



State of Oklahoma
Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry

Mary Fallin
Governor

Jim Reese
Secretary of Agriculture

May 23, 2012

Subject: 2012 Oklahoma Captive Cervidae Tuberculosis Surveillance

Dear Oklahoma Captive Cervidae Producer,

As you may know, bovine tuberculosis is a chronic debilitating disease that infects a wide range of hosts. This disease has nearly been eradicated in the United States, however, one of the few remaining reservoirs of the disease is captive cervidae. This disease can be fatal to infected cervidae and is economically detrimental to herd owners and industry alike. Not only could this disease negatively impact the captive cervidae industry of Oklahoma, but also the hunting and cattle industries as well. Because of the volume of movement of animals between herds throughout the country, there is potential for exposure to infected animals.

To increase surveillance for this disease, the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry (ODAFF) is offering free tuberculosis testing for any captive cervidae herd that is not currently tuberculosis accredited. Additionally, all eligible herds can receive free brucellosis testing if interested. These tests may serve as the first whole herd test required for tuberculosis herd accreditation and brucellosis herd certification statuses. These statuses not only help protect a herd from their respective diseases, but also add value to the herd and simplify interstate transportation.

As a growing business of the state, Oklahoma understands how important it is to protect the captive cervidae industry as a valued asset to our state's economy. We encourage you to take advantage of this free service. If you are interested in participating and wish to be considered for the 2012 Oklahoma Captive Cervidae Tuberculosis Surveillance Program, please complete the enclosed application and submit it to:

ODAFF - Animal Industry Services
Attn: Dr. Justin Roach
2800 N Lincoln Blvd
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

All applications will be reviewed, and selection for participation will be based on eligibility. There is no deadline for applications; however, testing is limited and will be "first-come, first-served". Please call me at (405) 522-8396 or email justin.roach@ag.ok.gov if you have any questions.

Thank you,


Justin Roach, DVM
Staff Veterinarian

Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry

2012 Oklahoma Captive Cervidae Tuberculosis Surveillance

Owner's Name: _____
Business/Farm Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ County: _____
Phone: _____ Email Address: _____
Species of Cervidae: _____ Number of Cervidae One Year of Age or Older: _____
Preferred Method of Identification (circle one): Metal Ear Tags (clips) or Electronic Ear Tags (buttons)

I, the above listed herd owner, hereby request that my herd be included in the 2012 Oklahoma Captive Cervidae Tuberculosis Surveillance Program and agree to the following conditions:

- ✓ The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry (ODAFF) will perform tuberculosis testing at no cost on all animals one year of age or older (this may qualify as the first complete herd test required for tuberculosis herd accreditation status). Tuberculosis testing requires that animals be handled once for tuberculin injection and a second time 72 hours later for test reading.
- ✓ If desired, ODAFF will perform brucellosis testing at no cost on all animals one year of age or older (this may count as the first complete herd test required for brucellosis herd certification status).
- ✓ No restrictions on the species of cervidae, and no restrictions on the number animals tested.
- ✓ The herd owner shall have all animals, facilities, and handling/restraint equipment ready to begin testing prior to arrival of ODAFF personnel.
- ✓ The herd owner is responsible for all animal restraint and/or immobilization.
- ✓ All animals must be officially identified by prior to testing.
- ✓ If a suspect/reactor animal is identified upon testing, the herd will be quarantined and undergo additional testing according to USDA Veterinary Services guidelines.
- ✓ ODAFF is not responsible for any morbidity or mortalities incurred during or after testing.
- ✓ Tuberculosis accredited herds are not eligible for participation in this program. Additionally, previously accredited herds that have lost accreditation status due to revocation or negligence are not eligible.

Owner Signature

Date

Please return completed application to:

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