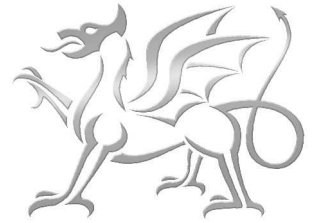


30 March 2009



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

Dear .....

### **Request for Information – Reference 3191**

I wrote to you on 6 March 2009 following your request for information sent to the Freedom of Information Officer.

In your email of 4 March 2009 you asked for the following information:

- By county, the number of herds which were under TB restrictions at any time over a 12 month reporting period for each year from 1998 to 2008 (inclusive).
- By county, the total number of populated cattle herds for each year from 1998 to 2008 (inclusive).

You subsequently clarified that this was correct on 6 March 2009.

I have enclosed the information you requested in two tables that are attached to this letter.

The statistics on the number of herds under restriction, by county, as a result of a TB incident at some time during the 12 month reporting period (1 January to 31 December) from 1998 to 2008 (inclusive) can be seen in **Table 1**. These statistics have been extracted from documents published at the following links:

TB Team / Tîm TB  
Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer / Swyddfa'r Prif Swyddog Milfeddygol  
Welsh Assembly Government / Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Cardiff / Caerdydd  
CF10 3NQ



BUDDSODDWR MEWN POBL  
INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300  
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400

Ebost • Email: BovineTB@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/tb/stats/latest.htm>

and;

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/tb/stats/county.htm>

It should be noted that the number of herds under restriction includes cases following on-farm TB tests and TB surveillance testing at slaughterhouses.

The total number of populated cattle herds for each year from 1998 to 2008 (inclusive), by county, can be seen in **Table 2**. The Welsh Assembly Government does not hold all of the information you requested, and the statistics in this table were provided by Defra.

With regard to the total number of herds registered, the figures include populated herds only; herds that have been sold or dispersed have been excluded. This is on the condition that owners notified Animal Health staff that they no longer keep cattle. It should be noted that this is not always the case. Additionally, the figures cannot account for any temporary measures i.e. livestock owners dispersing herds and restocking some months later.

**Please note:**

When interpreting these statistics, the caveats at the following link should be taken into account: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/tb/stats/usingstats.htm>

Due to the method of extraction used to gather the data for Table 2, and due to the speed of turnaround, the figures given from 1998 to 2001 may not be accurate. They are not however considered to differ significantly from the true figures.

When any reference to 'county' is made, it is to the old Welsh Counties. This Data is not recorded according to the current Unitary Authorities in Wales, adopted in 1996, but by pre-1996 counties. The way we record bovine TB data is currently being reviewed.