



# Minnesota

## Board of Animal Health

*Safeguarding Animal Health*

[www.bah.state.mn.us](http://www.bah.state.mn.us)

### **Bovine TB Eradication Program Update**

Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) was recently discovered in five Northwestern Minnesota cattle herds and one infected free-ranging deer. Because of this discovery, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has downgraded Minnesota's status from TB-Free to Modified Accredited Advanced (MAA).

Based on the federal requirements, the state must test cattle, bison and captive cervids (deer, elk, etc) within ten miles of each infected operation and deer. This test must be repeated again in 12 months.

If you have cattle within ten miles of a TB-infected herd (see map), please contact your veterinarian to have your animals tested. There will be no cost to you for these tests. If your veterinarian cannot complete the testing, please contact the Minnesota Board of Animal Health's bovine TB hotline at 1-877-MNTBFREE (668-2373) or 651-201-6831 to schedule testing. The hotline will be available beginning on February 21, 2005.

When testing cattle, a veterinarian injects tuberculin at the base of the tail, in an area called the "caudal fold." The veterinarian then examines the site 72 hours later for swelling. If a response is detected, a follow-up test will be completed by a state/federal veterinarian.

In order to regain our status as a TB-Free state, Minnesota's cattle farms must remain free of Bovine TB for two years after the last infected herd is depopulated. So, it's vital that we move forward quickly.

Please help the Board of Animal Health, the USDA, and the state's cattle industry as we continue working to regain the TB-Free status that Minnesota cattle farmers have enjoyed since 1971. If you have any questions about Bovine TB or testing, please contact your veterinarian or the Board of Animal Health.

For more information on TB, investigation updates, and the agency, visit the Board's website at [www.bah.state.mn.us](http://www.bah.state.mn.us).

# Minnesota TB Response

1:500,000

