

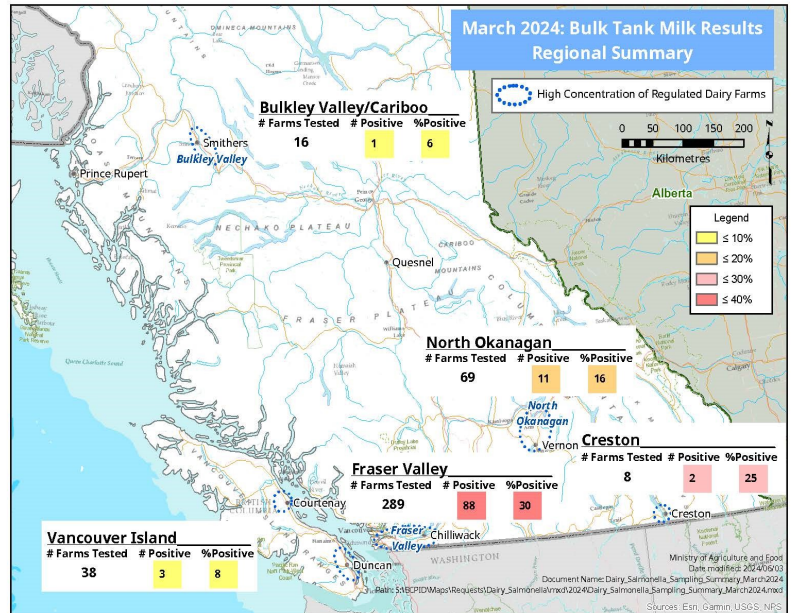


# Salmonella Dublin Investigation and Management Program (SDIMP)

## BULK MILK TESTING REPORT

JUNE 2024

In March 2024 the BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food began a new *Salmonella* Dublin surveillance program. This involves testing of bulk tank milk (BTM) samples from farms across the province for S. Dublin antibodies. This program was developed as a result of a pilot project that took place from September 2021– April 2023 (see [www.sdublinbc.ca/](http://www.sdublinbc.ca/)). As part of this new program, we aim to test participating farms quarterly from March



### March 2024 Results Summary

A total of **420 farms were tested** in March 2024. Among these farms, **105 (25%) were positive**. A farm was considered positive if it had a positive BTM test within the previous 12 months (i.e., if it was positive in March 2024 and/or March 2023, which was the final quarter of testing for the pilot program). A **positive test indicates the presence of antibodies against S. Dublin in BTM** and the presence of antibodies in BTM suggests cows on the farm are likely infected with S. Dublin. A positive test **does not** mean there is bacteria in the milk itself.

A single bulk milk tanks test is not very sensitive for detecting infected herds. There is only a ~ 50% probability that a positive farm will be positive on a single test. Our ability to detect positive farms increases when farms are tested four times over the course of a calendar year. Specifically, there is a 95% probability that an infected farm will test positive on one or more of these four tests. **For this reason, negative tests results ought to be interpreted cautiously until a farm has four negative test results in a row over the course of a year.**