Bovine TB Eradication Advisory Group for England (TBEAG)

Membership

Chair – John Cross

John Cross is a mixed arable and livestock farmer from Norfolk, was Chairman of EBLEX for 13 years retiring April 2015, and is currently a Non-Executive Director at SRUC in Edinburgh. He is a former Chair of Animal Health and Welfare for the National Farmers Union.

David Barton

David independently started and developed the beef herd on his family farm which currently has an 180-head suckler herd. He was the National Farmers Union (NFU) Cirencester Branch Chair in 2007/8 and 2009/10. He has been a member of the NFU South West Region Livestock Board representing Gloucestershire since 2012 and has been the NFU County Vice Chair since 2015.

Neil Blake

Neil is a farm animal practitioner with 20 years’ experience. During that time he has worked in Devon, Scotland, Cheshire and New Zealand. He has been a board member of the British Cattle Veterinary Association (BCVA) acting as the lead on Bovine TB and was BCVA president in 2015/16. He has contributed to many TB-related cross-industry working groups including Risk Based Trading, the role of vaccination in badgers and in cattle, and the development of an herd risk level certification scheme for bovine TB.

Richard Davis

Richard Davis farms 104 hectares in North Bedfordshire; recently the farm policy and type of cows being farmed has been dramatically altered. The farm now has 210 crossbred cows giving 6,500 litres of milk per year from a grass-based system.

Richard is a Farmer-Director of Anglia Farmers. He is committed to improving dairy cow health and welfare and is a Privy Council Lay Member at the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. Richard chaired the Red Tractor Dairy Farm Assurance Scheme for six years, was Vice Chair of AHDB DairyCo for five years and was a director of First Milk Ltd for six years.
Jilly Greed

Jilly is a fourth-generation suckler beef and arable farmer on a 600-acre holding. She is the co-founder of Ladies in Beef, a voluntary organisation founded in 2010 of over 150 female beef producers, promoting Red Tractor Assured British Beef and Great British Beef Week, working with AHDB Beef & Lamb, Red Tractor and RABI (Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution).

Jilly is also a board director, MD and founder of One Voice Media & PR Ltd, a marketing and communications company based in Exeter formed in 1990. In addition, Jilly was appointed Non-Executive Director (NED) of Mole Avon Trading Ltd in 2016, and NED of Westpoint Centre Devon Ltd, a voluntary appointment – subsidiary arena trading company of Devon County Agricultural Association. She is a member of the Devon TB Eradication Group (newly formed), NFU, CLA, National Trust, Conservative Rural Action Group (CRAG), Central Devon Conservatives Association (Silverton & District – new branch).

Martin Haworth

Martin has had a long career as an official in the NFU, mainly specialising in European and international policy issues. He has twice been acting Director-General and is currently Director of Strategy, working part-time.

Ian McGrath

Ian farms 250 dairy cattle (including followers) on 400 acres of rented land in Cheshire. He currently sits on the NFU regional dairy board as a co-opted young farmer representative. He leads on TB issues for the board and also represents the NW on the national TB stakeholder group.

Ken Proctor

Ken has been a Board member of the Holstein Friesian society since 1995, holding Non-Executive Directorships in R&D, Breed development, Finance and as show director. He was also a member of the Amalgamation task force to unify the two black and white breed societies and was president of Holstein UK in its centenary year.

He has been NFU County chairman and East Anglian dairy chair since 2012 and a member of the national dairy board, and is at present council representative for Norfolk. Ken has also been a member of the Risk based trading group and the Electronic ID Stakeholder group. Ken farms in a family partnership farming 500 milking cows and arable crops.
Janatha Stout

Janatha was promoted to the role of Director of Agriculture, Hartpury College, Gloucester in January 2015, taking overall responsibility for all agricultural teaching and leading best practice for both further and higher agricultural education.

She also has responsibility for several of the commercial and practical aspects of Hartpury’s agricultural activities and is involved with a number of external organisations such as sitting on the Rural Payment Agencies Independent Appeals Panel.

Kate Sutton

Kate has a wealth of experience of the beef sector from farm to retail and a broad knowledge and understanding of both the beef and dairy sector and the implications of bTB both on farm across the UK and at slaughter. Kate is currently the Cattle Procurement Manager at Dovecote Park Ltd, West Yorkshire.

Sarah Tomlinson

Sarah started her career in mixed practice gaining experience in all aspects of veterinary medicine and surgery, taking a keen interest in pro-active farm health planning and farmer education. In 2007 Sarah joined a dedicated farm team at Scarsdale Veterinary Group and was involved in developing their farm health plan and regularly held meetings for farmer groups and the public. In 2010 she joined a young branch of Westpoint Farm Vets, in Ashbourne. She has helped grow the client base through her interest in practical herd health and knowledge transfer. She is a member of one of their clinical governance groups, striving for evidence based, best practice, yet remaining dedicated to animal health and welfare and farm businesses.

In 2013 Sarah was a founder member of the Derbyshire TB eradication Group. Since 2014 she has been an active member of Derby Branch of the NFU (2015- present Junior Vice-Chairman- Chairman of the branch).

Diana Wastenage

Diana is director of Wastenage Farms Ltd and also involved in the family farming partnership, whose combined farming interests extend to over 2,500 acres in Devon & Cornwall. Today the businesses includes five block calving grazing dairy farms, associated young stock units, a large-scale milking goat dairy and an organic vegetable enterprise.

She is a graduate in Food Science and Business Management with a range of skills and experience from both the Banking and the Food Industry. Diana enjoys an active role in the industry, being a member of both local and national agricultural groups, including as a Council Member of the Royal Association of British Dairy Farmers (RABDF), Devon TB Eradication Group, and Bicton Agricultural College, Devon (Council Member).
James Wood

James is a veterinary epidemiologist, Alborada Professor of Equine and Farm Animal Science and head of the University of Cambridge’s Department of Veterinary Medicine. He conducts multidisciplinary research on infectious diseases and his research interests are focussed on infectious disease emergence, including from wildlife. Research activities include collaborative studies of the control of bovine tuberculosis (in the UK and Ethiopia). He is a member of Defra’s Science Advisory Council.

Stephanie Young

Stephanie is a Local Authority Manager with a wealth of experience within the public service sector, predominantly in the field of animal health and welfare enforcement. An accredited Trading Standards Practitioner who is a regular contributor on national policy and the implementation of the regulatory framework between regulator and the industry. She is an experienced training provider, with particular focus on providing enforcement training on the official feed/food hygiene controls and animal health/welfare. She is Lead Officer and appointed examiner for the Chartered Trading Standards Institute on Animal Health and Welfare.

Defra members

Gavin Ross

Head of Bovine TB Programme, Defra.

Nigel Gibbens

Chief Veterinary Officer, Defra.

Alan Huxtable

Veterinary Director, Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA).

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