



Managing Johne's Disease in Affected Herds

A herd is considered positive for Johne's disease after a positive organism detection test (PCR or post-mortem histology or culture).

See reverse side for more Johne's disease information.

| | REMOVE INFECTED ANIMALS | AVOID NEW INFECTIONS | MANAGE THE ENVIRONMENT |
|---|--|---|---|
| At a minimum | Remove thin animals and animals with diarrhea. | Ask about the Johne's status of a herd when purchasing animals. It is safer to acquire animals from a herd with an active testing program than from a herd of unknown status. Animals that are lowest risk are test-negative animals from test-negative dams. | Use clean equipment for feeding and handling cattle. |
| An additional step | Test high risk animals*. Consider managing high risk and test positive animals separately if they can't be completely removed from the herd. | Be careful when purchasing bulls. A positive bull can expose many susceptible calves. | Keep calving areas clean. This includes any areas where cows with calves at side may congregate. |
| Further management actions | Conduct annual herd tests and remove positive animals. Time testing so that positive animals can be removed before they expose a new crop of calves. | Keep only offspring of test-negative animals for replacements. | Avoid overstocking and graze low-risk animals (steers and adult cows) on contaminated pastures if necessary. Fence animals out of wet areas and standing water. |
| In addition to all the above | Cull off-spring of test-positive animals**. Calves of test-positive animals are likely to be infected. | Use embryo transfer to rescue genetics from positive animals. Make sure to use recipients that are test-negative and from test-negative dams. | Let pastures rest 12 months before re-using and don't fertilize hay fields or pasture with manure from infected herds. |
| Participate in the Montana Johne's Herd Health Certification Program. | | | |

*High risk animals are those that are thin, have diarrhea, or have known exposure to Johne's as calves

**Test positive animals are animals that have a positive fecal PCR or are ELISA positive and from a known positive herd