



Meeting: Bovine TB Stakeholder Forum – Meeting 15
Date: 18 October 2022
Time: 10:30 – 12:30
Location: Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine - Backweston Campus

Attendees

Chair:

Michael Cronin.

Working Group Chairs:

Sean Brady, Implementation Working Group (IWG)

Gerard Kiely, Finance Working Group (SWG)

Organisations:

James Lynch, Animal Health Ireland; TJ Maher, Anna Daly, IFA; Des Morrison, Paul Smyth, ICMSA; Ray Doyle, ICOS, Hugh Farrell, Neasa Fitzgibbon, ICSA, Thomas Burke, Tom Stephenson, INHFA. Simon More. Stephen Gordon, UCD, Kevin Twomey, Farmer, John Keane, Macra; Hazel Mullins, Veterinary Ireland.

Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine (DAFM):

June Fanning, Damien Barret, Conor O'Mahony, Rosanne Greene.

Bovine TB Forum Secretariat:

Karina Wrigley, James O'Keeffe, David Quinn, Donal Mooney, Anthony Stringer.

Apologies:

Claire Crowley, NPWS; Michael Miley, Miley Communications; John Griffin SWG Chair; Colin Kelly, Ornua; John Mee, Teagasc. Tomas Bourke, IFA. Joe Ryan, Meat Industry Ireland; David Graham, Animal Health Ireland, Conor Geraghty, Veterinary Ireland.

Minutes

Item	Minutes
Introduction by Chair Michael Cronin	The Chair welcomed all representatives and gave an overview of the progress the TB forum and its working groups to-date. The Chair thanked all representatives for their collaboration and thanked the Chairs of the working groups, Sean Brady, Gerry Kiely and John Griffin, for their work.
Minutes of previous meeting	The minutes of meeting 14 (04 May 2022) were agreed.
Update on Scientific Working Group	Professor Stephen Gordon, on behalf of the SWG, gave a presentation on whole genome sequencing and its potential to help control and eradicate bovine TB in Ireland.
Disease Trends Update	The Department provided a presentation on the current disease situation. See presentation.
Overview of TB Eradication Strategy Implementation to date	The Department provided the forum with an update on the implementation of the TB strategy launched in January 2021. The financial aspects of the eradication programme will be discussed at the FWG.

Further Strategy Measures 2023 – 2025	The Department gave an update and an overview of further strategy measures to be implemented between 2023 and 2025. The further strategies included the submissions made by representatives since the last meeting. The ten strategies were briefly outlined and discussed by the forum. The Deer Management Strategy (DMS) has now appointed a chair and a meeting is planned for the end of October. The Chair asked if the DMS would consider providing an update to the TB forum in the future. Other topics discussed included communications on the TASAH programme, on-farm biosecurity and the use of breeding bulls resistance to TB.
Any other Business	N/A
Close of meeting	The Chair gave an overview of what was discussed at the meeting and thanked everyone for attending, he noted and acknowledged the successful collaborative model of the TB forum. The next TB forum will be confirmed at a later date.

Action Points

1	The Department is to explore possibility of Farm Walks in conjunction with Teagasc to show farmers how to implement Bio Security measures.
2	The Department is to consult further with ICBF on matter of the use of low resistant breeding bulls to TB by farmers.