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## INDIANA STATE BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH

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### **ANIMAL HEALTH ADVISORY** **Update on Franklin County Bovine TB Investigation** **(20 May 2016)**

The Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) staff continues to investigate a case of bovine tuberculosis (commonly called "TB," or more formally known as *Mycobacterium bovis*) in a beef cattle herd in Franklin County. The TB-positive cattle were identified through routine inspection at a meat processing facility in Pennsylvania.

Since the herd was identified on April 28, BOAH staff have been working with the producer to test the remaining cattle in herd, which are located on two Franklin County sites. Based on test results, all of the animals are being promptly removed to prevent further spread.

The herd owners have been working with BOAH to provide purchase, sale and movement records of animals into and out of the herd for the last several years. Owners of herds associated with these movements are being notified as they are identified. Animals on those sites must be TB-tested or cleared of risk by other means (such as TB-free status).

Additionally, to ensure TB has not spread beyond the index farms, all cattle on farms within 3 miles must be tested. BOAH will be contacting the estimated 30 producers in the surveillance zone (SZ). See *attached map diagram with designated township sections where cattle will be tested for bovine TB*.

These contacts should happen over the next several weeks, as BOAH needs to verify ownership of sites not registered with the agency. BOAH will be working with private veterinary practitioners who service this area to provide testing free-of-charge to cattle owners. Details and deadlines for completion of tests are still being determined. Cattle owners in the SZ who have specific questions should contact Jean Doerflein at 317-544-2400 or [jdoerflein@boah.in.gov](mailto:jdoerflein@boah.in.gov).

Producers and the public should be aware of a few important facts about this disease and the response:

- Inspected meat and pasteurized dairy products are safe to eat. Bovine tuberculosis does not present a health risk only to people with close, direct contact with infected animals.
- The bacteria is not spread readily like other diseases, such as avian influenza. Bovine TB is spread by direct nose-to-nose contact between animals or via nasal excretions from coughing or sneezing.
- BOAH is taking this disease finding very seriously and is coordinating with USDA on tracing its source. The nature of this disease allows a level of response that is less intense than other situations, including high-path avian flu. Producers should be aware that significant behind-the-scenes work is happening on this case and BOAH has completed initial movement traces in record time.
- **Cattle owners who are planning to move cattle into or out of the testing/surveillance zone should contact BOAH first to discuss options.**

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- BOAH staff has not found evidence of this incident being connected to other cases that have been identified in the region, including those in 2011 and 2009. The recurring findings of TB in this region is why BOAH is placing a high priority on completing surveillance zone testing to determine if any disease is harbored in the area. This includes wildlife as well as cattle and other susceptible species. To date, 7 years of testing of hunter-harvested white-tailed deer in a five-county area have found no cases in the wild population.

#### **About Bovine TB**

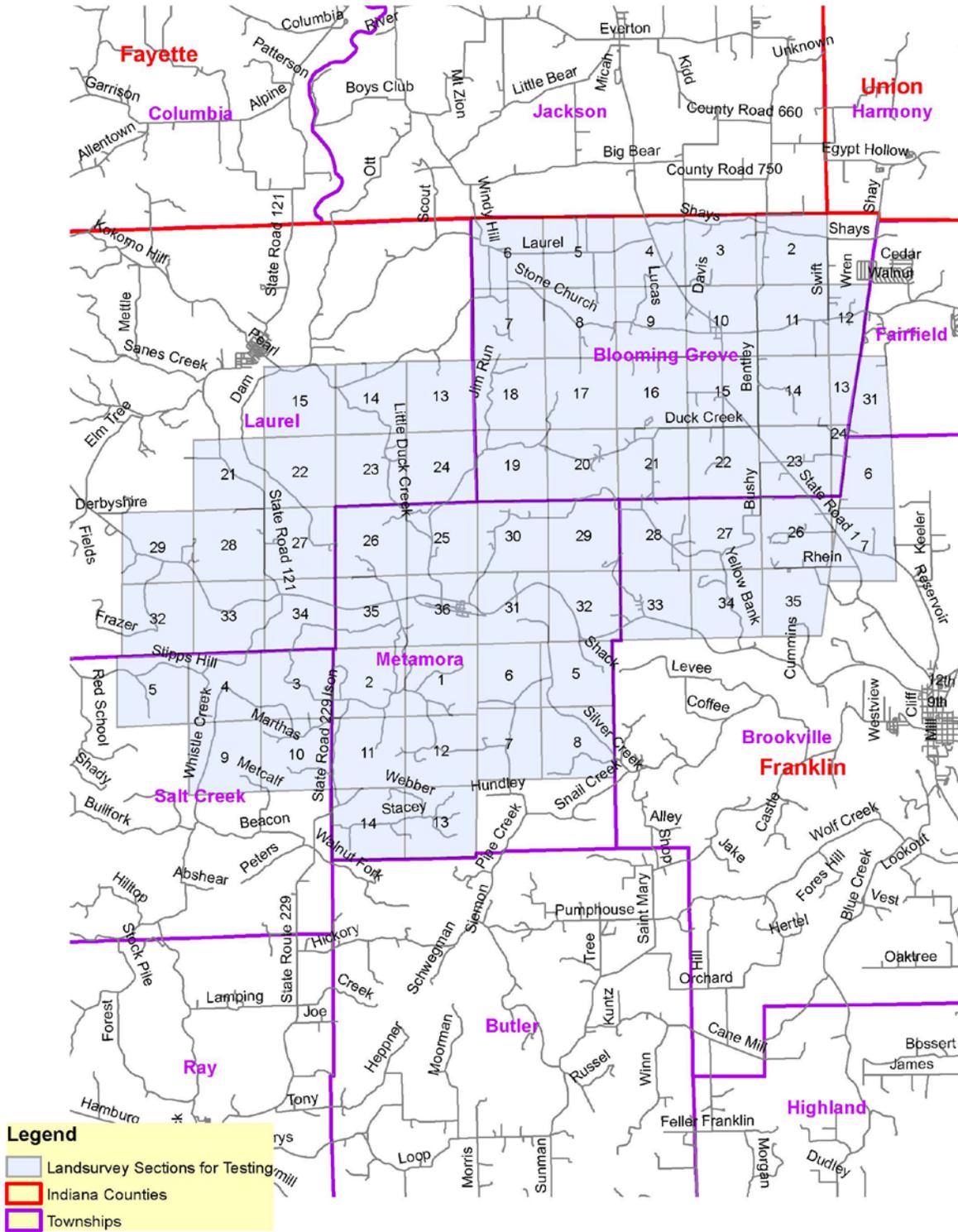
Bovine tuberculosis is a chronic bacterial disease that affects primarily cattle, but can be transmitted to any warm-blooded animal. TB is difficult to diagnose through clinical signs alone. In the early stages of the disease, clinical signs are not visible. Later, signs may include: emaciation, lethargy, weakness, anorexia, low-grade fever and pneumonia with a chronic, moist cough. Lymph node enlargement may also be present. Cattle owners who notice these signs in their livestock should contact their private veterinarian.

More information about the disease and the investigation, as it develops, will be available on the BOAH website at: [www.boah.in.gov](http://www.boah.in.gov).

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*See map attachment*

# BOVINE AREA TESTING Franklin County - Summer 2016



Map: Updated 20 May 2016