

# **DIAGNOSTIC OF PARATUBERCULOSIS**

Adapt your protocol to the epidemiological situation



# **VETERINARY DIAGNOSTICS**



Bovine paratuberculosis is an enteritis characterized by a chronic and persistent diarrhea, a decrease of the production level (milk, reproduction) and a loss of weight leading to death. These economic and health consequences lead bovine paratuberculosis as a major disease in animal health, thereby justifying the establishment of surveillance and control programs. To do this, different players of veterinary world need several detection tools for:

- Better understanding of the current level of contamination of herds.
- Better control the spread of the disease and secure trades.
- Prioritizing reforms and control introductions.

The diagnosis of paratuberculosis should not be limited to a too late clinical diagnosis of shedders. Whitlock *et al.* defined classes of animals according to their level of excretion and they highlighted the importance of low and passive shedders in the evolution of the health status of a herd.

# **EXISTING PCR PROTOCOLS**





# Level of contamination inside herds according to Whitlock et *al.*\*



High shedders, Positive +++,
 > 8 000 bacteria/gram of faeces

• Intermediate shedders, Positive ++, 100 to 550 bacteria/gram of faeces

• Low shedders, Positive +, 5 to 95 bacteria/gram of faeces

• Negative animal, non shedder

### **USE OF PCR**

### Different tests and different levels of sensitivity are useful to:

- Perform analysis on an isolated animal or at herd level
- Define herd status (infected or not)
- Estimate the prevalence

Aim of test	Which test(s)?			
1 Define herd status	<ul> <li>PCR UP on environmental samples (dairy farms)</li> <li>PCR UP on pool of faeces (dairy and meat farms)</li> <li>ELISA</li> </ul>			
2 To follow a negative or low infected herd managing well paratuberculosis and new cattles introductions	<ul> <li>PCR UP on individual faeces for new animals (trade)</li> <li>PCR UP on bovines &lt;24 months</li> <li>ELISA on bovines &gt;24 months</li> </ul>			
<ul> <li>3 • To manage spread of the disease and elimination of shedders.</li> <li>• Prioritize reforms</li> </ul>	- PCR UP on pool of faeces Or PCR on individual faeces Or ELISA			
e PCR UP on individual faeces (and young cattles)				



## **SPECIFICITY OF PCR**

# **SENSITIVITY OF PCR**

#### Inclusivity

Inclusivity has been determined against 140 strains of MAP.

Number of MAP tested	Results
140	+

All strains of *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis* have been detected with ADIAVET<sup>™</sup> PARATB REAL TIME.

#### **Exclusivity**

Number of strains tested	Results	
58 other micro-organisms	-	
59 mycobacteria + 2 close IS	-	

No cross reaction has been observed with 59 other mycobacteria strains different from *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis*, 2 other close IS and 58 strains from other micro-organisms.

### LONGITUDINAL STUDY

During a longitudinal study, PCR UP allows to check evolution of herds level of infection.

Number of cattles	T.	T.	R.	
t <sub>0</sub>	25	30	556	399
t+4 months	41	57	525	385

98% of bovines high or intermediate shedders remain high positive after 4 months.

In a contaminated farm, 60% of negative or low shedders bovines remain or become positive.



#### comparison PCR vs PCR UP 50 43% 43% 40 37% 37% % tested cattles 30 20 13% 10 Ct > 34 31<Ct< 34 <31 Ct Neo ),-**1** PCR PCR UP



# PREVALENCE OF POSITIVE PCR RESULTS IN HERDS at different stages of PARATUBERCULOSIS control



More Paratuberculosis control program moves forward and lower is the prevalence of high and intermediates shedders. A very sensitive diagnostic tool used at the individual animal level makes a lot of sense at the end of a control program to detect low shedders and to check animals before trades and introductions when prevalence is low.

\* Fecal shedding of mycobacterium avium subsp paratuberculosis by dairy cows Crossley, Whitlock et al. Vet microbio 2005 May ; 107(3-4) :257-63.

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