

TB OR NOT TB?

all you need to know about bovine tuberculosis

In the UK, bovine TB mainly affects the **SOUTHWEST** but is prevalent in other areas.

Between 1990 and 2012 **95%** OF ALL HERDS IN DEVON experienced **TB RESTRICTIONS**

MYCOBACTERIUM BOVIS IS RESPONSIBLE FOR BOVINE TB

IT CAUSES A BUILD UP OF WHITE BLOOD CELLS, CREATING PUSTULES

VACCINATION is presently **ILLEGAL** as the vaccine interferes with the current **SKIN TEST**

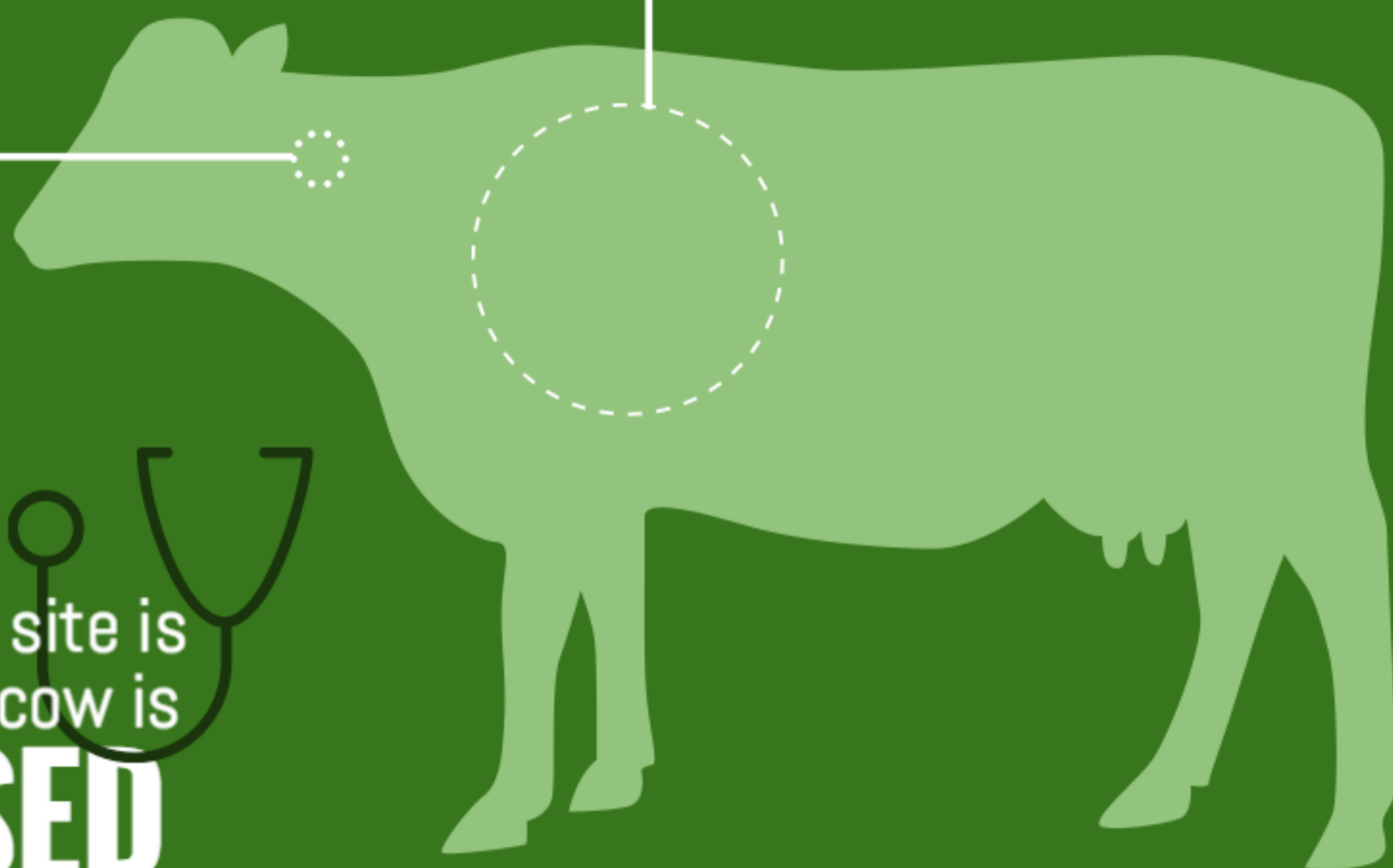
TB CAN ATTACK ANY PART OF THE BODY BUT USUALLY ATTACKS THE **LUNGS**



In **TESTING** the neck is injected with **2 STRAINS** of TB

BOVINE and AVIAN

72 hours later, the site is examined and the cow is **DIAGNOSED**



- NEGATIVE

the cow is **TB FREE** (probably)

If the rest of the herd is clear, retesting will occur within a year

+ POSITIVE

The cow is **DESTROYED** and the herd is placed under restrictions for **6 MONTHS** re-testing occurs within 60 days

THE CURRENT TEST IS **80%** SENSITIVE

ON AVERAGE, FOR EVERY **10** COWS TESTED,

2 INFECTED REMAIN IN THE HERD



THESE COWS CAN THEN INFECT UP TO **4** OTHERS

IN THE **UK** **BADGERS ARE HOST FOR THE BACTERIUM** M. BOVIS IS PASSED VIA THEIR EXCRETIONS



AND CAN SURVIVE IN THE ENVIRONMENT FOR **2** YEARS