

Addendum to CHeCS Technical Document 2019

Additions in blue text

Number	Change	2018 Version
General Rules	CHeCS, as the regulatory body, reserves the right to access information from the CHeCS-licensed cattle health schemes about their members for auditing purposes. In addition a random selection of farms will be visited by CHeCS representatives to ensure that the CHeCS standards are being maintained.	Addition
General Rules 2	Herd Definition: A herd is defined as cattle that are under a unified management system but not necessarily on one site. All cattle on the holding are considered to be part of the herd except under exceptional circumstances where the herd's owner and veterinary surgeon can show that adequate separation of two sets of animals exists and can be maintained to satisfy the rules of the scheme. Documentation to this effect must be produced by the herd's veterinary surgeon, reviewed annually and held on file by the CHeCS licensee. For herds that share common grazing, handling facilities or that have any direct contact these should be considered as a single herd. An annual additional declaration must be completed and signed by all members of the co-grazing group at the time of the herd tests (see appendix 6), and all eligible animals in the group must be tested within a two month period. The status of this combined 'herd' would only be awarded on completion of testing of all eligible animals.	Addition
General Rules 5	Added animals: Whenever possible, cattle should only be added to a health scheme herd if they are from a herd that is	Addition

	<p>accredited free from the disease in question, or in the case of Johne's disease and Neospora (Neospora females only) at risk level 1. Otherwise they must be placed in isolation for the required period and tested by the appropriate test(s) for the disease(s) in question. It is the responsibility of the purchasing scheme member to check the status of the herd of origin, and to verify it applies to the particular added animals before providing appropriate evidence of this to their scheme provider for consideration.</p>	
General Rules 22	<p>Establishment of new herd from accredited stock: Where it is intended to establish an IBR, Leptospirosis, Johne's disease or BVD accredited herd by acquiring cattle accredited free of the particular disease, the premises must be inspected by a Veterinary Surgeon before the new stock are introduced in order to ascertain that the biosecurity of the premises and farm boundaries meet the requirements of the scheme. The appropriate accreditation test for the disease must be begun no sooner than three months and no longer than 12 months after establishing the herd. Once testing has been completed with satisfactory results, the herd can be recognised as having achieved accredited status. If any pregnant stock have moved via a market or come in contact with cattle of unknown status then this route to accreditation is not possible for BVD, until all calves have been tested negative for BVD virus over a period of 12 months in the newly established herd.</p>	<p>Establishment of new herd from accredited stock: Where it is intended to establish an IBR, Leptospirosis, Johne's disease or BVD accredited herd by acquiring cattle accredited free of the particular disease, the premises must be inspected by a Veterinary Surgeon before the new stock are introduced in order to ascertain that the biosecurity of the premises and farm boundaries meet the requirements of the scheme. The appropriate accreditation test for the disease must be carried out no sooner than three months after establishing the herd. Once testing has been completed with satisfactory results, the herd can be recognised as having achieved accredited status.</p>
General Rule 25	<p>Confirmation of target disease: After the target disease has been confirmed in a herd, the herd will not be eligible for accredited status until all the herd have passed the requisite tests, as detailed in the specific programme, and all known test positive animals have been removed from the herd. Where</p>	<p>Addition</p>

	<p>animals have been confirmed as BVDV PI or infected with Johne's disease they must not be sold on, except to slaughter. To do otherwise is to risk prosecution under the Sale of Goods Act. and, in the case of a BVD PI, the relevant regional BVD legislation.</p>	
Appendix 5	<p>The Crofter Health Scheme: Bulls moved directly from the Knocknagael stud to a Crofter Scheme Member Herd will be exempt from the General Rules of CHeCS rules 14 and 15 on isolation and testing. Details of the testing required at the Knocknagael stud for these bulls is listed in Appendix 5. This exemption will only apply to BVD, Johne's and Neospora. An isolation period of at least 14 days is strongly advised to allow for clinical monitoring of the bull on arrival.</p>	Addition
Johne's Rule 1.9	<p>Selling on animals that have been purchased from another herd: When an animal is purchased from a herd with an inferior Johne's disease risk level than the herd to which it is added, the purchased animal retains the risk level of the herd of origin should it be sold on. For example it cannot be sold as risk level 1 if purchased as risk level 2, 3, 4 or 5. Animals that are purchased from a herd with a superior risk level can be sold only at the risk level that applies to the purchasers herd at the time of subsequent sale. For example, an animal purchased as risk level 1 into a risk level 4 herd can only be sold at the risk level that applies to the level 4 receiving herd at the time of subsequent sale. Purchased animals are described on sale certificates as 'not-homebred', and cannot be sold with a herd status. With the exception of animals sourced from RL1 herds that have remained throughout their lives in a risk level 1 herd and appropriate evidence of this is provided to their health</p>	Addition

	<p>scheme provider. This is at the discretion of the health scheme provider and assessed on a case by case basis.</p>	
<p>Johne's Rule 1.10</p>	<p>Where a purchased animal from a herd with a certified risk level is found within six months of purchase to test positive by faecal culture or PCR then the purchaser must inform their health scheme provider who the vendor was and also inform the vendor of the result. Both the purchaser's health scheme provider and the vendor must in turn inform the vendor's health scheme provider. The result will then be taken into consideration in relation to the number of positives that were found in the most recent herd test that has been completed for the vendor's herd at the time the animal was found to be positive. The risk level of the herd will be re- assigned as per the rules of the scheme. Therefore a herd that was risk level 1 or 2 will become risk level 3 or 4 depending on the total number of positives and the number of eligible animals in the herd. If the test positive animal had been too young to be included in the herd test or had already left the herd then it should be added both to the numerator and the denominator in order to determine the exact percentage of the herd that tested positive and whether the risk level is now 3 or 4. To progress to the next level, the vendors next annual herd test cannot be sooner than 12 months after the most recent positive testing animal is identified on a purchasers farm.</p>	<p>1.9 Where a purchased animal from a herd with a certified risk level is found within six months of purchase to test positive by faecal culture or PCR then the purchaser must inform the vendor of the result. The vendor must in turn inform his health scheme provider. The result will then be taken into consideration in relation to the number of positives that were found in the most recent herd test that has been completed for the vendor's herd at the time the animal was found to be positive. The risk level of the herd will be re- assigned as per the rules of the scheme. Therefore a herd that was risk level 1 or 2 will become risk level 3 or 4 depending on the total number of positives and the number of eligible animals in the herd. If the test positive animal had been too young to be included in the herd test or had already left the herd then it should be added both to the numerator and the denominator in order to determine the exact percentage of the herd that tested positive and whether the risk level is now 3 or 4. To progress to the next level, the vendors next annual herd test cannot be sooner than 12 months after the most recent positive testing animal is identified on a purchasers farm.</p>
<p>BVD Rule 1.4</p>	<p>Added animals - Non-accredited Quarantine and Screening: On entry to the herd, added animals must be placed in quarantine and the general CHeCS rules on isolation and testing apply. If animals have not been screened as in 1.3, an early test is strongly recommended to identify infected cattle as soon as possible. Notwithstanding this, added animals must be blood</p>	<p>Addition</p>

	<p>sampled and tested for BVD virus and for antibody to BVD at least 28 days after entry into isolation (see 1.7 below for bulls). The appropriate virus test for the age of the animal must be used as directed by the CHECS licensed laboratory. An animal can only enter the herd if it is deemed to be neither transiently or persistently infected (PI) with BVDV (section 3.4). In a group of animals with mixed antibody results, animals must be held in isolation for a further 28 days and the seronegative animals re-tested. If no seroconversion is found, the animals may enter the herd. If seroconversion has occurred, the same process must be repeated until no further seroconversions are detected. Thus added animals can only enter the herd 28 days after the last seroconversion.</p>	
<p>BVD Rule 2.3</p>	<p>Check Test: From each separately managed group of cattle in the age range 9 to 18 months*, sample five unvaccinated home reared cattle and test for antibody to BVDV.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where groups are made up after weaning, these are considered to be separate subgroups and five samples must be collected from each group. • In groups of cattle where animals have been added to the group at intervals it is necessary to sample the five oldest in the group, which have not been vaccinated and the five that have been added most recently. • Cattle should only be sampled after they have been together for at least two months. • Where more than one group is included in the Check Test and at least five animals are sampled in each subgroup and 	<p>Check Test: From each separately managed group of cattle in the age range 9 to 18 months*, sample five unvaccinated home reared cattle and test for antibody to BVDV.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where groups are made up after weaning, these are considered to be separate subgroups and five samples must be collected from each group. • In groups of cattle where animals have been added to the group at intervals it is necessary to sample the five oldest in the group, which have not been vaccinated and the five that have been added most recently. • Cattle should only be sampled after they have been together for at least two months. • Where more than one group is included in the Check Test and at least five animals are sampled in each subgroup and all are

	<p>all are antibody negative the Check Test is considered to be a pass and no further testing is required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where fewer than seven animals in total have been sampled and are all antibody negative, then one animal should be tested for BVD virus. The check test is considered a pass if the single animal is also negative for BVD virus. Where fewer than five animals are sampled in any group included in the Check Test and all animals are antibody negative then one animal from each group with fewer than five animals should be tested for BVD virus. The Check Test is considered a pass when the animals tested for BVD virus are also negative. 	<p>antibody negative the Check Test is considered to be a pass and no further testing is required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where fewer than five animals are sampled in any group included in the Check Test and all animals are antibody negative then one animal from each group with fewer than five animals should be tested for BVD virus. The Check Test is considered a pass when the animals tested for BVD virus are also negative.
<p>Appendix 4 Explanatory notes Point 4</p>	<p>Herd accreditation is shown in column (2). Herds that are accredited for BVD, IBR or leptospirosis have a white coloured box in this column containing the number of years the herd has been accredited. The herd's Johne's or Neospora Disease risk level is shown along with the number of years the herd has been at this level. Only Johne's or Neospora Disease risk level 1 herds are given a white box. For Johne's the number of animals tested at the last full herd test is also shown. Neospora status is relevant for female animals only. When provided, the date of the last clear herd TB test is displayed. In a separate row the CHeCS herd TB score is displayed. Further details of testing are given on the accompanying A4 sheet. Animals from livery retain the TB status of the herd of origin</p>	<p>Addition</p>
	<p>3. Results for individual testing, if done, are shown in column (3) and are colour-coded as follows: Antibody negative</p>	<p>Addition</p>

	<p>IBR or Leptospira hardjo antibody positive BVD antibody positive Antibody testing if required must be carried out within three months of the date of sale. If not from a BVD accredited herd, BVD antibody and virus testing is required.</p> <p>Bulls with positive BVD antibody titres (green box) and no known history should not be used for 10 weeks after testing as they can carry the virus after infection. Pregnant females that test positive for antibodies to BVD will not be given pen cards unless the animal was known to be antibody positive or fully vaccinated prior to service.</p>	
Appendix 5	Knocknagael Bull Testing Protocol	Addition
Appendix 6	Co-Grazing Group/Knocknagael Stud Annual Declaration	Addition