

# Some highlights from TBEAG meeting minutes Jan-Aug 2014

Source: Minutes of meetings

(Compiled by www.bovinetb.info on 17Oct2014)

TBEAG have agreed that AHVLA procedures for identifying higher TB risk herds in the LRA (generally those that regularly bring in animals from the HRA and edge areas) should be enhanced. ... processes for identifying these herds are somewhat ad-hoc.

Defra to use the term 'TB breakdown' instead of 'OTFS(W)' and 'OTFS(S)'.

TBP spoke to the Group about the governance and funding of the TB Strategy.

...we have also agreed that subject to certain safeguards cattle products like milk and meat from vaccinated animals will be allowed to enter the market.

Defra is preparing a response to comments from the independent evaluators on our application for ongoing EU financial support in 2015.

Secretariat to ensure there was a slot on the September 2014 agenda to discuss the future direction of TBEAG.

Vaccination is only being considered as a supplement to the ongoing TB test-and-slaughter regime.

DIVA validation was likely to be a bigger challenge than vaccine efficacy trials.

The AHVLA lead author presented this report [annual bTB Surveillance Report (Infection Status of Cattle in England) 2013], still in draft form and due to published in the autumn on AHVLA's website.

AHVLA to present the 2013 bTB surveillance report for GB to TBEAG in December 2014 or January 2015.

'Stop restraints' should be viewed as a real option, whether for culling or vaccination.

The report showed that the LRA was still on track to meet the EU's criteria for obtaining regional OTF status...implications of officially TB-free Status which was presented to TBEAG in February 2013.

NFU keen for the South West TB Farm Advisory Service (SWTBFAS) to be rolled out nationwide.