

Increase in TB in camelids

According to data provided by the AHVLA, TB in camelids has been on the increase.

The following table has been provided by Defra/AHVLA which shows the increase. The table is available on the Defra website.

Annual numbers of new incidents of culture-confirmed *M.bovis* identified on South American camelid premises in GB

Year of disclosure	Infected herds (with > 1 dead or culled animal)	Type of herd infected (herd with > 1 culled animal)	Location of affected herds
1999-2003	5	2x alpaca 3x llama	Gwent (2 llama holdings), Gloucestershire (alpaca), Herefordshire (llama), Somerset (alpaca)
2004	1*	alpaca	Devon
2005	1	llama	Avon
2006	2 (1)	1x alpaca 1x llama (1)	Sussex (alpaca), Devon (llama)
2007	3 (3)	2x alpaca (2) 1x llama (1)	Carmarthenshire (llama), Powys (alpaca), Dorset (alpaca)
2008	11 (6)	9x alpaca (4) 2x llama (2)	Carmarthenshire (llama), Devon (1 llama, 1 alpaca), Avon (2), Cornwall, Gloucestershire (3), Herefordshire, Worcestershire
2009	12 (6)	all alpacas	Devon (3), Derbyshire, Gloucestershire (2), Shropshire, Somerset (2), Staffordshire, Worcestershire (2)
2010	15 (6) **	all alpacas	Devon (4)***, Cornwall (3), Gloucestershire, Hampshire, Monmouthshire, Staffordshire (2), Warwickshire, Worcestershire (2)
2011 (first quarter)	2 (1)	all alpacas	Avon, Dorset

(*) No culture possible, but typical histopathology and PCR positive for MTB complex.

(**) The figure in parentheses may increase as some of those incidents have not been closed and ongoing live testing may identify further cases.

(***) Three of those were epidemiologically linked via movements/purchases of infected animals and could therefore be considered one TB incident.

We know the TB situation in Camelids is a mere drop in the ocean compared to cattle.

Some people say it isn't serious but if it happens to you then it becomes an all consuming serious problem and it has the propensity to devastate you both financially and emotionally. One thing is certain when TB affects your herd – your opinions and your life will change dramatically.

Below are just 17 case histories from members of the TB support group.

Some are from 2008, 2009, 2010 or 2011. Some are out of restriction while others are still going through TB testing and therefore these figures are not complete and will be updated as data becomes available.

1. 110/110 (means 110 lost out of herd of 110)
2. 52/52
3. 48/54
4. 15/48
5. 21/61
6. 13/73
7. 11/13
8. 38/53
9. 7/22
10. 7/14
11. 14/28
12. 2/3
13. 2/13
14. 2/9
15. 5/6
16. 17/29
17. 2/13

The numbers above speak for themselves.