

Mycoplasma bovis Update

Edition 306, Thursday 6 October 2022

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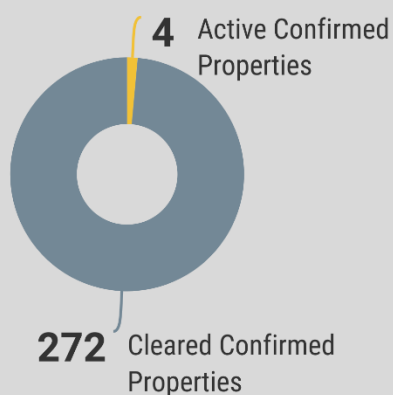
Mycoplasma bovis update

As at 6 October 2022

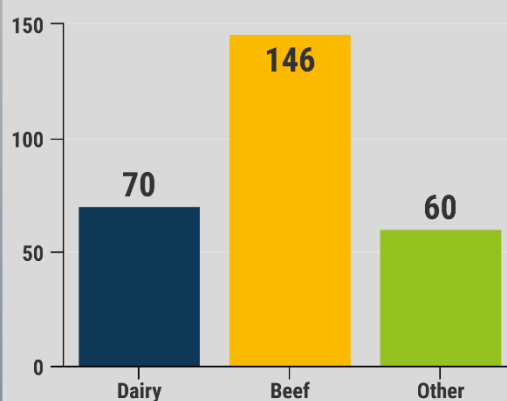


Biosecurity New Zealand
Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua

276 total Confirmed Properties to date



Confirmed property type



23 Notice of Direction properties ↑ 8

93 Active Surveillance properties ↓ 6

Active Confirmed Properties
0 North Island
4 South Island

Total Confirmed Properties
70 North Island
206 South Island

What else has changed?

2,573 Properties with NOD revoked ↑ 4
178,270 Cattle have been culled ↑ 154
2,960,161 Tests completed ↑ 5,643

Compensation update

\$231.2 million Paid in total no change
2,797 Claims paid and completed ↑ 2
6 Claims currently being progressed ↓ 5

Number changes from last update:

- There are no new Active Confirmed Properties
- There are no new Cleared Confirmed Properties

Testing for *Mycoplasma bovis* stepped up with new strain

As announced earlier today, summer testing for *Mycoplasma bovis* (*M. bovis*) will be stepped up after New Zealand's nationwide surveillance programme identified a new strain of the disease on one of the four confirmed positive properties, which are all in Mid Canterbury.

M. bovis programme director Simon Andrew said recently completed genomic testing from a single property, which was previously confirmed with *M. bovis*, had identified the strain.

"This strain doesn't behave any differently than the strain we have been dealing with, and our existing testing will pick it up, as it has done in this case. It doesn't affect our efforts to eradicate *M. bovis* from New Zealand."

Mr Andrew said a thorough investigation was under way into historic pathways, which included recorded and unrecorded animal movements dating back to 2018, imported feed and farm machinery, and frozen semen imported prior to the tightening of import health standards for bovine germplasm.

"While considered a very low risk, frozen semen used on the affected property, which had been imported prior to the introduction of the new import health standard, is being looked at.

"Our team is carrying out an investigation on the affected property. At this stage, there is no evidence to suggest that there has been any forward spread on any farms that received cattle from this farm.

"The bulk tank milk and beef herd screening (alongside our cattle tracing work) has not identified this strain anywhere else, but disease control is all about being cautious, so we will be increasing the summer frequency of our national bulk milk

surveillance testing from once a month to every fortnight, as we do over spring.

“We have a national testing regime to find infection, which we didn’t when *M. bovis* was first found in 2017. *M. bovis* is currently on just four farms compared to 40 at the height of the programme.

“It is important farmers know we are four years into a 10-year programme, and we remain on track for eradication. We are moving towards a national pest management plan for *M. bovis* much like that used for TB. The aim of that will be to monitor and deal with any disease that pops up over time.

“If our investigation into pathways reveals that further action is required, including targeted testing and surveillance on-farm, we will let farmers know, but at this stage the increased frequency of summer bulk tank milk testing, beef surveillance and tracing animals will serve us well.

“We thank farmers and our sector partners, Dairy NZ and Beef and Lamb New Zealand, for their continued vigilance as we work toward eradication,” Mr Andrew says.

“It was estimated that the cost of *M.bovis* to farmers would be \$1.3 billion over 10 years, and much higher if it became endemic.”

Farmers with any concerns can call 0800 00 83 33 or email info@mpi.govt.nz.



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DairyNZ



KEY CONTACTS

Latest information on *Mycoplasma bovis* and the Eradication Programme - *M. bovis* website

General questions on *M. bovis* - call 0800 008 333 or email Mbovis_Liaison@mpi.govt.nz

Compensation information - call 0800 008 333 or email compensationcoordinator@mpi.govt.nz

Direct farmer support (Rural Support Trust) - 0800 787 254

To report a pest or disease (Exotic Pest and Disease Hotline) - 0800 80 99 66

[Forward to other interested people](#)



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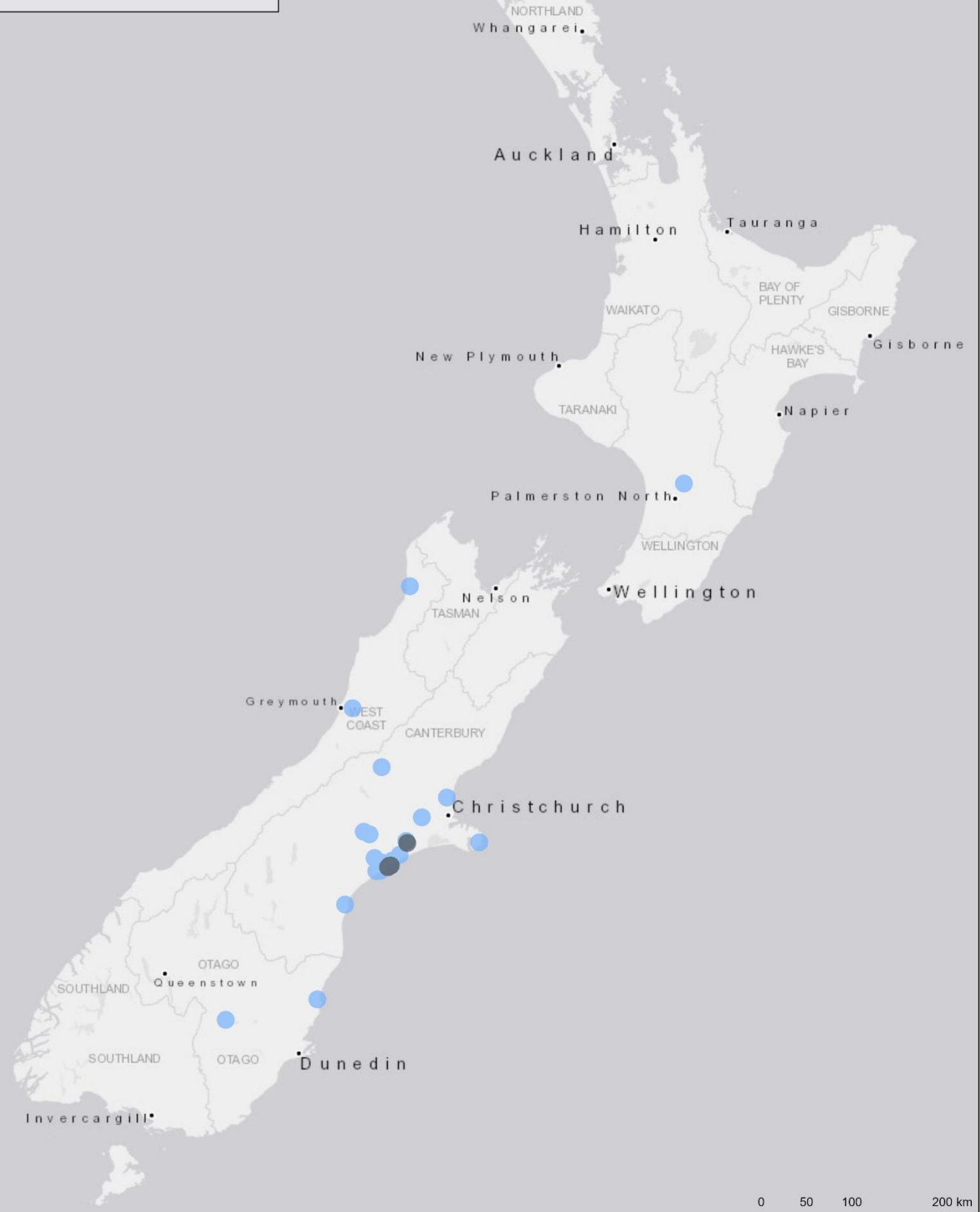
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Mycoplasma bovis

2022-10-06

-  Active Confirmed Properties
-  Active Properties under S122 Movement Notice of Direction



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