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Veterinary Service Animal Health Group
Information Communication Branch



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

An Roinn

**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

Depairtment o'

**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**

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29 September 2026

Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your email received by the Department on 10 September 2026 which you sought the information in bold below for the period January 2020 to the latest available month.

I can advise that the Department has completed its search and can confirm that it holds the information requested.

Please note that the responses refer to Enniskillen DVO rather than County Fermanagh as the Department collates data based on Divisional Veterinary Office Area rather than by county, however, the Enniskillen DVO area is the equivalent to Co Fermanagh.

Please see DVO area map attached at Annex A.

- 1. The number of cattle herds tested for bovine TB in Fermanagh, broken down by month.**

The primary herd test used in the bovine TB Eradication Programme is the Comparative Intradermal Tuberculin Test (CITT) known as the skin test. In some TB breakdown herds the

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Interferon gamma (IFN-g) blood test is used in addition to the skin test as it will disclose additional infected animals that may have not been detected by the skin test.

Tuberculosis statistics for Northern Ireland from 2007-2026 can be found at [Tuberculosis Statistics in Northern Ireland 2007-2026 | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs](#)

The number of herds that have had at least one skin test within the time period specified can be found on the tab entitled 'Testing herds' and is given by DVO and as a Northern Ireland total.

2. The number of cattle which tested positive for bovine TB (reactors), broken down by month.

The number of skin test reactors per month in each DVO, and as a Northern Ireland total can be found on the aforementioned TB statistics link at the tab 'Reactor Animals'.

The number of IFN-g test reactors per month in each DVO, and as a Northern Ireland total can be found on the TB statistics link at the tab 'IFNg Reactors'.

3. number of cattle removed as a result of bovine TB testing, broken down by month

Animals subject to removal as a result of bovine TB testing include animals positive to the skin test, animals removed on the basis of a positive IFN-g test alone (animals that are positive to both the skin and IFN-g test are removed as skin test reactors) and animals that are subject to removal as Negative in Contact (NIC) animals considered to be at high risk of disease even though they have tested negative.

The skin test positive animals, IFN-g only positive animals, NIC animals and the Northern Ireland total of cattle removed are shown below. Some animals may die on farm before removal or require euthanasia on farm if they are not considered fit to transport to slaughter for welfare reasons.

2021	Skin Reactors	IFN-g	NIC
Enniskillen	1949	176	120
NI Total - 16733	14359	1563	811

2022	Skin Reactors	IFN-g	NIC
Enniskillen	2831	211	66
NI Total - 20519	17370	2185	964

2023	Skin Reactors	IFN-g	NIC
Enniskillen	3003	232	104
NI Total - 20176	18150	1438	588

2024	Skin Reactors	IFN-g	NIC
Enniskillen	3344	223	57
NI Total - 22340	20510	1432	398

2025	Skin Reactors	IFN-g	NIC
Enniskillen	2107	240	48
NI Total – 19544*	17739*	1379	426

*up to Nov for skin reactors

4. The number of new herd breakdowns identified, broken down by month.

The number of new reactor herds per month by DVO and as a Northern Ireland total can be found in the aforementioned TB statistics link on the tab titled 'Reactor Herds'.

5. The number of repeat herd breakdowns, broken down by month.

The following table shows the number of herds that had TB reactor herd breakdowns over the time period requested along with the frequency of occurrence e.g. 94 herds in Enniskillen DVO had three TB reactor herd breakdowns over this period.

Frequency of TB reactor herd breakdowns^ between 1 January 2020 and 30 June 2026 in Northern Ireland and in Enniskillen DVO

Number of TB herd breakdowns	Number of herds: Enniskillen	Number of herds: Northern Ireland
1	862	6340
2	324	2551
3	94	669
4	11	71
5	0	2

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^ A herd is defined as being a TB reactor herd if it had at least one TB skin reactor animal in that month and no TB skin reactor animals during the previous 12 months.

6. The number of cattle herds which were under TB restrictions at the end of each month.

This data are not routinely available for the time period requested. End of year TB restrictions are routinely recorded on an annual basis for the country as a whole and such figures are provided below for the calendar years 2020-2025, inclusive. Those relating to Enniskillen DVO have also been extracted for this period (see table).

Cattle herds under TB restriction^ at the end of each calendar year in Northern Ireland and in Enniskillen DVO, 2020-2025

Year	Enniskillen DVO	Northern Ireland
2025	309	3471
2024	449	3868
2023	459	3608
2022	435	3907
2021	355	3501
2020	371	3497

^ A TB restriction is a herd that has an OTW (Official TB Status Withdrawn) or OTS (Official TB Status Suspended) status.

7. The number of cattle slaughtered as a result of bovine TB controls, broken down by month, where recorded.

See Annex B

8. The geographical distribution of herd breakdowns within Fermanagh, preferably by postcode, townland, electoral ward or other geographical area held by the Department.

See Annex C

9. The total compensation paid in relation to cattle removed because of bovine TB in Fermanagh, broken down by month, where available.

See Annex B

If you require any clarification, believe that any part of your request has been overlooked, misunderstood or misinterpreted, please contact me in the first instance to see if it is a matter that can be resolved.

If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled or the decision to release/withhold information, you have the right to request a formal review by the Department. If you wish to do so, please contact The Review Section either by e-mailing daera.informationmanager@daera-ni.gov.uk or by post at The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Data Protection & Information Management Branch, Floor 2, Jubilee House, 111 Ballykelly Road, Ballykelly, Limavady BT49 9HP, within two months from the date of this letter.

If after such an internal review you are still unhappy with the response, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, CHESHIRE, SK9 5AF, who will undertake an independent review of the Department's decision.

Yours sincerely,



Veterinary Service Animal Health Group