

## **WAG Letter sent to Landowners**

*18/04/2010*

The Welsh Assembly has sent a letter to landowners in the proposed IAPA cull trial area stating that “We are writing to you to let you know that the Welsh Assembly Government has successfully defended its decision to implement a badger cull alongside additional cattle measures in the Intensive Action Pilot Area.”

You can see the full letter here:



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

16 April 2010

Dear Customer,

### **Pilot Area - Judicial Review**

We are writing to let you know that the Welsh Assembly Government has successfully defended its decision to implement a badger cull alongside additional cattle measures in the Intensive Action Pilot Area.

The Judge has decided that the Ministers' decision to cull badgers as part of a comprehensive TB Eradication programme is reasonable and lawful. Bovine TB in the area is unsustainable and evidence shows that a badger cull, together with additional cattle measures, will significantly reduce bovine TB in cattle.

### **What happens next?**

#### **Sett Survey**

Contractors working on behalf of the Welsh Assembly Government will continue to survey the area for badger activity. If your land has not been surveyed to date, please note:

- The contractor or Welsh Assembly Government officials will contact you directly before they commence surveying your land;
- The Tuberculosis Eradication (Wales) Order 2009 allows authorised persons the power to enter any premises, except a dwelling house, in connection with treating badgers with vaccine or destroying badgers;
- Contractors acting on behalf of the Welsh Assembly Government will carry official photographic identification & certificates of authorisation;
- ALWAYS ask officials to produce their Identification. You should not allow entry without seeing the identification card;
- If you are in any doubt, contact the IAPA Landowners helpline on 0800 4961439 to verify their identity.

Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer  
TB Team  
Cathays Park  
Cardiff  
CF10 3NQ

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300  
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400  
[bovineTB@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:bovineTB@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

## **Cattle Controls**

The cattle controls to be implemented on the 1st May are as follows:

- Whole herd tests at 6 month intervals - Animal Health will contact you directly regarding your testing periods;
- All breakdowns will require 2 clear tests (2 x 60 days apart) before TB free status is restored & restrictions lifted;
- Removal of all BCMS linkages between holdings inside & outside the pilot area. BCMS are currently in the process of contacting cattle keepers with linked holdings which cross the pilot area boundary;
- Removal of all Sole Occupancy Authorities (SOAs). Animal Health have written to all landowners within the pilot area to confirm the removal of the SOA.

Additional information in relation to the cattle controls measures will be circulated to cattle keepers shortly.

## **Badger containment & despatch**

Subject to badger setts being identified on your land, contractors undertaking the containment & despatch of badgers will contact you directly before they commence trapping. We will begin once the Badger Sett Survey is complete, final delivery arrangements are in place, and we have taken advice from wildlife experts on when the closed season ends.

To contact the Welsh Assembly Government's TB team, please write to: TB team, Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer, Department for Rural Affairs, Welsh Assembly Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ, or email [IAPA-Helpline@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:IAPA-Helpline@wales.gsi.gov.uk).

If you have any questions regarding the pilot, please do not hesitate to contact the IAPA landowners helpline on **0800 4961439**.

For more information on the TB Eradication Programme in Wales, visit the Welsh Assembly Government website: [www.wales.gov.uk/bovinetb](http://www.wales.gov.uk/bovinetb).

Yours sincerely

**TB Team**  
**Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer**

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