



MYCOPLASMA BOVIS



Mustering payments for farms under active surveillance

Farmers under surveillance for *Mycoplasma bovis* (*M. bovis*) are required to muster animals to collect samples. It has become clear that, for many farmers, this is an additional cost that they may incur several times.

From 11 February 2019, farmers required to muster cattle for sampling while under active surveillance can apply for a mustering payment of up to \$500 (excluding GST) for each round of sampling.

Farms under Notices of Direction (NoD) or Restricted Places (RP) can also apply for mustering costs as an operational costs. Please talk to your ICP Manager or Recovery Manager about how to apply for these costs.

Farmers who had to muster before 11 February 2019 can also apply for retrospective mustering payment.

The following criteria must all be met for requests:

- Farm is (or was) under Active Surveillance.
- Mustering is/was undertaken primarily to collect samples for *M. bovis*, and was not planned farm activity or combined with another activity (e.g. milking, drenching).
- The muster delayed or disrupted usual on-farm activity.
- The muster took four hours or more.
- Animals were presented for testing (rather than samplers going to the animals).

How to request a mustering payment

The mustering payment request form must be completed on the day of sampling by the person or business that incurred the costs, and the Surveillance Team Lead (or ICP Manager if present).

If a registered business incurred the costs, the form should be completed by a company director.

Send the completed form with an invoice to the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) by email or post.

If you have queries about mustering payments:

Email: MBovis2017_Liaison@mpi.govt.nz

Phone +64 4 831 2197

www.biosecurity.govt.nz/bovis

If you haven't previously invoiced MPI, you will also need to verify the supplier's bank account before a payment can be processed. Please include either a deposit slip, the top of a bank statement or a screenshot from internet banking. The verification must show the bank account number, account name, and bank logo.

Email: mbovis2017_liaison@mpi.govt.nz

Post: Liaison Team – *M. bovis* Programme
Ministry for Primary Industries
PO Box 2526, Wellington 6140

Most requests will be processed in about six weeks, however some may take up to three months if there is a large number of retrospective requests received.

Please ensure invoices includes the following information:

- Charge to: Ministry for Primary Industries, PO Box 2526, Wellington 6140
- Cost centre code: 1084
- Name of the supplier (farmer or business name)
- Description of services supplied (e.g. 'Mustering for five hours')
- Supplier's GST number
- Supplier's bank account number
- Supplier's New Zealand business number or company registration number (if applicable).

Retrospective requests

Farms that mustered for sampling before 11 February 2019 can request payment retrospectively.

As the muster has already taken place and cannot be verified, a different form and a statutory declaration is required.

The retrospective mustering request form must be completed by the person that incurred the cost. If a registered business incurred the costs, the form should be completed by a company director.

