

# Pre-purchase checklist for cattle

Prior to purchasing it is key to know your own herd health and vaccination status for Johne's, BVD, IBR and Leptospirosis.



Date: ..... Number of animals to be purchased: .....

Name of vendor and address of farm where cattle are to be purchased from:.....

Postcode: ..... Telephone number:.....

Source herd size: ..... Is the source herd *CHeCS* accredited? Yes ☐ No ☐

Has the source herd brought any animals into the herd in the last 6 months? Yes ☐ No ☐

Vendor's vet name and address: .....

Postcode: ..... Telephone number:.....

The guidance below covers the purchase of any cattle onto the holding – however, there are additional questions which should be asked if purchasing bulls. The *BCVA* has a bull purchasing checklist which details these, while vendors can provide breeding bulls with certificates from the system.

**Johne's disease** – a slow onset disease with production losses, scour, wasting and eventual death.

- If applicable what *CHeCS* risk level is the source herd? 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐
- Has the source herd ever vaccinated for Johne's disease? Yes ☐ No ☐
- What type of screening does the herd undertake?  
All cows ☐ Selected animals (e.g. 30 cows) ☐ Bulk milk ☐ None ☐
- When was the last screen?  
Within 3 months ☐ 3 – 6 months ☐ 6 – 12 months ☐ Over 12 months ☐

What were the results of the last screen?

**BVD** – a viral disease of cattle causing infertility, abortion and reduced immunity. Persistently infected (PI) calves may be born to cattle infected when pregnant. These calves are a source of infection and will die prematurely.

- Is the source herd accredited clear? Yes ☐ No ☐
- Is the source herd vaccinated? Yes ☐ No ☐
- Are the animal(s) to be purchased pregnant? Yes ☐ No ☐
- Has the animal(s) to be purchased been tested for BVD antigen? Yes ☐ No ☐

**Leptospirosis** – a bacterial disease of cattle causing reproductive failure and milk drop. This disease is also transmissible to humans (zoonosis).

- Is the source herd accredited clear? Yes ☐ No ☐
- Is the source herd vaccinated? Yes ☐ No ☐

**IBR** – a viral disease of cattle causing respiratory disease, reproductive failure and milk drop. A carrier status may occur and can lead to the introduction of the disease.

- Is the source herd accredited free? Yes ☐ No ☐
- Is the source herd vaccinated? Yes ☐ No ☐
- Is the animal(s) to be purchased antibody positive? Yes ☐ No ☐

**Bovine Tuberculosis (bTB)** – a notifiable bacterial disease of cattle.

- What is the testing frequency imposed on the source herd? Annual ☐ Biannual ☐ 4-Yearly ☐
- Has the source herd had a reactor or inconclusive reactor in the last four years? Yes ☐ No ☐

**Campylobacter foetus venerealis** – a sexually transmitted disease that can cause fertility problems.

- Is natural service used in the source herd? Yes ☐ No ☐
- If the animal(s) is pregnant was service via: AI ☐ Natural service ☐
- Has the animal ever run with a bull? Yes ☐ No ☐

**Salmonella** – a reportable disease causing scour and abortions. This disease is transmissible to humans (zoonosis).

- Has there ever been a confirmed case in the source herd? Yes ☐ No ☐
- Is the source herd vaccinated? Yes ☐ No ☐

**Neospora caninum** – a protozoal parasite that can cause cattle to abort.

- Have there been confirmed cases in the source herd? Yes ☐ No ☐
- Has the animal(s) to be purchased been tested? Yes ☐ No ☐

**Parasites** – purchased cattle may harbour a variety of parasites, including gut worms, lungworms, liver fluke, lice and mites.

- Has the parasite status of the animals to be purchased been assessed? Yes ☐ No ☐
- Have the animals to be purchased been vaccinated against lungworm? Yes ☐ No ☐
- Has liver fluke been confirmed in the source herd? Yes ☐ No ☐
- When was the last treatment for:
  - Fluke Within 3 months ☐ Within 6 months ☐ Within last 12 months ☐
  - Endoparasites Within 3 months ☐ Within 6 months ☐ Within last 12 months ☐
  - Ectoparasites Within 3 months ☐ Within 6 months ☐ Within last 12 months ☐

**Digital dermatitis** – infectious cause of lameness.

- Is digital dermatitis present in the source herd? Yes ☐ No ☐

**Mastitis** – a common multifactorial disease which can cause significant economic loss.

- Have the cell count and mastitis records of the animal(s) to be purchased been seen? Yes ☐ No ☐

**Brucellosis** – a disease which causes cattle to abort. This disease is transmissible to humans (zoonosis).

- Have the cattle to be purchased been imported from outside GB? Yes ☐ No ☐
- Are there animals within the source herd from outside GB? Yes ☐ No ☐

### **Bluetongue and Schmallenberg virus (SBV)**

It is recommended you seek the most up-to-date information on the current status of infection relating to both of these viruses and take account of this information when making purchasing decisions.

As with all issues relating to animal health and welfare consultation with your veterinary surgeon is recommended in relation to interpretation of the above answers and their potential impact on the health and vaccination status of your herd. For further information about these, and other, diseases and the threat they pose please visit the XLVets website [www.xlvets.co.uk](http://www.xlvets.co.uk)