



Defra-funded survey for TB in road-killed badgers: December 2016 Newsletter

Update – December 2016

Many thanks go out to Lewis Tremlin (pictured), who is running our Badger Collection Service. Whilst on the road he collected 3 of his own badgers in one week alone.



We are also very grateful to newly signed-up Hook Norton Vets and in particular Sam Baldwin for his support and positive contributions to the survey.

The collaborating Universities have collected over 200 carcasses so far. Post Mortem (PM) examinations are taking place and samples being taken. To date it appears that several badgers have cultured positive, although it can take up to 12 weeks to see true results.

Of the PMs conducted by the University of Surrey pathologists, no lesions have been found to date and it is too early to have any culture results. Updates will be provided via this newsletter on a regular basis.

Action required

To be effective, the survey still urgently requires submissions from Berkshire and Buckinghamshire. Only 5 have been submitted from these counties to date. We are therefore looking for more collection sites and collectors in these areas.

New Collection sites added

- **Endell Veterinary Group**  
T: 01722 333291  
A: 49 Endless Street, Salisbury, SP1 3UH
- **Norcal Veterinary Services**  
T: 01844 260616  
A: Peaces Yard, Aylesbury Road, Thame, OX9 3AS
- **Hook Norton Veterinary Group**  
T: 01608 730085  
A: White Hills Surgery, Sibford Road, Hook



- Norton, OX15 5DG
- **Bucks, Berks & Oxon Wildlife Trust**  
T: 01865 775476  
A: The Lodge, 1 Armstrong Road, Littlemore, OX4 4XT

Existing collection sites

- **J H Watson & Sons**  
T: 01489 892521  
A: Jervis Court Farm, Swanmore, Southampton, SO32 2QP
- **Harry Hawkins**  
T: 01403 864361  
A: Henfield Road, Cowfold, Horsham, RH13 8DU
- **Charles Diplock**  
T: 01273 812313  
A: Bishops Lane, Ringmer, Lewes, BN8 5TJ
- **J Passey & Son**  
T: 01635 40327  
A: 97 Turnpike Road, Newbury, RG14 2QR
- **Major Farm Services**  
T: 01869 246593  
A: Blackstone Farm, Bicester Road, Bicester, OX25 1HX

Why are we doing this? The aim of this collaborative study with the Universities of Nottingham and Liverpool, is to determine whether or not badgers in the "edge areas" of England (i.e. the eleven counties on the edge of the cattle TB epidemic) have been infected with TB and if so, how common it is.

Which areas are we focussing on? The University of Surrey is collecting badger carcasses from Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, East Sussex, Hampshire and Oxfordshire.

Badger collection & the law Advice from English Nature is that collecting a road-killed badger for this study is perfectly legal and does NOT require a license. However for more information about collecting badger carcasses and the law see: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/badgers-protection-surveys-and-licences

Other interesting links: The survey web-site: http://www.surreyvetpathology.com/pathology-services/defra-funded-badger-tb-survey

A new study shows vitamin D could help control TB in animals: http://www.surrey.ac.uk/mediacentre/press/2016/new-study-shows-vitamin-d-could-help-control-tb-animals

How can I participate? If you would like to participate, contact the University of Surrey's School of Veterinary Medicine via one of the following and request an approved collection kit:

- T: 01483 689823
- E: badgerTB@surrey.ac.uk