After purchase

Once you have purchased your new animals there are additional measures that you can take to further reduce the risk of introducing TB into your herd and being put under movement restrictions (even if those animals have recently passed a TB test).

A negative pre-movement test does not guarantee that the animal will be free from TB – approximately 1 in 4 infected cattle may be missed by the tuberculin skin test.

1. Separation

TB can be spread between cattle. Keeping new animals separate from the main herd until they have tested negative for TB will reduce the opportunity for the spread of TB. This period of separation should last at least 60 days from the day of arrival into your holding.

2. Post-movement testing

Before you introduce any new animal to the rest of your herd, you should arrange for it to be post-movement tested to ensure that it has not developed TB since its last test. This can be arranged with your private vet.

It is recommended that this test is carried out 60 to 120 days after the animals left their previous holding or the market (i.e. at the end of the separation period mentioned above). Post-movement testing is strongly recommended for any cattle moving from an annual TB testing area of GB to a four-yearly testing area, where the animals are not going to be slaughtered within 120 days.

The vast majority of TB breakdowns in Low Risk Areas are caused by bought-in cattle:

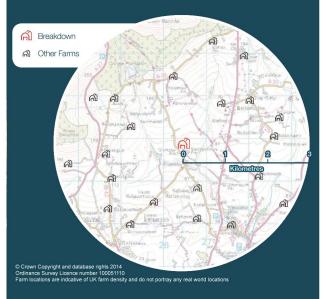
- Know what you are buying by demanding information on the origin and TB history of the animals from your cattle seller or auctioneer.
- If you buy cattle from a herd that has been affected by bovine TB at some point in the past take steps to protect your cattle (and your neighbours' cattle) and reduce the risk of movement restrictions.
- Isolate and post-movement test newly acquired stock.

Requesting information about TB can help you to make informed and responsible purchasing choices and reduce the risk of TB affecting your herd. It does not eliminate that risk.



BOVINE TB RISK-BASED TRADING

YOU OWE IT TO YOURSELF AND YOUR NEIGHBOURS



Introducing any new animal to a herd can be a potential disease risk. By asking for information about the disease history of an animal before you buy, you will be able to assess that level of risk and how to manage it.

If you have a TB breakdown from bought-in stock, not only will your herd be under restrictions, but it is also highly likely that every herd within 3km of your farm will be subject to multiple TB tests and compulsory pre-movement testing for the following two years.

Before you bring cattle onto your farm, you should find out the animals' TB history.

As a minimum, you should ask for:

1. Date of the animal's last pre-movement TB test

Not all animals require pre-movement tests, but those which do should have been tested in the 60 days before their sale with negative results.

2. Date of the seller's last routine herd test

Knowing this date may offer additional reassurance if the herd has tested negative for TB recently; or it may prompt you to consider carrying out additional testing. If the last test was some time ago, you may wish to isolate the animal and ask your vet to conduct a post-movement test for additional reassurance.

It is possible that individual animals within batch sales were not on the holding at the time of the herd test, so other information such as the pre-movement test date (which is specific to an individual animal) will provide additional reassurance.

Both of these dates are recorded on the test certificate (also known as the TB52).

Reducing TB risk on every farm benefits the whole industry



It is also useful to ask how long an animal has been on the holding from which it is being sold and, if not homebred, find out about its previous locations.

If you do not have your forms to hand, your vet should hold records of your testing history.

Request TB information to reduce the risk of:

- Your farm suffering from a TB breakdown.
 - Your herd being put under movement restrictions.
- Every herd within 3km of your farm being subject to multiple TB tests and compulsory premovement testing for the following two years.





3. If the herd of origin has ever had a TB breakdown, the date the herd achieved official TB Free (OTF) status.

This date can be found on the TB10 form.



All animals offered for sale should have tested negative for TB and come from an OTF herd. However, the length of time that the herd of origin has been OTF can be an indication of the risk level of that animal. The longer a herd has been free of TB restrictions the lower the risk. A herd that has recently come off of restrictions is likely to be a higher risk.

This leaflet is also available online at:

www.nfuonline.com/rbt/
and

www.tbfreeengland/rbt/