

Number of TB-infected herds at all-time low

Updated at 5:00 pm today

The Animal Health Board says the number of TB-infected cattle and deer herds is at an all-time low.

In its annual report, the board says 80 herds are infected with bovine tuberculosis, the lowest number since the TB control programme began.

Chief executive William McCook says the main factors in the reduction have been possum control, TB testing and livestock movement restrictions.

The aim of the control programme is to eradicate TB from wildlife across 2.5 million hectares of at-risk areas by 2026.

Mr McCook says that would reduce the risk to cattle and deer and save on TB testing.

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