Data Guide

The three data files provided give the information needed to recreate all the primary analyses presented in the main text and supporting information that concern the Randomised Badger Culling Trial (RBCT) and Road Traffic Accident (RTA) survey. To keep file sizes small, some pieces of information (e.g., delays between culls and trial area boundary permeability) are presented in tables in the supporting information rather than in the main data files.

File proactive.txt provides information on badgers taken under the proactive culling treatment of the RBCT, and file reactive.txt provides equivalent information for the reactive culling treatment. File rta.txt refers to badgers killed in road traffic accidents and collected in the course of the seven counties survey.

The table below lists the variables presented.

Variable	Notes
BadgerID	Badger identifier number
Triplet	RBCT triplet denoted A--J (proactive.txt and reactive.txt only)
County	7, Cornwall; 10, Devon; 11, Dorset; 14, Gloucestershire; 17, Herefordshire; 35, Shropshire; 99, Worcestershire (rta.txt only)
Year	Badger year culled or collected (badger years run February 1 to January 31)
AgeClass	C, cub (<1 year); A, adult (≥1 year)
Sex	M, male; F, female
ToothWear	Measure of age recorded on ordinal scale of 1-5 (1 = the youngest) (reported for adults only)
CubAge	Number of days since February 1 in the year culled or collected (reported for cubs only)
Storage	Period the carcass was stored between chilling and necropsy. 0 = ≤7 days; 1 = >7 days
NecropsyLab	Necropsy laboratory coded from 1 to 9; code 99 indicates necropsy lab was not recorded.
CultureLab	Culture laboratory coded a, b, and c; code zz indicates culture lab was not recorded.
CullNumber	Cull sequence: Initial cull = 1; first follow-up = 2, etc. (proactive.txt only)
Location	Capture location in the inner (≥2 km inside) or outer (<2 km inside) region of the culling area (proactive.txt only)
TB	Badger infection status: 1 = evidence of *M. bovis* infection; 0 = no evidence of *M. bovis* infection