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Office of the Auditor General

Report Summary

Performance Audit

Bovine Tuberculosis (bTB) Program

Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD)

Report Number:
791-0110-16

Released:
January 2017

Public Act 466 of 1988, the Animal Industry Act, established the bTB Program within MDARD's Animal Industry Division. Bovine tuberculosis (bTB) is an infectious disease that poses a significant risk to domestic livestock, wildlife, companion animals, and humans throughout the world. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the State of Michigan have expended over \$200 million to eradicate bTB in Michigan, with the State appropriating and expending \$145 million from fiscal years 1995 through 2015. According to the 2012 Census of Agriculture, 13,626 cattle producers maintained over 1.1 million cattle in Michigan.

Audit Objective			Conclusion
Objective: To assess the sufficiency of MDARD's efforts to achieve its goal of eradicating bTB in Michigan's cattle.			Sufficient, with exceptions
Findings Related to This Audit Objective	Material Condition	Reportable Condition	Agency Preliminary Response
MDARD did not implement a monitoring process to identify illegal cattle movement within the three counties having movement restrictions in the Accredited Free Zone. Sufficient monitoring may help reduce the risk of bTB spreading to other cattle (<u>Finding #1</u>).		X	Agrees
MDARD did not establish an agreement with law enforcement for sufficiently monitoring livestock movement between zones to ensure that livestock producers comply with movement laws and regulations. This resulted in extended time periods without sufficient monitoring (<u>Finding #2</u>).		X	Agrees
MDARD did not fully implement user access controls over USAHerds. Thirty-one of 101 users had inappropriate access (<u>Finding #3</u>).		X	Agrees
Observations Related to This Audit Objective	Material Condition	Reportable Condition	Agency Preliminary Response
MDARD is limited in its ability to collect necessary data from Michigan livestock markets because of obsolete software (<u>Observation #1</u>).	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

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