

## Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Sampling in New Brunswick

### **Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) Surveillance:**

The New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries through its Provincial Veterinary Service is pleased to support Producers and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) in the on-going surveillance of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) in our province.

Last year (2018) we obtained 239 samples from NB cattle helping with Canada's overall BSE inventory sampling which provides essential information as to the effectiveness of Canada's BSE control measures. This information is also fundamental to maintaining and enhancing Canada's market access as well as helping to maintain consumer confidence in Canadian beef. The Provincial Veterinary Service encourages more producers to participate in the sampling process.

Currently the sampling program continues to demonstrate the low and declining level of BSE in the national herd, but BSE is a shared responsibility. Cattle producers, industry, veterinarians and governments all have a role to play.

### **Testing Criteria:**

The BSE surveillance program targets animals most at risk for the disease, which are:

- Cattle over 30 months of age that are dead, down, dying or diseased
- Cattle exhibiting strong clinical signs of BSE including:
  - Nervous or aggressive behaviour
  - Abnormal posture
  - Lack of coordination
  - Difficulty rising from a lying position

### **Reimbursement available:**

An eligible sample submitted for BSE testing will receive reimbursement of \$150.00. However, as part of the reimbursement process, the carcass of the animal sampled, **must be buried.**



**For more information and to participate:**

Call a **Provincial Veterinary Service Office** nearest you. The offices are located at:

Grand Falls – 506-473-7755

Sussex – 506-432-2001

Wicklow – 506-392-5101

Moncton – 506-856-2277

Fredericton – 506-453-2210

Bathurst – 506-547-2089

Or visit [www.inspection.gc.ca](http://www.inspection.gc.ca) (CFIA)