



Johne's Disease

What is Johne's disease?

Johne's disease (Johne's) is a non-curable bacterial infection primarily found in ruminant animals which is caused by *mycobacterium avium paratuberculosis* which is present in 60-80% of cattle herds.

How is Johne's transmitted?

Johne's is transmitted through ingestion of manure and milk.

What are the signs of infection?

Infection usually occurs in young animals, but they don't show symptoms until they are approximately 3 years old. Symptoms can include chronic diarrhea, decreased milk production, thin body conditions or unresponsiveness.

What are the testing requirements for Johne's?

At this time there is no mandatory testing in Idaho. All testing is voluntary, but if you are concerned about infection within your herd or flock they should be tested.

Where can I get my cattle tested for Johne's?

Contact your veterinarian to schedule testing.

What can I do to prevent Johne's in my herd/flock?

When you purchase cattle, make sure they are from herds that have been tested negative for Johne's. More information on Johne's prevention can be found at www.johnes.org.

What do I do if my herd or flock is positive?

USDA created an extremely informative booklet for help with control or eradication of Johne's in an infected herd. Although the program under which the information was compiled is no longer funded, there is valuable prevention guidance contained within this booklet as well as other publications on the Johne's disease website. Further information on prevention, control or eradication of Johne's is available at www.johnes.org.

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If you have a question that is not covered here, please contact Animal Industries by [email](#) or at [\(208\) 332-8540](tel:2083328540).