



Animal &
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Agency

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[REDACTED]
{By Email}

Our Ref: ATIC1254

16 February 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your amended and clarified request for information which we received on 23 January 2018. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The information you requested is provided in the table in Appendix 1. Please see the notes below which provide caveats on the information and explanations of how the data was achieved.

Your request:

“For 2016 and for 2017 calendar years:

1. Separate figures for Shropshire County and Midlands Region, providing the number of farm holdings (CPHs) that had one or more TB Skin tests performed by OV Practices where, on the date of the test;
 - a) The OV Practice which undertook the test was part of the VDP contract.
 - b) The OV Practice which undertook the test was not part of the VDP contract.
2. Separately for 1a and 1b, the total number of animals tested across all those farm holdings.
3. Separately for 1a and 1b, the Reactor Disclosure rate - being the percentage of Reactors found in relation to the total number of animals tested.”

Clarity was sought and given as:

- “on point 1, reactor disclosure rate, i mean just that, the percentage of animals tested that are found (at the test) to be reactors; if you have absolute numbers as well that would be very useful. I am looking to reassure myself and a few others that the reactors disclosed by NON audited vets is equal to that of audited vets.

- on point 2, my interest is in Shropshire, being the county in which i work privately, but also at least also in the VDP Midlands region for which i monitor QA on behalf of XL Farmcare Midlands. A single county would probably be too narrow as it will only affect one or two non VDP practices whereas the region will give a more accurate result based on increased numbers.”

The following notes summarise how the information has been generated and what is included.

- The data in Appendix 1 under rows A and B reflects whether tests were carried out by OV Practices who were part of the VDP contract on the TT2 date of the test (row A), or by OV Practices who were not part of the VDP contract on the TT2 date of the test (row B). However any tests carried out privately by OV Practices who were part of the VDP contract at that time are also included in row A.
- All TB Skin test types are included, some of which are not payable under the VDP agreement, including private tests.
- The ‘date of test’ used to determine when the test happened was the TT2 date (i.e. the date the reaction measurement is taken 3 days after the Tuberculin injection)
- The tests included are submitted whole tests or submitted part tests based on their TT2 date. This means for example that if a test has a TT1 date in Dec 16, but a TT2 date in Jan 17 it will be included in the 2016 figures. If a test has a TT1 in Dec 17, but a TT2 in January 18 it will not be included in the 2017 figures. There may also be parts of tests included where the included parts were in 2017 but other parts of the same test were not and are therefore not included in the figures.
- An OV Practice is defined as 'part of the VDP contract' if it was actively associated to a VDP in the Sam database on the date of the test.
- Tests in Shropshire are defined as any TB Skin test on a herd where the county of CPHH is '35'
- Tests in Midlands region are defined as any test on a herd where the county of CPHH is '09' (Derbyshire), '17' (Hereford and Worcester), '22' (Leicester), '24' (Lincolnshire), '29' (Northamptonshire), '32' (Nottinghamshire), '35' (Shropshire), '37' (Staffordshire), '43' (Warwickshire), or '46' (West Midlands).

Information disclosed in response to this FOI request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOIA and the government's Transparency Agenda, this letter and the information disclosed to you may be placed on GOV.UK, together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. No information identifying you will be placed on the GOV.UK website.

I attach an Annex which explains the copyright that applies to the information being released to you and contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact the Access to Information Team at the email address below or postal address at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely

ACCESS TO INFORMATION TEAM

Email: enquiries@apha.gsi.gov.uk

Annex

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If you are unhappy with the result of your request for information you may request an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this letter.

If you wish to request an internal review, please contact: The Access to Information Team at enquiries@apha.gsi.gov.uk or at the postal address at the top of this letter, who will arrange for an internal review of your case.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Please note that generally the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted APHA's own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Appendix 1

1	For 2016 and 2017 calendar years, the number of farm holdings (CPHs) in Midlands and Shropshire that had one or more TB Skin tests performed by OV Practices where, on the date of the test;	Midlands 2016	Shropshire 2016	Midlands 2017	Shropshire 2017
a)	The OV Practice which undertook the test was part of the VDP contract	9941	1789	9745	1761
b)	The OV Practice which undertook the test was not part of the VDP contract	421	30	346	23
2	Separately for 1a and 1b, the total number of animals tested across all those farm holdings:				
	a)	1897598	461188	1919498	468375
	b)	20671	1185	22656	1099
3	Separately for 1a and 1b, the Reactor Disclosure rate - being the percentage of Reactors found in relation to the total number of animals tested				
	a)	0.35%	0.30%	0.38%	0.37%
	b)	0.15%	0.00%	0.10%	0.64%