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Tuberculosis Investigation Unit

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Contents

Contents	i
Introduction	iii
East Offaly Badger Research Project (EOP): Interim Report for the Period, January 1989 to December 1994. L.A. Dolan, J.A. Eves and D. Bray	1
Tuberculin Testing Data for Clear and Restricted Herds in the East Offaly Badger Research Project for the Period, 1988 to 1993. L.A. Dolan	4
Using Geographical Information System Technology to Define and Describe the East Offaly Badger Removal Project Area. R.F. Hammond and J.A. Eves	10
The Effect of Enterprise Type on the Prevalence of Tuberculin Reactors in the East Offaly Project. D. O Mairtin	18
Effect of Cattle Enterprise Type on the Rate of Disclosure of Tuberculin Reactors. R. J. Fallon	20
Preliminary Analysis of Reports Carried out on Selected Herds Using the ER 76 Investigation Format. J. O'Keeffe	26
Factors Relevant to the Investigation of Outbreaks of <i>Mycobacterium bovis</i> Infection in Cattle. J.D. Collins	29
Confirmed Tuberculous Lesions in Non-Tuberculin-Reactor Cattle Slaughtered at Export Meat Plants in the Republic of Ireland (1988 to 1994). L.A. Dolan, E. Costello and F. Quigley	35
A Comparison of the Rate of Disclosure of Tuberculous Reactors for District Electoral Divisions (DED) for 1987 and 1993. D. O Mairtin	39

A Proposed Mapping Format for Bovine Tuberculosis Herds across County Boundaries. R.F. Hammond	42
The Epidemiology of Tuberculosis in Cattle in the Republic of Ireland: The role of Cattle- to- Cattle Transmission of <i>Mycobacterium bovis</i> . J. M. Griffin and L. A. Dolan	44
Mapping Brucellosis Herds. R.F. Hammond and L. Brennan	51
Geographical Distribution of the Irish Cattle Population. R.J. Fallon and R. F. Hammond	53
Investigation of Cyclicity Patterns of Tuberculin Reactor Disclosure in the South-East Region. D. O Mairtin	61

Appendix I

Associate Members and their District Veterinary Office Locations.

Appendix II

Abstracts for a Report of a WHO/FAO/OIE Consultancy on Animal Tuberculous
Vaccines held in Geneva in August 1994.

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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