

Limo-Leader Herd Health

C/O Independent Milk Laboratories, Shercock Road, Bailieborough, Co. Cavan, A82 N6K8



Tel: 042-9675353 ● Email: limoleader@imlabs.ie ● https://www.irishlimousin.com/herd-health

Johne's Disease Accreditation Programme Health Plan

The CHeCS Johne's programme has changed to a graded system (see table) which is designed to enable herds to maintain or move towards clear herd tests. This is achieved through a combination of testing and the implementation of a management programme. It is essential for herds within levels 1-4 to have a health plan in place covering the control of Johne's disease. The health plan must be updated annually and endorsed by both vet and farmer. The health plan must cover both the essential elements (Section C) and guidelines associated with the programme (Section D).

Section A: Herd Details				
Herd owner:				
Herd Number:				
Address:				

Section B: Veterinary Details				
Practice:				
Case Vet:				
Address:				

Status	Definition
Level 1:	This is directly equivalent to the previous CHeCS Accredited free status. Level 1 status is associated with the lowest risk source when buying in stock. Health plan required.
Level 2:	Herds with level 2 status have had one or two clear consecutive herd tests. Health plan required.
Level 3:	Herds with level 3 status have reactors identified at the annual herd test, but these are no more than 3% of the animals tested. Health plan required.
Level 4:	Herds with level 4 status have reactors identified at the annual herd test, and these amount to more than 3% of the animals tested. Health plan required.
Level 5:	Any herd that is not carrying out the required testing or does not have a suitable health plan in place automatically falls into this category. Level 5 status is considered to be the greatest risk source when buying in stock.

Section C: Essential Elements of Herd Plan		No
(To gain a risk level you must be able to answer Yes to Questions 1 to 5)		
1. Has the annual testing been carried out as per the CHeCS technical document?		
Have any animals added to the herd been tested for Johne's by both blood and dung testing? All animals regardless of age must be tested unless they have come from a Risk level 1 herd.		

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Section C: Essential Elements of Herd Plan		No		
(To gain a risk level you must be able to answer Yes to Questions 1 to 5)	Yes	NO		
3. Have all seropositive animals must been separated from young calves, seronegative				
animals and animals intended for breeding until follow up testing is carried out?				
4. Have all reactors (separated as above) been removed from the herd as soon as is practical?				
Whilst they are retained, they must remain isolated and their dung must be kept away from other cattle. Any pasture used by reactors must not be grazed by other animals within the herd until at least 12 months has elapsed.				
5. Do you ensure that any calf at foot of a reactor is not retained or sold as a breeding animal?				
Section D: Guidelines for Johne's Management	Yes	No		
6. Are there procedures in place to reduce stock exposure to faecal contamination? Whilst Johne's disease can be transferred between adult animals, young calves are considered to be the most susceptible to infection. This should be focussed on the calving period (keeping cows as clean as possible and ensuring the calving area and young calf accommodation is kept as clean as possible.				
7. Are there procedures in place for slurry/ manure management to reduce risks?				
Where possible there should be a gap of at least 12 months between spreading slurry/ manure on pasture and using it for grazing young calves. Slurry/ manure spreading from non-accredited cattle must not be spread on pasture				
8. Are procedures in place to prevent faecal contamination of feed and water? It is advised that mains water is provided for grazing cattle where possible to reduce the potential for faecal contamination. For the same reason, non-flowing natural water sources should be fenced off to prevent access.				
9. Is co-grazing of cattle with other ruminant animals practiced on farm? Co-grazing with other ruminants is not recommended as they may act as a reservoir of infection. Rabbit populations should also be controlled.				
10. Have the last 2 calves born to a reactor been identified and have you ensured they are not retained for breeding or sold as breeding animals? The animals considered to have a higher risk of being infected.				
Herdowner Declaration:				
I confirm that the information in this health plan to cover Johne's Disease control is corre	ct			
Signed: Date:				
Veterinary Declaration: I confirm that I have discussed this health plan and the control of Johne's Disease with my client				
Signed: Date:				

Document: IML-QMF-061 Revision 0 Page 2 of 2
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