

## CHAPTER 11.6.

# BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS

### Article 11.6.1.

#### General provisions

The recommendations in this chapter are intended to manage the human and animal health risks associated with *Mycobacterium bovis* (*M. bovis*) infection in domestic (permanently captive and owned free-range) bovines including cattle (*Bos taurus*, *B. indicus* and *B. grunniens*), water buffaloes (*Bubalus bubalis*) and wood bison (*Bison bison* and *B. bonasus*).

Standards for diagnostic tests are described in the *Terrestrial Manual*.

### Article 11.6.2.

#### Country or zone free from bovine tuberculosis

To qualify as free from bovine tuberculosis, a country or *zone* should satisfy the following requirements:

- 1) *M. bovis* infection in domestic (permanently captive and owned free-range) bovines including cattle, water buffaloes and wood bison is a *notifiable disease* in the country;
- 2) an on-going awareness programme should be in place to encourage reporting of all cases suggestive of bovine tuberculosis;
- 3) regular and periodic testing of all cattle, water buffalo and wood bison *herds* demonstrated that *M. bovis* infection was not present in at least 99.8 percent of the *herds* and 99.9 percent of the cattle, water buffaloes and wood bison in the country or *zone* for three consecutive years;
- 4) a *surveillance* programme should be in place to detect bovine tuberculosis in the country or *zone* through ante- and post-mortem inspection as described in Chapter 6.2.;
- 5) if the *surveillance* programme described in points 3 and 4 above demonstrated that *M. bovis* infection was not present in at least 99.8 percent of the *herds* and 99.9 percent of the cattle, water buffaloes and wood bison in the country or *zone* for five consecutive years, *surveillance* may be maintained through ante- and post-mortem inspection as described in Chapter 6.2.;
- 6) cattle, water buffaloes and wood bison introduced into a country or *zone* free from bovine tuberculosis should be accompanied by a certificate from an *official veterinarian* attesting that they come from a country, *zone*, *compartment* or *herd* free from bovine tuberculosis or comply with the relevant provisions in Article 11.6.5. or in Article 11.6.6.

### Article 11.6.3.

#### Compartment free from bovine tuberculosis

To qualify as a *compartment* free from bovine tuberculosis, all cattle, water buffaloes or wood bison in a *compartment* should be certified by the *Veterinary Authority* as satisfying the following requirements:

- 1) the cattle, water buffaloes and wood bison:
  - a) showed no sign of bovine tuberculosis or lesions at ante- or post-mortem inspections for at least three consecutive years;
  - b) were over six weeks of age at the time of the first test and have shown a negative result to at least two tuberculin tests carried out at an interval of a minimum of six months, the first test being performed at least six months following the *slaughter* of the last affected *animal*;
  - c) met one of the following conditions:
    - i) showed a negative result to a tuberculin test carried out twice yearly to ensure the continuing absence of bovine tuberculosis if the annual percentage of *herds* confirmed as infected with tuberculosis is more than one percent of all *herds* in the country or *zone* during the last two years; or

- ii) showed a negative result to an annual tuberculin test to ensure the continuing absence of bovine tuberculosis if the annual percentage of *herds* confirmed as infected with tuberculosis is more than 0.2 percent but not more than 1 percent of all *herds* in the country or *zone* during the last two years; or
  - iii) showed a negative result to a tuberculin test every three years to ensure the continuing absence of bovine tuberculosis if the annual percentage of *herds* confirmed as infected with tuberculosis is not more than 0.2 percent of all *herds* in the country or *zone* during the last four years; or
  - iv) showed a negative result to a tuberculin test every four years to ensure the continuing absence of bovine tuberculosis if the annual percentage of *herds* confirmed as infected with tuberculosis is not more than 0.1 percent of all *herds* in the country or *zone* during the last six years;
- 2) cattle, water buffaloes and wood bison introduced into the *compartment* come from a *herd* free from bovine tuberculosis. This condition may be waived for *animals* which have been isolated for at least 90 days and which, prior to entry into the *compartment*, were subjected to at least two tuberculin tests carried out at a six-month interval with negative results with the second tuberculin test performed during the 30 days prior to entry into the *compartment*;
- 3) cattle, water buffaloes and wood bison in a *compartment* free from bovine tuberculosis are protected from contact with *wildlife* reservoirs of bovine tuberculosis and are managed under a common *biosecurity plan* protecting them from contamination with *M. bovis*, and the *compartment* has been approved by the *Veterinary Authority* in accordance with Chapters 4.3. and 4.4.

#### Article 11.6.4.

##### **Herd free from bovine tuberculosis**

To qualify as free from bovine tuberculosis, a *herd* of cattle, water buffaloes or wood bison should satisfy the following requirements:

- 1) the *herd* is in a country, *zone* or *compartment* free from bovine tuberculosis and is certified free by the *Veterinary Authority*; or
- 2) cattle, water buffaloes and wood bison in the *herd*:
  - a) showed no sign of bovine tuberculosis or lesions at ante- or post-mortem inspections for at least one year;
  - b) were over six weeks of age at the time of the first test and have shown a negative result to at least two tuberculin tests carried out at a minimal interval of six months; in case of regaining of free status after an *outbreak*, the first test should be performed at least six months following the *slaughter* of the last affected *animal*;
  - c) to maintain the free status, met one of the following conditions:
    - i) showed a negative result to an annual tuberculin test to ensure the continuing absence of bovine tuberculosis; or
    - ii) showed a negative result to a tuberculin test every two years to ensure the continuing absence of bovine tuberculosis if the annual percentage of *herds* confirmed as infected with tuberculosis is not more than 1 percent of all *herds* in the country or *zone* during the last two years; or
    - iii) showed a negative result to a tuberculin test every three years to ensure the continuing absence of bovine tuberculosis if the annual percentage of *herds* confirmed as infected with tuberculosis is not more than 0.2 percent of all *herds* in the country or *zone* during the last four years; or
    - iv) showed a negative result to a tuberculin test every four years to ensure the continuing absence of bovine tuberculosis if the annual percentage of *herds* confirmed as infected with tuberculosis is not more than 0.1 percent of all *herds* in the country or *zone* during the last six years;
- 3) cattle, water buffaloes and wood bison introduced into the *herd* come from a *herd* free from bovine tuberculosis. This condition may be waived for *animals* which have been isolated for at least 90 days and which, prior to entry into the *herd*, were subjected to at least two tuberculin tests carried out at a six-month interval with negative results with the second tuberculin test performed during the 30 days prior to entry into the *herd*.

#### Article 11.6.5.

##### **Recommendations for the importation of cattle, water buffaloes and wood bison for breeding or rearing**

*Veterinary Authorities of importing countries* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the *animals*:

- 1) showed no sign of bovine tuberculosis on the day of shipment;

- 2) originate from a *herd* free from bovine tuberculosis that is in a country, *zone* or *compartment* free from bovine tuberculosis; or
- 3) were subjected to the tuberculin test for bovine tuberculosis with negative results during the 30 days prior to shipment and come from a *herd* free from bovine tuberculosis; or
- 4) have been isolated for at least 90 days prior to entry into the *herd* including protection from contact with *wildlife* reservoirs of bovine tuberculosis and were subjected to at least two tuberculin tests carried out at a six-month interval with negative results with the second tuberculin test performed during the 30 days prior to entry into the *herd*.

Article 11.6.6.

**Recommendations for the importation of cattle, water buffaloes and wood bison for slaughter**

*Veterinary Authorities of importing countries* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the *animals*:

- 1) showed no sign of bovine tuberculosis on the day of shipment;
- 2) originated from a *herd* free from bovine tuberculosis or were subjected to a tuberculin test for bovine tuberculosis with negative results during the 30 days prior to shipment;
- 3) were not being eliminated as part of an eradication programme against bovine tuberculosis.

Article 11.6.7.

**Recommendations for the importation of semen of cattle, water buffaloes and wood bison**

*Veterinary Authorities of importing countries* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

- 1) the donor *animals* showed no sign of bovine tuberculosis on the day of collection of the semen and either:
  - a) were kept in an *artificial insemination centre* free from bovine tuberculosis in a country, *zone* or *compartment* free from bovine tuberculosis and which only accepts *animals* from free *herds* in a free country, *zone* or *compartment*; or
  - b) showed negative results to tuberculin tests carried out annually and were kept in a *herd* free from bovine tuberculosis;
- 2) the semen was collected, processed and stored in conformity with the provisions of Chapters 4.5. and 4.6.

Article 11.6.8.

**Recommendations for the importation of embryos/ova of cattle, water buffaloes and wood bison**

*Veterinary Authorities of importing countries* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

- 1) the donor females and all other susceptible *animals* in the *herd* of origin showed no sign of bovine tuberculosis during the 24 hours prior to embryo collection; and either
  - a) originated from a *herd* free from bovine tuberculosis in a country, *zone* or *compartment* free from bovine tuberculosis; or
  - b) were kept in a *herd* free from bovine tuberculosis, and were subjected to a tuberculin test for bovine tuberculosis with negative results during an isolation period of 30 days in the *establishment* of origin prior to collection;
- 2) the embryos/ova were collected, processed and stored in conformity with the provisions of Chapters 4.7., 4.8. and 4.9., as relevant.

Article 11.6.9.

**Recommendations for the importation of fresh meat and meat products of cattle, water buffaloes and wood bison**

*Veterinary Authorities of importing countries* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the entire consignment of *meat* comes from *animals* which have been subjected to ante- and post-mortem inspections as described in Chapter 6.2.

Article 11.6.10.

**Recommendations for the importation of milk and milk products of cattle, water buffaloes and wood bison**

*Veterinary Authorities of importing countries* should require the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the consignment:

- 1) has been derived from *animals* in a *herd* free from bovine tuberculosis; or
  - 2) was subjected to pasteurization; or
  - 3) was subjected to a combination of control measures with equivalent performance as described in the Codex Alimentarius Code of Hygienic Practice for Milk and Milk Products.
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