

Salmonella Study

Newsletter for veterinarians



Salmonella in cattle

Salmonella is endemic in dairy cattle in New Zealand, and can cause large outbreaks of scouring and mortality. The effects of Salmonella on-farm can be devastating and pose a serious risk to the health, productivity and welfare of affected animals.

Salmonella is also a common cause of gastro-intestinal disease in humans, with livestock acting as a reservoir for infection.

Update on Salmonella in New Zealand

There has been an increase in diagnoses of salmonellosis on dairy farms in recent years in New Zealand.

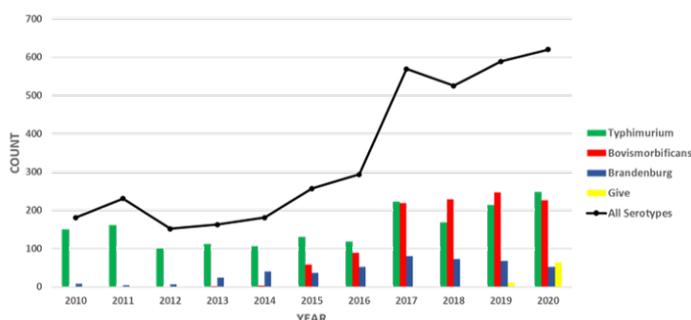


Fig.1: Laboratory confirmed Salmonella cases in cattle (source: MPI)

Ongoing national surveillance of veterinary laboratory diagnoses in the past five years shows the emergence and rapid spread of Salmonella serotype Bovismorbificans in the cattle population, throughout the country and more recently Salmonella Give.

Public health surveillance during the same period shows a mirroring trend in the number of diagnosed human cases of Salmonella bovisorbificans.

Who are we and what do we do?

The EpiCentre (Massey university) - in collaboration with dairy industry stakeholders - is conducting a survey and a case-control study during the 2021-22 dairy season, to identify risk factors for Salmonellosis outbreaks in dairy cattle.

Information from this study will help manage the risk of salmonellosis outbreaks, thus improving on-farm production and protecting animal welfare. It will also improve the health and wellbeing of farmers and their families, and public health.

We need the help of dairy veterinarians to recruit study farms.

- **Visit the salmonella study webpage at www.massey.ac.nz/salmonella.** You can download a farmers flyer from the "Salmonella Study Resources" section, to include in your practice newsletter and raise awareness among farmers.
- **If you get a positive diagnosis of Salmonella in cattle,** your diagnostic laboratory will get in touch with you about registering this farm as a potential case for the study.
- **Follow the instructions to share the farm contact details with us,** online or by email. Inform your client and seek their consent before you give us their contact.
- **If you suspect a salmonella outbreak on a dairy farm this milking season,** please send samples to the laboratory for confirmation.

Together we can reduce the impact of salmonellosis on dairy farms.