

The risk matrix below is designed to help with purchasing decisions but is not a guarantee of individual animal status. To be certain of an individual animal status it must have an individual test result. **Pregnant animals are always a greater risk** and therefore cannot be assigned to category 1.

Category	Standard	Risk of being PI
<b>BVD Category 1:</b> BVD certified negative	Cattle are not pregnant, and are either,  From an accredited BVD-free herd through a CHeCS cattle health scheme  OR  Individually tested BVD virus-free	Very low risk
<b>BVD Category 2:</b> BVD herd screen negative	From a herd with a 'negative' BVD herd status through mandatory annual screening  OR  Pregnant cattle that would otherwise be in Category 1	Low risk
<b>BVD Category 3:</b> BVD status unknown	All cattle not in Categories 1 or 2 (including from 'not negative' herds)	Risk unknown

### What if my herd has BVD?

If your herd has been given a result of 'not negative', this means that it has shown signs of exposure to the virus. You should work with your vet to identify and remove any PI animals that may be present within your herd.

### What if I am free of BVD?

You should protect your 'negative' status by only bringing in BVD free cattle and maintaining good biosecurity.

### How much will BVD eradication save me?

Scottish Government economists have calculated the following benefits of eradicating BVD for four average types of farm:

#### Annual benefits after eradication:

<b>Dairy</b>	<b>£15,800</b>
<b>LFA specialist beef</b>	<b>£2,400</b>
<b>LFA cattle &amp; sheep</b>	<b>£1,800</b>
<b>Lowground cattle &amp; sheep</b>	<b>£2,400</b>

Case studies from farms which have successfully eradicated BVD can be found on the BVD website

[www.scotland.gov.uk/bvd](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/bvd)

#### For all questions and comments on this scheme please contact:

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# BVD Eradication In Scotland



**Phase 3  
January  
2014**

## What is BVD?

Bovine Viral Diarrhoea (BVD) is a serious infectious viral disease of cattle causing abortion, infertility, diarrhoea, pneumonia, poor condition and failure to thrive. It can be fatal.

The disease is predominantly spread by **Persistently Infected (PI) cattle**. These are born with the disease, having come into contact with BVD virus in the womb during the first 120 days of gestation. They will have BVD all their lives and they **shed virus extensively**, infecting cattle around them. Most PI cattle die as calves but a few live much longer and **many PI animals appear normal**.



The photo on the left shows two calves of the same age, but the one on the left is a PI.

*Picture:  
Prof. Joe Brownlie, RVC.*

## How widespread is BVD?

Around 20% of all herds in Scotland now show signs of exposure to BVD. This is a great reduction from the initial estimates of 40% of herds with exposure at the start of the scheme. There are an estimated 2,000 - 4,000 PI animals in Scotland.

## Why eradicate BVD?

The Scottish Government estimates that BVD eradication would be worth £50 million to £80 million to industry over the next ten years. Eradication would cut costs, improve income, improve animal welfare and enhance Scotland's reputation as a high-quality producer.

### Timeline for eradication

#### February 2013 -

Mandatory Annual Screening

#### January 2014 -

Movement controls for BVD persistently infected (PI) animals and untested herds. Herd declaration required at sale.

**December 2014** - Increased testing requirements and restrictions on 'not negative' herds. Testing required for animals brought into Scotland.

## How will we get there?

The key to the success of the eradication scheme is to find any PI animals and remove them. If you have a 'not negative' status carry out further testing to establish if you have an active infection present in your herd. In herds with active infection, further testing and removal of any PI animals is required before a herd status can be changed.

## What does the new BVD legislation require?

### Keep screening for BVD annually

Continue to check your herd annually for BVD using one of the six allowed methods. Your samples must be submitted to an approved laboratory for testing. The laboratory will provide you with a herd status of '**negative**' (no sign of exposure to BVD) or '**not negative**' (unable to provide a 'negative' status).

### Do NOT move any BVD infected animals

If you have an animal that tests positive for the BVD virus it is probably PI, although a second test will ensure this. As from 1st of January 2014 you are not allowed to move any animal that tests positive for BVD virus other than directly to slaughter.

### Do NOT move any animals from untested herds

If you have a breeding herd you should now have a herd status. If you do not have a herd status you are not allowed to move your animals except to slaughter.

### Declare the status of your herd

You are now required to declare your herd status at the point of sale and markets will do this for you. You can meet this requirement by having a herd status available on the ScotEID BVD database and providing the purchaser with the details they need to access this information. Purchasers should ensure they are given this information.