

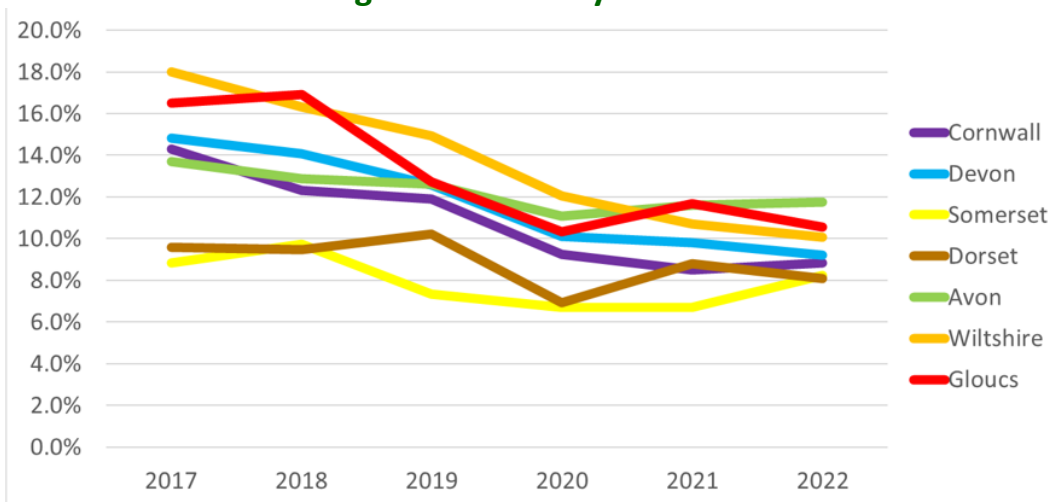


September 2022

Cornwall + Devon TB Update

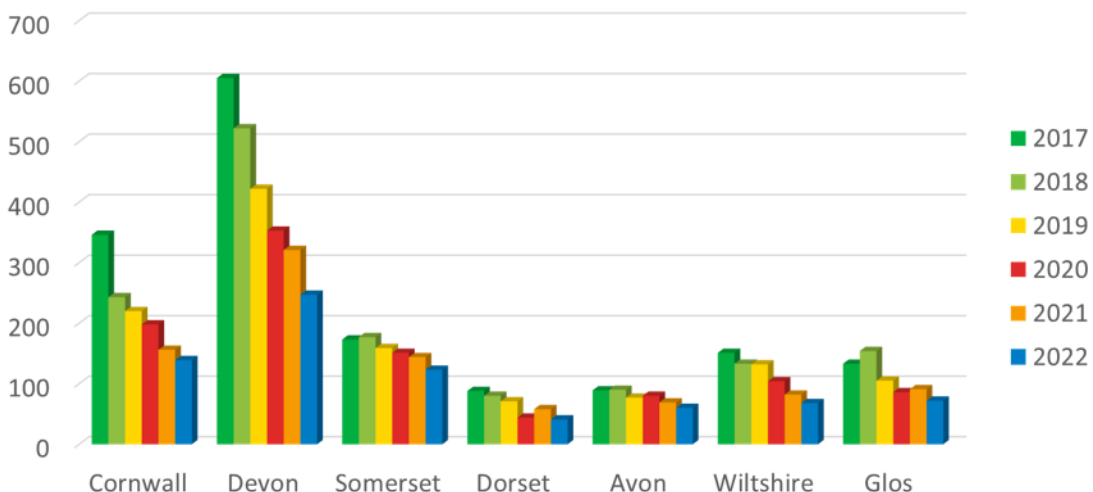
The incidence rate of bovine TB in England increased steadily from 1986 to 2010 and has levelled off since then. There has been a slight decrease in prevalence of TB year on year since 2016, but we need to remember that the 2020 incident totals were still more than double the totals seen before the foot-and-mouth outbreak in 2001. Every year DEFRA produce statistics on overall incidences of TB in different counties, and we wanted to update you on the current situation in Devon + Cornwall.

The prevalence (%) of herds with TB breakdowns in Southwest Counties – Decreasing trend annually from 2017-2022



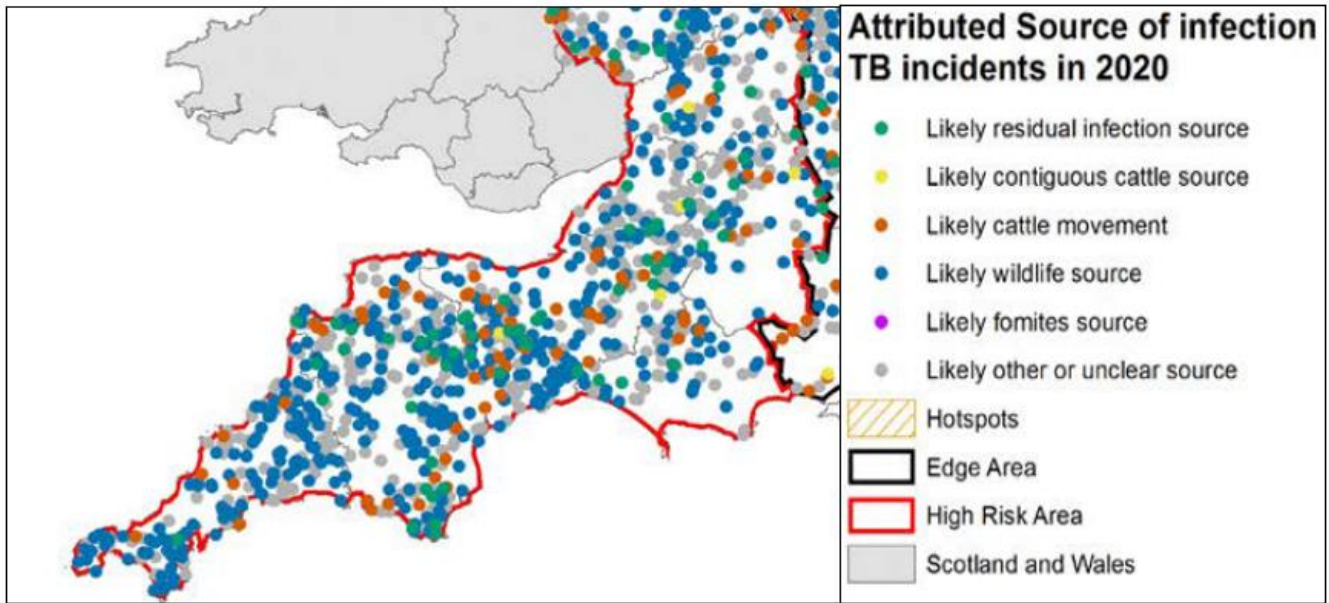
Note: over half of herds with new TB incidents in High Risk Areas (here!) had suffered another TB incident in the previous three years. This confirms that recurrent infection remains an important driver of the TB epidemic.

New farms having their 'Officially TB Free' Status Withdrawn per Year – Decreasing trend from 2017 to 2022



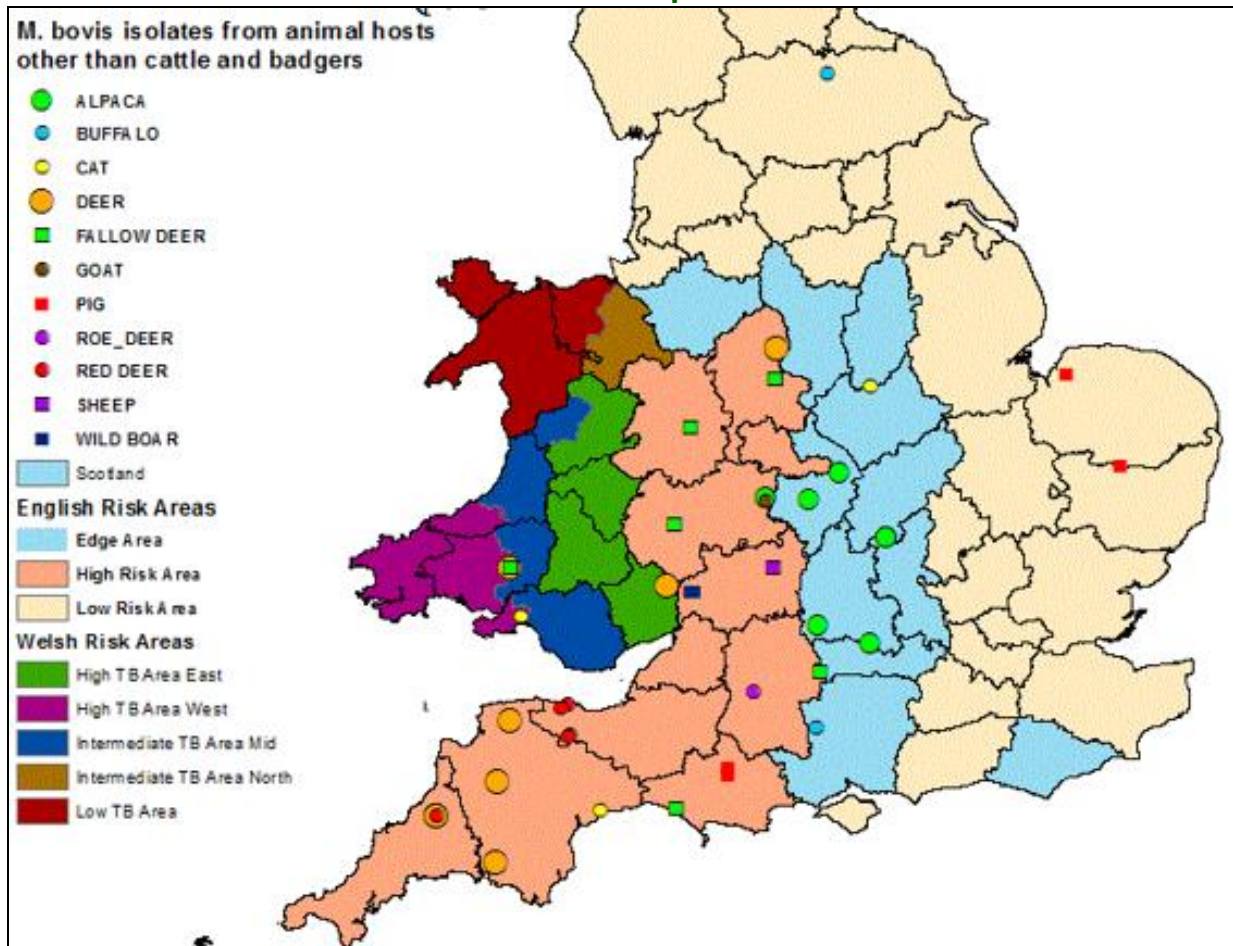
DEFRA have also summarized the likely sources of infection for the outbreaks in 2020 – below is a map to give you an idea of the most likely up-to-date causes.

Source of New Breakdowns



Any mammal can contract tuberculosis, though currently only cattle are routinely tested. If a clinical case arises and is identified as TB in a non-cattle species, however, DEFRA does get involved and will carry out whole herd testing and/or contingency testing. Alpacas + farmed deer are the most recent domesticated species to be identified as having contracted TB in the UK, so watch this space.

Cases in non-cattle species in 2021



Good Sources of Information on TB include:

- TBHub website covers most questions you could have
 - <http://www.tbhub.co.uk/>
- ibTB website can be used to check up on holdings you were thinking of buying from
 - <http://www.ibtb.co.uk/>
- Us! Book a free TB Advisory Service visit with one of our vets to get tailormade advice for your farm
 - Call us or for more information visit: <http://www.tbas.org.uk/>

All the above stats and graphs can be found in the public domain at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/bovine-tb-surveillance-in-great-britain> or
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1027591/tb-epidemiological-report-2020.pdf

Castle Cases – A Very Thirsty Cow

One of our vets was called to assist the fire service in rescuing a cow during the middle of the August heatwave. The cow had stranded herself far from shore at East Dozmary Pool, presumably having been spooked whilst having a drink. The emergency services and vet were called.

According to the chief officer at the scene, firefighters tend to attend more large animal rescues than fires now-a-days, and vet Lucy was present to give any cattle-specific advice or act if sedation or euthanasia were deemed necessary.



Using an inflatable path, a boat and lines the firefighters rescued the bull

Mud-stuck bull rescued 15m from Dozmary Pool shore

5 days ago | Cornwall

Due to the risk of the rescuers themselves getting stuck in the deep bog separating the cow from the shoreline, an inflatable raft was used by the Bodmin crews to reach and secure the animal. She was spooked in the direction of the shore and luckily managed to shift herself around 10m further towards safety. With Water rescue back up on the way from Bude, straps were placed behind her back legs to coax her further, but it was no good – her front legs were now completely stuck in the bog.

With the help of the boat crew, two further longlines were placed around her chest and abdomen, and she was pulled sideways by a team of 10 onshore up to the bank. Swaths of shore were cut at an angle, and two ladders placed between her flank and the shore line, with the waist and chest straps running up and over the top of them. The crews were then able to pull again, with the ladders acting as ridged levers to flip the cow up and over the bank.

After a few moments of recovery, the cow surprised everyone present by standing up and charging off, with several straps and a few firefighters still attached! She settled down overnight and is no worse for wear from her adventure. We have also been assured that the Bodmin crew have got their kit back, ready for another day. A big thanks to the three crews involved from Bodmin and Bude, with a special mention to the four crew members wearing dry suits throughout...in 32 degree heat!



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Some Great Meetings

A big thank you to Chris + Linda Delbridge for hosting one of our largest ever sheep events at their farm in Menheniot! Over 50 farmers attended, including clients from Calweton, Coast2Coast Vets and North Park -bringing together local vets that support the South West Initiative for Sheep Health.



Professor Laura Green and Liz Nabb from the APHA Starcross gave excellent, practical advice on managing lameness in flocks, as well as preventative strategies. The farm walk was enjoyed by all and it gave everyone a chance to compare notes on different flock management strategies – as well the lack of grass this year!

Vets Sarah + Laura also ran a very successful evening for some of our Small Holders based around flock management and sheep health. One attendee commented “It has really boosted my confidence!” which was a running theme throughout the evening. Keep an eye out on the Newsletters and your emails for further Small Holder events!

AHDB Upcoming Beef Rearer + Dairy Talk:

Event
Cornwall:
Developing the rumen
for optimum calf health

Treveale Farm, Ladock, Truro,
TR2 4NS

Thursday 13 October, 10:30am

Contact Laura Awdry:
07391 415 018

ahdb.org.uk/events

The equivalent Devon event will be held at Padbrook Park Hotel, Cullompton EX15 1RU. Contact Laura Awdry to register your interest: 07391 415 018

AHDB Sheep Vet Society Webinar on Animal Health and Welfare Pathway: 15 minutes well spent!

<https://www.farmanimalhealth.co.uk/webinars>

To view the video: click the link above and then click 'Yes' to the pop up. Click on the '**Access to Knowledge (A2k)**' bar to open the video. If you fast forward to 11:30, the relevant talk is finished by 26:30.

This funding is part of the Sustainable Farming Incentive, applications to which opened on June 30th, 2022. Guidance and the link to apply can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/how-to-apply-online-for-an-sfi-standards-agreement-on-land-outside-a-common>

Congratulations Amy!

We are excited to let you know that Amy, who many of you will have met either on farm reception or out on farm, has had a lovely baby girl. Ava Grace was born on 21st August and both she and her Mum and Dad are all doing well. Congratulations Amy and Shaun!

