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MARKER VACCINES - The vaccine is labelled in such away that the antibodies taken from an animal vaccinated with a marker vaccine can be differentiated from antibodies that it may have made from having an infection from that disease.

BOOSTER VACCINES - The same vaccine that was used in the initial course may need to be repeated at recommended intervals. Exposure to the disease concerned may naturally boost the animal's immunity if previously vaccinated, although this is less reliable than use of a vaccine.

ZOONOSIS - An infection of animals that can then infect human beings, for example leptospirosis. The animal may, or may not, show any symptoms.

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GLOSSARY OF CATTLE HEALTH TERMS



PART 1
The four diseases targeted in the health schemes

PART 2
Terms in general use

This glossary of cattle health terms is offered to the cattle industry as a guide to assist the understanding of diseases and the terms used within the veterinary practice. The overall aim is to provide a consistent language on these terms and conditions that can be used across all industry sectors.

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MONITORED FREE - A herd is said to be monitored free of a disease when regular tests come back negative but there is still an element of doubt. This may be because the disease in question has a long incubation period or there are limitations in the ability of current test procedures to detect these animals.

MUCOSAL DISEASE - A fatal enteritis of young stock due to BVD complex.

NAÏVE - An animal is said to be naïve when it has no immunity to a particular disease. Newborn calves before receiving colostrum are naïve. Animals participating in a health scheme in which that disease has been eradicated are naïve to it and if introduced to a new herd where that disease exists are naïve and therefore susceptible to it.

NOTIFIABLE - A disease is notifiable if there is a statutory requirement to notify the D.V.M of any suspicion of that disease. Examples are FMD, bovine TB and brucellosis.

PCHS - Premium Cattle Health Scheme for disease control licensed by CheCS, administered by SAC.

PI - Persistently Infected. Calves infected with BVD virus whilst in the uterus, during the first third of pregnancy, and which survive to term remain persistently infected. They shed virus throughout their lives and are the main source of virus within a herd. Many die of mucosal disease between 6-18 months of age, but they may appear normal and reach breeding age. Any calf produced by a PI cow will also be PI.

QUARANTINE - A period of isolation before an animal joins its intended herd. Animals incubating disease should show symptoms during this period as long as the incubation period does not exceed the quarantine period.

SCREENING - Testing all or a representative sample of the herd for one or more diseases.

TRANSIENT INFECTION - An animal meets an infection, makes antibodies to it and recovers with no permanent side effects. For example an animal could become infected by BVD after an outing, the animal mounts an immune response, produces antibodies, then by increasing its body temperature for a short period, recovers with no further symptoms. However the transient infection may have left the animal temporarily infertile, and if not quarantined could shed virus for a short period, potentially infecting other animals.

VACCINES - Substances which when administered to an animal cause its immune system to respond by actively making antibodies to that disease. Some vaccines will also stimulate the cell-mediated aspect of the immune system as well. Vaccines may be dead or live.