

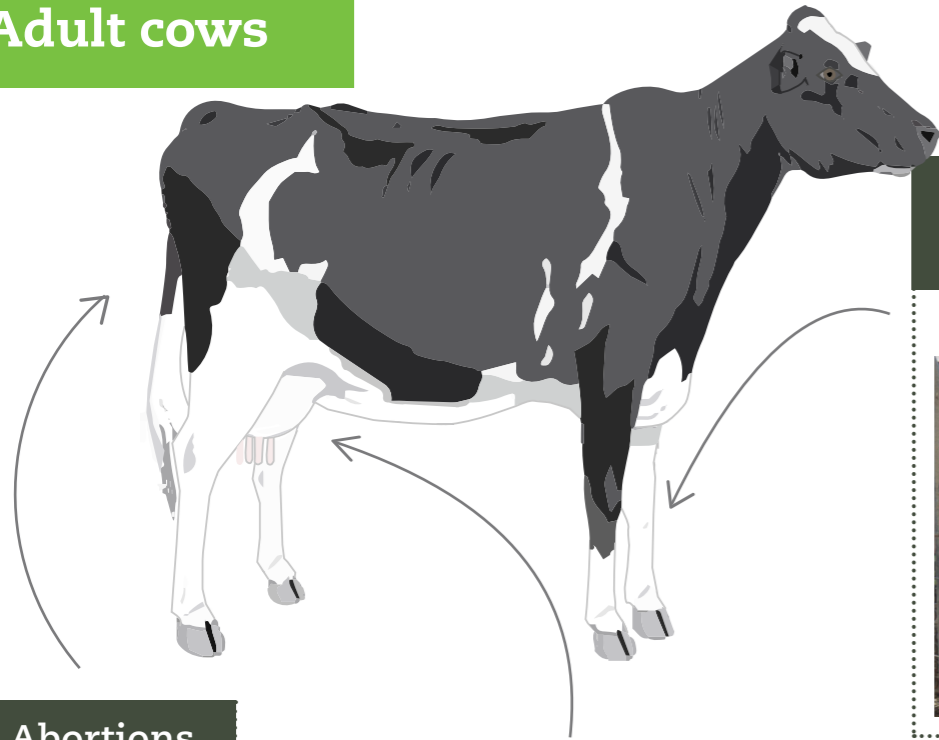
# MYCOPLASMA BOVIS

## – what to look out for

Mycoplasma bovis is an unwanted organism in NZ. It is important for all farmers to contact their veterinarian and/or MPI if they see the following unusual signs in their herd.



### Adult cows



#### Lame cows with swollen legs/joints

- Painful and hot

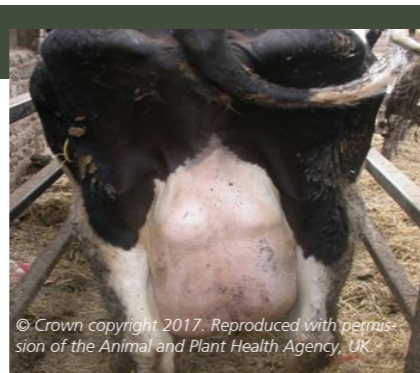


#### Abortions

- Slips, early calves, small calves

#### Mastitis

- Swollen (rubbery quarters), involves multiple quarters
- Not painful or hot
- Non responsive to treatment
- Affected quarters will rapidly dry off
- Cow is not sick



### Calves / young stock



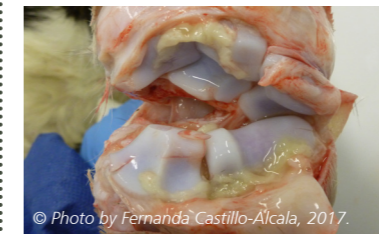
#### Lame calves with swollen legs/joints

- Painful and hot



#### Fading calves

- Inflammation of the joints, and sometimes the brain



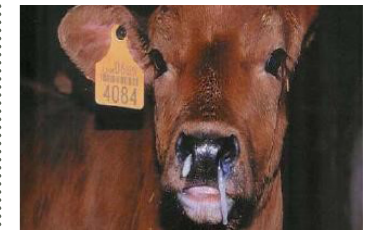
#### Ear infections

- Droopy ear
- Ear discharge
- Head tilt



#### Pneumonia

- Hacking cough



#### Conjunctivitis

- Sticky eyes, white eyes



## Key messages

#### What is it

- Bacterial infection of cattle.
- No food safety risk.
- Very low risk to human health.

#### Why is it important

- Production limiting disease.
- Hard to treat, causes unresponsive mastitis.
- Hard to test for.

#### What you need to be aware of

- **Spread mainly by close contact between animals and feeding milk from infected cows to calves.**
- Incoming stock and nose-to-nose contact over boundaries are the biggest risk of bringing the disease onto your farm.
- Equipment used on animals must be cleaned thoroughly between farms.
- Don't wait if you have animals with suspicious signs, early intervention from a veterinarian is important.
- In some cases calves can be infected and show no signs of disease.

#### Call your veterinarian as soon as possible if:

- These signs appear at higher than normal rates.
- Several animals show the above signs.
- Individual animals show several of the above signs.
- Animals don't respond to normal treatments.
- These signs are present in different classes of stock at the same time eg. mastitis in cows and arthritis in calves.

Veterinarian's phone number \_\_\_\_\_

MPI disease reporting 0800 80 99 66

