

# Breaking the BVD Cycle in Dairy herds

Recommendations for controlling BVD, eliminating existing PIs  
and preventing the creation of new PIs

## Eliminate Existing PIs

The only way to eliminate BVD is to test all individual animals for BVD virus and remove those that are identified as positive, as soon as possible

### Tag and test



### Blood sample



### Individual herd test



## Stop the Creation of new PIs

- Prevent contact with infected cattle over shared fence lines or at off-site grazing/growout locations
- Test all purchased cattle for BVD virus before bringing them onto the farm.  
**Beware** of pregnant cattle that could be carrying PI calves
- Vaccinate all breeding animals which are grazed off farm/who cant be protected against BVD infection during the mating and pregnancy periods
- Limit exposure to contaminated vehicles, equipment, and clothing from other farms

## Herd level testing

Herd level testing can be used in herds that are determined to be free of BVD as a means to monitor the changes in their BVD status. In these situations bulk milk antibody and PCR testing can be used.

However, there are many complexities when interpreting the results of a bulk milk antibody test, such as vaccine use and historic infection, and is therefore not included in the “BVD Free NZ” testing choices.

Bulk milk antibody and PCR testing packages can still be a valuable tool to monitor the BVD status in your milking herd. However, testing should be used on a case by case basis and with careful veterinary interpretation.