

**NEW YORK STATE CERVID TB PROGRAM INFORMATION**  
**NYS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS**  
**DIVISION OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY**  
**10B Airline Drive, ALBANY, NY 12235**  
**518-457-3502**

The State of New York Tuberculosis Program requires TB testing of all captive cervids (deer, elk, etc.) within the state. In addition, the USDA has established requirements regulating the interstate movement of cervids. These regulations define the various herd TB statuses and the procedures for maintaining status, adding animals and moving cervids interstate. All states including New York are Modified Accredited states under USDA's captive cervid TB program. The purpose of this document is to explain the different status of herds, the movement of cervids, when testing is required and the quarantine process.

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) regulations with additional requirements for CWD susceptible cervids were implemented in New York in July 2004. **If you possess CWD susceptible deer (see lists below) all CWD requirements must be met in addition to the deer TB requirements.** CWD requirements are available in a separate document. If you have only non-susceptible deer, the requirements below apply and the CWD regulations for movement of deer within the state or into the state do not apply. Cervid regulations of other states vary. Each state should be contacted regarding cervid import regulations before CVI's for interstate movement are completed and movement permits are requested. Some states prohibit private ownership of captive cervids.

**CWD Susceptible Cervid Species:** (Odocoileus and Cervus) White tailed deer, Mule deer, elk, red deer, sika deer, Sitka deer, Barasinga deer, Dybowski deer, Eld's deer, Rusa deer, Schomburgk's deer, sambar deer, Thorold's deer and moose (Alces alces)

**Nonsusceptible Cervids:** Fallow deer, Reindeer, Axis deer, Bawean deer, Brocket, Calamian deer, Hog deer, Hueml, Marsh deer, Muntjac deer, Pampas deer, Pere David's deer, Pudu, Roe deer, Tufted deer, Water deer

**TB testing including restraint and handling of the deer is the responsibility of the deer owner.**

## **HERD PROCEDURES BASED ON TB STATUS**

### **Accredited Herd**

This is a herd that has undergone two consecutive negative herd TB tests of all eligible animals (> 1 year of age) at 9-15 month intervals. The owner must apply for accreditation after the second herd test. The accreditation certificate indicates the accredited herd number and expiration date of the accredited herd status.

Reaccreditation is achieved by completing a negative herd test within a period of 33 to 39 months of the anniversary date. The anniversary date is established by the second test date and cannot be changed by delaying testing beyond 36 months. One may change the anniversary date, with prior approval, only by completing a reaccrediting test less than 33 months after the previous anniversary date. Accredited herd

status is maintained for 36 months after the anniversary date of the accrediting test. If the herd is tested between 36 and 39 months after the anniversary date, the accredited herd status will be suspended for the interim between the anniversary date and the reaccrediting test.

Note: Accreditation status is lost if 39 months elapses without a negative herd test.

Movements: Deer can be moved interstate from an Accredited herd for a period of 36 months without further TB testing. Receiving states may have additional requirements. Deer from an accredited herd can move within New York State without further TB testing. (If accreditation status is suspended or lost, the procedures outlined below under Tested Herds apply).

Additions: Additions may enter from an accredited free herd without test. Additions from a qualified herd or a monitored herd must be negative to an official TB test conducted within 90 days prior to entry. The deer must be kept isolated and tested negative for TB at least 90 days after entry. Deer from an unclassified herd that has been tested negative for TB within the past 5 years must be isolated and tested negative twice prior to movement at least 90 days apart with the second test within 90 days of movement. The deer must be kept isolated and again tested negative for TB at least 90 days after entry. Deer cannot move into an accredited herd from a quarantined herd under any circumstances.

### **Qualified Herd**

To achieve qualified herd status, all eligible animals (all cervids in the herd except natural additions less than 12 months of age) must be tested negative within a 7 month period. Qualified herd status expires 12 months after the first tuberculosis tests done to qualify the herd.

Movements: Cervids can be sold within NYS for a period of 36 months after qualifying test including animals too young to test. Cervids moving to qualified and monitored herds must be negative to a TB test within 90 days prior to entry. Additional testing is required for movements to an accredited herd (see above). Deer moving interstate must be TB test negative within 90 days of movement except those animals that move within 6 months after the qualifying herd test. Deer under one year of age that are natural additions can move without test to qualified, monitored and unclassified herds through the one year anniversary date. The receiving state may have additional requirements.

Additions: Additions may enter from an accredited herd without test. Additions from a qualified or monitored herd must be negative to a TB test within 90 days prior to entry. Deer from an unclassified herd that has been tested negative for TB within the past 5 years must be isolated and tested negative twice prior to movement at least 90 days apart with the second test within 90 days of movement. The deer must be kept isolated and again tested negative for TB at least 90 days after entry.

Duration of Status: Qualified herd status expires 12 months after the first tuberculosis tests done to qualify the herd. If another herd test is completed between 9 and 15 months after the first tuberculosis tests, the herd becomes an accredited herd.

### **Monitored Herd**

A herd that has had the required number of captive cervids 1 year of age and older that die or are killed inspected for TB lesions or TB skin tested over a three year period (at least half of the required number must be inspected at slaughter or necropsy). For herd sizes up to 200 animals, the required number is 60% of adult deer in the herd. For larger herds, contact the Division of Animal Industry.

**Movements:** All deer greater than one year of age must be tested negative for TB within 90 days of movement. This applies to interstate movements as well as movements within New York State. Additional testing is required for movement to accredited herds (see above). Deer under one year of age that are natural additions can move to qualified, monitored and unclassified herds without test.

**Additions:** Requirements are the same as for a Qualified herd (see above).

**Duration of Status:** The herd owner must file an annual application showing that the required numbers of animals were tested over the previous three years but no less than 25% of the required total was tested in the past year. Herds not meeting this requirement will have their status dropped.

### **Tested Herd**

All New York State herds which are moving live deer must be TB tested every five years or be classified as a monitored herd. Newly assembled herds must test within three years of formation. Herds which have had a herd test within the previous three years may ship deer within the state without individual testing. Herds which have been tested more than three years and less than five years ago may ship deer within the state including fawns but must test any deer older than twelve months of age within 90 days of movement. Herds which have not had a whole herd test within five years and assembled herds which have not had a test within three years will be quarantined unless they have attained monitored TB herd status. No deer can move from a quarantined herd until a complete herd test is done unless they are moving direct to slaughter and are subject to slaughter surveillance.

### **Special Purpose Herd**

Cervid herds that are on premises that do not have facilities to effectively restrain cervids for TB testing are classified as special purpose herds. Special purpose herds that contain only non-CWD-susceptible species can move deer following the requirements under "Tested Herd" (see above). Live cervids can never be removed from CWD-susceptible special purpose herds. All deer entering must be individually identified and meet all movement requirements as well as the CWD requirements if a CWD susceptible species.

NOTE: Only non CWD susceptible deer from TB accredited, qualified or monitored herds may be shipped to New York. Only deer from TB accredited, qualified or monitored herds may be shipped from New York.

### **PERMIT REQUIRED FOR ALL DEER MOVEMENTS WITHIN NEW YORK**

A permit can be obtained by calling the Division of Animal Industry at 518-457-3971. If all requirements are met, a permit will be issued and mailed to you. A copy can also be faxed as well. This permit must accompany the shipment. Permit processing will require a minimum of 3 business days. Note: DEC approval is required for the movement of CWD susceptible cervids and will be coordinated by the Division of Animal Industry.

### **IDENTIFICATION**

All cervids that are tested or moved must be individually identified. Non-CWD susceptible cervids must have at least one form of identification that is unique, visible and approved by the Department.

An example of a unique tag would be the Department supplied 21 tag or an RFID tag. A farm tag with a 2 digit number for example would not be adequate. Visible ID means that the identification device is visible from a distance, not that the numbers can be read from a distance. The purpose of such ID is to make it clear that the animal has been affixed with man-made ID indicating that they likely originated from a captive deer premises. CWD-susceptible cervids must have two forms of unique and approved ID, one of which is visible.

## **TRANSFER OF STATUS**

A newly assembled herd assumes the lowest status of the herds of origin. For example, if deer are obtained from an accredited free herd and a qualified herd, the status of the new herd would be qualified. If a newly assembled herd is not retested within three years of formation, it will be quarantined.

Movements of cervids from lower TB status to higher TB status herds are not prohibited but will result in the reduction of status for the receiving herd.

## **TESTING PROCEDURES**

The approved TB tests used as herd or individual tests are the single cervical test and the DPP test which can only be performed by a regulatory veterinarian or an accredited veterinarian certified to TB test deer.

Single cervical test: If a TB suspicious reaction is found on the single cervical test, the herd is quarantined and the following procedures apply:

1. Comparative cervical test within 10 days or after 90 days of the single cervical injection date, by regulatory veterinarian OR
2. Slaughtered under direct supervision by regulatory veterinarian.

Suspects can be retested. If an animal is a suspect on two consecutive comparative cervical tests, it is classified as a reactor. Reactors must be slaughtered and examined by a regulatory veterinarian for TB. Detailed procedures will be outlined by the regulatory veterinarian if infection is found.

DPP test: ***The DPP test is performed at the owner's expense.*** In addition, the DPP test may only be performed on the following species: elk, red deer, white tailed deer, fallow deer, and reindeer.

A non-negative result on the primary DPP test should be classified as suspect. The herd must be immediately quarantined and the following procedures apply:

1. A second DPP test no sooner than 30 days after the initial blood sample was taken. A captive cervid that has non-negative test results to the DPP test must not be retested using the SCT or CCT test.
2. Slaughtered under direct supervision by regulatory veterinarian.

Animals that are non-negative on two successive DPP tests should be classified as reactors. Reactors must be slaughtered and examined by a regulatory veterinarian for TB. Detailed procedures will be outlined by the regulatory veterinarian if infection is found.

## TB Sampling of Cervids in Quarantined Herds and Special Purpose Herds

Deaths of cervids 1 year of age and older must be examined for TB. Examination of deer is limited to 10% of the herd to a maximum of 30 per year. In addition to this all natural deaths are to be examined. Examination will be conducted by Department personnel.

## **MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION**

Cattle and other ruminants on the same farm with deer must be kept biologically separate from the deer unless the deer are in a qualified or accredited cervid herd. Questions about biological separation should be directed to your local field veterinarian or private practitioner. The cattle and other ruminants must be tested at least once every five years if the deer herd is quarantined. The initial test must be completed within 60 days of quarantine.

Single cervical TB testing or DPP blood testing can be done by a regulatory veterinarian or certified accredited veterinarian. The Department of Agriculture and Markets will reimburse the private veterinarian for single cervical herd tests only, not individual testing. The private veterinarian is not required to do testing and can charge above and beyond the state reimbursement. TB testing including restraint and handling of the deer is the responsibility of the deer owner.