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Tuberculosis Investigation Unit

University College Dublin

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Associate Members and their District Veterinary Office Locations.

Appendix II

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Appendix III

Thematic DED map showing APT 1993.

Thematic DED map showing APT 1994.

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 1994 and comprises the fifth report of the Unit.

This report includes studies of the effect of enterprise type on the occurrence and prevalence of bovine tuberculosis in the East Offaly Badger Project (EOP) Area and nationally. An analysis of reports on herd breakdowns prepared using the ER76 Investigation format is also included along with observations on the national trends in tuberculin reactor disclosure rates. The application of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) in the investigation of badger-related factors in the EOP area, and in the analysis of the distribution of herd breakdowns, is also reported.

The first report of the Unit was published in November 1990. The second report was published in February 1992. The third report was published in March 1993 and the fourth in July 1994.

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

Abstracts from a Report of a WHO/FAO/OIE Consultancy on Animal Tuberculosis Vaccines held in Geneva in August, 1994, are presented in Appendix II.

Acknowledgements

The co-operation of the staff of the District Veterinary Offices, the Central Veterinary Laboratory, the Regional Veterinary Laboratories and ERAD, is acknowledged. The valued assistance of the members of the Statistics Unit, Teagasc is greatly appreciated.

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July, 1995

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