

23rd
OCTOBER
2018

 **Boehringer
Ingelheim**

BVD / 2018
zero **AWARD**

Barcelona

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2018

“The risk of buying pregnant cattle in”

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Farm background

- ✓ Mixed **beef and sheep farm** in North East England:
450 suckler cows (including 70 replacement heifers)
150-200 fattening cattle, 13 bulls, 900 breeding ewes
- ✓ **Spring and autumn calving herd (40:60):**
February–April, August–November (12 week periods).
- ✓ Member of BVDFree England and the Premium Cattle Health Scheme (PCHS) for BVD and Johne's.



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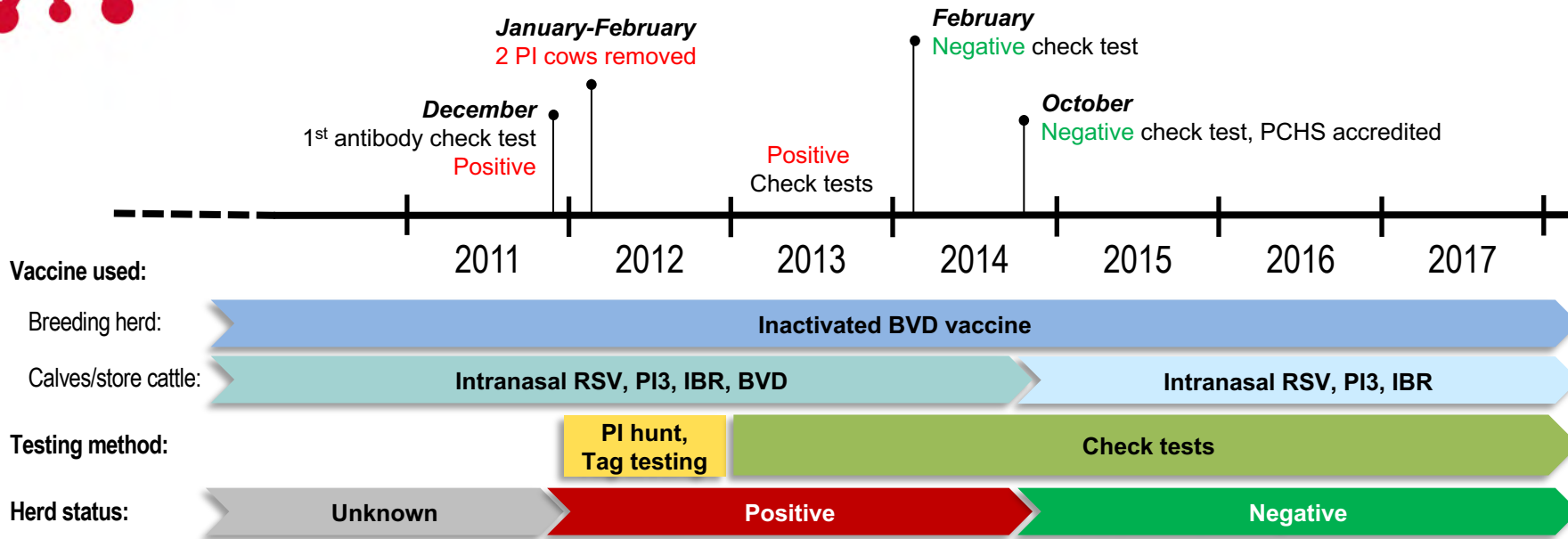
Biosecurity and vaccines

- ✓ **Open herd:** buying in bulls, replacement heifers and fattening cattle.
- ✓ **Isolation:** animals tested for BVD antigen, Johne's disease serology and vaccinated.
- ✓ **Four neighbouring cattle farms,** contact over the fences with all of them.
- ✓ **Renting fields** at other farms for summer grazing.
- ✓ **BVD accination protocols:**
 - *Breeding herd:* inactivated BVD vaccine (until 2018).
 - *Calves:* intranasal RSV and PI3 at >2 weeks old (+ BVD until 2014).
 - *Store cattle:* intranasal RSV, PI3 and IBR (+ BVD until 2014).





Previous BVD history

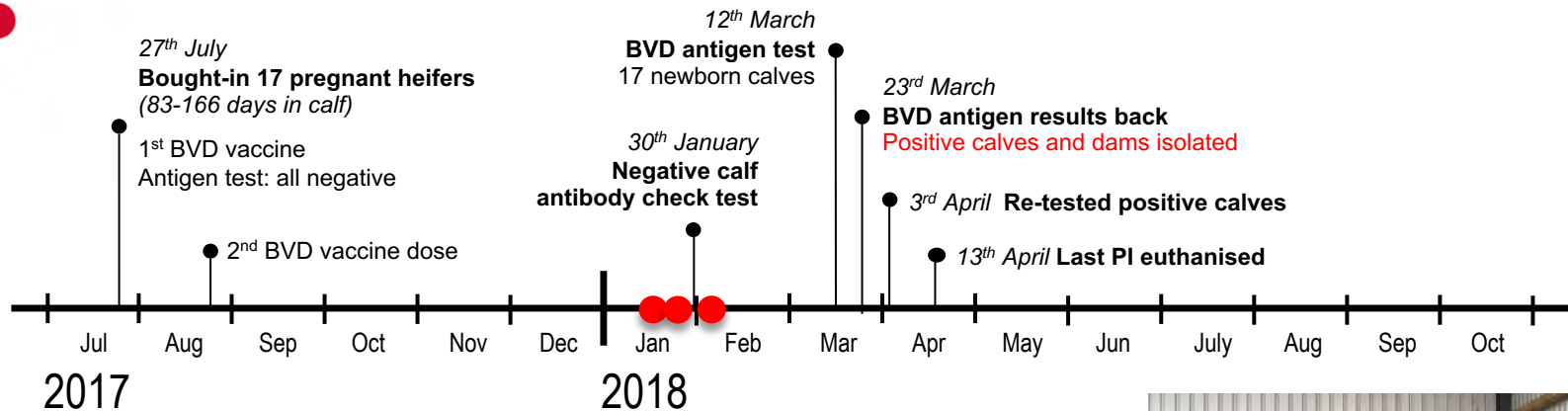


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The 2018 outbreak



“Quarantine” field

Calving

Pneumonia outbreak

PIs on farm

Isolation



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Control and eradication

- ✓ **Tag testing newborn calves** since August 2018: any positives to be isolated, re-tested 21 days later and culled if PI.
- ✓ **Check tests** in the Autumn 2017 and Spring 2018 calf crops.
- ✓ Vaccine changed to **live vaccine** in October 2018.
- ✓ Herd will remain open: **no more pregnant cattle to be bought-in**. Bought-in stock to be isolated, tested for Ag and Ab and vaccinated.
- ✓ **Calving sheds thoroughly cleaned and disinfected** (BVD and Cryptosporidiosis).
- ✓ **Double-fencing** with at least one of the neighbours.

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What can we learn from this outbreak?

- ✓ **Buying cattle in and contact with neighbouring stock** are important sources of infection.
- ✓ **Importance of isolation protocols:** test for Ag and Ab, isolate Ab-positive pregnant animals.
- ✓ **“Prompt” identification and removal of PIs** helped reduce the negative impact in this herd.
- ✓ **Tag testing** will be essential to minimise further impact.
- ✓ **Vaccination and close monitoring** of this herd’s status will be key to ensure that the farm remains free of BVD once accreditation is regained.

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A year later...

- ✓ All newborn calves have tested Ag negative.
- ✓ Negative check tests in the Autumn 2017 and Spring 2018 calves.
- ✓ No effect on pregnancy rates.
- ✓ Aiming to re-gain PCHS accredited status in 2020.



Thank you!!!



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