



## JOHNE'S DISEASE BULLETIN

# Have you completed your VRAMP and whole herd test yet?

### 3 KEY STEPS

1. Contact your AVP
2. Arrange a VRAMP
3. Complete your whole herd testing.

The Irish Johne's Control Programme has been operating for just over 6 months now and some farmers have already completed their herd VRAMP and whole herd test. These are the two essential elements of the Irish Johne's Control Programme and all herdowners who have registered must complete both activities within 12 months of registration or by the end of 2018, whichever is the sooner, unless they have been advised that they have a derogation from the VRAMP.

Currently, around 20% of farmers have completed their VRAMP. Approximately 20% of farmers have also completed a whole herd test (one round of blood samples or two rounds of milk samples, plus blood from those animals where milk testing is not possible) and another 30% of farmers have commenced testing but have not completed this yet. However, 50% of farmers who registered with the programme have not yet started to test or the test results have not been uploaded to the ICBF.

A number of herdowners appear to have overlooked testing of the bulls and potentially other eligible animals. It is important to remember that all eligible animals over the age of two years, must be tested, and this includes, dry, sick and potential cull cows as well as bulls. If this is the case, contact your AVP to

test the remaining animals. Full details about whole herd testing are available from your AVP and are set out in the technical manual [click here](#).

You are also encouraged to check your herd records on ICBF to see if you still have untested animals in your herd. If you think any such animals have been tested then you should contact your AVP or milk recording organisation to seek clarification.

Herdowners whose herds contain test-positive animals are also reminded they may be eligible for free ancillary testing to assist in clarifying the animals' infection status. To check if you are eligible for this testing you should contact your Approved Veterinary Practitioner who will be able to provide you with more information about this service. DAFM has provided funding to help resolve these cases and payments are made via AHI to the testing laboratory and the AVP who conducts the sampling.

AHI has created a Checklist to help farmers who are uncertain about the activities that they should be completing in the first 12 months of their registration in the Irish Johne's Control Programme.

To download your copy of the checklist visit the Animal Health Ireland website [click here](#).