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Title	Preface
Publication date	1999-09
Series	Selected Papers, 1998
Publisher	University College Dublin. Centre for Veterinary Epidemiology and Risk Analysis
Item record/more information	http://hdl.handle.net/10197/8817

Downloaded 2017-11-24T07:34:54Z

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Tuberculosis Investigation Unit

University College Dublin

**Selected Papers
1998**

Edited by

J.D. Collins and R.F. Hammond

**Published by the Tuberculosis Investigation Unit
University College Dublin**

ISBN 1 902277 12 0

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University College Dublin
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Contents

Contents	i
Introduction	iii
ERAD/Teagasc Tuberculosis Investigation Unit	iv
The Four-Area Badger Study: Progress Report 1998 J. M. Griffin, R.F. Hammond, K. Towey, G. McGrath and E. Costello	1
Review of Badger (<i>Meles meles</i>) Research Licences in 1998 I. O'Boyle	10
Episode Classification: Bovine Tuberculosis, 1989 to 1997 J. J. O'Keeffe, P. W. White and S. W. Martin.	15
A Model of the Relationship of Skin Increase using the Single Intradermal Comparative Tuberculin Test (SICCT) and the Disclosure of a Visible Tuberculous-like Lesion in Cattle J.J. O'Keeffe, P.W White and S.W. Martin.	20
Spatial Analyst® Density Analysis: a New Approach to Visualising the Distribution of Bovine Tuberculosis using the Point Locations for Restricted Herds in Co. Kerry, 1997 R.F. Hammond, G. McGrath, P.White and J.J. O'Keeffe	25
Vaccination of Badgers with <i>M. bovis</i> BCG: A Preliminary Study to Investigate Blood Lymphocyte Responses associated with Protective Immunity A. Southey and E. Gormley	33
Confirmed Tuberculous Lesions in Non-Tuberculin-Reactor Cattle Slaughtered at Export Meat Plants in the Republic of Ireland, 1988 to 1998 Costello, L.A. Dolan and F. Quigley	39
An Overview of Herd Restriction Episodes Initiated by the Disclosure of a Tuberculous Lesion in Cattle from Clear Herds during 1989 to 1997 J. J. O'Keeffe and P. W.White	44
A Study of Within-Herd Transmission of <i>Mycobacterium bovis</i> from Newly Purchased Infected Cattle, using DNA Fingerprinting Techniques P. Flanagan, M. Finn, O. Flynn, E. Costello, D. O'Grady, F. Quigley and J.M. Griffin	51

Assessment of the 1998 Tuberculosis Eradication Programme: A Comparison of the Out-turn for Years, 1989 – 1997 K.P. Towey and J.D. Collins	58
Identifying Contiguous Herds: A Role for GIS? G. McGrath and J.J.O’Keeffe	61
The Spatial and Temporal Distribution of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy in the Republic of Ireland R.F. Hammond and J.D. Collins	65
The Presence of <i>Brucella abortus</i> in Cattle Slurry. Measures to Minimise the Risk of Transmitting Brucellosis when Land-spreading Slurry T. Haheisy and T. Heneghan	72
Developing a Brucellosis Reporting Form and an Accompanying Investigation Format J. J. O’Keeffe	76
Appendix I	
Associate Members and Their District Veterinary Office, or Other Locations	
Appendix II	
Thematic DED map showing APT 1997	
Thematic DED map showing APT 1998	
Appendix III	
Bovine Tuberculosis Statistics Annual Summary 1998	
Appendix IV	
Distribution of Brucellosis Restricted Herds 1997 and 1998	
Appendix V	
Listing of Selected Papers 1989 - 1999	
Appendix VI	
Programme Outline for the Introductory Veterinary Epidemiology Course, April 12 th – 17 th 1999, Dublin	

Introduction

The Tuberculosis Investigation Unit was established by ERAD in co-operation with Teagasc in May, 1989 as part of the National Strategic Plan for the Eradication of Tuberculosis in Cattle.

The **purpose** of the Unit is to investigate the factors which militate against the eradication of tuberculosis in cattle at the national or regional levels and to identify means of improving the present rate of eradication.

The **objective** of the Unit is to manage and analyse retrospective and concurrent data relating to the occurrence of tuberculosis in cattle so as to define those factors which are responsible for the emergence or recurrence of infection and to identify ways of eliminating or otherwise controlling these factors.

This publication is a collection of papers presented in summary form which describe projects undertaken by members of the Tuberculosis Investigation Unit during 1998 and comprises the ninth report of the Unit.

This report includes summaries of breakdown patterns of tuberculosis in cattle based upon analyses of episodes of the disease. Other studies on the application of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) in the control of tuberculosis, brucellosis (contagious abortion) in cattle and bovine spongiform encephalopathy are included. Particular attention has been given to the significance of contiguity in outbreaks of tuberculosis and brucellosis in cattle. Further details are given of an extended study on the interactions between badgers and cattle in four designated areas, which is now in its third year.

An investigative procedure for brucellosis outbreaks in cattle which has been developed in association with a number of District Veterinary Office is described.

A list of current Associate Members of the Unit is presented in Appendix I.

As this is the Unit's tenth year in operation, a list of the Selected Papers published by the Tuberculosis Investigation Unit is included as an Appendix.

Acknowledgements

The co-operation of the staff of the District Veterinary Offices, the Central Veterinary Laboratory, the Regional Veterinary Laboratories and ERAD, is acknowledged.

ERAD/Teagasc Tuberculosis Investigation Unit
University College Dublin
Veterinary College of Ireland
Ballsbridge
Dublin 4.

September, 1999

ERAD/TEAGASC TUBERCULOSIS INVESTIGATION UNIT

Board of Management

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S. Healy, Deputy Director, ERAD
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J. Smith (Secretarial)

External Consultants to the Unit

S.W. Martin
Ontario Veterinary College, University of Guelph, Canada

D.H. Williams
Department of Statistics, University College Dublin