

Application for declaring Northern Ireland (United Kingdom) as an Officially *Brucellosis* Free Member State

AHW-CIC SCoPAFF
9 September 2015



Department of
**Agriculture and
Rural Development**

www.dardni.gov.uk

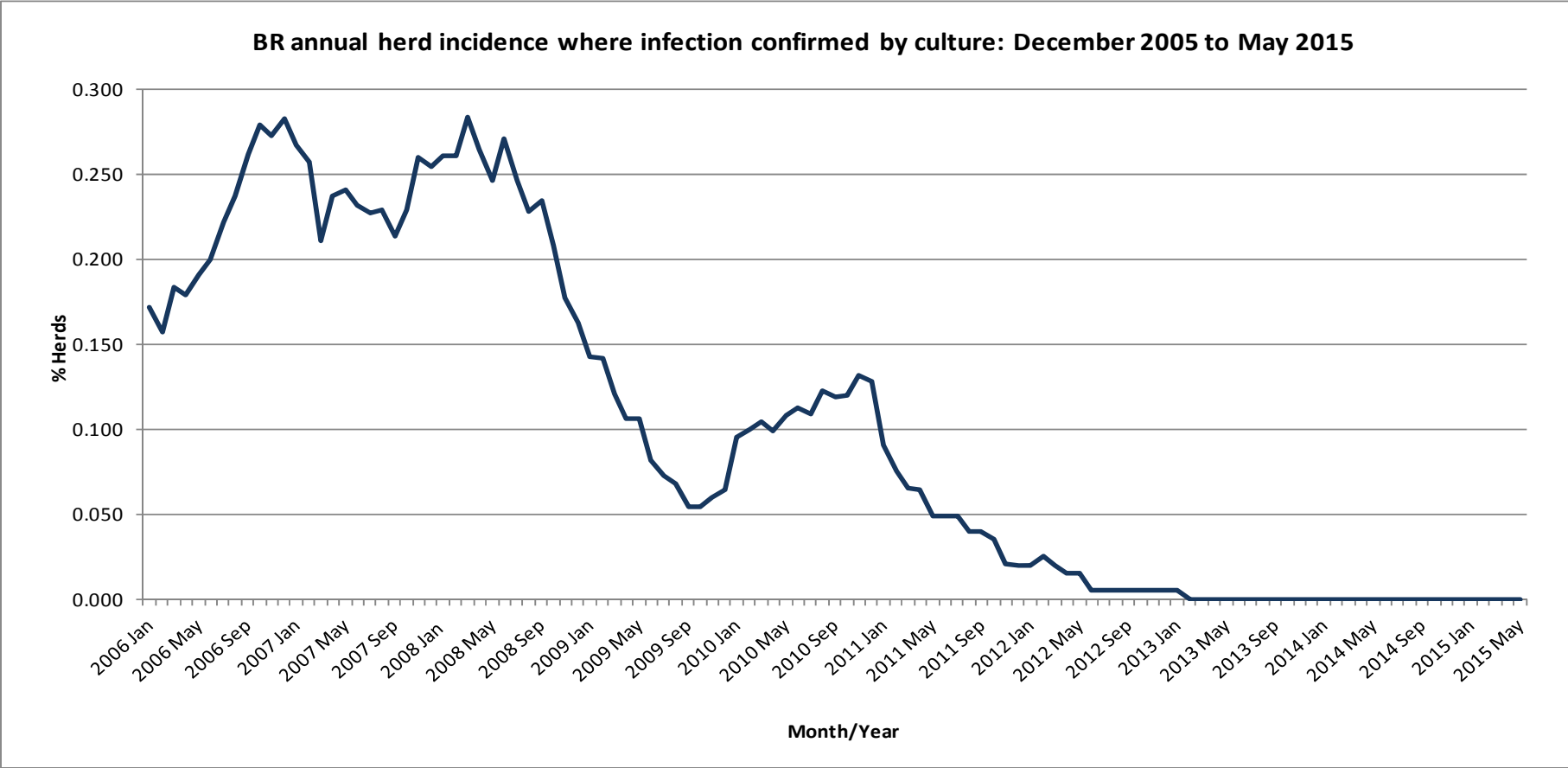
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**Talmhaíochta agus
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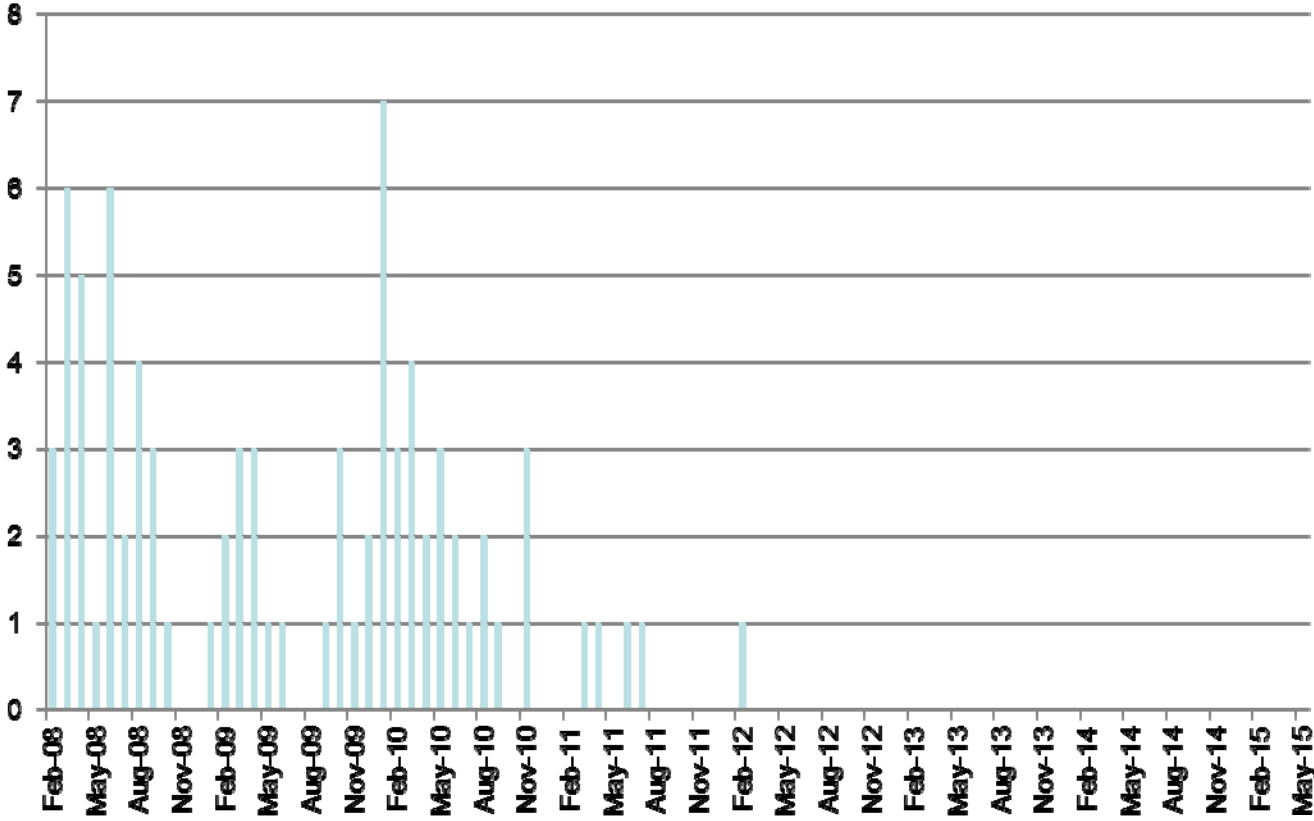
MANNISTRIE O

**Fairs an
Kintra Fordèrin**

Epidemiological development: Confirmed herd incidence of *Brucella abortus*



Confirmed breakdowns by month 2008-2015



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UK (NI): Test and Disease Statistics from 2007

Year	Number of cattle tested	Herd incidence	Confirmed herd incidence
2007	911,394	0.72	0.250
2008	908,811	1.12	0.160
2009	888,898	0.35	0.050
2010	867,402	0.38	0.100
2011	890,263	0.10	0.020
2012	879,831	0.12	0.005
2013	848,811	0.13	0.000
2014	803,309	0.04	0.000

Herds restricted for disease reasons

Date	Herds restricted for disease reasons, excluding associated herds	Herds under surveillance, excluding associated herds	Restricted herds with confirmed disease	Percentage of herds with OBF status
31/12/09	32	22,607	16	99.86
31/12/10	38	22,303	18	99.83
31/12/11	11	22,083	9	99.9
31/12/12	18	22,168	1	99.92
31/12/13	10	22,155	0	99.95
31/12/14	1	22,691	0	100.0

NI (UK) Compliance with Directive Requirements

In accordance with Council Directive 64/432/EEC

- Absence of vaccination – vaccination prohibited since 1963

Compliance with these criteria in Northern Ireland (UK)

- There have been no cases of abortion due to *Brucella* and no isolation of *Brucella abortus* in Northern Ireland (UK) from samples taken since the February 2012 case to date.
- At least 99.8% of herds have achieved officially brucellosis-free status each year consecutively since 2009.

Thus the requirements as set out have been met.

Prospects following award of OBF status

Testing

- Immediate increase in the age of testing at routine tests to 24 months
- Decrease in herd serological test frequency
- Bulk Milk ELISA testing to continue for all dairy herds
- Abattoir surveillance and abortions follow up to continue.

Communications/ use of experts

- Continue to highlight the importance of biosecurity and abortions reporting
- Expect a small number of false positives to result from testing; these results to be followed up fully by veterinarians, using risk assessments and expert advice.

Validation and outcome of UK programme

The brucellosis programme has benefited from the co-financing received from the Commission: PAFF (ScoFCAH) received updates on the current NI programme in May 2013 and June 2014.

The programme has also been endorsed by two visits to NI, in 2008 and 2011, by EU Task Force national experts on brucellosis. Their reports were complimentary and their recommendations were fully followed up.

The overall outcome has been successful progress to eradication.

NI (UK) is grateful to the Commission and colleagues from other Member States for their assistance in helping us to reach our goal of freedom from bovine Brucellosis.

Thank you

