



Salmonella Dublin Investigation and Management Program (SDIMP)

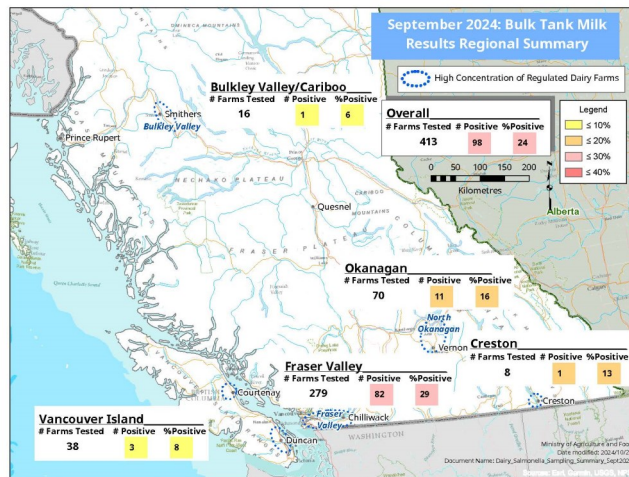
BULK MILK TESTING REPORT

OCTOBER 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. As part of this new program, we aim to test participating farms quarterly from March 2024—March 2028.

There is only a ~ 50% probability that an infected 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.**

September 2024 Results Summary



A total of **413 farms** were tested in June 2024. Among these farms, **98 (24%)** were positive. A farm was considered positive if it had a positive BTM test within the previous 12 months (i.e., October 2023—September 2024). 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.

Figures: Positive farms by region (above). Prevalence (i.e., proportion) of positive farms in each region in June, March, and September 2023 (right).

For questions or concerns, please contact erin.cuthbert@gov.bc.ca

