

-----Original Message-----

**Sent:** 12 February 2009 13:33

**Subject:** RE: RFI 2454

Sincere apologies for the delay.

I have attached part of the information that you requested regarding data for total number of restricted herds which covers 01 Nov 07 to 31 Oct 08. However, we are unable to cover the same period for the 'total no. of herds' as Vetnet (the Animal Health database) can only cover one calendar year at a time (Jan-Dec) for the total no. of herds data and cannot cover two years (Nov07-Oct08). We are unable to provide an estimate for Nov 08 and Dec08, this data will become available in March and April 2008 respectively as the TB Statistics are produced three months in arrears. We have put your name on the announcement circulation list for when new Statistics are loaded onto the Defra website so that you will be alerted when any changes are made. In addition when both months become available we will send you the data for Nov 08 and Dec 08.

We were waiting to send the information altogether as we have been holding off for a response from Animal Health on the figures for total number of herds separating out sold off herds and whether or not the latest figures provided for total number of herds excluded sold off herds. As you are aware Defra are not able to provide these figures. Our colleagues in Animal Health will be providing us with a response to the request within the next few days and we will forward it onto yourself as soon as we receive it. To note that the dataset provided in the link states that the data is based on a sample survey with some estimates being made. The data we have provided includes all cattle herds registered on the Animal Health Vetnet database and as such is a larger number of herds than the sample survey resulting in the variance.

Again apologies for the delay.