone designation for the areas within each State containing cases of bovine TB. This classification would allow the majority of each of these States to have accredited-free status for cattle and bison.

### **Tuberculosis in Cervidae**

In FY 1999, the Reindeer Owners and Breeders Association (ROBA) asked APHIS to evaluate bovine TB testing in reindeer. ROBA was concerned that reindeer were reacting to tuberculin testing at a greater rate than other cervids. We evaluated all cervid testing and we are now studying the results.