----Original Message-----

Sent: 22 December 2008 10:27
Subject: RE: Request for information

Please see the attached spreadsheet which gives the number of herds that had TB disclosed in the calendar years in question and the number of herds (with stock) that had a test during each of the years. In Northern Ireland herds all herds are on an annual programme of testing (tested at least once every 12 months) therefore the number tested should be a reflection of the number of herds existing. We record our disease statistics based on the number of herds tested because it provides a true representation level of disease and allows year on year comparisons to be made.