



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Animal and Plant Health Agency
Access to Information Team
Woodham Lane
New Haw
Addlestone
Surrey
KT15 3NB

enquiries@apha.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/apha

Our Ref: ATIC2986

[REDACTED]
{By Email}

22 February 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about *Brucella Canis*, which the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) received on 30 January 2023. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

The information you requested and the response is detailed below:

“Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to ask the following questions for *Brucella Canis* in the UK:

1. How many cases of *Brucella Canis* have been reported from the 1st Jan 2019 to Date.”

APHA can only report on how many cases we identified (or that were reported to us). These figures are cases, not individual dogs. A case is a specific epidemiologically distinct occurrence and may involve multiple dogs.

Between 2020 and 2022 there have been 100 cases in total, within these there was a total of 143 dogs that tested positive.

2019: 0
2020: 9
2021: 36
2022: 55

“2. What was the country of origin of each dog that tested positive?”

The number of *Brucella canis* cases, by country of origin from 2020 to 2022. Origin of dogs is reliant on the accuracy of data supplied by the veterinary practice.

Country of origin Number of cases

Afghanistan 2

Australia 1

Bosnia 8

Bulgaria 1

China 1

Cyprus 1

France 1

Greece 5

Hungary 3

Macedonia 5

Mexico 1

Romania 43

Spain 2

South Africa 2

Sweden 1

Thailand 1

Ukraine 2

UK (dog with history of travel) 2 (Germany, Spain)

UK (dog with no history of travel) 1

UK (sire of dog imported) 1 (Ukraine)

Unknown 16

“3. What Brucella Canis Screening tests did each of these dogs undertake?”

“4. What Brucella Canis Confirmation tests did each of these dogs undertake?”

Most of the cases have been determined on the basis of serological tests: *Brucella canis* iELISA, *Brucella canis* SAT and *Brucella canis* RSA (in addition to some epidemiological information). Approximately 10% have been confirmed by bacterial culture (nb. culture is not undertaken in a large number of cases as the diagnostic sensitivity of this approach is poor).

“5. Did the dog have any other Tick Borne disease?”

Brucella canis is not a tick borne bacteria. This information is not held by APHA.

“6. Was the dog Euthanised?”

Owners/vets are not obligated to inform APHA of the fate of the dog (e.g. euthanised or not). This information is not held by APHA.

Information disclosed in response to this FOI request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOI 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.

An Annex is attached 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.gov.uk

Annex

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Complaints

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request, you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision under section 17(7) of the FOIA or under regulation 11 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to the Access to Information Manager at the address at the top of this letter or email enquiries@apha.gov.uk and the team will arrange for an internal review of your case.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, section 50 of the FOIA and regulation 18 of the EIRs gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Please note that generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted APHA's own complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at:

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

If you need to contact the ICO, it's best to do so online. Please click [here](#) for contact details. You can also call them on 0303 123 1113.