CAE Monitored-Free Scheme

- Provides a source of low CAE risk replacements especially for larger, commercial type herds
- Allows herds that cannot meet the minimum three metre biosecurity boundary of the CAE Accreditation Scheme to test and gain a CAE status
- Reduces the risk of a herd becoming CAE infected (as bringing in untested goats is the main route of entry for CAE infection)
- Allows low cost monitoring of herds and will detect early entry of CAE infection long before the impacts of disease occur
- Infected herds can join the scheme to benefit from reduced testing rates and to access advice from a vet with experience in the control and eradication of CAE

The scheme provides a lower level of status than the CAE Accreditation Scheme. **Goats tested through the CAE Monitored-Free Scheme cannot enter CAE accredited sections at shows and sales**. CAE Monitored-Free status is insufficient for exporting to countries that are free of CAE.

The low cost scheme is aimed at herds where owners wish to demonstrate to others that their herd is at a low risk of having an established CAE infection. It is also useful as a monitoring tool so that infection can be detected early if an incursion does occur allowing prompt action to be taken and control measures to be put in place before losses occur.

The Scheme reduces the risk of a herd from becoming infected with CAE as:

- It provides a source of replacements from commercial type herds that have been screened for CAE
- Goats can only be added to a CAE Monitored-Free herd if they are sourced from other CAE Monitored-Free or CAE Accredited herds otherwise they must be kept separate and tested for CAE before entering the herd

Testing of a proportion of the herd is carried out on an annual basis at a level that provides 95% confidence that the herd is either free of infection or does not have higher than a 5% level. Where herds have a minimum three metre biosecure gap at all places between their herd and any neighbouring goats/sheep they can opt to test every two years.

Herds are given CAE Monitored-Free status after one clear herd test and a health declaration is issued. Status is valid for either 12 or 24 months (latter applies if there is a minimum three metre biosecure gap at all points between any neighbouring goat herds & any sheep flocks).

Goats being added to a CAE Monitored-Free herd must be from a:

- CAE Accredited herd or
- CAE Monitored-Free herd

Otherwise they must be kept separate and have a negative test for CAE before they are added to the herd

In order to maintain CAE Monitored-Free status, testing of a proportion of the herd is required on an annual or two yearly basis (latter if three metre minimum biosecure gap in place). If a clear herd test

Axiom Veterinary Laboratories, The Manor House, Brunel Road, Newton Abbot, Devon, TQ12 4PB
T: 01626 357776 E:dsfarm@axioCAEetlab.co.uk

is obtained the herd will retain CAE Monitored-Free status and the number of years that a herd has tested as clear will be shown on the certificate.

If there are separate groups within a herd, with no prolonged mixing between them, then each group must be sampled according to the level in the table before the herd can gain status.

Where possible a minimum three metre biosecure boundary between other goat herds and any sheep flocks is advisable to reduce the risk of infection from entering. To recognise this lower risk herds with a minimum three metre biosecure gap at all points will be able to opt for two-yearly testing.

Goats from a CAE Monitored-Free herd will lose their status if mixed with non-Monitored-Free goats/sheep. In order to regain CAE Monitored-Free status of one clear screen test, the herd/group must be tested, according to the figures in the table, a minimum of six months after the goats were mixed. Alternatively the non-Monitored-Free goats/sheep that they were mixed with can be tested at the time of removal and if negative the herd/group will regain CAE Monitored-Free status and retain the number of years that they have tested as negative.

CAE Monitored-Free goats must not be housed with goats/sheep that have no CAE/MV status.

If CAE Monitored-Free goats are attending shows contact with adjacent penned goats should be minimised where possible e.g. through the use of tarpaulins/plastic sheeting. During judging mouthing should be done by the handler not the judge.

Colostrum can only be used that has obtained from does with CAE Accredited or CAE Monitored-Free status.

Semen and embryos can only be used from goats that are:

- CAE Accredited or
- CAE Monitored-Free or
- Blood sampled and have a negative CAE result up to two months prior to collection of semen or embryos or at any stage subsequent to collection and prior to use of the semen/embryos.

Equipment that is shared with goats with no CAE status must be cleaned and disinfected before use e.g. livestock trailers.

CAE Monitored-Free goats are considered to be non-accredited for the purposes of the CAE Accreditation Scheme.

All goats must be identifiable with a UK herd number and individual animal number so that blood test results can be matched to individual animals.

The herd's movement records must be available for inspection by the veterinary surgeon at the time of any blood testing for the scheme.

Axiom Veterinary Laboratories are not liable for any losses incurred as a consequence of a member's loss of status or failure to gain status.

Testing requirements:

At the Herd Test a proportion of the goats over 18 months old is blood sampled according to the numbers in the table. Billies, up to a maximum of six, should be included in this sample. Additional billies can be tested over and above the required proportion, if desired.

If there are distinct management or breed groups within the herd, with no prolonged mixing between them, then each of these groups must be sampled according to the proportions in the table.

Goats to be added to the herd must be CAE Accredited, CAE Monitored-Free or tested for CAE before being added to the herd. If the goats to be added are under 9 months old they must be kept as a separate group until they reach this age and can then be tested.

If there are suspicions that a goat is infected with CAE it must be tested to rule this out in order to retain herd status.

A positive CAE test result at the Herd Test will result in the suspension of a herd's CAE Monitored-Free status. If one goat tests as positive it can be re-sampled after a minimum of two weeks. In the meantime the CAE Monitored-Free status of the herd will be suspended. If it retests as negative the herd will gain CAE Monitored-Free status. If two goats test as positive, status will be suspended and additional sampling of the herd will be advised in order to further investigate the herd's status. If more than two goats are found to be CAE positive, particularly if there are high antibody levels present, then it is likely that the herd is infected. Advice will be available from a vet experienced in the control of CAE as to how best to proceed.

Herd/group size (round up to nearest number)	**No. of goats over 18 months old to blood sample*** (billies to be included, to a maximum of six of the sample. Additional goats can be tested over and above, if desired)	**Lab test fee cost (@£5.50 per sample)**
1-20	**All**	**Up to £110**
25	**20**	**£110**
30	**24**	**£132**
50	**33**	**£181.50**
80	**44**	**£242**
100	**46**	**£253**
150	**51**	**£280.50**
200	**53**	**£291.50**
300	**56**	**£308**
500	**58**	**£319**
1000	**60**	**£330**
2000	**61**	**£335.50**

*Provides 95% confidence that herd infection level is below 5%

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