



**Vermont Cattle Health  
Improvement Program**

# **RAMP WORKBOOK**



**Herd Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date Due:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **CONTENTS:**

- 1. Herd Info and Goals - Health Status/Concerns (pages 1-2)**
- 2. Johne's Disease Risk Assessment (pages 3-10)**
- 3. Formulating a Test Strategy and Herd Plan (pages 11-12)**
- 4. Herd Management Plan Form**

## **INSTRUCTIONS:**

- 1. Complete all the forms in the order in which they appear in the workbook. When working with herds in the certification level program, the completed workbook should be submitted to the Designated Johne's Coordinator (DJC), otherwise send RAMP to the State Animal Health Official at the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets.**

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- 2. Diagnostic samples for certification level herds must be submitted to an accredited laboratory. Copies of test results must be forwarded to the DJC.**

## **OBJECTIVES:**

The goal of the Vermont Cattle Health Improvement Program (VTCHIP) is to engage veterinarians and producers in a systematic process of evaluating herd health concerns and developing management strategies to address identified risks. While Johne's disease is the specific disease of concern, the process offers an important opportunity to discuss farm goals, evaluate the current health status of the herd, and to identify herd health priorities other than Johne's that may be limiting performance.

This workbook contains tools specifically designed to assist with evaluating the herd's status and risk for Johne's disease by investigating the history of Johne's in the herd, estimating herd prevalence, and conducting a management area walk-through risk assessment. The final steps are developing a customized herd plan identifying specific management practices that can be implemented to prevent or control the disease on the farm and designing a testing strategy that is best suited to meet herd goals. The veterinarian and producer are encouraged to involve farm personnel, extension agents, other veterinarians or other industry representatives in the process to enrich discussion and decision-making. The objective of this part of the process is to identify strategies for the producer to consider and prioritize, establish a time frame for accomplishing them, and review and update them on a regular basis.



## Vermont Cattle Health Improvement Program

### Herd information, owner goals and general biosecurity



<b>Herd Code:</b>	<b>Completed by:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
<b>Farm Name (optional):</b>	<b>Conventional / Organic</b>	<b>Breed(s):</b>
<b>Key farm decision makers, employees, advisors</b>		
<b>Dairy Herd Inventory</b>		
<b>Cows:</b> Lactating _____ Dry _____ <b>Heifers:</b> On milk _____ Growing/Open _____ Bred _____ <b>Bulls</b> _____ <b>Steers</b> _____		
<b>Farm Goals</b>		
Do you plan to be dairy farming in 5 years?		
Do you anticipate any changes to the farm operation (e.g., expansion or diversification)?		
Do you market cattle? Will you in the future?		
Describe short and longer-term owner goals or priorities for the farm. Some examples are herd size, animal health and performance, facilities, marketing animals, business / employee management, family goals, environmental issues, markets, milk quality, beef quality or other.		
<b>Short-term (this year)</b>		
<b>Long-term (3 to 5 years)</b>		
What are your top 3 to 4 overall concerns for your operation?		
What herd health improvements are you making or plan to make?		
What management and/or facilities issues are you addressing or plan to address?		
<b>Replacements</b>		
Describe current and future source(s) of replacements or additions.		
What health requirements do you have for replacements?		
If replacements are raised elsewhere, what do you do to protect herd health (biosecurity)?		
<b>Animal Identification</b>	<b>Type of Record System</b>	<b>Treatment Records</b>
Are animals uniquely identified?	DHI	Are all treatments recorded?
	PCDART DC305	
	Other computer:	Written?: Notebook Board
ID type-cows:	Written:	Computer:
ID type-youngstock:	Other:	Other:
<b>Vaccination Program: Written protocols?</b>		<b>Date last reviewed:</b>
Cows		Youngstock

## Current Herd Health Status and Concerns

This is a general review of health and management issues that influence herd performance and profitability. Specify incidence or assess level of concern by circling U, 1, 2 or 3 next to each item. Johne's disease management should be approached with other herd issues and concerns in mind.

U = unknown incidence or concern  
1 = low incidence, not a current concern

2 = Moderate incidence, may be a concern (+/-)  
3 = Significant incidence, unsatisfactory, needs attention or is current priority

Calf Feeding Practices	
Average hours to first colostrum harvest [    ]	
Average hours to first colostrum fed [    ]	
Amount of first colostrum fed [    ]	
Colostrum source: ___ Individual ___ Pooled	
Total number of colostrum feedings [    ]	
What is fed after colostrum? Unpasteurized milk ___    Pasteurized milk ___ Milk replacer ___ Comments (waste/saleable, pooled/individual):	
Describe routine for keeping calf feed and feeding equipment sanitary:	

Calf Health and Level of Concern				
Pre-wean mortality (last 12 mo.) [    ]	U	1	2	3
Calf vigor	U	1	2	3
Calf growth	U	1	2	3
Scours	U	1	2	3
Pneumonia	U	1	2	3
Other:	U	1	2	3

Heifer Health and Level of Concern				
Heifer growth	U	1	2	3
Breeding program	U	1	2	3
Age at freshening [    ]	U	1	2	3
Pneumonia	U	1	2	3
Digital dermatitis	U	1	2	3
Coccidiosis	U	1	2	3
Other:	U	1	2	3

Milk Production, Quality / Udder Health				
Bulk Tank SCC [    ]	U	1	2	3
Bacteria Count / SPC [    ]	U	1	2	3
Mastitis cases per mo. [    ]	U	1	2	3
Milk culture protocols (bulk tank, cases, fresh, other?):				
Recent culture and sensitivity results:				
Milk/cow/day	Fat%	Protein%		

Reproductive Program				
Heat Detection Rate [    ]	U	1	2	3
Conception Rate [    ]	U	1	2	3
Pregnancy Rate [    ]	U	1	2	3
Herd Average DIM [    ]	U	1	2	3
Abortions / year (% herd) [    ]	U	1	2	3
Embryonic Loss?	U	1	2	3
AI or Natural Service?				

Lameness Incidence and Level of Concern				
% cows with obvious lameness [    ]	U	1	2	3
Digital dermatitis	U	1	2	3
Laminitis	U	1	2	3
Abscesses	U	1	2	3
Foot Rot	U	1	2	3
Other:	U	1	2	3
Foot trimming program:				

Metabolic Disorder Incidence and Concern (Fresh cows last 3 – 6 months)				
Milk Fever	U	1	2	3
Retained Placenta	U	1	2	3
Ketosis	U	1	2	3
Mastitis	U	1	2	3
Metritis	U	1	2	3
DAs	U	1	2	3
Fatty Liver	U	1	2	3
Acidosis	U	1	2	3
Stillborns / Dystocia	U	1	2	3
Other:	U	1	2	3

Infectious Disease Incidence or Level of Concern				
Johne's disease	U	1	2	3
Salmonellosis	U	1	2	3
Neosporosis	U	1	2	3
BVD	U	1	2	3
Respiratory disease	U	1	2	3
BLV	U	1	2	3
Clostridial disease	U	1	2	3
Leptospirosis	U	1	2	3
Other:	U	1	2	3

Culling				
Cull Rate % last 6 or 12 months [    ]	U	1	2	3
Approximate number culled by reason:				
< 60 DIM [    ]	U	1	2	3
Deaths [    ]	U	1	2	3
Mastitis [    ]	U	1	2	3
Reproduction [    ]	U	1	2	3
Lameness [    ]	U	1	2	3
Low production [    ]	U	1	2	3
Udder [    ]	U	1	2	3
Injury [    ]	U	1	2	3
Metabolic dis. [    ]	U	1	2	3
Infectious dis. [    ]	U	1	2	3
Other:	U	1	2	3

**Summarize main health concerns & priorities.**  
There is no such thing as "just a Johne's plan".  
Consider, prioritize and integrate other important farm issues into the Herd Management Plan.





## Johne's Disease Risk Assessment

### Part E. Johne's Disease Area Assessment Score Sheet

Place the corresponding column number in the box to the right of the management practice that most closely signifies your subjective assessment of this farm's risk for that item. **Consider the impact of the estimated prevalence of disease in the herd on risks (Higher prevalence → Higher score).** Also consider how & when current management conditions differ from the past that may have impacted risks. Check boxes as applicable and provide explanations in space to the right.

<b>Calving Area</b> Describe calving area(s) (winter/summer):		0. No Risk	1.	2. Low	3.	4.	5. Moderate	6.	7.	8. High	9.	10. Very High	
<b>1. Multiple animal use</b> [Single animal/Single pen <input type="checkbox"/> → Group Pen <input type="checkbox"/> ] Avg # in group pen _____ Spacious <input type="checkbox"/> → Optimal <input type="checkbox"/> → Overcrowded <input type="checkbox"/>													<b>Comments/Observations/Past Practices:</b> Describe calving conditions and management:
<b>2. Manure condition of environment, risk for calf ingestion</b> [Clean dry <input type="checkbox"/> → Spotty <input type="checkbox"/> → Dirty wet <input type="checkbox"/> Cleaned after each use <input type="checkbox"/> , daily <input type="checkbox"/> , weekly <input type="checkbox"/> , monthly <input type="checkbox"/> , rarely <input type="checkbox"/>													
<b>3. Calving area also used for sick cows/hospital:</b> [Segregated calving area <input type="checkbox"/> → Common hospital/calving area <input type="checkbox"/> [Never <input type="checkbox"/> → Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> → Often <input type="checkbox"/> ]													
<b>4. Presence of Johne's high risk animals in maternity area</b> [Never <input type="checkbox"/> → Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> → Often <input type="checkbox"/> (consider impact of estimated prevalence of disease in the herd)													
<b>5. Manure soiled udders/legs</b> [Clean <input type="checkbox"/> → Udders and legs dirty <input type="checkbox"/> ]													
<b>6. Calves born in other cow areas</b> [Rarely <input type="checkbox"/> → Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> → Often <input type="checkbox"/> ] _____%? Describe:													
<b>7. Time calves stay with cows</b> [Minutes <input type="checkbox"/> → Hours <input type="checkbox"/> → 1 Day or more <input type="checkbox"/> Avg time? _____ Range?: _____ to _____													
<b>8. Calves nurse cows</b> [Rarely <input type="checkbox"/> → Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> → Often <input type="checkbox"/> ] _____%?													

Estimate the likely risk for spreading Johne's in the calving area: Low Moderate High Very High      Score = \_\_\_\_\_ (Max = 80)


**Guide Questions and Notes:**

Describe cleaning and bedding routines. How often is maternity area cleaned completely to the surface and bedding changed?

Map or diagram

Does calving management differ by season?

## Johne's Disease Risk Assessment

	0. No Risk	1.	2. Low	3.	4.	5. Moderate	6.	7.	8. High	9.	10. Very High	
<b>Pre-Weaned Calves</b> Describe housing: Hutches <input type="checkbox"/> , Individual stalls <input type="checkbox"/> , Group pens <input type="checkbox"/> , Calf raiser <input type="checkbox"/> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>												<b>Comments. Observations. Past Practices:</b> <b>Describe colostrum and milk feeding practices:</b>
<b>9. Source of colostrum fed:</b> [Single/individual cow <input type="checkbox"/> → Pooled from multiple animals <input type="checkbox"/> Pooled Never <input type="checkbox"/> → Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> → Often <input type="checkbox"/>												
<b>10. Johne's status of colostrum fed from:</b> [Known low risk cows <input type="checkbox"/> → Unknown status <input type="checkbox"/> → High risk cows <input type="checkbox"/> (consider impact of estimated prevalence of disease in the herd)												
<b>11. Feeding of unpasteurized whole milk:</b> [Replacer <input type="checkbox"/> , Single low risk cow <input type="checkbox"/> , or Pasteurized <input type="checkbox"/> → Pooled <input type="checkbox"/> known status <input type="checkbox"/> , unknown status <input type="checkbox"/> and/or high risk cows <input type="checkbox"/> from bulk tank <input type="checkbox"/> , waste milk <input type="checkbox"/> - - Rarely <input type="checkbox"/> → Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> → Often <input type="checkbox"/>												
<b>12. Possible manure contamination of colostrum or milk:</b> [Rarely <input type="checkbox"/> → Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> → Often <input type="checkbox"/> ] at harvest <input type="checkbox"/> , nursing <input type="checkbox"/> , feeding <input type="checkbox"/> , utensils <input type="checkbox"/> , splatter <input type="checkbox"/> , people <input type="checkbox"/>												
<b>13. Possible manure contamination of feed or water:</b> [Rarely <input type="checkbox"/> → Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> → Often <input type="checkbox"/> ] by cows <input type="checkbox"/> , traffic <input type="checkbox"/> , splatter <input type="checkbox"/> , equipment <input type="checkbox"/> , people <input type="checkbox"/> pond <input type="checkbox"/> , stream <input type="checkbox"/> , well <input type="checkbox"/> , spring <input type="checkbox"/>												
<b>14. Direct calf to cow contact or manure contamination of pen:</b> [Never <input type="checkbox"/> → Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> → Often <input type="checkbox"/> ] by cows <input type="checkbox"/> , traffic <input type="checkbox"/> , splatter <input type="checkbox"/> , equipment <input type="checkbox"/> , people <input type="checkbox"/> , drainage <input type="checkbox"/> Housed separately <input type="checkbox"/> → Housed with or near adult cattle <input type="checkbox"/>												

Estimate the likely risk for spreading Johne's in pre-weaned calves: Low    Moderate    High    Very High


Score = \_\_\_\_\_ (Max = 60)

Notes:

Map or diagram



## Johne's Disease Risk Assessment

<b>Post-Weaned Heifers</b> Describe housing (winter/summer): Individual stalls <input type="checkbox"/> , Group pens <input type="checkbox"/> , Pasture <input type="checkbox"/> , Heifer raiser <input type="checkbox"/> 	0. No Risk	1. Low	2.	3.	4. Moderate	5.	6.	7. High	<b>Comments, Observations and Past Practices:</b> <i>Describe sources of potential manure contamination of feed, water and environment</i>
<b>15. Direct contact with cows or cow manure</b> [Never <input type="checkbox"/> → Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> → Always <input type="checkbox"/> Housed separately <input type="checkbox"/> or Housed with or near adult cattle <input type="checkbox"/>									Outside manure spread of unknown source or status?
<b>16. Manure contamination of feed:</b> refused cow ration <input type="checkbox"/> , stored feed <input type="checkbox"/> , cows <input type="checkbox"/> , equipment <input type="checkbox"/> , traffic <input type="checkbox"/> splatter <input type="checkbox"/> , people <input type="checkbox"/> , runoff <input type="checkbox"/> , crossover alleys <input type="checkbox"/> , fed off ground <input type="checkbox"/>									
<b>17. Potential contamination of supplied or natural water:</b> [Never <input type="checkbox"/> → Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> → Often <input type="checkbox"/> ] by cows <input type="checkbox"/> , splatter <input type="checkbox"/> , runoff <input type="checkbox"/> , equipment <input type="checkbox"/> , low height <input type="checkbox"/> pond <input type="checkbox"/> , stream <input type="checkbox"/> , well <input type="checkbox"/> , spring <input type="checkbox"/>									
<b>18. Share pasture with cows</b> [Never <input type="checkbox"/> → Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> → Often <input type="checkbox"/> ] Minimum age: _____ Manure accumulation in pasture: Small <input type="checkbox"/> → Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> → Heavy <input type="checkbox"/>									
<b>19. Manure spread on hay, pasture or forages grazed or harvested same season.</b> Manure spread how close to harvest or grazing? _____									

Estimate the likely risk for spreading Johne's in post-weaned heifers: **Low**    **Moderate**    **High**

Score = \_\_\_\_\_ (Max = 35)

**Guide Questions and Notes:**

Is there feeding of leftovers from cow ration? If so, to how young?

**Map or diagram**

Is equipment used for handling manure also used for feed?

Is equipment and traffic for adult manure handling shared w/ youngstock areas?

What are sources of water and how is it delivered? Any potential for contamination?

Is there feeding off the ground in concentrated areas?

Assess overall manure condition of environment and sanitation:

## Johne's Disease Risk Assessment

	0. No Risk	1. Low	2.	3. Moderate	4.	5. High	
<b>Bred Heifers</b> Describe housing (summer/winter): Individual stalls <input type="checkbox"/> , Group pens <input type="checkbox"/> , Pasture <input type="checkbox"/> , Heifer raiser <input type="checkbox"/>							<b>Comments. Observations and Past Practices:</b> Describe sources of potential manure contamination of feed, water and environment
<b>20. Direct contact with cows or cows' manure</b> [Never <input type="checkbox"/> → Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> → Always <input type="checkbox"/> ] Housed separately <input type="checkbox"/> or Housed with/near adult cattle/dry cows <input type="checkbox"/>							
<b>21. Manure contamination of feed:</b> refused cow ration <input type="checkbox"/> , stored feed <input type="checkbox"/> , cows <input type="checkbox"/> , equipment <input type="checkbox"/> , traffic <input type="checkbox"/> splatter <input type="checkbox"/> , people <input type="checkbox"/> , runoff <input type="checkbox"/> , crossover alleys <input type="checkbox"/> , fed off ground <input type="checkbox"/>							
<b>22. Possible contamination of supplied or natural water:</b> [Never <input type="checkbox"/> → Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> → Often <input type="checkbox"/> ] by cows <input type="checkbox"/> , splatter <input type="checkbox"/> , runoff <input type="checkbox"/> , equipment <input type="checkbox"/> , low height <input type="checkbox"/> pond <input type="checkbox"/> , stream <input type="checkbox"/> , well <input type="checkbox"/> , spring <input type="checkbox"/>							
<b>23. Share pasture with cows</b> [Never <input type="checkbox"/> → Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> → Always <input type="checkbox"/> ] minimum age? _____ Manure accumulation in pasture: Small <input type="checkbox"/> → Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> → Heavy <input type="checkbox"/>							
<b>24. Manure spread on hay, pasture or forages grazed or harvested same season.</b> Manure spread how close to harvest/grazing? _____							
Outside manure spread from unknown source or status?							

Estimate the likely risk for spreading Johne's in bred heifers:

Low    Moderate    High

Score = \_\_\_\_\_ (Max = 25)

**Guide Questions and Notes:**

Is there feeding of leftovers from cow ration? If so, to how young?

Map or diagram


Is equipment used for handling manure also used for feed?

What are sources of water and how is it delivered? Any potential for contamination?

Is there feeding off the ground in concentrated areas?

Assess overall manure condition of environment and sanitation:

## Johne's Disease Risk Assessment

<b>COWS</b> Describe Housing (winter/summer)(dry/lactating): Free Stall <input type="checkbox"/> , Tie Barn <input type="checkbox"/> , Pasture <input type="checkbox"/>						<b>Comments. Observations and Past Practices:</b>  <i>Describe sources of potential manure contamination of feed, water and environment</i>
	0. No Risk	1. Low	2.	3	4. High	
<b>25. Possible cow manure contamination of feed:</b> when fed <input type="checkbox"/> , stored feed <input type="checkbox"/> , equipment <input type="checkbox"/> , traffic <input type="checkbox"/> , splatter <input type="checkbox"/> , runoff <input type="checkbox"/> , people <input type="checkbox"/> , crossover alleys <input type="checkbox"/> , fed off ground <input type="checkbox"/>						
<b>26. Manure contamination of supplied or natural water</b> by cows <input type="checkbox"/> , splatter <input type="checkbox"/> , runoff <input type="checkbox"/> , equipment <input type="checkbox"/> , low height <input type="checkbox"/> , pond <input type="checkbox"/> Water troughs cleaned = daily <input type="checkbox"/> , weekly <input type="checkbox"/> , monthly <input type="checkbox"/> , >monthly <input type="checkbox"/>						
<b>27. Direct access to accumulated or stored manure</b> [Never <input type="checkbox"/> → Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> → Frequent <input type="checkbox"/> ] Manure accumulation in pasture: Small <input type="checkbox"/> → Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> → Heavy <input type="checkbox"/>						
<b>28. Manure spread on hay, pasture or forages grazed or harvested the same season.</b> Manure spread how close to harvest/grazing?						Outside manure spread from unknown source or status?

Estimate the likely risk for spreading Johne's in the cows:

Low    Moderate    High

Score = \_\_\_\_\_ (Max = 16)

**Guide Questions and Notes:**

Is there contamination of feed by traffic of equipment through manure, crossovers and cow alleys? Feeding off the ground?

**Map or diagram**

Is the same equipment used to handle manure also used for feed?

What are water sources and how is it delivered? Any potential for contamination?

Briefly describe manure management; how it is collected, removed and stored?

Assess overall manure condition of environment and sanitation:

Does the herd have a history of other fecal/oral disease such as salmonella?

## Johne's Disease Risk Assessment

### Part F. Risk Summary\*

<b>Summarize the Herd's Risk Scores</b>	<b>Herd Risk Areas</b>	<b>Maximum Score</b>	<b>Herd Score</b>	<b>Herd Score as % Maximum Score (HS/Max)</b>	<b>Herd Score as % Total Herd Score (HS/Total)</b>	
1. For each area, calculate the herd's score as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A % of the maximum score.</li> <li>• A % of the herd's total score.</li> </ul> 2. Sum the herd's Total Risk Score and as percent of the maximum. Your scores highlight higher risk areas to address in the farm plan.	Calving area	80				
	Pre-weaned calves	60				
	Post-Weaned heifers	35				
	Bred heifers	25				
	Cows	16				
	<b>Total</b>	<b>216</b>				100%

\*Scoring may become valuable in comparison to previous or subsequent years assessments over time

**Briefly summarize the risk factors of most importance identified in this assessment:**

<b>Calving area</b>	
<b>Pre-weaned Calves</b>	
<b>Post-weaned Heifers</b>	
<b>Bred Heifers</b>	
<b>Cows</b>	
<b>Imported Animals</b>	
<b>Biosecurity</b>	
<b>Other Health, Milk or Beef Quality, Herd Performance</b>	

## Johne's Disease Risk Assessment

### Part G. Developing a Test Strategy for Johne's Disease

1. What is testing expected to accomplish and how does it relate to your goals (See part H)?
- establish test negative herd status
  - determine if herd is infected
  - identify infected and/or high risk animals
  - evaluate clinical suspects and/or high risk animals
  - determine herd prevalence or level of risk
  - other: \_\_\_\_\_

2. How many and what type of animals will be tested by ELISA (more than one may apply)?

#	Type
	any/all lactating cows/whole herd
	≥2 <sup>nd</sup> lactation or ≥ 36 months of age
	purchased additions
	clinical suspects
	confirmed pregnant
	at dry off
	random sampling/subset
	bulls
	other:
	<b>Total</b>

3. When and how often would you test?

- all at once
- monthly
- weekly
- as needed for clinical suspects or additions
- other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Will all ELISA positive animals be retested with an OJT? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Environmental sample sites for fecal culture:

6. Consider estimated test prevalence calculated in Part C.

7. How do you propose to use test results?

- For calving/maternity management
- For management of colostrum/milk feeding
- For identification of infected, suspect or high risk animals
- For do not breed/culling decisions
- Segregation/separation/isolation of infected, suspect or high risk animals
- Monitor herd infection status
- Establish a herd classification level: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other:

8. Annual Test Budget (Cornell pricing, 4/14)

Test	Estimated number/year	Projected cost
ELISA (\$5)		
Individual PCR (\$36.75)		
Individual Fecal Culture (\$40.25)		
Pooled Fecal Cultures (\$40.25)		
Est. FC pos. pools needing PCR of individual samples (\$183.75)		
<b>Total</b>		

# Johne's Disease Risk Assessment

## Part H. Johne's Goals

What are your goals with regards to Johne's disease? (I = Immediate, L= long term)

- I\_\_ L\_\_ Determine if infection is present in the herd
- I\_\_ L\_\_ Determine better the extent or prevalence of infection in the herd
- I\_\_ L\_\_ Reduce the number of clinical cases and/or infected animals in the herd to a low level
- I\_\_ L\_\_ Eliminate infection from the herd
- I\_\_ L\_\_ Prevent the introduction of infection into the herd
- I\_\_ L\_\_ Establish an unofficial herd status as low risk
- I\_\_ L\_\_ Establish an official status (US Voluntary JD Herd Status) as low risk
- I\_\_ L\_\_ Other:

## PART I. FORMULATING A HERD PLAN

The herd plan is developed from the risk assessment by formulating and prioritizing management procedures and strategies to mitigate the identified risks. Strategies should be as specific as possible focusing on prevention as well as control and on potential risks as well as real risks. The herd plan should attempt to assign responsibilities and, when appropriate, establish written standard operating procedures for disease management as well as identify appropriate testing strategies to meet herd goals. Use any format you choose to complete the herd plan.

Recommended management practices should focus on the following objectives:

- Keep calving area clean, dry and uncrowded, used preferably by one cow at a time and separate from sick cows.
- Avoid feeding infected colostrum or unpasteurized milk from unknown or high risk animals.
- Prevent exposure of calves/heifers to adult cows and their manure.
- Prevent fecal contamination of feed and water, especially that fed to calves and heifers.
- Prevent introduction of infected animals and animals of unknown health status to the herd.
- Promptly identify, segregate and manage or cull high-risk or infected animals.

Consider these criteria in negotiating what to include in the plan:

1. Do the recommended management practices:
  - benefit overall herd health, performance and other priorities?
  - target farm-specific risks, objectives and priorities (short and long term) for Johne's disease?
2. Are the recommended practices realistic for the herd owner and employees?
  - Are they feasible to implement given available resources and present situation?
  - Will they be effective or necessary in meeting herd goals and objectives?
3. How will the performance or benefits of the recommended practices be evaluated?

### FEEDBACK:

Please make comments or suggestions regarding the workbook. How long did it take? \_\_\_\_\_

Usefulness: Excellent Good OK Not Useful

The herd plan is developed from the risk assessment by formulating and prioritizing management procedures to mitigate the identified risks. Strategies should be as specific as possible focusing on prevention as well as control and on potential risks as well as real risks. The herd plan should attempt to assign responsibilities and, when appropriate, establish written standard operating procedures for disease management as well as identify appropriate testing strategies to meet herd goals. Use any format you choose to complete the herd plan.

**Recommended management practices should be focused on the following objectives:**

- Keep calving area clean, dry and uncrowded, used preferably by one cow at a time and separate from sick cows.
- Avoid feeding colostrum or unpasteurized milk from high risk animals.
- Prevent exposure of calves/heifers to adult cows and their manure.
- Prevent fecal contamination of feed and water, especially that fed to calves and heifers.
- Prevent introduction of infected animals and animals of unknown health status to the herd.
- Promptly identify, segregate, and manage or cull high-risk or infected animals.

**Consider these criteria in negotiating what you want to include in your plan:**

1. Do the recommended management practices:
  - benefit overall herd health, performance and other priorities?
  - target your farm-specific risks, objectives and priorities (short- and long-term) for Johne's disease?
2. Are recommended practices realistic for you and employees?
  - Are they feasible to implement, given your resources and situation?
  - Will they be effective or necessary in meeting your objectives?
3. How will the performance or benefits of the recommended practices be evaluated?

What are your goals with regards to Johne's disease?

- Determine if I have the infection
- Reduce or eliminate the infection in my herd
- Prevent it from getting into my herd
- Establish an official low risk herd status
- Other:

# Herd Plan

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Herd Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Farm name (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Page: \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_

Strategy or management practice to be implemented to reduce identified risks	Priority	Person Responsible
<b>Testing Strategy:</b>		