Johne's Beef Assurance Score

The Johne's Beef Assurance Score (J-BAS) is a risk profiling tool developed for use in the new approach to JD in beef cattle. It is meant to be used as a guide and producers should ask further questions about JD in the herd and on the property, rather than rely on the score alone.

<table>
<tr><td colspan="4">Johne's Beef Assurance Score (J-BAS) [numbers equate to Dairy Score]</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="4">On-farm biosecurity plan implemented*</td><td rowspan="3">Biosecurity plan implemented for minimum of 5 years</td><td>Testing, plus veterinary advisor for plan</td><td>Two successive negative Sample tests 2 years apart, and ongoing triennial Check Test</td><td>8
High assurance</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>One negative Sample test a minimum of 5 years after the last confirmed clinical case and ongoing triennial Check Test</td><td>7
Assurance</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Minimum 5 years since last clinical case of Johne's disease confirmed on property</td><td>6
Managed disease risk</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">If previously infected, minimum of 2 years of biosecurity plan implemented and since last clinical case of Johne's disease confirmed on property, plus all high-risk animals identified and removed
If no previous infection, biosecurity plan in place</td><td>4
Progressing</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Biosecurity plan in place
Clinical case(s) removed</td><td>2
First steps</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Suspect, infected and unknown</td><td>0
Unmanaged risk</td></tr>
</table>

*The *National Farm Biosecurity Reference Manual - Grazing Livestock Production* provides a template to use for the property biosecurity plan. All plans should include the JD in Cattle Biosecurity Plan Checklist.

JD in other species that are susceptible should also be included in deciding the score.

A clinical case is an infected animal with chronic diarrhoea and weight-loss that does not respond to treatment.

Transitional arrangements until 30 June 2017

- CattleMAP MN1, MN2 & MN3 herds to Level 8
- CattleMAP herds with a history of clinical disease due to sheep strain go to an appropriate level depending on the time since the last clinical case was recorded
- Free Zone herds to Level 8**
- Protected Zone herds to Level 7**
- *Beef Only* to Level 7**
- Beef Protected Area beef herds to Level 7**
- Victorian TCP beef herds to enrol according to how long since their last clinical case.
- Herds in the Management Area that do not qualify above to Level 0.

**** Herds in these areas considered to have had property biosecurity plan equivalence through previous zoning, i.e. once property plan is implemented they are considered to have had a biosecurity plan in place for the required period.
Producers should see JD in Cattle Biosecurity Checklist (available from the website *animalhealthaustralia.com.au* under Johne's disease in cattle) for information on co-grazing with sheep and exposure to dairy cattle and producers should ask further questions to assess risk.
Initial Sample Test must be a component of the Biosecurity Plan, with the initial test occurring within 24 months from commencement of J-BAS.

Maintenance arrangements

- All levels (excluding 0)
    - Establish property biosecurity plan within 12 months, or lapse to Level 0
    - Maintain biosecurity plan
    - Investigate and resolve all suspect cases

- Level 8
    - Overseen by veterinary advisor (annual review)
    - Triennial Check Test
- Level 7
    - Overseen by veterinary advisor (annual review)
    - Triennial Check Test
- Level 6
    - If previous infection then all high-risk animals identified and removed
- Level 4
    - If previous infection then all high-risk animals identified and removed

Events that affect Assurance level

- Levels 7 & 8 where testing confirms infection in an animal with no clinical signs:
    - Drop to Level 6, provided other elements of Level 6 are met
    - Are eligible to retest 2 years after the last high risk animal(s) removed to progress to Level 7

Explanation of the Johne's Beef Assurance Score

1. Herds currently in the Market Assurance Program (MAP) will remain as CattleMAP herds, pending the outcome of the evaluation of CattleMAP currently underway. As explained under 'Transitional Arrangements' these herds will also commence with the highest J-BAS score of 8. Should the CattleMAP be discontinued the herd can maintain a herd at Score 8 by doing a Check Test (with negative results) of the most susceptible animals in the herd every three years and the employment of a veterinary adviser to conduct an annual review of the on farm Biosecurity Plan. CattleMAP herds which have had clinical cases due to sheep strain will revert to the appropriate score depending on the length of time since the last case.

2. Herds in the previous Free Zone (WA) will commence with a J-BAS score of 8. To maintain score 8 the producer must implement a Biosecurity Plan supervised by a veterinary adviser within the 12 months to 30 June 2017, and conduct a triennial Check Test with negative results. The herd does need to have a biosecurity plan in place for a minimum of 5 years to stay at score 8, however Western Australia's existing control system is counted towards the five year requirement.

3. Herds previously in the Protected Zone (Qld, NT and pastoral SA), the Beef Protected Area (NSW and non-pastoral SA) or currently qualifies as a "Beef Only" herd in Management Area (Vic and Tas) will commence with a J-BAS score of 7. To maintain score 7 the producer must implement an on farm Biosecurity Plan, supervised by a veterinary adviser, within the 12 months to 30 June 2017 and conduct a triennial Check Test (with negative results). The herd does need to have an on farm Biosecurity Plan for a minimum of 5 years to stay at score 7, however existing state/territory control systems are counted towards this requirement.

4. Where a herd has a J-BAS score of 7 or 8 for the transitional period but the owner does not wish to undertake Check Testing or employ a veterinary adviser to supervise their on farm Biosecurity Plan, they can maintain a score of 6 by implementing their own Biosecurity Plan before 30 June 2017. Part of the Biosecurity Plan would be to investigate all suspect cases and where there has been an infection to remove all high-risk animals.

5. A herd in which JD infection has been confirmed but has not had a clinical case for a minimum of two years, has removed all high-risk animals and has had a Biosecurity Plan in place for a minimum of two years, will have a J-BAS score of 4. Once these herds have not had a clinical case of JD for at least 5 years and have maintained a Biosecurity Plan for at least 5 years, they can advance to score 6.

6. Herds which did not qualify as J-BAS score of 7 or 8 in the transitional period but have had no previous infection with JD and have implemented a Biosecurity Plan will be given a score of 4. Once these herds have not had a clinical case of JD for at least 5 years and have maintained a Biosecurity Plan for at least 5 years, they can advance to score 6.

7. An infected herd which has removed all clinical cases and has implemented a Biosecurity Plan will get a J-BAS score of 2.

8. Herds which do not have a Biosecurity Plan implemented by 30 June 2017 will have a J-BAS score of 0.

How does a producer establish a Biosecurity Plan?

National Farm Biosecurity Reference Manual - Grazing Livestock Production is available from the website *farmbiosecurity.com.au* and provides a template to use for the property biosecurity plan. It has specific cattle and animal disease sections which outline suggested practices to be included in a cattle Biosecurity Plan. All plans should include the JD in Cattle Biosecurity Plan Checklist.

A Biosecurity Management Plan module is likely to be available as part of Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) in the near future and could also be used. Grazing Best Management Practices (Grazing BMP) also has a biosecurity plan (under animal health and welfare).

The Livestock Biosecurity Network also have on-farm biosecurity planning tools on their website.