



31/05/2018

To Whom It May Concern

***Mycoplasma bovis* in New Zealand**

Mycoplasma bovis is a bacterium that causes illness in cattle, including udder infection (mastitis), abortion, pneumonia, and arthritis. It does not infect humans and presents no food safety risk.

This disease is present worldwide and is not considered a disease of relevance to trade by the World Animal Health Organisation (OIE). There are no regulatory restrictions in New Zealand for meat and dairy products due to *Mycoplasma bovis*.

Extensive national surveillance is underway to determine the full distribution of *Mycoplasma bovis* in New Zealand. To prevent further spread of the disease, the Ministry for Primary Industries have put in place strict movement controls. Current testing, combined with the surveillance work tracing movements of animals from infected farms, has shown the disease is not widespread but is limited to a network of farms connected by animal movements.

On 28 May 2018 the New Zealand Government announced that, along with continued national surveillance, it will undertake a programme of eradication to protect the national herd and the long term productivity of the farming sector in New Zealand.

Information can be found on the MPI website:

<http://www.mpi.govt.nz/protection-and-response/responding/alerts/mycoplasma-bovis/>

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T. Knox'.

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