



Our ref: FOI2023/14888
21 August 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Brucella Canis testing

Thank you for your request for information of 26th July about Brucella Canis testing. APHA have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your information request and our response are set out below.

“Is it possible for someone to advise me please of the results of your testing of dog blood samples for brucella canis over the past 12 months? Specifically I am interested in the following:

*Number of samples tested”

The number of samples tested were 16,146

“*Number determined to be positive”

The number of samples determined to be positive were 430

“* Number determined to be negative”

The number determined to be negative were 15,675

The number of samples unsuitable for testing or untestable were 41

“Also, what are the confidence intervals of the testing please?”

The 95% confidence intervals for the combined (Brucella canis SAT + Brucella canis iELISA) test algorithm (where a sample is considered serologically positive if it is positive to either test and negative if it is negative to both tests [tests as used and performed at APHA]) are:

Diagnostic specificity (DSp) = 0.989 (98.9%), 95% Confidence interval: 0.960 – 0.997,

Diagnostic sensitivity (DSn) = 0.922 (92.2%), 95% Confidence interval: 0.839 - 0.976.

These values may change as more samples of suitable provenance become available to support the validation.

“Finally, Are all the tests AKAS approved / verified? If not, can you explain why they are not?”

APHA are unfamiliar with ‘AKAS’. 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 FOIA and the government’s Transparency Agenda, this letter and the information disclosed to you may be placed on [GOV.UK](https://www.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

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 within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to the Access to Information Team 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 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

Please click [here](#) for further contact details.