



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

## APHA Briefing Note 36/25

### Duplicate TB test submissions

**Date issued: 02 October 2025**

#### Purpose

To remind Official Veterinarians (OVs) and Approved Tuberculin Testers (ATTs) of the importance of verifying the accuracy of TB test charts before submission to SAM, and to ensure that cattle are not tested at intervals of less than 60 days.

#### Background

APHA's quality assurance checks have identified multiple instances where cattle were recorded on SAM as having been tested more than once on the same farm within a 60-day period. These cases often involve tests conducted in multiple parts over several days. APHA is currently investigating the underlying causes.

#### Action

- OVs and ATTs must ensure cattle are not tested if they have already been tested within the previous 60 days. Tests conducted at intervals shorter than 60 days may be deemed invalid.
- When a test is conducted in multiple parts within a 60-day window, care must be taken to not retest animals already tested in earlier parts.
- All cattle must be accounted for and recorded in the on-farm testing record on the injection day and the reading day of every part of every test. Failure to do so is a non-compliance with the TB testing procedures and will likely lead to suspension of OV or ATT authorisation and formal investigation under the relevant policy for authorisation.
- OVs and ATTs are responsible for the accuracy of the on-farm testing record, which must be retained for 3 years and 60 days. This record forms the basis for certifying each animal's TB test result upon submission. APHA may request copies of this record when necessary.

- OVs and ATTs must verify the accuracy of their TB test records before submitting them on SAM. Particular care must be taken with multi-part tests to ensure eartag numbers are not duplicated. Incorrect entries can result in erroneous payments and may require data corrections.
- OVs and ATTs must only submit results for cattle that they have personally tested.
- APHA will continue to monitor TB test submissions for duplicate entries and will investigate as necessary.

## Further Information

- TB testing instructions are located on the Improve OV and AHP websites:

[Official Veterinarian Training](#)

[Official Animal Health Paraprofessional Training](#)

- Queries should be directed to APHA TB teams:
  - England - [TB.Advice@apha.gov.uk](mailto:TB.Advice@apha.gov.uk); Tel. 03000 200 301
  - Scotland - [ScotlandEndemics@apha.gov.uk](mailto:ScotlandEndemics@apha.gov.uk); Tel. 03000 200 301
  - Wales - [APHA.CymruWales@APHA.gov.uk](mailto:APHA.CymruWales@APHA.gov.uk); Tel. 0300 303 82 68