

BVD statuses on NIFAIS – FAQs

Which BVD statuses are available on NIFAIS?

Animal BVD status information from both the Voluntary and Compulsory Phases of the Programme are visible on NIFAIS on-line and NIFAIS herd lists. Any BVD test carried out on individual animals in your herd as part of the NI BVD programme is transferred from the AHWNI database to NIFAIS.

What action do I need to take on the statuses against an animal?

Check the BVD status of all cattle on the holding, particularly noting the status of bought in stock.

The actions that need to be taken are listed in the table below:

AHWNI Database Status	NIFAIS status	Meaning	What action should I take?
Negative	BVDN	Direct negative test result	No action required
Indineg	INDNEG	Dam of a BVDN calf so can be given indirect negative status	No action required.
Unknown	Blank	Born before 01/03/2016 where the BVD status is unknown (no BVD status will be shown on NIFAIS)	No action required. However you are advised to establish the BVD status of all animals in your herd. A sample may be taken for testing using a button tag or a blood sample may be taken by your vet for testing.
Positive	BVDP	Direct positive test result	Isolate and cull the animal ASAP or isolate, retest (at least 21 days after the first test) and cull if a further positive result is returned.
Inconclusive	BVDI	Direct inconclusive test result	Retest (at least 21 days after the first test) the animal ASAP and cull if a positive result is returned.
DAMPI	DAMPI	Dam of a BVDP or BVDI calf	Isolate and get your vet to take a blood sample for testing ASAP
OFFPI	OFFPI	Offspring of a BVDP dam	Isolate and get your vet to take a blood sample for testing ASAP
BVDU	BVDU	Born since 01/03/2016 and BVD status is unknown – either because it has not been tested or the sample was inadequate.	A button tag may be applied and an ear tissue tag sample submitted for testing, or a blood sample may be taken by a vet for testing.

Veterinary advice is that PI animals should be humanely destroyed as soon as possible after receipt of an initial or re-test positive result.

What movement restrictions will be applied?

DAERA is applying movement restrictions for certain animals that do not have a BVD negative status:

- **For animals born since 1st March 2016** - only negative (BVDN) animals can be sold at market, sold directly to another herd or exported (including via an Export Assembly Centre).
- **For animals born before 1st March 2016** - animals which are positive (BVDP), inconclusive (BVDI), dam of a PI (DAMPI) or offspring of a PI (OFFPI) cannot be sold at market, sold directly to another herd or exported (including via an Export Assembly Centre).

Before moving cattle, check their BVD status to ensure that there is no BVD restriction in place.

I want to sell young calves for export. How quickly will test results be available?

Designated laboratories undertake to report 95% of results within 7 working days, with an average turnaround time of 5 days or less. In a small number of cases, a new sample may be required (if no sample has been submitted in the vial). Also, if the initial result is not negative, further tests will be carried out by the laboratory which will take extra time.

Will the NIFAIS statuses be available on NIFAIS at the same time as they are available on the AHWNI database?

In most cases, BVD statuses will be uploaded to NIFAIS each night and so NIFAIS should reflect the majority of statuses that are visible on the AHWNI database. The AHWNI database will continue to hold the details of the tests that have been carried out on cattle born in NI. These details are not available on NIFAIS.

I have bought in cattle from the ROI. Can their BVD result be uploaded on to the AHWNI database and do they have to be BVD tested if I move them back to the ROI?

The transfer of BVD results between the ROI and NI is not currently undertaken automatically. However, a BVD negative status must be available for imported ROI cattle before onward movement or export back to the ROI can take place. (Other rules are in place for export of cattle to the ROI – see DAERA’s website:

<https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/bvd-requirements-export-cattle-eu-member-states-approved-bvd-eradication-programme-or-bvd-free>)

Herd owners who have imported cattle from the ROI can send an e-mail to info@animalhealthni.com, listing the individual numbers of the imported cattle, for consideration of the BVD status that these cattle will have obtained in the ROI. Where a laboratory designated under the NI programme has been used in the ROI, AHWNI may be able to obtain BVD Negative statuses. Adequate notice must be given before animals are intended to be moved or exported if BVD statuses are to be requested from the ROI. Herd owners must allow at least **three full working days** for delivery of statuses on to NIFAIS by AHWNI.

Are there penalties for moving cattle that do not have a BVD Negative status?

DAERA will be in a position to monitor movements of non-negative animals closely and will consider taking enforcement action where necessary.

There are problems with use of my government gateway ID. How can I get these sorted out?

For assistance contact the DAERA Online Services helpline on 028 9442 6699.