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WELSH STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2024 No. 753**

**The Bovine Viral Diarrhoea (Wales) Order 2024**

**PART 5**

**BVD Screening**

**Sampling of bovine herds in accordance with compliance deadlines**

**25.**—(1) The keeper of a bovine herd must, by each compliance deadline, arrange for an approved veterinary surgeon, or person under the supervision of an approved veterinary surgeon, to take samples of blood to test for exposure to BVDV—

- (a) from 5 individual calves between the age of 9 and 18 months in the relevant group, or
- (b) from 10 individual calves between the age of 0 and 9 months in the relevant group, or
- (c) if the sample sizes in (a) or (b) cannot be met, the veterinary surgeon should advise on an appropriate sampling size from the available age ranges within the bovine herd.

(2) For the purposes of this article “relevant group” means separately located or managed groups within a herd but which are assigned the same CPH number by the Welsh Ministers.

(3) The veterinary surgeon must submit any samples taken under paragraph (1) to an approved laboratory for testing.

**Determining compliance deadlines**

**26.**—(1) The first compliance deadline falls on—

- (a) 30 June 2025 for a bovine herd kept on a holding in Wales at the date of the coming into force of this Order, or
- (b) the expiry of the period of 30 consecutive days that a bovine herd is first kept on a holding in Wales.

(2) Each subsequent compliance deadline falls on the final day of the period of 12 months after the results of the tests of samples taken under article 25 are notified to the Welsh Ministers.

**Testing for exposure to BVDV**

**27.** Upon receipt of a blood sample taken under article 25, the operator of the approved laboratory must—

- (a) test each of the samples for evidence of exposure to BVDV, and
- (b) determine whether or not any of the samples show evidence of exposure to BVDV.

**Notification of test results**

**28.** Following completion of a test under article 27, the operator of the approved laboratory must by notice inform the keeper, the Welsh Ministers and the veterinary surgeon of each test result and—

- (a) where none of the samples show evidence of exposure to BVDV, that the herd has a collective BVD status of negative, or
- (b) where any of the samples show evidence of exposure to BVDV, that the herd has a collective BVD status of not negative.

#### **Additional sampling of individual bovine animals**

**29.**—(1) This article applies where a bovine herd has a collective BVD status of not negative in accordance with article 28(b).

(2) The keeper must—

- (a) take an ear tag sample of tissue in accordance with article 13, or
- (b) arrange for an approved veterinary surgeon, or person under the supervision of an approved veterinary surgeon, to take a sample of blood,

from each animal in the herd for testing by an approved laboratory.

(3) Paragraph (2) does not apply to any animal that has an individual BVD status of negative.

#### **Submission and testing of samples from individual bovine animals**

**30.** On receipt of a sample taken under article 29(2), the operator of the approved laboratory must—

- (a) test the sample for the presence of BVDV, and
- (b) determine whether or not BVDV is present in the sample.

#### **Notification of test results**

**31.**—(1) Following completion of a test under article 30, the operator of the approved laboratory must by notice inform the keeper, the Welsh Ministers and the veterinary surgeon of each test result and—

- (a) where BVDV is not present in the sample,
  - (i) that the animal has an individual BVD status of negative, and
  - (ii) if each animal forming part of the herd returns an individual BVD status of negative, that the collective status of the herd will change to negative, or
- (b) where BVDV is present in the sample—
  - (i) that the animal has an individual BVD status of positive, and
  - (ii) that the herd to which it belongs has a collective BVD status of not negative.

(2) In all other cases, the bovine animal has no individual BVD status.

#### **Additional sampling to determine persistent infection with BVD**

**32.**—(1) This article applies to—

- (a) a bovine animal with an individual BVD status of positive pursuant to article 31(1)(b)(i) or article 40(5)(b), and
- (b) a calf with an individual BVD status of positive pursuant to article 37(b).

(2) At least 21 days after a sample has been taken under articles 29(2), 35(2) or 40(2), the keeper must arrange for an approved veterinary surgeon, or person under the supervision of an approved veterinary surgeon, to take from the animal—

- (a) an ear tag sample of tissue, or

(b) a sample of blood,  
for testing by an approved laboratory.

### **Submission and testing of samples to determine persistent infection with BVD**

**33.** On receipt of a sample taken under article 32(2), the operator of the approved laboratory must—

- (a) test the sample for the presence of BVDV, and
- (b) determine whether or not BVDV is present in the sample.

### **Notification of test results**

**34.** Following completion of the test under article 33, the operator of the approved laboratory must by notice inform the keeper, the Welsh Ministers and the veterinary surgeon of each test result and—

- (a) where BVDV is not present in the sample—
  - (i) that the animal has an individual BVD status of negative, and
  - (ii) if each animal forming part of the herd returns an individual BVD status of negative, that the collective status of the herd will change to negative, or
- (b) where BVDV is present in the sample—
  - (i) the animal has an individual BVD status of persistently infected, and
  - (ii) the herd to which it belongs has a collective BVD status of not negative.

### **Sampling of calves born into herds with a collective BVD status of not negative**

**35.—**(1) This article applies to any calf, including those still-born or aborted, born into a bovine herd which has, or in the last 12 months has had, a collective status of not negative, in accordance with article 28(b).

(2) Before the calf is 20 days old, or as far as reasonably practicable within 7 days where the calf is still-born or aborted, the keeper must take an ear tag sample of tissue in accordance with article 13 for testing by an approved laboratory.

### **Submission and testing of samples from calves born into herds with a collective BVD status of not negative**

**36.** On receipt of a sample taken under article 35(2), the operator of the approved laboratory must—

- (a) test the sample for the presence of BVDV, and
- (b) determine whether or not BVDV is present in the sample.

### **Notification of test results**

**37.** Following completion of the test under article 36, the operator of the approved laboratory must by notice inform the keeper, the Welsh Ministers and the veterinary surgeon (where relevant) of each test result and—

- (a) where BVDV is not present in the sample, the calf has an individual BVD status of negative, or
- (b) where BVDV is present in the sample, the calf has an individual BVD status of positive.